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The edge of Leighton's lips twitched.

"I've never heard my dad talking about it." Keegan nodded.

"I'm not surprised. Your mother always said that you rarely come home." Leighton kept quiet. He did not believe Keegan at first, but he was getting suspicious.

"Do you really know my parents?"

Keegan took his phone out and dialed a number.

After the phone vibrated a few times, a gentle and feminine voice came from the other end.

"Hello, how are you?"

Leighton widened his gaze. It really was his mother's voice.

Keegan smiled faintly and said, "Ms.Clark, it's me.Keegan."

"Hey, Keegan.It's been so long since you called.How have you been? Are you busy lately?"

"A little. Everything piled up, and it could get overwhelming sometimes. novelebook.comTrevor told me that you're coming to Rivera soon. Have you set a date?"

Leighton blurted out, "Mom, are you coming to Rivera?"

The woman paused.

"Leighton? Are you with Keegan?"

Keegan pursed his lips and reluctantly said, "Yeah.We're eating together."

"How did you...know each other?"

Leighton kept quiet, as he was not willing to answer that question.

However, Keegan said, "He's working on the same drama as my lover. I met Leighton when I went to visit her."

Leighton was speechless.

Katherine was delighted after hearing that and said that they were destined to meet each other.

Then, she chatted with Keegan for a while more and even asked him to take care of Leighton for her.

And, she said that they should meet up when she came to Rivera.

Keegan hung up and looked at Leighton.

"Do you believe me now?"

Leighton pursed his lips without speaking. However, Stella got very nosy about it.

"Leighton's mother is your teacher, and his father is your brother. This is weird. The age doesn't add up at all."

Keegan explained to her, "Daryl became a father when he was only twentyone and Ms.Clark is six years older than him.She came to my home and became my private tutor when I was four for three years.So, you could say that they actually met at my house."

Stella immediately started doing the calculations inwardly.

'Leighton is twenty-two, and Daryl became a father at the age of twenty-one.So, Daryl is only forty-two this year, which makes him twelve years older than Keegan.So, when Keegan was five, Daryl would only be seventeen, yet he fell for a private tutor who was in her early twenties and even married her.

That's such a bold thing to do in their time!' Stella jokingly said, "So, are you a matchmaker for her parents?"

Keegan chuckled and looked at Leighton.

"We're all family here. Just let me know if you ever need help. Talk to Stella if there's something you don't feel comfortable asking me. Just treat her like she's your own sister."

Stella added, "Didn't you just say that you're his uncle? How could I be his sister, then? He should call me his aunt."

Leighton did not know what to say at all.

'Would you guys at least think about my feelings before discussing things like this out loud?' Keegan replied, "He's a grown man.Wouldn't that make you look older by calling you his aunt? Let's just stick with sister.I'll just be like Trevor and let him call us his uncles."

Stella thought about it and happily accepted Keegan's suggestion.

Then, she turned her head and lifted her glass of wine before she said to Leighton, "You'll be my little brother after drinking this.From on now in Rivera—"

She paused and wrapped her arm around Keegan's as she pointed at his face.

"He'll look after you," she continued.

For whatever reason, Leighton took the glass, and for whatever reason, he finished the wine with how his crush had suddenly become his sister.

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Leighton and Stella held their liquor well while Keegan did not.

However, he knew himself and did not drink much during dinner.

On the other hand, Stella was a little drunk.

Her face was all red, and she was slurring her words.

"Tell me, Leighton. How much money do top-tier people like you make in a year?"

Leighton was taken aback and did not know what to say. Keegan sipped his tea calmly, thinking about how Stella's social skills had improved.

'It's good that she's asking about his financials rather than just handing him the money" he thought.

Seeing that Leighton did not answer, Stella began to guess.

"30 mil?"

Leighton shook his head.

"50 mil?"

Leighton shook his head again.

"100 million dollars?"

Leighton remained stationary this time, and Stella's eyes widened.

"After taxes?" She asked.

The man nodded.

Stella put her arms around him and said, "You've gotta teach me how.l wanna earn some money too."

Leighton was left speechless at the sound of that.

Keegan grabbed Stella's hand and put it on his as he said,novelebook.com "There's a high-profile person right here."

"I need to earn more than you,"

Stella clutched onto Keegan's arm and drunkenly replied.

Keegan tucked a few strands of hair from her cheeks and asked in a low voice, "And then what? You're gonna propose to me?"

Stella shook her head, and after a while, she whispered, "I want to earn more money so that I can buy your time."

She then closed her eyes and murmured, "I don't want you to be so busy that you don't even have time to travel with me."

Stella's words left Keegan stunned.

The man smiled and looked at the woman. His gaze was tender.

"We'll go once it snows this year, okay?"

"Can we go for two weeks?"

Keegan thought about it and said, "I'll try my best to extend the vacation to more than ten days."

Stella cheered up immediately after hearing him say that.

If Keegan had said something along the lines of, "We can go as many days as you want,"

Stella would have thought that he was just playing around.

However, she knew that he was being serious when he gave a specific number.

Stella wanted someone who was earnest in relationships. She would not blame Keegan even if something came up, and he could not take the two-week leave.

Leighton watched the interaction between the two and felt a little sore. He was envious of what they had.

Keegan could guess what Stella was thinking from a single movement, and Stella, despite being drunk, was still worried about Keegan working overtime.

The chemistry between them was so great that it was clear that they could not accommodate a third person in the equation.

When dinner was over and it was time to part ways, Keegan called out to Leighton while he was carrying Stella, who was drunk, in his arms.

Leighton still did not like Keegan, but he did not dislike him as much as before.

"I have a friend who is very good at program optimization. Maybe I can introduce him to you," said Keegan.

Leighton paused for a second and asked, "Why would I want that?"

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Keegan shot Leighton a glance and was silent for a few seconds before he said, "You can choose not to get acquainted with him and keep on having bugs in your games. Nobody is stopping you from continuing your acting career to make up for your losses in the gaming industry. I'm just saying that you'll become a joke to Trevor when you lose everything. "Leighton was stunned upon hearing that.

"You looked into me?" He asked with a sullen look on his face.

Keegan did not take his anger seriously.

He readjusted Stella's position in his arms and lightly said, "Well, I have to know what kind of person is my lover hanging out with, right? You can forget what I said."

Keegan turned around and left while carrying Stella after he said that.

Leighton hesitated for a while and stopped him.

"I've spent a lot of money hiring people to fix the bugs, but none of them succeeded. Who's your friend? Can he really help me optimize the program?"

Keegan did not answer his question.

Instead, he asked, "What do you think about the Honor of the Deities game?"

"It's awesome", Leighton replied."My friend is the one who optimizes the game. Is that enough to prove how good he is?"

Keegan pursed his lips and asked.

Leighton's eyes lit up at the sound of that.

However, the excitement was soon overpowered by reason.

Leighton looked at Keegan with a wary face and asked, "What's in it for you?"

"Hold the door for me,"

Keegan motioned to him when they arrived at the car.

Leighton opened the door to the car, and Keegan gently put Stella in the back seat. He was being careful so that he would not hit her head.

After closing the door, Keegan turned to look at Leighton and said, "Stella sees you as her brother.novelebook.comTo her, you are family.In that sense, me helping you is equal to me helping her."

Leighton was not convinced.

"I think you're scared of being at a disadvantage and losing to me. That's why you're trying to win me over."

Leighton's words left Keegan speechless. He suddenly realized that the look Trevor gave him was probably the same look he was giving Leighton at the moment.

'What a confident fool" he thought.

"How long have you known Stella? How much do you know about her? And where did you get the audacity to say that to me?"

"Do you think how long you've known someone has anything to do with how well you know them? I know every role she ever played, including the ones she did voice-overs for.I could recite every one of her works.Can you? I bet you haven't even finished watching one of her dramas."

Keegan pursed his lips.

"It's true that I haven't seen much of her previous works and that I didn't know she was Dusk Galaxy before she revealed her identity."

'I knew it! Leighton thought.

"And you said you know her?"

"I do," Keegan replied with a calm face, as he was unfazed by the conversation.

"I don't know much about her work, but I do know her favorite dishes. I know she likes mangoes, and she hates rainy days. I know she is afraid of bugs and is allergic to peanut butter. I Know that she likes to sleep on her left side, and she likes having something in her arms when she's asleep. I know she adds syrup to her coffee and raw garlic when she's eating meat..."

Keegan paused. He glanced over at the young man in front of him and asked, "Do you want me to go on?"

The corners of Leighton's lips twitched as he said in displeasure, "What's there to be proud of? You two have lived together for a few years. It's normal to know all those stuffs."

Keegan smirked and patted the other party on the shoulder.

"And that, young man, is why I have the upper hand."

Leighton brushed Keegan's hand off with a sour face and said, "I'm not going to like you just because you help me."

"That's fine.Just remember to help Stella when she's in need," Keegan said indifferently.

Leighton's eyelids twitched at the sound of that.

'Damn it! Why didn't I think of that?!' Keegan walked around the car, pulled the door open, and sat in the back.

Through the window, Leighton saw him lifting up Stella's head and resting it on his lap.

Keegan then touched her cheek and gestured for Aldor to get going.

Leighton's manager watched Keegan's car leave before driving over to Leighton.

He lowered the window and said, "Stop staring and get in."

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Leighton glared at his manager and asked, "Was it you who called that guy over?"

The manager naturally refused to admit his doing.

"How would someone like me get in contact with the boss of Vinci Rivera?"

Leighton did not believe him.

'Who would spread the news about my date with Stella if not for this lousy person?'

"Then, why did he show up?"

"He must've seen the way you were looking at his ex-wife.He's not blind, you know.He was clearly trying to get you to stay away.Do you know why Stella keep messing up during the make-out scene you two shot together?"

Leighton looked puzzled, indicating that he did not know the reason behind the retakes.

"It was because her ex-husband was holding the reflector and standing above the two of you! Would she have been disturbed to kiss you if they were actually over?"

Leighton froze and vaguely recalled the man who wore a face mask during the shoot. His eyes looked similar to Keegan's.

Leighton's face turned green, and he finally understood why Stella acted weird that day.

'Fuck! What a fucking mutt!' Stella was twisting and turning in the car.

Keegan held her shoulder down and whispered, "What's wrong?"

Stella frowned and said, novelebook.com "There's something under my neck."

Keegan was confused. He reached out to feel it but found nothing.

"You can lay down now.lt's gone."

Stella laid down again after that.

Then, she immediately popped back up and frowned.

"It's still there," she said.

Feeling puzzled, Keegan searched around but could not find the item Stella was talking about.

Suddenly, he knew what it was when Stella complained about it for the third time.

Keegan reached into the pocket of his pants and pulled out a ring.

Every time Stella laid down on Keegan's lap, her neck rested on the ring, making her feel uncomfortable.

Stella looked at the ring and was surprised.

"Why don't you wear it on your hand instead of putting it in your pocket?"

Keegan looked at her and whispered, "Did you forget? We are divorced. This was our wedding ring. I can't wear it now."

Stella was a little slow. She did not hear the grief behind Keegan's words.

"I'm not wearing my ring either," she said while holding up her hand to Keegan's face.

Keegan did not know what to say.

'There's no way she'll understand what I mean when she's this drunk" he sighed.

He then stroked her face and whispered, "Go to sleep."

Stella put her hand up to her mouth, leaned over to Keegan's ear, and said, "Let's go buy a new pair of rings and wear them without anyone knowing."

Keegan's eyelids fluttered when he heard that.

"And what will the rings symbolize?" He asked in a low voice.

Stella cocked her head to the side and thought for a while.

"An engagement.What do you think?"

Keegan's heart pounded.

"Okay," he cleared his throat and said.

"To the jewelry store," he told Aldor.

When Aldor stopped the car near University Town, Stella pulled Keegan out of the vehicle and walked toward the bustling street.

The woman reeked of alcohol, and people kept looking at her as they passed.

Keegan stopped her and helped her put on a face mask.

However, the crowd made it hard for Stella to breathe with the mask on. She subconsciously tried to pull it off, but Keegan prevented her from doing so and whispered, "I'll get jealous if others see your face."

Stella froze and said, "You're such a child"

Although, she did not try to take off her mask anymore.

Stella pulled Keegan through the streets and alleys when they finally found a small shop that sold gold and silver jewelry. It was late, and the lights were on.

The owner of the place was lying on a chair while watching The Palace on television.

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When the man heard the sound of customers entering his store, he put down the remote control to the television, got up, and said, "Are you here to find something or pick up an order?"

"We're here to look at your rings, sir.Can you show me all of your gold rings?" asked Stella.

The shop owner then took out several trays of jewelry and put them in front of the couple.

Keegan took a glance and found that the rings in the store were unexpectedly beautiful.

Many of the styles were not available on the market.

Some of the rings were simple, and some looked vintage.

All of the designs were very detailed.

Stella leaned against the counter, looking at each of the rings carefully.

However, she did not like any of them.

"Maybe you two can tell me what you want, and I'll help you find it.We also make custom orders in case none of these are to your liking.Just send me a picture of the ring, and I can make it happen."

"I want plain and simple couple rings," Stella said.

Upon hearing this, the jewelry store owner took out three different styles of rings and handed them to her.

"What do you think of these?" he asked. Stella looked down and immediately fell in love with a half- polished, half-frosted ring.

A cloud was carved on the ring, making it look simple yet stylish.

"Is there a men's ring in this design?" Stella hurriedly asked the owner.

"Yes," said the man as he took out the pair of rings to show her.

"These are in standard sizes. I can tailor them to your sizes if it doesn't fit right."

Stella picked up the men's ring, took Keegan's hand, and put it on for him.

Coincidentally, the ring was not too big, nor was it too small.

It was just right.

Keegan looked at the ring, and just as he was about to say something, novelebook.com Stella took the other ring and put it on herself.

Keegan was taken aback by that.

'Don't we need a ceremony or something? She just put them on so casually.."

"How much are these?"

Stella leaned on the counter again and asked.

The store owner took down the weight of the rings and named a price.

"Woah.That's a lot.Can't you lower the price a little, sir?"

"Gold is expensive these days. I didn't even add much cost for labor. I still need to earn a living, Ma'am," the owner said with a smile.

"The price of gold is only a little over 400, yet your price per troy ounce is 600. Can't you lower the price a little? We'll come back here to buy rings for our marriage."

Keegan did not say a word.

'Isn't she drunk? How can she still bargain so well?' "This is a gold ring, Ms.Not a diamond ring. The capital for this ring is high; I can't give you any discounts. Plus, they're handmade. Look at the craftsmanship. We use traditional methods to make them. I really can't go any lower,"

The jewelry store owner laughed bitterly.

Stella frowned with her hands on her cheek.

Although she wore a mask, Keegan could tell that she was pursing her lips. Her expression was bitter.

Keegan saw that the negotiation was unsuccessful and was ready to pay when Stella suddenly said, "Are you watching The Palace, sir?"

"Yeah.It's a good show.It's all because of the actress who plays the queen.The scenes where she cries always get me."

"I like that character too. My friend even said that I look like her."

The boss laughed, thinking she was just spewing nonsense, but did not say a word.

"You don't believe me? Maybe you can take a look and tell me if it's true," Stella said as she took off her face mask.

As soon as the boss looked up, he froze.

'She looks exactly like her!' He thought.