My Billionaire Ex-Husband Chase Me Back - Chapter 101 – 132

Chapter 101: Another Suprised

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While Tristan and Bella talked about him, Dax opened the chat application on his game forum server.

He saw that Bitter_Coffee sent him so many texts.

[Bitter_Coffee] @X4D Bruh, are you online?

[Bitter_Coffee] It looks like you are not yet online.

[Bitter_Coffee] I want to let you know there's a suddent work.

[Bitter_Coffee] I don't have time to play with you today until night, before dinner.

[Bitter_Coffee] Oke @X4D, I will contact you later.

[Bitter_Coffee] (Peace emoji)

[Bitter_Coffee] (Cry emoji)

Dax can't help but chuckle. How coincident.

He also can't play with Bitter_Coffe because of this suddent meeting with his father and his great-grandpa joining them. He could predict he would spend his time with them until dinner.

[X4D] Never mind, @Bitter_Coffee

[X4D] I also have a sudden family matter. TTYL!

Before Dax closes the chat group, another new message appears.

[Snoring_Panda] @X4D, you can play with me. I'm free today.

[Snoring_Panda] My boss has a family matter, so, yeah... Let's play.

A faint smile appeared on Dax's face as he looked at another of his stupid teammates. He couldn't believe that almost all of his gaming friends were too slow when playing simple games. [Snoring_Panda] Are you still there, @X4D?

Dax types swiftly...

[X4D] Nah, I have to go now, man. See you around!

Dax had just closed the game chat when his father's voice was heard before him.

"Have you finished playing the game?" Tristan asked.

Dax looked up to see his towering father standing before him.

He shook his head, "I'm not playing the game, Dad. I just canceled my plan to play the game this noon." He said casually, but Tristan could see the disappointment from his gaze.

Tristan felt guilty. He had heard from Bella that Dax was reluctant to come today because he had already promised to play with his friend.

"I'm sorry to hear that, son. Well, you can play with them later after we see another surprise for you..."

Tristan smiled at him when he saw his eyes beaming in suprised.

"Another surprise?" Dax couldn't believe his father was so generous, pampering him with many gifts. He likes it!

"Yes," Tristan smiled. "Do you want to see the surprise now?"

Dax immediately nodded. He got down from his chair and followed his father's walk toward the glass display cabinet of miniature Marvel superheroes.

Even though Dax was confused about why his father was heading to that display cabinet, he still followed him without asking.

Likewise, Bella followed them, curious to know Tristan's surprise for their son.

Tristan stopped right before the Iron Man figure.

Bella couldn't help but shake her head. Why does this man insist on giving their son an action figure that Dax doesn't like?

She took a deep sigh and walked toward Tristan. She gestures to Tristan for a quick chat. "You seem not to understand what we discussed earlier?" she whispers.

"I understand. Don't worry. This time, our son must be happy," He smiled mysteriously at Bella before he touched the Iron Man—Arc reactor—heart.

Suddenly, a 'click' sound was heard, followed by the display cabinet moving to the side, revealing a white door.

Dax and Bella were shocked. They exchanged confused looks when they realized a room was behind the display cabinet.

"Let's go!" Tristan said and walked toward the door. He opened it, revealing a spiral staircase leading downwards.

Bella, who followed behind them, couldn't hold her curiosity. She asked, "What is it, Tristan?"

Tristan didn't answer but glanced at her with the same mysterious smile. Then he continued to walk down.

"Follow me. But, be careful with your step..." Tristan warned them.

When they finally arrived, he said, "Alright, this is my other surprise for you, my son. I hope you like it—"

A room appeared before their eyes, shocking Bella and Dax.

The spacious room has sleek, minimalist décor accented by pulsating LED lighting in various colors.

At the heart of the room sits the Command Center, a custom-built desk housing a powerful gaming rig.

The rig boasts the latest generation of GPUs, CPUs, and liquid cooling systems. Multiple monitors, including a massive ultra-wide display and secondary screens flanking it, provide an expansive field of view, perfect for multitasking or an immersive gaming experience.

Surrounding the gaming setup is a state-of-the-art audio system. High-fidelity speakers are strategically positioned around the room.

In one corner of the room stands a dedicated virtual reality station. It is equipped with the latest VR headsets and motion controllers.

Looking at this room, Dax gasped in shock. He never imagined his father would create such a heaven for him.

"Oh my god! Dad... I like it!" Dax held Tristan's hand while looking at the room he wished for, but all this time, his mother never fulfilled his wish — his computer and gaming room.

How come his father knows about this!?

"Really?" This time, Tristan understood how sincere Dax's words were. He could see the happiness in his son's gaze as he looked at him.

"Yes, yes, Daddy. Thank you... Thank you... So much..." Dax said and threw himself to hug his father.

Tristan's proud and happy smile appeared as he hugged his son back.

After Dax released his embrace, Tristan led him into the room.

"I will introduce you to my company's IT Director. He will teach you properly about coding..." Tristan explained, surprising Dax.

Dax felt excited to hear that. This is what he wanted most: a good teacher who could guide him on how to code correctly. He had been learning online all this time but felt stuck with his skills.

"Max, come here..." Tristan glanced at Max standing in the corner. Dax looked over, surprised to see a young man with brown hair, wearing a black hoodie, standing there.

"Son, this is Maxwell. You can call him Max. He is very skilled in computer science. You can learn a lot from him." Tristan explained, and then he looked at Max. "Please, teach my son. He already has basic coding..."

"Yes, boss. No worries, I'll take care of young master Dax," Max politely answered. Then, he turned to Dax and said, "Do you want to check your computer now?"

"Hmm," Dax nodded excitedly and followed Max.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 102: Her Concern

With a satisfied and proud smile, Tristan looked for Bella. He saw her sitting on the sofa near the glass window on the other side of the room.

Her eyes stared at him sharply, making Tristan confused.

All kinds of questions now appeared in his mind, trying to guess why Bella's mood suddenly slid below freezing point.

Why does she seem so upset?

Is she jealous that I didn't give her a gift, too?

Tristan immediately patted his forehead, realizing his mistake. Supposedly, he also prepared a special gift for her, right!?

Sigh!

He approached Bella and joined her, sitting on the sofa opposite her. He smiled gently at her, but she didn't flinch at all.

"I know why you look at me like that, Bella. Well, for that, I will apologize to you... Forgive me." He said sincerely.

This is the only way to make her less angry. Apologized.

His mind is busy planning to ask Dylan for the right gift idea for Bella later. He had plenty of ideas but was afraid she didn't like them.

While Tristan was lost in his own thoughts, Bella took a deep sigh inwardly.

She is still shocked to know Tristan gave Dax such a complete and sophisticated computer room as a welcoming gift.

A few months ago, she refused Dax's request because she worried her son was still too young to have a sophisticated computer room.

Bella had planned to grant Dax's wish when he was older, but Tristan gave this computer room to their son without consulting her. This is annoying!

"Come on, Bella... Can you smile? I already apologized," Tristan said when he saw Bella still looking at him, annoyed.

"I promise I will choose the best gift for you. Don't be angry with me again, huh!?" He continues his words, trying to coax her.

However, Tristan's words actually made Bella even more puzzled. She frowned, looking at him after hearing his words.

'He wanted to choose a gift for me? Did I hear it wrong?' She narrowed, looking at him.

Upon seeing him smile, Bella attempted to clarify his strange imagination, fearing it would lead to misunderstandings. Again!

"What are you trying to say? Why do you want to buy me a gift?" Bella began to question whether Tristan had misunderstood her irritation.

A frown appeared on Tristan's face, and for a while, he seemed to be thinking about why she was still annoyed.

He looked her in the eyes, "Aren't you jealous that I gave Dax a present and you didn't?"

Bella, "...."

'Oh lord! This man's imagination was indeed weird. How could he think I'm annoyed because of a trivial thing like a gift?'

Just looking at his face now really drowns her energy. She wanted to go home now and sleep.

"Did I guess wrong?" Tristan asked again after seeing she didn't utter anything, but her eyes shot him a slap-in-the-face look.

"YES!" She firmly answered him.

Tristan was stunned.

He straightened his seat, curious why she was angry at him. However, before Bella could answer, another thought crossed his mind.

"Bella, did you perhaps get angry because I held your hand?" A faint smile slowly emerged from his lips while looking at her. "If so, please accept my apologies. I will never do that again if you ask me—"

"Tristan, can you stop guessing what's happening in my mind?" She can't stand speaking to him now.

'Gosh, this man... Why does he have a new hobby to upset me!? Seriously, Tristan Sinclair?' Bella could only vent her frustration in her mind.

Tristan opened his mouth to speak, but Bella raised her hand to stop him, "Don't try to cut my words. I'm not finished yet!"

Tristan shut his mouth and gestured to her to continue speaking.

"Tristan, I will only speak now and never again," said Bella, ensuring he nodded before continuing. "If you want to give a gift like this to Dax, please communicate with me first."

Tristan was surprised to hear her words. Now, he understood why she had been sulking at him since they arrived in this room.

"Do you know I already plan to give him a computer room? I do have Tristan... but not now. He's still four years old and too young to have a gaming room."

Bella paused for a moment to take a deep breath.

"But now, you give him this room without consulting me. This makes me slightly worried. Tristan, if you want to do this again, please discuss it with me first?"

Tristan nodded in response to her question. He could sense her worry, but he also needed to explain why he gave the gift to Dax.

"Bella, I'm sorry I didn't discuss this big thing with you. However, I hope you want to hear my explanation too..."

She didn't utter anything but slight nods.

"When I heard you say that our son likes playing games, he even has a laptop. I immediately planned to make this room for him. Because I thought it would be better if he had this room and someone would accompany him to explore his hobby rather than letting him play alone..."

He continued, "And when you said earlier that our son was interested in learning computers since... I was happy because my idea matched his interests. And you saw the man with him, right?"

Bella nodded while glancing at Dax and the man seated beside him.

"He's a computer expert in programming, so he will teach Dax..." Tristan felt relieved when he saw her expression slowly change. She was no longer as annoyed as before.

"So, are you still mad at me because of this?"

Bella could understand Tristan's point of view and agreed with him; Tristan merely wanted to guide Dax towards the correct path, with the assistance of a professional who could help him explore his hobby and potential.

"No. I should say thank you for this one," She returned his smile before continuing. "— But, Tristan, in the future, you must talk to me about everything related to Dax."

The corners of his lips lift, revealing a warm smile before he responds, "Of course, Bella. I will remember that—"

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 103: Back Together Bella nodded with satisfaction upon hearing his promise.

When Bella wanted to excuse herself to leave the room, Tristan suddenly asked her.

"I'm curious to know... why did you name our child Dax?"

It had been a few days since Tristan learned his son's name, Dax. He became curious as to why Bella gave him that name. It sounded unfamiliar compared to the names in their country, Astington.

Did she have a particular reason to give Dax that name?

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Bella was silent for a moment. She felt something stir her heart as her mind reeled back to the past.

That time, after she gave birth to Dax, the hospital staff asked her about her son's name.

And for some unknown reason at that time, Tristan came to mind.

'Gosh! This something I didn't want to talk about...' She silently vents her frustration in her mind while gazing at him in the eyes.

"—Actually, I gave him that name because of you." A faint smile appeared on the corner of her lips.

Tristan was shocked to hear that.

"Because of me? H-How?" Tristan asked. He was puzzled because he had never had a connection with Dax or Daxton before. Even his name wasn't related to Dax.

Bella took a deep sigh.

She did not want to talk about this. Because it was really embarrassing to reveal that she loved this man so much, whatever he did at home left a deep impression on her.

Even though she had tried to erase all those memories about him, they would still appear at certain times and torture her.

After a long pause, she finally dared to tell him, "I don't know if you realized it, but during our marriage, I always heard you say... Max, in your conversations on the phone."

She wanted to stop explaining, but looking at how shocked he was now, she continued her words,

"Because of that, I decided to name our son a similar name to the one you always spoke with because that will make me remember you. So—" her voice faded as she turned away from him.

This was a foolish reason to name her son with that name. And now she confessed to him; she felt she wanted to vanish from his sight.

Tristan was taken aback by Bella's reason for naming their son.

He didn't know whether he should be sad or happy about the reason.

On one hand, he was happy that Bella remembered him when she gave their son a name. However, on the other hand, he couldn't help but imagine Max every time he mentioned Dax's name.

Sigh!

Tristan turned his gaze to Max and Dax, who were now focused behind their computers. They both looked immersed in what they were doing.

For the umpteenth time, Tristan took a deep breath.

'Looks like I have to find a nickname for Max. He can't use Max again...' Tristan tries to remind himself. Then he turned his gaze again to Bella.

Tristan's smile grew wider when he saw her blushing cheeks. He could feel she was embarrassed now because he knew her little secret — she still had feelings for him.

After thinking for a moment, Tristan finally decided to express his feelings again.

"Bella," Tristan softly called to her. When she turned to look at him, he gently smiled and said, "Please come back to me. Let's start our relationship again and raise Dax together..."

She suppressed her anger upon hearing his words.

'Damn! Why is he bringing up this matter again!?'

She already knew Tristan would never stop talking about this issue. And it seemed she had to tell him how she felt now.

When Tristan saw she didn't utter anything, only looked at him, he continued, "This time, I will prove to you that I will not—" his words trailed off when he saw Bella raise her hand, stopping him from speaking.

"Tristan, please stop—" Bella paused her words to inhale deeply, filling her stuffy chest while glancing at Dax, worried he would hear their conversation.

However, when Bella saw Dax and Max using headphones, she felt relieved. She turned her gaze to Tristan again.

"Tristan, why did you do this to me? You are the one who kicked me out of your family," she gritted her teeth, feeling her wounded heart starting to bleed again, talking about this matter.

"I told you before I didn't want to return to your family. And, please, can you throw away your thoughts about us getting back together!? I will never return to you as your wife, Tristan Sinclair!"

Tristan didn't expect Bella to reject him outright. And seeing how determined her gaze was now was enough to make him worry.

He maintained his calm expression even though, inwardly, he felt like a nail had pierced his heart with every word Bella said. It hurt. But he could only endure it because he deserved it after what he did to Bella.

"You must remember, I forgave you because of Dax, our son. Not because I wanted to return to you..."

Bella sighed deeply while slowly closing her eyes, exhausted from speaking to him.

"Bella, I'm deeply sorry for hurting you in the past. I know I was terrible to you when we were still together, but I want to start anew with you..."

Tristan could see Bella trying to suppress her anger, but he couldn't stop trying to persuade her.

Bella opened her eyes and looked at him, conveying through her gaze that her heart had no room for him.

"Did you forget what I said the day you sent your lawyer to me?"

Tristan slowly frowned, trying to remember what happened that time.

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"Let me remind you. I stated, 'If someday you regret this decision and want me back, you won't get a chance, Tristan...'"

Instantly, Tristan's hand clenched into a fist, and he felt mad at himself.

Indeed, he remembered Bella saying those words to him. But he didn't have a choice. At that time, he had to make her leave to spare her from suffering because of his family.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 104: Tristan's Confession For a while, neither of them said anything.

The two stared at each other as if they were communicating through their gazes.

And whatever they were saying through their gazes was unpleasant because their stiff and dark expressions reflected that.

After some time, finally, Bella broke the silence.

"Now you remember, right?" She asked. Her cold eyes did not show mercy to him. She just wanted to draw a line between them, to awaken him from his delusion — she and he would never return together.

"I do. I do remember." A calm voice escaped from Tristan's lips, causing Bella to feel relieved because this man finally understood.

As she wanted to end this conversation, Tristan suddenly continued his sentence.

"Do you want to know why I divorced you!?"

Bella frowned, confused by his question. She was puzzled why he asked that again. Did he forget what he told her at the time? His reason is that she can't get pregnant.

She looked into his eyes to understand what he meant, and then, something crossed her mind, 'There is another reason?'

Slowly, curiosity emerged in Bella's mind, but a second later, she dismissed it.

She took a deep sigh. Try to convince her mind that it's all in the past. There's no need to talk about it anymore.

"No," Bella answered firmly.

A faint smile appeared on his lips as he continued his words again, ignoring her refusal.

"Bella, divorcing you, simply... I wanted you to be free from the suffering you endured because of my family, especially from my mother." He said with a serious tone but with sadness and sincerity.

There was no longer a warm smile visible on Tristan's lips.

"I know you fell in love with me, Bella. I am sure of that... and only by speaking harshly to you could I make you willing to sign the papers. Because if I didn't do that, you would force yourself to stay."

Her eyes shook, staring back at him. "Can you stop talking about my stupid mistake, falling in love with you!?" she wanted to say that, but those words remained in her mind.

Bella could only clench her fist, holding her emotions, hearing Tristan continue his words.

"If I didn't do that, maybe my father and mother would still abuse you. They still torture you. I couldn't bear to see you suffer for too long, Bella. That's why when my mother offered me that opportunity, I agreed. It was the best choice for you at that time..."

Bella, who previously didn't want to hear the reason, began feeling turmoil as if someone had just thrown a stone into her calm lake heart and created ripples when she listened to his confession.

Though she opened her mouth several times, she could not find any words to reply to him.

"I'm truly sorry, Bella. I know... that I hurt you at that time. But that was the only way to make you leave—"

Tristan stopped his sentence when he felt his chest tighten. It was like someone had placed weights there. He lowered his gaze, looking elsewhere, hiding his sadness and pain.

Once there was a little room to breathe, and Tristan felt more at ease, he turned to look at Bella again.

A faint smile appeared on the corner of his lips before he continued his words,

"And you know what? After you left me, I started to feel like my heart was empty, as if you took a piece of my heart with you." Tristan smiled warmly when he saw her eyes widen.

"You appear in my mind every day. It's amusing because you never once crossed my mind when we were married without someone reminding me. But after you left, you

came to me every day, every hour, every minute. As if you came to torture me, haunting me..."

Tristan began telling her how he followed her to the airport but couldn't find her. He also mentioned how he searched for her everywhere in this country and elsewhere. Still, all traces of her disappeared as if a powerful force had erased her identity.

He recounted how he finally saw her from afar when she returned and laid eyes on Dax. Eventually, he decided to conduct a DNA test to confirm his suspicions.

Bella was utterly shocked to hear all of that. She never imagined that Tristan Sinclair, a man who had always been cold to her, would start to fall for her after she left.

It was hard for her to believe him, but seeing how serious and sincere he was now, she felt confused. She didn't know how to react.

"So, Bella, I hope you won't reject me immediately. Please give me a second chance to get to know you better. Without our parents and grandfather interfering..."

Tristan's voice slowly turned gentle as he pleaded for forgiveness and a second chance. "Please reconsider. This is for Dax, our son. I can't imagine Dax living without a father—

Bella was truly confused by the situation. She didn't know why. Although she could try to think about it, she felt like she had lost her thinking ability.

Silently, she took a deep breath before praying in her heart.

'Dear God... Please help me. Please show me the path I should choose now. Because I feel completely lost.'

She wanted to forget Tristan Sinclair completely, to erase him from her life, but because of Dax, she could never do that.

And for her, Dax was everything. She was willing to sacrifice everything, including her feelings for him.

Now, she felt puzzled.

She also couldn't make a promise to Tristan because she already did that to someone else, Sean.

Her hands clenched tighter until her knuckles turned white, trying to hold back her emotions.

After a few moments passed, Bella slowly turned her gaze again to Tristan. She was surprised when she saw Tristan's calm eyes now staring back at her.

She wanted to say something, but for some reason, the sentence she had strung in her mind disappeared again.

"I will prove to you that I am worthy to stand by your side, Bella."

"T-Tristan, I can't say anything now. Let's talk about it later—" She stood and left.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 105: Worry About Dax's Future

Max still felt tired and needed some sleep. Yesterday, Geoffrey asked him to prepare this sophisticated, state-of-the-art computer and gaming room. Something that ordinary people would not be able to do in a short time.

Fortunately, Sinclair owns a computer hardware company. He only needs to make a call and tell them what he needs.

In a short time, they bring it to this place and install it in only a short time. However, he needed to test this room by himself. He only finished testing all the equipment in this room before sunrise.

Max never understood why his boss needed this advanced computer and gaming room. Until this morning, when they met, he knew that this room was actually for his son, Dax.

And the new information is enough to confuse Max because he knows their boss's son is only four years old.

That little man, or any kids his age, as a matter of fact, didn't need this kind of room yet. That boy might end up destroying this admirable room.

Young children that age are usually only interested in toys such as Lego, action figures, or any outdoor activity. Even if they are interested in computers, they would not know how to operate computers and electronic devices as sophisticated as the ones in this room.

However, Max was impressed when he finally could test Dax's computer skills. What he found out was beyond his expectations.

Max thought this little man, Dax, would only know how to play puzzles or games for toddlers. But the test shows he could play games for teenagers three or four times his age; he could even play Roblox and create his own private server.

How could this four-year-old child already read and understand math problems?

This little man was born to be a genius, and Max couldn't help but envy him.

Max was even more shocked when Dax told him he also knew basic coding and understood Javascript*.

He began to entertain the idea that Dax was not just a four-year-old child but a computer expert who transmigrated into this little boy's soul.

Yes, he must be!

How on earth could a toddler like him know Javascript?

Max himself had only learned about it when he was in junior high school.

Unbelievable!

To gauge Dax's ability, Max tested him to see if he could decode the simple firewall on his old website, which he had created in middle school.

Many problems were intentionally placed there, and this was a test for Dax to fix them.

Max gave him a time limit to see how quickly Dax could identify and rectify the issues on the website.

After a few minutes of waiting, Max was almost speechless with what he saw. He glanced at his watch and then back at the computer screen.

'Crazy! This kid is a prodigy. How did he solve this so quickly?'

Max observed as Dax broke into the website firewall and fixed several problems within thirty minutes.

Now, he was nervous about this child's future. Dax might veer down the wrong path if not properly guided early on. Dax didn't follow the basic rules he had learned in college; instead, this little man forged his own path to decode everything.

What surprised Max even more was Dax's typing speed. Despite his chubby fingers, Dax's hands danced rapidly across the keyboard. Max estimated Dax's words per minute to be around 70-80 with just a glance. This was well beyond the average for a four-year-old.

"Uncle Max, did I do it right?" His eyes sparkled with anticipation, awaiting Max's response. He needed to know if he had done well.

Max swallowed hard.

He only instructed Dax to fix the website and gave him a few guidance steps. Max hadn't disclosed that he was actually testing Dax's hacking ability to penetrate a simple firewall on the website.

And, of course, the little genius had succeeded without needing assistance. He had found his own way to solve the problem.

Max tried to conceal his astonishment behind a warm smile. "Yes, you did a great job, Dax. I'm so proud of you," he said, ruffling Dax's soft hair.

"Really? Thank you, uncle, for teaching me. Can we learn something else now? I'm so excited!" Dax's eyes shone with eagerness as he looked up at Max.

Max silently gulped, captivated by Dax's innocent enthusiasm. He could see a blazing curiosity burning in Dax's eyes, urging him onward.

"Little man, we've been in this place for two hours. It's time for you to rest now... And I think we can't learn anything more until you master doing it faster."

There was a hint of disappointment in Dax's eyes. However, his excitement arose again when he heard Max's last words.

"Uncle Max, you mean I need to repair this website faster than before?" Dax asked, frowning.

"Yes... Yes... Little man. Earlier, you finished it in 30 minutes. If you pass my test and can fix it in..." Max paused, pondering. He couldn't underestimate this little genius.

After a few seconds, Max continued, "—five minutes... then we will move on to another project. Do you accept this challenge?"

Max had to teach this little genius slowly for a while, or he risked losing his standing in the company. His boss might not rely on him as a hacker and computer expert but instead on his son.

"Hmm... I will try, Uncle Max. I won't let you down." Dax nodded, turning his gaze to the computer screen before him.

But before Dax could type anything, Max's hand stopped him.

"Huh? Why did you stop me, Uncle Max?" He blinked several times, looking at Max, confused.

"Little man, not now. We will learn later. Remember, too much exposure to monitor screens is not good for your eyes. Now, you can go talk to your Daddy..."

Max pointed at Tristan, who was still sitting on the sofa without moving after Bella left the room an hour ago. He was curious to know whether his boss was sleeping there or not.

Dax turned to see his father, surprised to find him still in the room with them. He thought his father had already gone to talk to the elders outside.

After Dax exchanged a few words with Max to make a plan for their next learning session, he immediately approached his father.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 106: Dax Is Not Your Son Dax was surprised to see Tristan with his eyes closed; it appeared as if he were asleep.

"Daddy, are you sleeping?"

Tristan was taken aback when he heard Dax's voice nearby. He turned to see his son, a smile tugging at his lips.

"Have you finished playing with Uncle Max?" Tristan asked, gently holding Dax's hand, his eyes locked with his son's beaming gaze.

"Yes. Uncle Max said I can't sit and look at the monitor for too long, so... we will rest now."

"I see. What Uncle Max said is indeed true..." Tristan glanced at Max, still seated but looking in their direction. He gave him a slight nod, signaling him to take a break.

"Where's mommy?"

Tristan felt slightly suprised hearing Dax's question. He didn't know where Bella was at the moment; his mind was full of thoughts after she left the room.

"It seems like mommy is in her room, resting," Tristan casually replied as he stood from his seat. "Would you like to go find her?"

"Hmm, let's go, Dad—" Dax said excitedly, eager to inform his mother about the lesson he had received from Uncle Max.

They left the room hand in hand and made their way to the living room.

They didn't find anyone in there, only Geoffrey. He informed them that Old Donovan and Sinclair had already left to return to their house.

Tristan was left speechless hearing that. How could they come here without notice and leave without even meeting him first?

"How about the young madam? Have you seen her?" Tristan asked, slightly worried that Bella would return to her house after their intense conversation.

"Young madam, she is upstairs. Earlier, she said she was going to rest in her room."

"Okay. Thank you, Goeffrey... You might take a rest. I will call you if I need anything," Tristan dismissed Geoffrey and ascended to the second floor with Dax.

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When Dax and Tristan reached the second floor, they found her in the lounge, sitting on the sofa, talking with someone on the phone.

Bella immediately ended her call and stood from her seat. She gave an awkward smile at Tristan before turning to see Dax.

"How's your lesson? Are you having fun learning with Uncle Max?"

"Yes, mommy... Let's sit there." Dax said, pulled her mother up, and returned to the sofa.

"Bella, you talk with Dax..." Tristan said when he saw them sitting. When their eyes lock on each other, he continues. "I need to check something. Will join you guys later..."

Tristan needs to return to the first floor to find Max. He needed to know about Dax's progress.

"Okay—" Bella didn't say much because she still felt awkward talking to him.

After Bella saw Tristan disappear downstairs, she looked at her son again with curious eyes, eager to know about his progress studying with Max.

"So, tell me everything-"

"Mommy, you wouldn't believe it. Uncle Max is an expert in computers," Dax said, his eyes sparkling. "He's very skilled and teaches me in a way I can easily understand, unlike my online teacher. Now, I'm declaring Uncle Max as my computer teacher..."

"I'm so happy you finally met your new teacher, baby..." Bella could only smile happily to hear him enthusiastically explain everything he had done with Max.

After a while, Dax finished explaining, but suddenly, his expression turned slightly gloomy and worried.

"Baby, why do you look worried?"

"Mmm... Mommy... I want to ask you something." Dax hesitated, fearing his mother's reaction.

"What is it?"

"Mom, can I come here daily to play and learn in my computer room?" Dax asked.

Bella was slightly surprised.

She had plans to bring Dax here only on the weekends. She couldn't visit Tristan's house daily; they were strangers now, not a couple as before.

However, after observing Dax's expression, Bella noticed a significant difference from his usual demeanor. His eyes shone, and his smile was broader than ever when he spoke of learning the computers with Max.

Not wanting to ruin her son's joyous moment, Bella decided not to object to anything he said.

"Baby, even though I would like to let you come here every day, you know this is your father's house, not mine, right?"

He nodded.

"So, if you want to come here daily, you should ask your dad for permission..." That was the only answer she could give for now.

While she couldn't stop Dax from coming here daily, she needed to talk to Tristan about the best way to meet their son's needs.

Bella already had many plans for Dax to take private courses on weekdays.

She intended to assign him a few classical music teachers and planned to get language and computer teachers.

But it seemed her plans might change drastically. Because now, Tristan was involved in Dax's life.

Even though they weren't husband and wife anymore, Bella wanted to co-parent Dax with Tristan. Her son needed a father figure, and she didn't want to replace him with someone else.

"I'll talk to Daddy later," Dax said, yawning, his eyes teary and tired.

"It looks like my baby needs to take his nap now. Let Mommy cuddle you..." Bella said as they walked to Dax's bedroom.

Meanwhile, downstairs, Tristan sat with Max in the living room.

"Tell me everything. How is my son's progress?" Tristan was curious to know.

Max didn't hurry to explain; instead, he sighed deeply before speaking.

"Boss looks like you're in trouble now—" He chuckled when Tristan frowned.

"Stop making me curious!" Tristan snapped.

Max silently gulped.

"Boss, I think... Young Master Dax isn't your son. I mean, not per se. As a four-year-old child, his computer capabilities are reaching expert levels. It almost seems unnatural, magic. And given the amazing things he could do with the computers, the only explanation I could come up with is that I think some computer genius's soul in the past has transmigrated into Dax's soul..."

Tristan's expression froze.

He gazed at Max as if he wanted to slap him on the back of his head. How dare he!?

"Looks like someone just gave up their year-end bonus!?" Tristan said casually, but Max felt like a thunderbolt had struck his head.

"S-sorry, boss. I was too shocked by young master Dax. He's born with your genius gene..." Max grinned. Then, he started to explain everything that had happened earlier to Tristan.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 107: Feel Grateful

After enjoying a warm dinner together, Bella bid farewell to return home.

She had nothing left to discuss with Tristan regarding Dax's future.

Earlier, they both agreed that Dax would visit Tristan's house four times a week. Dax is only allowed to use his computer room when Max or an adult is in the room to accompany and supervise him.

They also agreed to provide additional activities for their son, such as learning music and martial arts. As the successor of the Sinclair Family, Dax must be trained from an early age to have good knowledge and physical power.

At first, Bella objected, but she eventually agreed after hearing Tristan's reasoning that it was all for Dax's future and nothing else.

Bella followed Tristan, who carried Dax in his arms. She couldn't believe her son had fallen asleep right before they were about to go home.

She tries to wake him up, but Tristan stops her.

"Tristan, please lay him in the back seat. It's fine if he's alone in the back..." Bella said while she opened the back door.

However, Tristan didn't place Dax immediately; he turned to see Bella.

"How about if you get in the back seat and hold him? I will drive you back-"

Bella was surprised. Why did he insist on driving them? Her house was less than a fiveminute car ride away.

"Give me the key. And please hurry," He said gently and very softly, but Bella could hear it, and his tone was like someone sincerely cared and begged to give comfort.

So she had no choice but to give him the key and get into the car. After Tristan placed Dax's head in her lap, he immediately got behind the wheel.

They drove silently as Bella was preoccupied with her thoughts about what Tristan had said earlier. He would continue to pursue her, whether she was interested or not.

She felt as if her words were being ignored, exchanged for his persistence in pursuing her despite a clear warning that he was not in her future plans.

This Tristan Shameless Sinclair wouldn't easily back down.

. . .

The vehicle parked before the house's main entrance a few minutes later.

Tristan immediately got out of the car and helped to carry Dax.

At the same time, Noora appears behind the door to help Bella carry Dax — earlier, Bella texted her about it. However, she was shocked when Tristan stepped out of the car.

This was the first time she had seen him in so many years, and somehow, she felt excited and nervous simultaneously.

She walked toward the car and greeted Tristan politely.

"S-Sir... Ma-Master Tristan..." Noora slowly bowed her head. She never dares to see him in the eyes, as this man is cold toward them when they still stay in his house.

"Hello, it's been a while, Noora..." Tristan greeted her warmly. He felt grateful to this woman for caring for his family during their hard times.

"Thank you so much for taking care of Bella and Dax for me," He continued. "—Well, you know what, Noora? Thank you... it is not enough to express my gratitude to you..."

Noora almost trips on her own feet when she hears that. This was the first time she had heard Tristan Sinclair speak to her more than a word. She couldn't help but question her eyes and ears when she saw Tristan Sinclair being kind and different from what she knew about him.

Not only was Noora shocked, but Bella almost choked at his words.

"Ma-Master Tr-Tristan..." Noora's voice slightly trembled, and she felt nervous about this cold master speaking to her. "—That's my duty to care for my young miss and young master. You don't have to worry about it," she said, lowering her head to smile silently.

Tristan merely smiled and didn't utter anything. He glanced at Bella beside her, "Can you show the way to our son's room?"

Noora blinked multiple times upon hearing the gentle and loving way Tristan spoke to Bella. It made her feel like they were still married.

'Did I just dream that?!' Noora wondered as she pinched her cheeks. If she felt pain, she would swallow her tears. And she is indeed feeling pain. 'Heaven!! This is weird... Why is this man completely different than the last time I met him?'

Noora glanced at Bella, curious to see her expression. When she saw Bella rolling her eyes while walking ahead, she couldn't help but laugh inwardly while following them from behind. At least her young miss is still in her right mind now.

"S-Sir... I could carry young master Dax upstairs. Please give him to me..." Noora said. But Tristan refused. He continued to walk into the house. He felt his heart slightly tremble upon entering the house.

This house was a gift Tristan had given his grandpa, but he never knew that his grandpa had given it to Isaac Donovan. As if God had already arranged everything, after so many years, Bella and Dax would live here.

Tristan felt grateful because he had never sold his own house besides this house. Now, he had the opportunity to live closely with them.

"M-Master Tristan... Youg master Dax is quite heavy; you'll get tired of climbing—" Before Noora could finish her words, she heard Bella stop her.

"Aunty Noora, it's okay. You can take a rest..." Bella knew Tristan would not let Noora take Dax now.

"Yes, young miss," Noora excused herself.

...

Bella led Tristan up to Dax's bedroom on the second floor. Dax had already cleaned himself before they returned from Tristan's house so he could go straight to bed.

After placing Dax on the bed, they didn't stay in Dax's room for too long. He immediately got out and excused himself.

Bella walked him to the entrance.

"No need to walk me out, Bella. Go back inside." He smiled while looking at her standing at the entrance.

Bella didn't say anything; she only stood there staring at him. Something was bothering her now, but she felt reluctant to express it.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 108: Thank You, Tristan!

Bella didn't say anything; she only stood there staring at him. Something was bothering her now, but she felt reluctant to express it.

When Tristan saw her still standing there, he waved his hand, then continued walking, heading to the main gate.

"Good night, Bella..." Tristan said without looking at her. However, after a few steps, he heard Bella's voice calling him.

"Tristan, please wait," Bella said while running after him. She stood only two steps away from him.

"Yes?" Tristan was slightly confused, "What is it, Bella?"

She looked up to see Tristan's confused face, her fingers clenching into fists as nervousness overtook her.

"Thank you," Bella said in her soft voice. Her eyelashes fluttered as she felt her eyes warm up. She didn't know how to express her feelings at the moment, but she was extremely grateful for being able to witness Dax's happiness throughout the day.

Tristan frowned. Why did she suddenly say thank you? "For what?" he asked gently.

"To make Dax feel happy. Today was the first time I saw him like that. Dax never expresses his feelings excessively, but when he's with you, he sees it to me... to us—" she couldn't continue her words. She feels choked, holding her happy tears.

The corner of Tristan's lips lifted into a faint smile as he heard her words. He wants to pull this woman into his arms and says near her ears, "It's okay, Dax is also my son. As his father, I am responsible for his happiness."

However, he had already promised her that he would never physically touch her without her concerns.

Tristan could only silently sigh while turning his gaze away from her.

He tried to endure the pain in his heart, covering it with a gentle smile before saying, "Thank you, Bella, for allowing me to do my duty as Dax's father."

Hearing the sincerity in his voice, she smiled warmly at him. When their eyes met, she felt a flutter in her heart as if the entire zoo was now partying in her stomach.

She flinched.

Her smile slowly faded. She can't give him hope!

Bella cleared her throat softly before saying, "Tristan, I hope you don't try to chase me again because it would be in vain and a waste of your time. My stance is still the same — I can't return to being your wife." She said nothing more and slowly lowered her head.

Bella didn't want to meet Tristan's gloomy gaze. She feels terrible for rejecting him. But she also can't return to him.

A look of surprise flashed across Tristan's eyes, but in the end, he smiled.

"Bella, please look at me..." Tristan called softly. When Bella finally glanced at him, he continued, "I know. I respect your decision. But please don't ask me to stop. And don't ever push me away from you."

Bella hesitated to speak as she met his gaze.

Seeing her speechless, he continued, "You don't have to do anything, Bella. Let me work on improving our relationship... I will make you believe I'm different from the Tristan you knew in the past." He smiled. "Please trust me and give me a chance. I only need that from you. Alright, it's freezing out here. Go inside..."

Tristan continued walking. Slowly, the smile that had graced his face disappeared, replaced by sadness and regret.

His chest tightened with each step he took. He couldn't blame Bella; he deserved to be treated like this because he had hurt her many times in the past.

He could only accept this reality and bear the pain. He hoped this pain would end. And the happy ending for him, Bella, and their son, Dax, will come soon.

. . . .

Bella didn't know how long she stood where she was, looking at Tristan's back away from her. She could feel his sadness when she saw him walk with his head hung low.

Even after Tristan had disappeared from her view, Bella remained rooted to the spot.

She paid no heed to the cold night wind that pierced her pores and chilled her bones.

She simply didn't care.

Right now, she felt numb.

However, before long, the wounds she had buried deep in her heart began to reopen.

She placed her hand on her chest, took a deep breath, and then exhaled.

'God! What should I do? Why did you make him change so drastically? Why do I feel like he's better now than the person I loved in the past?'

Bella vented her unanswered questions to the heavens, though she knew she would never receive a reply.

Her chest felt heavy, and her vision blurred as she struggled with her gloomy emotions.

Desperately, she stared at the dark sky, willing the tears to return. She didn't want to cry over him anymore. She refused to do so.

In this moment of helplessness, she needed to talk to someone, yet she had no one to rely on.

She could only take another deep sigh.

Before long,

Bella felt her eyes betraying her as she struggled to hold back her tears. Slowly, tears began to fall, tracing down her cheeks as she cried silently.

For the first time in years, she cried because of him.

The next morning.

Bella bid farewell to her grandfather and Dax as her driver, Samuel Brown, finally arrived.

"Mommy, enjoy your first day at the office," Dax threw his chubby body into her arms, trying to cheer her up.

Dax knew that today was the day his mother had been waiting for. After many years, Uncle Jack and Aunt Harper came to their cabin to persuade his mother to return to this country and take over their company management.

"Thank you, baby," Bella pinched his chubby cheeks and then glanced at her grandpa. She told him about Dax's plans for the day.

A few minutes after Bella's car left the house, a black Maybach slowly drove into the yard.

"Boss, why did you want to come here this morning? Ms. Bella has already left the house..."

Tristan didn't answer his driver but stepped out of the car.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 109: Win Isaac Blessing

Isaac and Tristan are sitting across from each other. However, no one started the conversation.

Tristan was trying to string a few words to ask Isaac.

While Isaac simply didn't want to speak to Tristan if it was unnecessary.

Isaac waited for Tristan to speak, but minutes passed with no response. He began to feel impatient and glanced over at Tristan, who looked dashing in his black suit and appeared ready to head to work.

He wondered once again why Tristan had come to meet him. This must be important; that's why he came. But Isaac wouldn't ask either.

Isaac admired this young man; he was handsome and had the charisma to be a successful business leader. But it was unfortunate that this brat had never been in love with his granddaughter, Bella.

If only Bella and Tristan hadn't divorced, Isaac would have died peacefully because Bella would have had Tristan, who would protect her.

How sad!

Isaac felt conflicted as he shook his head slowly, trying to shake off his deep wish for Tristan and Bella to reconcile.

He didn't want Bella to be unhappy again because she was with a man who didn't love her.

After taking a deep breath, Isaac looked at Tristan again. "If you came here only to stare at me, you might go! I need my morning nap..." He pretended to stand up.

"S-Sir... please wait." Tristan panicked, looking at Isaac, who was about to leave. He stood up from his seat to stop him.

A faint smile appears on Isaac's face. He adjusted his expression before turning to see him.

With his calm but displeased gaze, Isaac looked Tristan in the eyes, "Are you coming here to meet me or to meet Dax?"

"You. Sir, there's something I need to tell you," Tristan gestured to Isaac to sit down again.

Isaac cleared his throat slightly before sitting back down.

He gestured for Tristan to start talking; however, before Tristan could speak, he reminded him first.

"Make it simple and faster... Though retired, I still have many agendas," Isaac said, gazing at the garden — he wanted to play chess with his great-grandson.

Tristan could only swallow hard, seeing Isaac looking annoyed. He knew this conversation would never be easy for him.

"Yes, sir..." Tristan said calmly. Even though inwardly he felt nervous, he had come here to tell him something that might flare up Isaac's anger this early in the morning.

He can't delay to talk to him. His priority was to make Bella return to him.

If he couldn't win Bella's heart now, he would first try to win over Bella's close people. His second target after his son was Isaac. After that, he would also ensure Noora was on his side.

'Oh, Bella... you can't run from me, dear... I will make sure you return to me.' Tristan smiled inwardly.

...

Tristan tells Isaac about his feelings for Bella and his plan to reunite with her.

Isaac, who had been gazing outside, was shocked to hear that. He returned his gaze to Tristan.

'This brat... Is he still drunk? Why does he suddenly want to remarry Bella? I clearly remember he is the one who divorced Bella in the past—' Isaac was confused.

He narrowed his eyes at Tristan, trying to see if he was sincere with his words. When he could see Tristan's sincerity through his gaze, it shocked him.

'My God, he is indeed serious? So, what Lewis said is true!?' Isaac tried to maintain his calmness while listening to Tristan finish his words.

"This is why I came here, sir... to ask for your blessing. This time, I promise to pursue your granddaughter not because you or my grandpa asked for it but because I sincerely love her..." Tristan said.

Isaac suddenly feels his throat go dry, listening to Tristan's words.

"I know this sounds absurd, but I mean every word I say," repeated Tristan, trying to convince Isaac, who didn't seem to believe him.

"Wait... Wait..." Isaac finally managed to utter a word. He looked Tristan in the eyes before continuing. "Do you want her to become your wife again because of Dax?"

Isaac can't allow that to happen if this is Tristan's reason. He could predict that in the future, Tristan will abandon Bella again.

"No, sir." Tristan straightened his seat. He told him about his feelings after Bella left him.

"As I said before, I fell in love with Bella after she left. At that time, I had already decided to make her return to me. And when she returned with Dax, my wish grew stronger. I didn't want my son to live without father by his side..."

Tristan couldn't hide his emotion when talking about Dax. His eyes started to blur, but he held back his tears.

Isaac was slightly stunned when he heard Tristan's last words. They shared the same concern. He knows Dax needs a father figure, and only this man can fulfill that.

Now Isaac feels slightly wavering with Tristan. If he means his words, he has no reason to stop him. He even needs to help this brat make Bella like him again.

After pondering for a while, something crossed Isaac's mind. However, just before Isaac wanted to say something, Tristan started talking again.

"I must confess, sir, that if I use everything I have, I can make Bella return to me, even when it's against her will. However, I have no intention of doing so. My wish this time is to win her heart and make her mine. She is my son's mother and the woman who has captured my heart."

Isaac's face turned dark, almost sending a powerful slap to Tristan's face out of shock hearing his words.

"Brat!! Do you want to use Dax to force Bella to marry you again? How dare you!" Isaac pointed with his index finger, too mad hearing his words.

Tristan's face turned pale. He was confused why Isaac suddently fumed.

"No... No... Sir. That is absolutely not what I meant. You seem to have misunderstood," Tristan immediately clarified.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 110: Cupid Alliance

"Speak clearly! I'm old now. I can't understand the layers of your words—" Isaac cleared his throat, his intimidating gaze seemingly sharp enough to send shivers down Tristan's spine.

"Sir, my legal status with Bella is still husband and wife. I never submitted our divorce papers to the court. If I want to ask her to return to me, I could—"

"W-WHAT!? YO-YOU..." Isaac couldn't continue his words. His heart felt stuffy. He placed his hand over his chest, trying to breathe normally, shocked by what he heard.

Tristan worries when he sees Isaac's face turn red as if all his blood is rushing straight into his face.

Afraid of triggering Isaac's blood pressure or causing a heart attack, Tristan is reluctant to continue this conversation.

"Gr-Grandpa... S-Sir... Are you alright?" Tristan stood from his seat to help him. But he hears hurried steps from behind. He sees Nick, Isaac's butler, come in and carry a water tray.

"Master, please drink this—" Nick said politely while pouring water for him. Isaac immediately took a glass of water and drank it.

After he feels better, Isaac glances at Nick and says, "Thank you. I'm fine now... You might go back inside," He dismissed Nick. Then, he returned his gaze to Tristan and gestured for him to sit again.

"You said your status with my granddaughter is still husband and wife? Legally?" Isaac asked again, worried he had heard wrong. This is big news and something they can't talk about lightly.

"That's right. That's what I said," Tristan answered him earnestly.

Isaac fell silent again as if he was pondering something.

After a few more seconds, he looked at Tristan.

"Does anyone else know about this?"

"Just me and my lawyer... And now, you."

"I see," Isaac began to understand why Tristan said he didn't want to force Bella to come back to him, even though he could because Bella's status was still his wife.

Isaac took a deep breath. He never imagined this plot twist happening to his grandaughter's life.

How could this brat have hidden this? Why didn't he tell him when they met a few years ago?

'Sigh!!' Isaac silently took another deep breath, trying to fill the air in his chest.

It is still hard for Isaac to believe that in the past, he scolded this brat and almost hit him for nothing. "So, you want—"

"Daddy—"

Isaac's sentence stopped when he heard Dax's voice. He immediately turned to look at him and was surprised to see his great-grandson's confused expression as he looked at his father.

"D-Dax..." Tristan was surprised, too. "Come here," he asked his son to join them.

Tristan felt curious. When had Dax been standing there? Did he hear their conversation?

Before Tristan could ask, Dax stood before him.

"Dad, are you serious about what you said?"

Tristan was slightly surprised to hear his serious tone.

"Yes. Like I've told you before, I want to pursue your mother. And you already sided with me..." He smiled while patting the seat beside him. "Did my little man forget about that?"

Dax shook his head.

"No… Daddy… I didn't forget. I'm trying to ask, 'Are you seriously still legally married to Mommy?"

When Dax learned that his father was visiting their house, he rushed to the living room only to stop and greet his father when he overheard their conversation.

At first, he didn't understand, but when he asked Aunty Noora, he was surprised to learn that his parents were still legally married. How was that possible?

Tristan concealed his surprise behind his smile as gently patted Dax's back.

"My little man, so you heard it?"

"Hmm... what do you mean, Daddy? I thought you and Mommy already divorced; why did you suddenly say you didn't submit your divorce papers to the court!?" Dax expressed his confusion.

Tristan and Isaac, who heard Dax's question, were rendered speechless.

How could a child this age understand such matters?

Curious to know whether this little fellow understood what he said, Isaac asked, "Baby Dax, do you understand about a marriage annulment letter...?"

Dax turned his gaze to Isaac, smiling before saying, "Gramps, of course, I know. Earlier, Aunty Noora was the one who explained it to me—"

Dax looked back to find Noora; when he saw her in the corner, he called for her to join them.

Noora suddenly froze.

'Oh Lord, young master... why did you drag me in this conversation?' She protested in her mind. However, despite her reluctance, she walked closer to the seating area and stood a few steps away.

Before Noora could say anything, Isaac Donovan burst out laughing, surprising everyone in the room.

"Hahaha, no need to feel afraid, Noora." Isaac could see Noora's face turn pale. "Come... come... join us. It's fine if you know; this is not a secret anymore."

Isaac couldn't separate Noora from Bella and Dax's lives. They already considered Noora to be their closest family.

"Old master," Noora reluctantly took a seat. She wasn't used to being around Tristan Sinclair, even though this man looked much different from the Tristan she knew in the past.

"Aunty Noora, you can join us..." Tristan smiled gently at her when he noticed her glancing at him a few times as if worried he would do something terrible.

Tristan had a goal to make Noora side with him to pursue Bella. He knew how significant Noora was in Bella's life. She was the number three person on his list — how to win Bella's heart.

With Noora joining in his fight to win back Bella, Tristan again explained this matter to Dax and how he would fight to get Bella back.

It made Isaac, Dax, and Noora feel sympathetic and finally agree to help him.

...

In the end, Dax suddenly said, "Daddy, Gramps, I will create a special group chat only for us. Just us three. We will discuss our strategy again there... What do you think?" his eyes beaming as he looked at them.

Tristan and the others were dumbfounded upon hearing Dax's brilliant idea.

Thus, a new chat group was formed: CUPID ALLIANCE.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 111: Shameless Man At The Quantum Capital Building.

"Achooo..."

Suddenly, Bella sneezed the moment she entered her office lobby.

"Did you catch a cold?" Leo, who was waiting for her, was surprised by her sneeze.

Bella slightly shook her head. "No. I'm healthy... But, I guess someone gossiped about me." She smiled when she saw Leo chuckle.

"How could you believe something like that?"

"Geez... Looks like working too much, enough to make your humor leave you," Bella said as she walked away from the executive elevator.

"Bella, did you forget the elevator? Why are you walking in that direction?" Leo asked, confused. But he still hurried to match her step.

"I need coffee, alright!" Bella glanced at him as she headed to the famous franchise coffee shop in the corner, Moon Coffee.

She felt blessed; there was a coffee shop in this building. She thanked whoever let this Moon coffee open in their building.

"Oh my, you haven't changed? Are you still addicted to coffee?" Leo was surprised. He shook his head while following her to queue at the cashier to order their coffee.

Before nine in the morning, Moon Coffee was surprisingly bustling, with a few customers occupying almost all ten tables.

There were two people in front of them, buying coffee. They waited while chatting.

"It's better to be addicted to coffee than addicted to alcohol, right?" Bella answered casually as she looked at her cell phone to check something important that she could read.

However, her mood dropped slightly when she saw a series of texts from someone in New York.

"Yeah, I agree with you!" Leo responded with a light chuckle.

Bella ignored him; she was immersed in reading a series of texts sent by Jack.

After a few more seconds, she looked up to see Leo, "Tsk... Tsk... I can't believe your ex-boss is spamming me with his text messages," she showed Leo her phone screen.

Leo only needed to read a few texts and laughed, "Hahaha, he's so afraid you won't come today. Well... actually... He's the one who wakes me up in the morning. He calls me and makes sure to remind you."

"What the hell does he want? Why does he insist on me taking care of this..." Before Bella could finish her words, someone made a noise from behind, attracting their attention.

They turned to look back and saw a stout, towering man with a black oversized suit trying to break through the queue.

"Excuse me, gentlemen, I need to order coffee quickly. Please, can you give me the priority?" He said with a kind tone, but his sharp, demanding gaze made everyone look at him with a get-lost kind of look.

The stout, towering man stepped forward once more, repeating his plea.

This time, a middle-aged, short-haired woman retorted sharply, "Do you think you're the only one in a hurry? Can't you see it's almost nine in the morning? We're all in a rush, dear. Get lost!" The elegant lady dismissed him with a wave of her hand, ignoring his presence entirely.

Grinding his teeth in frustration, he refrained from further confrontation, wary of offending her again. He noted the woman's branded clothing, indicating her potential high status.

Nevertheless, he persisted. He urgently needed to purchase coffee before facing Laura's wrath. Thus, he continued to move forward for someone willing to give him their spot.

. . .

Leo couldn't tolerate the stout man's persistence any longer.

Seeing his turn approaching, Leo observed as the stout man attempted to persuade the person behind him.

Leaning closer to Bella, Leo whispered, "I can't believe there are shameless men like him in this country."

"Such men are rare, but they exist not only here but all over the world," she replied, her gaze fixed on the woman who was now placing her coffee order at the cashier.

Bella is also displeased to hear and see the man's impolite attitude. She couldn't wait to get her turn and left the coffee shop. Next time, she will ask Sam to buy a coffee for her, afraid she will encounter such a shameless man.

"Haha, you're right..." Leo chuckled, dismissing the commotion behind him. When he saw Bella's turn approaching, he felt relieved. Soon, they will be out of this place.

Glancing at Leo after she placed an order, Bella asked, "Should we offer him your spot? I can order for you and let him take your place!"

Leo was taken aback. He leaned in again, "Boss, since when did you become so generous?"

She smiled, "Maybe he's in a hurry because he needs to use the bathroom?"

Just as Leo was about to respond to Bella, the man finally approached him.

"Hello, handsome," he greeted politely. "I won't repeat myself since I'm sure you heard me before, right?" He grinned.

"So?" Leo replied with a deadpan expression.

"If you give me your spot, I'll give you a gift," the man said mysteriously.

Suddenly, Leo felt a sense of déjà vu. He remembered hearing this kind of sentence before. After a few seconds, he finally recalled what had happened at the Sushi Tei restaurant.

Leo couldn't help but feel a shiver down his spine.

Seeing that the handsome man in front of him didn't respond, the man continued whispering, "Handsome man, I'm the manager of Laura Kiels." He glanced around, wary of others overhearing.

"Yeah... That movie star, supermodel... You must know her, right." He continued when he saw the handsome man's suprised gaze.

Leo, "...."

"My client needs coffee urgently because we have to head to the next destination. If you give me your spot, I'll give you her photo with her signature," the man proudly stated, awaiting the handsome man's answer.

'What the heck! Why do I keep running into Laura Kiels?' Leo couldn't believe his luck was this terrible.

"Handsome man, please..." The man persisted with a pitiful gaze, but Leo, feeling nauseated, ignored him and leaned closer to Bella.

"What do you think? Should I give in?"

Bella didn't respond.

Leo chuckled, knowing Bella must have heard Laura's name but was pretending not to care. She must be pissed off, too.

"Sorry, my friend didn't agree, so..." Leo shrugged.

Laura's manager was left speechless. He couldn't believe someone refusing an autograph from Laura Kiels.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 112: Curious About Her Identity "Sorry, my friend didn't agree, so..." Leo shrugged.

Laura's manager was left speechless. He couldn't believe someone refusing an autograph from Laura Kiels.

Previously, he refrained from mentioning Laura's name when approaching people, fearing someone might take a video or picture and share it on social media.

However, after struggling to convince a few individuals, all in vain, he felt he had no other option.

Upon observing these two, who appeared to be ordinary employees and relatively young, he dared to offer them Laura's signature.

Nevertheless, he hadn't anticipated their refusal as well.

"You seriously didn't recognize my talent? Fine! You'll regret your decision, man... If someday we meet again and you ask, I won't give you!"

The manager looks at the handsome man sharply before turning to the woman ahead.

When the manager noticed the woman ordering the same coffee that Laura usually drank, a brilliant idea immediately dawned on him.

The manager cleared his throat while smiling warmly at the woman.

"Miss... Hello... Wow! You look so pretty, dear!" The manager greeted Bella cheerfully. Looking at Bella's striking features, including her flawless face and sharp gray eyes, he was shocked.

He couldn't help but think that this woman had the potential to be a movie star.

'Should I recruit her to enter Stellar Entertainment?'

An idea to recruit her popped up in his mind. However, a second later, he dismissed the idea. There's an urgent matter he needs to take care of.

He continued, "Miss, I will pay triple the normal price for your coffee..." His tone sounded urgent, but he didn't cease to smile at her.

However, Bella only stared at him without expression. He continued again to convince her, "How about four times? No!? Alright... This is my final offer, five times... take it or leave it!"

Leo was rendered speechless, hearing this foolish manager's words. How dare he challenge Bella's calmness?

Bella narrowed her eyes at the manager, looking at him from head to toe as if she was starting to remember his face to take revenge.

After a few seconds, she didn't utter anything but glanced at Leo and gestured to him to take their coffee. Then she walked away, leaving the manager looking at her in annoyance.

'Huh!? Why did she leave just like that? Did she agree or not?' he mumbled under his breath.

"Miss, wait? How about our deal..." He asked, still trying to be polite while following Bella even though his patience was now as thin as paper.

"Forget it!" Bella said coldly without looking back.

The manager was even more annoyed, and his hot temper arose as if someone was boiling water in his heart.

"Seriously... Who are you? Why are you so arrogant?" The manager shouted.

He was really pissed off that someone was threatening him cruelly like this, ignoring him. It was the first time someone ignored him even after he confessed he was actually Laura Kiel's manager.

The coffee shop wasn't too big so all visitors could hear the manager's conversation with Bella.

They were all surprised to hear the annoying fat man raise his voice as if he had just scolded someone.

Everyone now looked at him with their disdainful gaze. Then they turned to look at Bella and saw her stop before she reached the door.

Instantly, a little chatter could be heard among the coffee shop visitors.

"Wah, look... Look, that woman was about to piss off now."

"That fat man is really annoying. How could he threaten all people like his lowly peasant?"

"I know, right? I would scold him back if I were in that woman's position!"

All eyes now look at Bella, and before long, someone was taken aback looking at her beauty.

"You know what? This was the first time I saw that woman in this building. And she looks beautiful..." Someone whispered to her friends.

"Me too..."

They couldn't tear their eyes away from Bella; they looked at her long, wavy black hair hanging down her back. And checked her simple outfit; she wore a black turtleneck and knee-length skirt. A long gray suit hung on her arm, and her bag was hiding under her long suit.

Suddently, they were shocked, looking closely at her bag.

"Oh my god, who is she? This is the first time I saw an employee bring that H brand to the office..." She whispered to her friends.

"Maybe she is not an employee but a guest?"

"Wah, she is so rich... But low profile, look at her shoes. She only wears sneakers."

"Wait, maybe the bag was fake. That's why she hid it?"

"Yes, we can buy H brand bags at Snake Market; they all look like originals."

Bella chuckled, hearing all the chatter. Even though they spoke softly, she could still listen to them.

'Gosh, when I don't want to be exposed, they all challenge my patience!?' She adjusted her emotions before turning to face this arrogant manager.

"You want to know my name?"

"Yes!" he shouted, annoyed.

The manager had a plan to teach this woman. He would ask Laura to speak to a higherup and fire this woman. How dare she not spare anything for Laura Kiels? Even though he had already stated, he would pay five times the average price for her coffee.

A faint smile slowly appeared on Bella's lips before she said, "I'm God!"

Hearing Bella's answer caused Leo to almost spit out the coffee he had just drunk.

"Puff..."

Not only was Leo surprised, but Laura Kiels' manager was utterly shocked, too.

He couldn't believe this woman, shameless enough to call herself God.

This woman was bizarre. How could she randomly say her name was God? He would believe her if she told him she was Goddess.

But God?

Seriously!?

"Are you kidding, right?"

"No."

"The fuck!" The manager couldn't hold his curses. "Oops... Sorry... Well... Can you tell me your last name?" he continued, trying to believe some crazy parents gave their child a weird name, like God.

"I don't have a last name. My name is only God..." Bella said while holding her laugh inwardly. She immediately left without giving the man a chance to speak.

""

Chapter 113: Dealing With Stellar Entertainment The Manager was really pissed off. He couldn't help but curse, "What a bitch!"

He kept staring at Bella's back, trying to figure out her real name. He still couldn't believe her name, God. Impossible! The woman just wanted to prank him, right!?

After a few seconds lost in his thoughts, something crossed his mind.

'Damn it! How could I forget? CCTV...'

He needed to call the head of security and ask him to check the woman's identity.

'Woman... Fake God... You wait; I will teach you!' The Manager made a vow in his mind.

He felt grateful to know the head of security in this building because they always helped them deal with Laura's fans who came to this place.

A smile graced his face as he took out his cell phone to make a call.

However, before he dialed the head of security's number, he stopped when someone put an arm around his shoulder.

He turned to look, only to find God's handsome friend smiling at him, carrying two coffees.

"You surprised me... what do you want?" The Manager asked curtly. He still carried away with his annoyance for this man and his friend.

Leo blessed the Manager with his warm smile before saying, "Man... I can't believe you offended God early in the morning," he shook his head as if trying to convey his grief for this man.

He knew for sure that Bella would not stay still just to let this man go. Not that quickly and easily.

The Manager almost choked when hearing Leo's words.

"Fuck! So, is she serious!?" His eyes widened in shock. "—Her... Her... name is God? Really?"

Leo didn't answer him but maintained his half-kind smile.

The Manager took a deep sigh, looking Leo in the eyes. He felt impatient talking to this man. "Alright, handsome... I will not trouble you if you give me her real name. I will spare you from trouble. Hurry up... tell me her real name!"

"Tsk...tsk... You still do not believe her!? Fine! Just wait and see what God could do to you..." Leo said and patted the man's shoulder before he walked away.

The Manager frowned. It was still hard for him to believe someone was using that name.

"Hey, wait..." The Manager ran after Leo. "Please tell me which company you guys work for!?" He couldn't let this opportunity slip away.

He wanted to know their company's name. If they were Stellar Entertainment employees, then, sorry, he would make sure they would be fired!

Leo halted his step and turned to see the Manager, who now stood two steps away from him.

"Man, let me give you a suggestion..." Leo calmly said, but inwardly, he held his annoyance. "You better start looking for a new job in another country... No... No... But in third-world countries."

The Manager opened his mouth to say something, but Leo stopped him.

"You want to know why you can't work in this country? I guarantee you will never get any job offer after being fired from Stellar Entertainment because you just offended God." He chuckled when he saw the Manager's face turn pale.

Leo drew closed his head to whisper to the Manager, "And... next time, please make sure you never cause your company to look terrible by having shameless employees like you!" Suddenly, the Manager's knees turned to jelly after hearing that handsome man's warning. He felt what that man said just now sounded like a real threat. He stood in his place while looking at him, heading to the woman who claimed her name was God.

When he saw them enter the executive elevator, his face immediately turned paler, as if all the blood beneath his facial skin was betraying him.

'FUCK! I did offend God!' The Manager cursed while forcing himself to walk toward his car — completely forgetting about Laura's coffee.

His heart tightened to realize something.

That executive elevator was restricted for anyone, including Laura Kiel, the COO and CFO of their mother company, Quantum Capital, who couldn't use it. It meant they both worked for the company's CEO or owner.

Bella took a deep breath, seeing Leo finally approaching. She accepted her coffee latte and entered the elevator before giving a displeased gaze to him.

"Why are you wasting your time talking to a shameless man like him?" She said before taking a sip of her still-warm coffee.

"Hahaha, I'm just enjoying the fun..." Leo glanced at her.

He could see her expression; she was not as annoyed as before, but from the calm look in her eyes, he knew what was going on in her mind — she was making a plan. And he felt curious to know her plan.

"Okay, boss... now tell me what you want to do to the shameless manager?" Leo asked while gesturing for Bella to step out when their elevator reached the 19th floor.

Bella glanced at him with a soft chuckle that escaped her lips.

"Well, of course, I will not deal with him. But with his boss..."

"Ah, so you want to meet Laura Kiels? Are you sure you want to meet her?"

Leo was doubtful Bella could hold her cool when facing that woman. He already knew about Laura Kiels. She was Tristan Sinclair's woman — the gossip news indicated like that.

"Oh, please, Mr. Smith... I never deal with employees. You know that, right!? I need you to call Stellar Entertainment's CEO and our legal team. This time for me to close down this entertainment division that only burns money for the company..."

Leo's eyes widened in shock.

"Y-You... have to tell Jack, Bella. You can't just close down this company," Leo said in a hurry.

He didn't expect Bella to close one of Jack's favorite companies on her first day joining the management team.

'Is she taking revenge on Jack? That's why she did this?' Leo wondered.

Bella completely ignored Leo's words.

She continued walking towards her office room.

On her way, she spotted a few staff working on that floor and saw Samuel Brown, her personal assistant, already busy at his desk in front of her office.

She stopped right before Sam's desk.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 114: Finally, Sean Called

On her way, she spotted a few staff working on that floor and saw Samuel Brown, her personal assistant, already busy at his desk in front of her office.

She stopped before Sam's desk, making Leo almost hit her back.

"Oops, sorry, Boss..." Leo said while taking two steps back from her. Bella only gave him a slight nod and turned to see Samuel again.

"Sam, follow me inside. There's something I need you to do…" She said and then turned to Leo.

"And, Leo... Could you bring me everything about Stellar Entertainment? The report you gave me is not detailed enough. I want all reports, starting from when the company was established here. And, please... don't tell Jack about this yet! I will call him later."

After that, Bella immediately entered her office room. But Leo stopped her again.

"Boss, how about the CEO of Stellar and the legal team!? You need them now?"

Bella stopped walking and turned to see Leo. She pondered for a while before shaking her head.

"No. I must read your report, so you better complete the task quickly. I will let you know when I want to meet them..."

"Alright, Boss. I will make this matter a priority," Leo smiled and left, heading to his office.

. . .

After Bella sat in her chair, she didn't immediately turn on the desktop computer. Instead, she looked at Sam standing in front of her desk.

"Sam, do you have any investigative experience?" When Bella saw him slightly confused, she immediately clarified her words. "I mean, finding out someone's identity, tailing, and spying. Well, something like that..."

"I do, Boss. That's what I did when I was still active in the military, undercover missions..." Sam, slightly smiling, reminisced about his time in the military.

If only he hadn't been injured at that time, perhaps now his rank in the military would be high because he was a member of one of the special forces in this country.

Bella smiled happily, hearing Sam's confirmation. She really needed his talent now.

"I need your help to spy and investigate someone. Can you do it without resources and a team? Well, later, you can hire someone... I don't mind."

"Yes, I can," Sam said confidently. "Who is the person you want me to investigate!?"

Bella immediately gave Sam several names. Hearing all the names shocked Sam.

Sam couldn't help but clarify, "Boss, so you want me to spy on the head of building security and some of the Executives in this building?" He was surprised to get this assignment on his first day of work.

"Yes. I need to check what they do daily, who they meet, etc..." Bella said. She needed other reports about those people before she could crush them all.

Bella couldn't keep people who would stab her in the back. From the initial report she read, she could already see how deep the corruption was in this company.

Everyone was involved, which made her uneasy to work with them. She needed to remove them before she could make Quantum Capital achieve the targets that Jack set for her.

"I'll try, boss," Sam said firmly.

"Perfect!" Bella took out a card from her wallet and offered it to Sam. That's actually a card that Jack gave her before she returned to this country.

"Take it. You can keep this company card. You can buy whatever you need. And you can also hire people who can help you."

"Understand, Boss. I will work for it now..."

After Bella dismissed Sam, she started to check her work.

. . .

After several minutes, Bella was immersed in her work when her cell phone rang.

She casually glanced at it, reluctant to pick up if the call was from Jack.

However, she was stunned when she saw no number on the cell phone screen.

"Spam!? How could my spam filter not work to block this unknown call?" She muttered.

Her gaze was still fixed on the phone screen while trying to debate with herself whether to pick up or not.

Before the ringing ended, Sean's face suddenly flashed in her mind. She remembered Sean telling her about this; he might call without a number.

Without a doubt, she immediately picked up.

"H-Hello?" Bella greeted him quickly. She was worried Sean would end his call.

There was a sigh of relief on the other end, followed by Sean's soft voice, "You finally picked up, Bella. Sorry if I called at the wrong time?"

"No... Of course not. I was worried about answering your call because no number appeared, so I hesitated to answer it. But then I remembered you mentioned an unknown number caller..."

Finally, Sean was able to call her. She really needed to hear his voice after that shameless Tristan Sinclair tried to waver her so many times.

Sean chuckled, "Well, sorry... to make a call from this unknown and secure phone. This is the only way to contact you, and I can't speak over the phone for long." He took a deep sigh.

"Thank you for making the effort, Sean. I appreciate it..." She stood from her seat and looked at the scenery outside, feeling good after the unpleasant drama in the morning.

"Ugh! I miss you so much, Bella. I hope I can fly back there and meet you and Dax." Sean cleared his throat after saying those words.

When he didn't hear any response from her.

He continued, "How's your condition and Dax's offer there? Everything alright?"

A smile flashed across Bella's face, hearing his sweet words. But, somehow, she didn't respond to it.

Bella started telling him about their condition; she moved to the capital and finally lived with her grandfather.

She also told him today was her first day working in her office.

However, Bella didn't tell him about her encounter with Tristan. She worried Sean would stress and cause discord to his mission.

"I'm glad you are doing alright there. And I'm sorry I can't help you during your transition to the new city, Bella." Another deep sigh could be heard from the other end.

It made Bella feel sorry for him.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 115: Weird Feeling

"It's okay, Sean. Don't worry about me. Just concentrate on your mission," she said, smiling as if Sean was standing before her. "By the way, I went to Sushi Tei a few days ago."

Bella tries to divert the conversation. She refused to let this happy phone call turn gloomy.

"Oh, really!?" Sean's excited tone could be heard, causing Bella to feel relieved.

"Yes... my office building is close to a Sushi Tei restaurant, so maybe I'll go there often."

"Sounds great, Bells. Well, I'll get someone to send you my access card. So you can visit my family's restaurants and hotels without making an appointment, and you won't have to queue or pay anything either."

Bella's smile slowly faded when she heard his sentence. 'Huh!? Why did this conversation change direction!?'

She quickly rejected it.

How could she accept such a thing from him?

If Sean's family finds out, they might label her a gold digger because she's already receiving benefits from him, even though their relationship isn't serious yet.

"Please don't do that, Sean. I cannot accept it!" Bella refused again after Sean continued to press her to accept.

She started to feel frustrated and regretted bringing up this matter.

"Alright, I understand..." Sean smiles when Bella's expression flashes in his mind. For now, he stopped to discuss the matter but would still send her something.

Silence hung in the air as Bella and Sean remained mute, each waiting for the other to start a conversation.

Before long,

Bella chuckled softly and asked, "Are you alright there? I mean... everything under control?"

"Yeah, everything is fine. But, I still can't predict when this mission will end..." There was a hint of frustration in his tone.

Bella's eyes showed a hint of disappointment after hearing his words. But that was only a moment, quickly replaced by a faint smile on the corners of her lips.

"Please take care of yourself, Sean," she said in concern.

"Sure, I will. I have to return to you and Dax…" He laughed, and Bella couldn't help but laugh with him.

However, a woman's voice was heard on the other end before Bella could respond.

"Sean, our dinner ready. I cooked your favori—" the gentle voice suddently paused.

For a slight second, silence hung in the air.

"I'm on the phone. Will end this soon... please wait." Even though Sean's voice sounded like a whisper, Bella still heard it faintly.

Bella suddenly felt like her heart tightened, hearing a female voice sound so intimate to Sean. Without realizing it, her hand slowly clenched into tight fists.

It felt like she just wanted to end the call. She felt awkward in this situation.

"Bells…"

Silent!

"Hello... Are you still there? Hello Bells... Bella..." Sean's confused voice came from the other end. "Huh!? Is the satellite signal being disrupted again!?"

Bella cleared her throat faintly before responding to him, "I'm here..." She swallowed, hurt as she felt her throat dry.

"Oh, thank God. I thought the satellite was down again. Bells, sorry, I have to go now. I will call you later if I have time."

A forced smile graces her face, but she tries to answer him as calmly as possible, "Sure, no problem..."

"Love you, Bells..." Sean's words stunned Bella.

Though she opened her mouth a couple of times, she could not find any words to reply to him.

"And, please send my warm hug to Dax." He continues.

"Sure, I will..."

Beep!

Bella didn't move from her place even though Sean's phone call ended. She stood there, looking down at the busy street below, with her mind filled with countless questions starting to torment her calmness.

Later,

Her expression slowly changed; at first, it was shocking, then quickly changed to sadness.

Why does a female cook for him?

Did they share the same house?

If that woman was his colleague, why did she call him by name? Sean was their General.

Who is that woman?

Many questions now pop up in her mind, distracting her completely.

• • •

To immerse herself in thinking about the woman who cooked for Sean, Bella didn't hear a knock on the door.

She wasn't even aware Leo was forced to open the door, and now he stood behind her worriedly.

"Bella, are you okay? Why didn't you answer me...?" he asked again while standing by her side. He was shocked to see her dark expression.

'Did someone offend her again?' Leo is even more worried. Afraid Laura Kiels or her manager makes her angry.

However, Bella was still lost in her own thoughts, unaware that Leo was now standing by her side.

"Bella!!" Leo shouted again after she still did not heed him. "What the—" Before he could finish his words, Bella turned to see him in shock.

"Damn, Leo!" Bella was utterly suprised when she saw Leo. "Why didn't you knock before entering my office?"

Leo, "...."

"Have you finished your report?" Bella asked while walking to the seating area and gesturing to Leo to sit opposite her.

Leo didn't rush to answer. He casually folded the sleeves of his slim white shirt to his elbows before sitting comfortably on the sofa. His eyes looked at her, curious to see how she felt.

But he was shocked as soon as his eyes met Bella's sharp gaze, who looked annoyed at him.

He gulped.

"No. Not yet," Leo replied, not wanting to make her even more annoyed.

"Not yet!? So why are you here?" Her voice turns displeased.

"Tsk, Tsk, so it's true that something was bothering you now!? I talk to you, but your mind is completely not in this place..." Leo chuckled when he saw her frown.

"What do you mean?" Bella was confused.

"My dear Boss... I have called you many times, and I feel ignored. You stand near the glass wall, looking at the street with an empty expression." Leo shook his head before continuing his words. "Who is the idiot that made you lose focus right now?"

Bella slightly shrugs.

She couldn't believe that thinking about Sean could distract her mind so much and so apparent.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 116: Stefan Petrovic

"Stop wasting your time, Leo..." she spoke gently, but her gaze seemed to want to whack Leo in the head. Why did he look slackened when she tried to settle this matter faster?

She continued her words before Leo could say anything. "Can you please prepare the document? I will not sleep peacefully knowing these fools continue to burn our company's money."

Bella let out a soft sigh before she turned her gaze outside.

Leo chuckled when he saw her seeming impatient.

"Oh, come on, boss. Relax. It's lunchtime now. Do you want to go to Sushi Tei again?" Leo asked.

He was reluctant to visit that place, afraid they would meet other shameless people again.

"Lunchtime!?" Bella was surprised when she saw her watch; it was indeed past lunchtime by a few minutes. "Gosh! Why does time fly so fast? I feel like I just worked a few minutes ago," she glanced at Leo. Leo was rendered speechless. He said nothing but only gave her a — Why are you asking me? — kind of look.

"Can you ask someone to prepare my lunch? I still have a lot of work."

"Alright, I will ask someone to prepare it," he said, quickly calling his secretary.

After he ended the call, he looked at Bella again, "Boss, about the document you asked me for, you know why I can't assign a random person to do that, right?"

Bella slightly nodded.

"Unfortunately, our Hacker seems busy today. So, we need a little bit of patience to ask him." He explained.

Leo wanted to call their Hacker directly but didn't know his contact information—Jack, with whom he usually corresponded. Because this was a secret mission, he didn't want to bother Jack by asking because Jack would be suspicious.

"Did you say this is for me?"

"Should I?"

Bella rolled her eyes, "No wonder he didn't heed your request,"

She headed to the table, looking for her cell phone. After she found the number she needed to call, Bella returned to her seat.

"Y-You call him?" Leo was surprised. As far as he knew, only Jack knew that person's location and phone number.

And, as Jack's assistant for years, he never knew that person's number. Whenever he needs that person to do some work, he submits the request through a unique website and gets a ticket to the queue.

This morning, he got to number five when submitting the request form. The system said the data he needed would be finished on five at noon.

However now,

Bella was casually calling that person, which shocked him.

Leo narrowed his eyes and looked at Bella, thrilled to know whether the connection was going through.

"Of course, I know. I'm the one who brings him into our company. You didn't know?"

Leo was utterly speechless. He opened his mouth a few times to say something, but no words left his lips.

He was shocked to know that their formidable Hacker had entered their company through Bella.

"I just don't want to be involved with the company. So, I told him to communicate with Jack," Bella continued to explain after she saw Leo's comical expression.

• • •

As soon as the line was connected, a man's voice, speaking English with a Russian accent, greeted Bella from the other end.

"Wow! I almost died in shock when I saw your phone number appear on my cellphone. It's been a while. Where have you been all this time, sis Bella?"

Bella can't help but laugh happily, hearing his greeting.

"Stefan, I am always here, in my country. Well, you sound great, Stefan... Your voice no longer sounded like a teenager."

"Of course, I'm a grown person now. It's been ten years since we first met, remember!?" Stefan asked while trying to remember the exact years they first met.

"I know. Forgive my ignorance. In my memory, I remember you were a very active and brilliant teenage boy, Stefan..." Bella starts to remember how they met for the first time.

At that time, he was still 17 years old. She had also just established a company with Jack. They needed computer experts to help them, and somehow, this kid appeared before her, offering himself to help them.

Looking at his sincerity and capability, Bella immediately accepted his offer.

She never doubted Stefan's abilities, so she immediately agreed to use his talent and hire him as their prominent Hacker.

A year later, after they met, Bella found out that no client wanted to use Stefan's talent at that time. Because of his age, it is difficult to get a job, and they doubt his ability—no wonder Stefan accepts her offer even though they can't afford to pay him more than his market price.

Since then, Stefan has become their exclusive Hacker. He has also significantly contributed to the success of the RDF Group and all its businesses worldwide.

Bella heard from Jack that Stefan has a share in their company, but his involvement was discreet.

"I heard from Jack that you have become a mother now?" Stefan was excited to hear he would visit her again. And now he gets to see not only Bella but also her son.

"Yeah, I have a son. And I also reside in Fort City. Come to visit me, Stefan, and meet my son. Well, my son has the talent to use his computer, too."

"Really? Alright, I will stop there." Stefan's voice sounded excited; he needed to visit a warmer place. He can't stand it, the coldest in his village.

"Okay, that sounds terrific."

"Bella... Why did you suddenly call me after so many years!?" Stefan asked.

She immediately told him about the needed data and how Leo submitted it to his website.

"I don't understand the details. Maybe Leo could explain them to you further..." Bella immediately gave Leo her cell phone so they could talk directly to Stefan.

After a few minutes,

Leo finally finished talking to Stefan about what document they needed.

"I see. Okay, I will work it out now." But before Stefan ends his conversation with Leo, he still wants to talk to Bella. "Can you return the phone to Bella?"

Bella and Stefan chatted again for another minute. Before long, they finally ended the call, with Stefan promising to visit her soon.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 117: Can't Refused Dax Request The day it was passed quickly.

Bella spent her entire afternoon engrossed in reports about Stellar Entertainment.

The more she read, the dizzier she felt, realizing the company's dire state.

Some directors acted as sugar daddies for Stellar Entertainment's young talent. Surprisingly, they are using company funds instead of their own.

Stellar Entertainment often paid hefty prices for poor results, mainly when directors utilized their family companies for various projects.

To make matters worse, the CFO of Stellar Entertainment even produced a movie based on his son's trash script, which flopped in the market and caused significant losses.

All this time, the financial reports sent to the head office didn't reflect the reality here.

Bella felt fortunate to have Stefan, who uncovered their deceitful under-the-table agreement.

Now, she only needed to wait for Sam's report. She required more evidence to dismiss and sue them for embezzling funds from her company.

She vowed to ensure they left with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

. . .

A sinister smile crept across Bella's face as she closed her laptop and stood up from her chair, peering outside to bless her eyes with a beautiful blue sky.

However, Bella's mind was still filled with company matters.

'Did Jack know that his friend, whom he entrusted to run Quantum Capital and Stellar Entertainment, was betraying him? Stabbing him from behind!?' This thought had bothered her.

Stellar Entertainment wasn't a new company in this country. It had been established seven years ago. She could imagine the amount of money they'd stolen.

Bella had only checked one subsidiary company and discovered numerous financial problems. She hoped the others weren't as troublesome as Stellar Entertainment.

She sighs deeply.

"That poor Jack will be shocked if he knows all this..."

Bella no longer has the energy to read all those documents. She decides to return home after she gets a text from her son.

[Baby Dax] Mommy, what time will you return home?

[Baby Dax] I miss you, Mommy (Cry emoji)

How could she stay longer in the office if her baby texted her like that? She can't resist his cuteness. Well, nobody can.

Bella tidied her table quickly and then asked Sam to prepare a car for her in the lobby.

While heading to the elevator, Bella called Dax. Her smile grew wider when she heard his cute and cheerful voice from the other end.

"Hello, Mommy... what time do you go home?"

"Baby, I'm finished now and have just to enter the elevator. I will arrive home before you know it..." She smiles when she hears his excited cheers. "Did you take a nap?"

"Yes, I just woke up and texted you."

"Alright, I will arrive home soon."

Bella ended the call when she arrived at the lobby.

Her cell phone rang again before she exited the main entrance. She was suprised to see the caller.

She was reluctant to pick up, staring at her phone for a few seconds.

"Hi, Tristan... What is it?"

"Why do you sound unhappy picking up my call?" Tristan's voice rang from the other end, surprised Bella.

She looked around and found a familiar car that had just stopped in the lobby.

"Tr-Tristan? Why did you co—" Bella couldn't finish her words. She was too shocked to see Tristan coming to her office.

She was worried that someone might recognize him. However, suddenly, Laura Kiels flashed in her mind. She dismisses her worry with a sour smile.

'Geez, Bella... This man didn't come to meet you. He comes to meet his woman...'

How could she have thought this man would come to pick her up? It was impossible, right!?

However, just as Bella wanted to tease him about Laura Kiels, she heard Tristan say,

"Get in my car. We will head home together..."

'What the hell?' Bella can't help but curse. 'He comes to pick me up? Seriously!?'

She narrowed her eyes at the car's back row. Even though she couldn't see through the thick, dark window, she believed Tristan was staring back at her.

"If you don't enter my car now, I will come out and greet you there," Tristan said casually, but Bella instantly worried. "I came here after receiving our son's phone call. Dax asked me to pick you up." he smiled, remembering this was one of Dax's ideas.

Dax plans all of this, ensuring his parents return home together. He even contacted Dylan to empty Tristan's schedule at noon.

"NO! Don't ever step out of your car, Tristan!" Bella scolded him quickly, afraid someone would see him. "You stay there. I need to talk with my driver."

Beep!

After ending the call, she walked toward Sam, who was now waiting for her.

"Sam, you don't have to drive me home. I will go home with someone," Bella said. She silently took a deep breath before continuing. "You can continue your investigation and report to me if you find something suspicious."

"Yes, boss..." Sam slightly nods. After seeing Bella enter the luxury car, he returned to the building.

• • •

Tristan tried to keep a straight face, holding back the urge to smile when Bella sat beside him. He was amazed by his son's brilliant idea.

After the vehicle left the building, he turned to Bella and said, "Please don't blame me for suddenly appearing here. I was only following our son's request."

Bella narrowed her eyes at him. She doubts it.

Tristan chuckled before reassuring her, "I couldn't refuse our son's request. When he called me, I happened to be passing by your office. You can ask him if you don't believe me..."

Bella took a deep breath. She was annoyed but couldn't take her frustration out on him.

They both fell silent.

Bella turned her gaze out the window, avoiding Tristan's gaze.

She tried to enjoy the view outside. After so many things happened today, she just needed to rest her mind. She slowly closed her eyes and pretended to sleep.

But, not long after, Tristan's voice was heard again.

"Are you still annoyed with me? Alright, I will call Dax now-"

"No need," Bella stopped him. She turns her gaze to see him, "I believe you."

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 118: What Happen In The Past (1) Tristan smiled at her words. He could see she was no longer as irritated as before.

"How's your first day?"

Tristan couldn't stop thinking about her all day but was too afraid to call. He didn't want to risk bothering her, afraid she would be in a bad mood.

Bella faintly smiles at his question. Her first day felt like a rollercoaster because Laura's manager succeeded in ruining her mood early in the morning.

"Well, your woman, Ms. Kiels, gives me a headache—" Bella stopped her words when she saw Tristan's displeased expression.

Tristan pressed the button, and slowly, a divider appeared, separating them from the front row.

After making sure they were safe to speak without the driver, the bodyguard could hear them. Tristan turned to see Bella, his serious gaze surprising her.

"Bella, please. How many times should I tell you that I don't have a relationship with that woman? What should I do to make you believe it?"

"You don't have to do anything or explain. I'm just saying what I saw..."

The lines on Tristan's forehead became increasingly visible hearing her words.

"What exactly do you see to assume I have a relationship with her? Please tell me so I can understand and clarify for you."

Tristan felt confused because her accusation was utterly baseless. He is not related to Laura Kiels, as she believes.

Bella looked out the window, trying to calm her upset heart. She remembered when she wanted to forgive Tristan and tell him about her pregnancy; she heard Tristan had visited Promise Hospital with Laura Kiels.

"Bella, please..." Tristan's voice sounded closer to her ear. She turned around and saw his face only inches from hers.

Too close, she could feel his fresh, minty breath brushing her face.

Instantly, her heart beat loudly. She was frozen for a few seconds before pulling her head away from him.

"T-Tristan, please sit properly," Bella stammered, trying to control her calmness, but her nervous voice betrayed her.

"I'll tell you when you're sitting properly," she continued when she saw Tristan not budging.

After seeing him sitting properly again, Bella told him about what she had heard and seen on CCTV that day at Promise Hospital.

Tristan was shocked to hear Bella's words. He tried to say something, but Bella stopped him.

"Did you know, Tristan? At that time, before I heard what the nurses were gossiping about, I intended to contact you to tell you about my pregnancy. But I change my mind..."

"Bella—" Tristan feels suffocated to continue his words.

"There's no point for me to tell you about my pregnancy because that woman is also pregnant. You and your mother chose her," a soft chuckle escaped Bella's lips before continuing her words. "I left this country for my sanity and my child—"

Bella lowered her gaze to hide her teary eyes. She didn't want to make him witness her sadness.

While Tristan,

He was lost in thought, remembering what had happened that day. He never expected that day Bella would be rushed to the emergency room after he had spoken hurtfully to her.

Tristan could no longer contain his emotions. He drew nearer to her and embraced her tightly, even though he felt Bella pushing him away.

Bella was shocked.

"Let me go, Tristan Sinclair!" she shouted, annoyed. However, after her struggles failed and she felt Tristan's body tremble, she ceased pushing him. 'Is he crying? Why... Why did he cry!?'

Bella couldn't believe this man could cry, too.

After a few more minutes passed, when she felt he no longer tremble, and no sobs could be heard. Bella pushed him again, but Tristan tightened his embrace, causing her to sigh deeply.

"Tristan, you promised me you would never do this again, but—"

"Please, just this time. Let me hug you. Just this time..." Tristan's voice sounded shaky, making Bella's annoyance slowly melt. "I'm sorry, Bella. I'm sorry if I hurt you..."

The harsh words he said to Bella when she finally decided to sign the divorce papers began to flood his mind again. Torture him. He would never forgive himself for doing that to her. Never!

"Please, Tristan... stop apologizing for what happened in the past! I told you before to forget about it. I'm tired of remembering all that!"

"I know. But I vow to myself that I will never forget that moment. I want to keep remembering it as a form of punishment for hurting you, Bella," he whispers.

Bella, "...."

"Well, I like your idea, Tristan. But, can you not include me?"

Tristan abruptly released his hug and placed his hand on Bella's shoulder before he asked, "What do you mean?" He looks at her with a puzzled expression

"My heart hurts again every time I remember those moments. So, please, stop reminding me of those painful memories..." Her eyes trembled slightly, meeting his worried gaze.

He quickly nodded, agreeing with her.

"Bella, I need to explain what happened. I don't want you to misunderstand."

"Oh my god, why do you insist?" She sighed and tried to hide her annoyance on her face by looking away.

"Bella, please listen to me first. I must clarify because what you think about me was completely wrong." Tristan smiled bitterly as he watched Bella avoid him. He pulled out his laptop from his briefcase.

He was busy looking for something there, making Bella curious to see what he was doing. She glanced at him and was surprised to see him open a video.

"Okay, if you don't believe me, you can see this CCTV footage." Tristan pointed his laptop screen at Bella before he pressed 'PLAY' on the video.

Not saying a word, Bella watched the CCTV video recording.

She was confused when she saw footage of a luxury hotel corridor.

Before Bella could ask Tristan, she was shocked to see Laura Kiels in a tight gown, barely covering her sexy body, staggering like a drunk person. She stopped before the door and took the keys from her bag. After struggling to open the door, she finally disappeared behind the door.

Not long after, Tristan, who looked drunk, walked in the same corridor.

Bella's expression slowly changed.

Chapter 119: What Happen In The Past (2) Not long after, Tristan, who also looked drunk, walked in the same corridor.

Bella's expression slowly changed.

She tries to remain calm despite feeling like a war drum is beating in her chest.

'Why does this man want me to see this video? ' She wondered, quickly glancing at him.

Bella was stunned because Tristan was now staring back at her. In a hurry, she lowers her gaze again to the video.

The next scene Bella saw shocked her greatly.

Just before Tristan wanted to open the door, she saw Dylan running after Tristan and stopped him. Then, Dylan took Tristan out of the corridor. In only a few seconds, another man walked to the door and entered the room that Laura Kiels had entered.

"T-this..." Bella was lost for words. She instantly understood why Tristan wanted her to watch this CCTV footage.

Bella slowly turned her gaze at him. She feels embarrassed to meet his innocent gaze because she accused him of something he didn't do.

However, a few times, she opened her mouth to say something to confirm what was on her mind, but all her words seemed stuck in her throat.

"Now, do you believe I'm not related to her right?"

She ignores his question and asks, "Her child isn't yours?"

Tristan laughs softly.

"Hahaha, of course not. Dylan thwarted my mother's plans..." He felt grateful because Dylan knew his mother was planning something terrible for him that night.

He usually didn't attend the company celebration party. Still, that day, he came because his father suddenly felt sick and asked him to replace him. The party was held at one of their hotels near his office, so he agreed.

Who knows, his mother had prepared a trap for Tristan that night. After he opened the company party, as he was about to leave, his head suddenly felt dizzy, and his body felt blazing hot.

Tristan decided to go to the presidential suite, where he usually rested when visiting this hotel. However, before he enters the room, Dylan finds out about Jessica Sinclair's big plan — to set a trap for her son to spend an intimate night with Laura Kiels, who is waiting for him in the room.

That night, after Tristan rested in another room and called his personal doctor, he discovered that someone had given him an aphrodisiac.

Tristan couldn't imagine what would have happened to him if he had entered that room that night. He would never forgive his mother for her cruelness.

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Hearing confirmation from Tristan, Bella feels like someone just lifted a weight on her shoulder.

She feels relieved, not for herself but for her son. At least Dax didn't have another rival in the Sinclair Family.

Bella didn't want her son to experience the cruel competition between heirs in the chaebol family that she usually watched in dramas. She will never allow her son to suffer.

Sigh!

At least...

This is all just a misunderstanding. However, Bella felt embarrassed because she had been thinking negatively about him all this time.

A faint smile graces her face, but later, something crosses her mind, and her smile slowly vanishes as she looks at him.

'If he knew from the start the child was not his child, why did the nurse say he came to Promise Hospital with Laura Kiels!?' This thought lingers in her mind. She clarified this one.

"Tristan, may I ask you something?"

"Sure."

"Why are you appearing at the promised hospital with her?" She asked.

"Well, Bella... you misunderstood. I didn't come to the hospital with her. I didn't even know she came to that hospital that day."

Bella slightly frowned.

"You said you saw the CCTV footage, right?" Tristan asked.

She didn't answer him, only staring at him suspiciously.

"Did you see me and her in one frame with your own eyes?"

Bella was stunned. She didn't see it. She only sees him enter the hospital. That time, she felt too angry to check the whole CCTV.

When Tristan saw Bella still hadn't uttered anything, he continued, "I know my mother's plot. She wanted me to marry Laura Kiels and framed me with her pregnancy, but my mother didn't realize that I already knew her entire plan. Thanks to Max, who discover their scheme..."

Tristan continued after he inhaled as much air as possible, "The woman was also drunk to realize that the man who came into her room was not me but a random man Dylan paid to sleep with her all night. Well, you saw the video earlier..."

Bella slightly nods. She was amazed at Dylan.

She didn't expect him to make a nasty plot like that to teach Laura Kiels.

"Since that night, I've sent someone to spy on Laura Kiels, and I know about her pregnancy. I found out she actually checked up on his pregnancy at the Promise Hospital..."

Tristan explained everything, which surprised Bella, but she silently heard and let him finish speaking.

When Tristan finally concluded his words, the vehicle arrived at Little Heaven. There were only a few minutes left until they arrived at her home.

Bella was unable to say something, shocked by what she heard from Tristan. Now she understood why Tristan came to the hospital; he came to receive a DNA test for the child in Laura's womb — he needed that test result to silence Laura if she came to him to claim he was her baby's father.

And,

What Tristan has predicted came true. That woman, Laura Kiels, started contacting him and intended to blackmail him.

Tristan didn't bother to explain; he just gave her the CCTV footage and also her unborn DNA test.

A few days later, Tristan heard that Laura Kiels had had a miscarriage. He found out from his friend, one of the directors of the Promise Hospital.

"How evil is she? Why would she kill her own baby??" Bella comments angrily.

"I'm sorry, Bella. I can't answer that," he chuckled. "And I don't care what she does."

Bella could only sigh, trying to throw Laura Kiels out of her mind.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 120: Mission Fail! The car finally stops at the yard. Before Bella could leave the car, Tristan stopped her.

"Bella, please wait."

"Yes?"

"Are you still misunderstanding me, or do you understand me now?"

A guilty smile appeared on the edge of Bella's lips. She looked at how worried he was now.

"I'm sorry, Tristan, I've been accusing you all this time. Yes, I believe you now."

Knowing what happened in the past caused her to wonder if she didn't stop to meet him at the time; they were still husband and wife. Dax will grow up with a father figure by his side, and this man will be a fantastic father to their son.

A surge of warmth enveloped Bella as she imagined her happy little family, causing a gentle smile to spread across her lips. However, her smile slowly faded when she realized all that, only her wishful thinking.

As a human, Bella could not turn back time and fix everything. She could only accept and endure everything because of the decisions she made in the past. She couldn't blame anyone—Tristan or herself.

Well,

At least everything is clear now. There is no longer any misunderstanding between them.

"Thank you, Bella... But you don't have to apologize for something that I, myself, caused that to happen."

She didn't say anything and could only return his smile.

Tristan's blue eyes were slightly beaming as he said, "Now that you know my innocence, let's start everything and become husband and wife again. How?"

Bella, "...."

Seeing Tristan's tense eyes waiting for her answer made her take another deep breath before answering.

"I'm sorry, Tristan. My answer is still no…" She stepped out of the car before Tristan could say anything.

No language could describe how disappointed he was at this moment to hear her firm rejection.

It wasn't the first time he heard Bella say that sentence, but this time, he felt very hurt because she already knew the truth but still rejected him.

Tristan took out his cell phone and opened the Cupid Alliance group chat. In a hurry, he type.

[Tristan] My son and all... we are arriving.

[Tristan] I have to say that the mission has failed. (Sad emoji)

[Dax] Daddy, fighting! (Fire emoji)

[Dax] You have plenty of time, Daddy...

[Noora] Master, cheer up!

[Lewis] Tsk! You have to work hard, Brat!

He took a deep breath, reading encouraging messages from the chat group members.

Tristan felt he was chatting directly with them, even though it was only via group chat. He smiled while looking at his cellphone screen and started to forget Bella's firm rejection.

Later,

Tristan was startled when he heard a soft knock on the car window. He turned to look and was surprised to see Bella standing near his car.

He thought she was already sprinting into her house.

Just before he wanted to open the car door, his cell phone vibrated.

[Isaac] Don't be sad, Tristan.

[Isaac] Join us for dinner.

As Tristan read Isaac's text message, a wave of joy washed over him. Without hesitation, he opened the car door and stepped out, greeting her with a smile as if nothing had happened.

"Tristan, thank you for taking me home. You can go home now," said Bella, unable to hide her awkwardness.

"Bella, I—"

She quickly said, "Bye..." before Tristan could finish his sentence.

Bella turned around and ran toward the main door. She didn't want to give him a chance to continue their conversation earlier.

Feeling relieved to be free from Tristan finally, Bella walked casually into the house.

However, before Bella could close the door, out of the corner of her eye, she saw Tristan walking behind her.

'Why did he follow me?' Bella panicked as she turned around and faced him. They had only separated by two steps.

"Why are you still here, Tristan!? Do you want to pick up Dax? Tristan, remember our deal? I'll bring Dax to your house after dinner, but he can only stay until nine." Bella reminds Tristan of their agreement.

"Of course, I remember about it, Bella," Tristan said with a smile, noticing how amused she looked despite her initial annoyance. He continued, "I'll be joining you and Dax for dinner," he added casually, but his words suprised her. She almost lost her balance.

"WHAT!?" Bella gasped while holding the wall beside her. "Tr-Tristan, you can't come here as you please. This is not my house, but my grandfather's house. You have to respect him." She begged.

Bella didn't want Tristan to visit their house as he pleased and stressed out her Grandpa, who still hasn't forgiven him for what happened in the past.

"I know, Bella," Tristan said, holding back laughter, "That's why I only come when invited. Your Grandpa asked me to join you for—" He didn't continue his sentence when he saw Isaac and Dax appear from inside, approaching them.

"Bella, when I heard from Little Dax that Tristan visited our house, I invited him to join us for Dinner," Isaac explained.

She was speechless upon seeing her Grandpa; she couldn't believe he had invited Tristan to join them for dinner.

Did he always want to break Tristan's leg every time they met? Bella narrowed her eyes, looking at him, trying to check whether he was serious about doing it or it was just an expression.

'Gosh! Since when did Grandpa become softened to Tristan?'

"Mommy..." Upon hearing Dax's cute voice, Bella turned to see him with a loving smile.

"Yes, baby..."

Dax held Bella's hand, "I also want Dad to join us for dinner. Is that okay?" he asked, blinking a few times to get his mother to agree.

Bella, "..."

She becomes suspicious as she feels her grandfather and son are plotting something.

"Sure..." Bella smiled warmly at Dax, putting aside his suspicions about them. "Sure, baby. You know what? Mommy misses you. How was your day?" she asked softly.

"I'm busy today, Mom. I spent my day with Aunt Noora and Uncle Nick..." Dax cheerfully explained his day to Bella.

But Later, Isaac stopped him, "Alright, little man. Let's go inside and talk."

Dax nods and takes his father's hand. "Let's go, Daddy," he says, leading them inside the house while holding hands with both parents.

Bella, "..."

Tristan feels happy and content, knowing he has a supportive son who has chosen to be on his side.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 121: Suspicious Jack A week later.

Bella's week was like a roller coaster.

Tristan came to her house more often for unreasonable reasons. He stopped by every morning to have breakfast or lunch with them, which stressed her out.

What surprised Bella was that her grandfather didn't care if Tristan came to their house too often. He seems to support Tristan.

When she asks her Grandpa, he answers with ambiguous answers or uses Dax as an excuse. Obviously, whenever Dax gets involved, she stops asking questions and drops that matter.

Last weekend, Tristan was busy at her house overseeing the construction workers who were building a new road between their homes. Now, they no longer need to go through the main gate to visit each other's homes.

The funny thing is that Sam, her company driver, hasn't carried out his duties in the last few days. He didn't have a chance to do that. This is because Tristan has been taking on the role of driving for her. He picks her up in the morning to take her to the office and then picks her up again in the evening when she returns home.

Initially, Bella refused. However, she eventually got tired and found saying no to her son challenging, especially when Dax seemed to side with his father.

She finally lets Tristan drive her around, but if the media or his parents know, he must stop immediately.

Even though Tristan challenges her patience, she is grateful to be able to forget him every time she is in her office. Her plans to reshuffle Stellar Entertainment's Board of Directors successfully distract her mind.

She had received a lot of evidence from Sam's investigations in the field. And there is no longer any reason for her to delay carrying out her plan.

...

Bella was about to meet with her company's legal team in the afternoon. Still, to her annoyance, someone suddently appeared in her office and asked her to hold the meeting.

She stood from her seat and glanced at the man standing near the glass window with his back facing her.

"Do you want coffee, Jack?" she asked, heading to the coffee maker at the corner.

"Yeah," Jack turned to look at him. "So, when are you going to start the meeting?" he was surprised to see her so relaxed that she needed to drink coffee first.

Bella chuckled. She ignored Jack and focused on making an Expresso for him and a latte for herself.

Later,

She joined him, sitting on the sofa and placing his coffee on the table before starting to enjoy her latte.

"Boss, did you forget you are the one who stopped me from meeting them?" Bella finally responds to him. She places her empty cup on the table and continues. "Why are you rushing here? I told you before that I will handle everything."

Jack crossed his legs as he casually emptied his expresso. He didn't answer her, but his smile was enough to make Bella suspicious of something.

Many questions began to arise in Bella's mind, seeing Jack's expression, which looked calm, not panicked as Leo had feared. This man would stop her from continuing the investigation. But he seemed relaxed now. Why?

Something isn't, right?

She narrowed at him, trying to figure out what he was thinking. But she can't figure something out.

The two stared at each other without saying anything, as if engaged in an intense inner battle.

After some time, Jack laughs when he can't hold his amusement. "Hahaha, Oh, Bella... I know you miss me. But, please, enough staring at me like you want to eat me."

Since arriving, Bella gave Jack annoyed looks and sharp words. However, Jack ignores her annoyance. He was exhausted from explaining everything.

"—Seriously? Why did you come?" Bella finally said something after a long pause.

"Why are you asking again? Of course, I came here to see you and Dax. I miss you guys. You've been here almost a month, and I already miss you... But you...you didn't miss me?" He responds with an innocent tone.

Bella, "..."

"Jack, I don't have time to play words with you. I'm busy..." She gives him a — speak now, or I will leave — kind of gaze.

When he saw him starting to pay more attention to her, she continued, "Why did you stop me from meeting the legal team? What do you want? Just let me know."

Bella begins to become suspicious of Jack. Yesterday, he stopped her from doing anything regarding Stellar Entertainment.

What surprised Bella was that this man said he would fly to Astington to discuss this matter. But he had arrived more than an hour earlier and had not mentioned the matter.

This confused her.

"I already tell you my reason, Bella." He shook his head while smiling.

"Heaven!! Jack, no... not about your personal matter to meet us. But, about office matter."

Jack didn't say anything. He avoided her sharp gaze.

"Jack, I know you too well. What is more important than leaving your wife for a business trip?"

Bella smiled when she saw his expression slightly change.

Jack tries to maintain calm, but this girl knows how to attack him. He silently took a deep sigh.

"Tsk... Tsk... If I could, I would transfer my thoughts to you to make you believe."

Bella is still suspicious.

After a brief pause,

A thought crossed Bella's mind.

Suddently, she laughed when she realized why this man abruptly flew here after knowing she wanted to reshuffle the board of directors at Stellar Entertainment and Quantum Capital.

Bella can't help but say, "Oh, Jack! You are such a coward. How dare you use me for something you can't do?"

"W-What do you mean?" Jack asked confusedly, even though he inwardly scolded Bella for having a sharp instinct. But he still doubted whether she had guessed it correctly.

"Hahaha, you—" Bella didn't continue her words but called Stefan.

When the call connected, she gave Jack a deadly gaze before speaking to Stefan.

"Stefan, do you know the relationship between the CEO of Stellar and our lovely boss?"

Jack's eyes widen in shock.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 122: Make A Deal With Jack When the call connected, she gave Jack a deadly gaze before speaking to Stefan.

"Stefan, do you know the relationship between the CEO of Stellar Entertainment and our lovely boss?"

Jack's eyes widen in shock.

Upon seeing Jack's reaction, Bella was confident of her correct guess. She pressed the speaker button before Stefan could speak. Then, she flashes Jack an angry-cold smile.

Jack's calm demeanor dissolved instantly.

"Of course, I know. I did include it in my report, right?" Stefan's hoarse voice came from the other end as if he had just awakened from sleep.

Bella's half-smile slowly appears on her lips as she looks at Jack.

She took a deep breath before responding to Stefan, pretending to be disappointed that he had forgotten to include that. If she had known about Jack's connection to the CEO of Stellar Entertainment earlier, she would have made a deal with Jack.

"Huh... Really!?" Stefan was shocked to realize he had made a mistake. How could he not include the critical information in the report?

"Mhm, you didn't..."

"Sorry, sister Bella," He feels terrible. "Well, he is Jack's brother-in-law. I guess Jack already knows about it, but he pretends—"

"Okay, Stefan. Thanks for your hard work." Jack shouted before this young man exposed him. "—Go back and sleep again. I know there in the middle of the night!"

Stefan, who had just yawned while scratching his head, was surprised to hear Jack's voice on the other end. His still half-open eyes widened.

"B-Boss, are you at Sister Bella's place? Why didn't you ask me to go with you to Astington!? You are so heartless," he feels sulked.

Bella could only laugh amusedly, seeing Jack acting awkwardly in front of her. He let her talk to Stefan for a few more seconds.

After the phone ended, Bella couldn't help but say, "Damn it, Jack Foster! I can't believe you used me to fire your brother-in-law. You such a coward!"

Jack's face instantly turned grim, as if someone had spat in his food after hearing Bella's words. He couldn't deny what Bella had said. She was correct in her assessment; he lacked the courage to terminate his wife's brother from his job.

He was concerned that if he took such an action, it would cause his wife to become angry with him and could even kick him out of their bed. This would cause a lot of trouble for him if it were to happen, right!?

Despite being aware of his brother-in-law's inability to run their company in this country, Jack chose to ignore it.

He began looking for someone who could take up the responsibility on his behalf to fire his brother-in-law.

After trying to find someone who could help him, only Bella came to his mind, who could do that for him.

That's why he chased Bella several years ago, trying to convince her to return to the company and clean up the mess his brother-in-law had made.

"Kind and pretty, Bella... that's why I need your help," Jack's lips lifted into a miserable smile before he said, "You know my wife, right? She'll sulk in a few days, no, a month, and throw me out if I fire her brother," he took another long, deep sigh.

Bella, "...."

He speaks with a miserable tone and asks, "Don't you feel sorry for me?" his eyes lost their usual radiance.

Bella huffed in frustration, taking a deep breath to calm herself, looking at his blatant act.

"Ugh! Mr. Jack Foster, don't try to fool me. Since when did your wife direct you in company decision-making?" Bella rolled her eyes, not believing his lie.

Jack, "…"

Looking at his man still trying to fool her, an idea appears in her mind.

A barely invisible smile graces her face before she pretends to be shocked, closing her mouth with one hand before saying,

"No way, Jack!! Don't tell me that now you are a member of the... 'Husbands Afraid of Wives' club? No?" She blinked her eyes several times, waiting for him to respond.

'What the hell is that? That kind of club exists in this world!? Seriously?' Jack frowned, thinking about Bella's words.

Didn't get any response, she continued, "Is it? Oh my... I feel sorry for you, my friend."

Jack can't take it anymore. He will never win talking to her.

"Alright... Alright... what do you need?" he gave up talking to this smart-heartless woman. "Island? Yatch? Jet? Penthouse? Just tell me what you need. I will gladly give you..."

"Oh, you learn fast, boss," she said calmly. But inside, she was laughing with joy. Finally, Jack gave in. She needed to hear this all along: "Okay, boss, I don't need those items. But I only need a few shares."

Jack was speechless. He didn't expect her to choose shareholder over the luxury items he offered.

"Bella, how could you ask my share? Did you know I already gave Stefan some of my shares?" Jack protests. He could give her anything but not RDF Group share.

Bella ignores his annoyance. She takes her cell phone while typing something.

"Boss, don't blame me if I send the wrong text to your wifey," Bella pauses. Her eyes widen. She covers her mouth with her hand and looks at Jack with her sorry gaze. "OMG! B-Boss, I just sent a..."

Jack was rendered speechless. Was this woman aware that she didn't have the talent to become an actress? Her acting was terrible.

"Sigh! Alright, alright. I will transfer you 0,25 percent of my share. This is the best I can give you..."

Bella, ignore Jack. With her innocent expression, she continued, "Ah, it seems like I didn't send the details to my sister-in-law. Ugh, I have to edit my text now. I should tell my sister-in-law that you were actually planning how to get her brother out of the company."

Jack, "...."

He shook his head while remembering those lines he had read in the past, "Women sure are creatures that are hard to deal with." And Bella's just proves those lines.

Sigh!

Chapter 123: Her Identity Was Revealed He shook his head while remembering those lines he had read in the past, "Women sure are creatures that are hard to deal with." And Bella's just proves those lines.

Sigh!

"Okay, one percent..." Jack gave another number, but Bella still ignored him. He quietly vented his frustration in his mind.

"My friend, Bella... This is my final offer to you. One and a half percent, take it or leave it!" He said firmly.

The corners of her lips lifted, revealing a charming, icy smile; however, her smile gradually vanished before saying,

"Jack, please don't sulk like that. Do you know that my shares are the smallest among us? Also, I'm the only one with children." Bella's shoulders slumped. "Inflation makes me have to work hard to earn money. You know about that, right?"

Jack, "..."

'What the hell!? Now, she uses little Dax to sway me?' Jack can't believe what he hears. He tries to shut his mind. He doesn't want to listen to her words, or else he will suffer a heavy loss this time.

"I just need to earn money for my child's better future. And did you forget that you are my son's godfather!?" She said while pretending to wipe away the traces of fake tears.

Jack, "…"

This woman succeeded in convincing him. He gives in.

After Jack took another fresh air to fill his stuffy chest, he stated, "One and a half percent and one house in this city. This is my final offer, Bella. I will not add anything..."

Bella smiles at him, "Your condo near Central Park, New York..."

Jack attempted to speak but could not form words, settling for a nod to show his agreement with her demand.

A spring-like smile crosses Bella's beautiful face as she clasps her hand happily.

"Deal!!" she stood from her seat and offered him a handshake. "Happy to make a deal with you, Mr. Foster!"

Jack, "...."

She left him and walked to her desk. "Alright, let's go to the meeting room now. They are now waiting for us to discuss this matter..."

Suddently Bella feels in a good mood. She took her iPad and left her office with Jack, heading to the meeting room.

Meanwhile,

Leo sat in the meeting room with four people from Quantum Capital's legal team and Stellar Entertainment. Daniel Sullivan, the Director of the Legal Department, leads the legal team. He worked for the RDF group a few years ago; however, Jack sent him here last year to help the company.

Daniel Sullivan and his team already know about corruption in the company. Bella met him in person a few days ago.

Today was the day they would decide what legal action to take and which Board of Directors to remove from the company.

Daniel didn't care about the names on the list but was only concerned about one, Andreas Corby. He knew exactly who this person was.

He was concerned about the safety of Bella Donovan, the new CEO. Being a part of the RDF Group CEO family, Andreas Corby was untouchable. Daniel wanted to remind Bella about this but hadn't had the opportunity yet.

. . .

When Bella entered the meeting room, Daniel was surprised to see the man behind her.

'Jack Foster? What is he doing here? Why did he come here? Did he know about this matter and come to stop it!?' Daniel's worries about Bella increased.

Daniel Sullivan stood abruptly from his seat and greeted them.

"Ms. Donovan," Daniel smiles at Bella and then looks at Jack. He said, "Mr. Foster, I'm surprised to see you in this city. Welcome, sir..."

When the other legal team member hears 'Foster's' name, they all are wearing the same expression as Daniel — suprised. They also stood and greeted him.

"Okay, gentlemen, let's sit again," Jack said while smiling at all of them. When his eyes fixed on Daniel, he continued. "Please continue your meeting; don't mind me here. I'm only stopping by to visit Ms. Bella..."

Jack glanced at Bella, gesturing for her to sit on the head of the table while he sat to her left side beside Leo.

Daniel was surprised to see how respectful Jack was to Bella. This is a different treatment than he usually did to other company CEOs.

Now, Daniel is starting to question Bella Donovan's background.

'Who is she? Why does Jack insist that she should be the CEO of Quantum Capital?' He has known this position empty for almost seven years. Finally, this year, Jack appointed a young female out of the blue.

"Daniel, something seems to be bothering you now?" Jack asked when he saw Daniel still standing while the others were sitting.

"Sir, may I speak with you for a moment?" Daniel looked into Jack's eyes as if he wanted Jack to see his concern. "Just the two of us..." he continued. He tried to inform him about his brother-in-law's involvement and pleaded for him not to make trouble for Ms. Bella Donovan.

Everyone is staring at Daniel. They appear confused by his tense expression, then notice Jack, who looks relaxed.

"Daniel, I know your concern. You might sit now." Jack said.

When Jack saw Daniel finally sit down, he continued, "Okay, let me tell you guys something confidential." He saw everyone in return. "Maybe you don't know or realize that RDF Group doesn't belong to me alone, right!?"

Daniel and his team nodded.

"And, you may not realize that RDF comes from the first letters of the last names of its three founders."

They all frowned.

Jack slightly raised his brow when he looked at Bella, who was ignoring them; she was engrossed in reading something on her iPad.

"R stands for Reed, D stands for Donovan—" Jack smiled when he saw them gasp in surprise. "...and the letter F stands for my last name, Foster. So, the woman next to me is one of the founders of RDF. And the reason we established a subsidiary company in this country is because this is her country."

Daniel Sullivan and his team were shocked beyond words to know this. No wonder Jack deliberately emptied the CEO of Quantum Capital for a long time just for Bella Donovan's return.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 124: Decision

"Alright, guys, time is running out. Let's stop discuss the company's history and instead

focus on the reason why we're all gathered in this meeting room." Bella spoke up, prompting everyone to nod and sit up straight, their attention now on her.

She starts the meeting with Daniel and his team.

. . .

When Bella discussed legal matters for Stellar Entertainment's Board of Directors with Daniel and his team, Leo and Jack were busy with their own discussions.

"...So, what do you lose this time?" Leo speaks in a barely audible voice; only Jack can hear him.

Leo had known about Jack's entire plan from the start. Jack actually appointed him to help Bella carry out this mission. He wanted to successfully get his brother-in-law out of the company without getting his hands dirty.

Jack gave Leo a sharp look as he opened his wound again. When he saw Leo's eyebrow slightly raised, he snapped, "Stop pretending to ask. You know her too well, Leo!"

"How many?" Leo asked with a sympathetic look, but inside, he was trying to hide his laughter.

"I can't say the exact amount, but she gets more than you..." Jack feels his heartache again, remembering he lost another share to fire his brother-in-law.

"Damn! Is she capable of making you give up that much? Why do you give her that much?"

Leo was surprised that Bella got a share that was more significant than his own, half a percent more. He quickly looked over at Bella.

'Tsk! Bella, you should teach me the art of negotiation with Jack.' Leo now sees Bella differently—never mess with her, or you will lose your fortune.

Now, Leo wondered how much Alimony she received from her super-wealthy exhusband!?

"Mhm... She stabbed me right in the heart using her adorable little son as the reason she needed money to raise him. How did I ignore that!?" Jack took another long, deep sigh, thinking about his loss today.

Leo was speechless. He didn't expect Bella to be shameless enough to use Dax as a reason.

Gosh!

But Leo felt sorry for Jack. How could he fall into Bella's trap? Has he forgotten that Dax's father is a chaebol in this country?

"Well, at least she only after your share, man! She didn't ask for other luxury stuff, like a jet or island..." Leo gently taps his shoulder to uplift his mood.

Jack felt even more annoyed when he heard Leo's words. He looked into his eyes before saying, "Well, not just company share. She also got one of my expensive condos in Central Park."

"What the hell!" Leo shouted, too shocked to hear Jack's words. He had forgotten entirely that they were still in the meeting room.

Leo's voice shocked everyone there. David and the others looked at him, wondering why he was cursed, but no one asked.

After a brief moment of silence, Bella was the first to speak.

"Gentlemen, go outside if you both want to gossip about me! We are working here..." She could faintly hear what they were talking about because they were sitting close to her, but she pretended she didn't hear it.

Leo maintained an innocent smile at Bella while venting sarcasm in his mind.

"Oh, Boss... you look tired now. I will ask someone to make a coffee for you," Leo stood up from his seat and hurriedly left the room, ignoring the stare and slap-gaze Jack shot at him.

Bella didn't say anything. Her gaze slowly turned to Jack now.

Jack, "..."

'Leo! You traitor.' Jack can't help but scold Leo inwardly while sending Bella a warm smile. "Alright, Go on... continue your meeting. Don't mind me here," he said, pretending to read something on his cell phone.

• • •

The intensity of the meeting increased as Jack and Leo joined in the conversation.

They were so tuned in with their conversation they all lost track of time.

However,

Not long after, the intense meeting is abruptly distracted when a loud ringtone echoes in the room...

[Ooh, I see you, see you, see you every time. And oh my, I, I, I like your style. You...you make me, make me, make me wanna cry...]

Jack and the others immediately looked at Bella as if they wanted to ask through their gazes, "Seriously? Why isn't your cell phone muted during the meeting? What song is that!?"

Bella's face turned grim when she heard her cell phone ringtone echo in the meeting room, too loud to shock everyone.

She remembered that the ringtone was only set loud for three people — her Grandpa, Noora, and Dax.

But why does Tristan's name appear there? She can't believe what she saw.

'Did Dax add his father's number?'

Bella put aside her suspicions and quickly picked up the phone after looking Jack and the others in the eye with an apologetic look.

She stood from her seat and stood in the corner.

"Tristan, why did you call me?" Bella whisper. She didn't want anyone to know who she was talking to.

"Bella, it's almost seven p.m., and you have not yet come out. You're still in your office, right?" Tristan's voice sounds worried from the other end.

She checked her watch and was shocked to realize that what Tristan said was true. After she asked Tristan to wait, she turned to Leo and asked, "Why did you blind this glass wall?"

"Boss, you said you wanted this meeting to be private. So, I deliberately sealed all the rooms in case there was—" Leo didn't continue his sentence when he saw Bella stop him. He immediately presses the remote on the table.

The white glass wall instantly changed to clear, revealing the conditions outside; the sky outside was already dark.

Bella took a deep breath when she realized they had been meeting too long. It was no wonder her back felt hurt; she had been sitting for too long.

"Tristan, I'm sorry I kept you waiting so long. I'll be down soon."

"Alright, no need to rush. Take your time..." Tristan said.

After Bella ended the call, she dismissed the legal team and asked them to carry out a plan.

Now, she just needed to wait for the shocking news in a few days!

She feels excited!

Chapter 125: He Is Nobody

Although the board of directors' reshuffle was done to help Jack, Bella still felt grateful and satisfied with the meeting's outcome.

Stellar Entertainment can be saved by removing the person responsible for the damage, preventing other employees from losing their jobs.

• • •

"Let's dine first before you go home, Bella." Jack follows Bella to her office, with Leo tailing them from behind.

"No. I have to go home. I left Dax since morning, so I must return now."

Bella had already promised her son she would always have dinner with him. Still, after only a week as a working mother, she had already broken her promise. She feels terrible.

"Oh, come on, I will not stay long in this city. Spare me your time..."

Jack leaned against the door frame while watching Bella tidy her desk. He was impressed by how quickly she gathered her things.

"Boss, you can have dinner with me upstairs. Bella never accepts dinner invitations...Let's go!" Leo patted Jack's shoulder when he saw Bella ignore him.

Jack looked at Leo, confused by his words. He knew Bella had chosen to hide herself while living in Sweden because her house was isolated from the outside world. However, she doesn't have to do that here. She also needs to socialize in this bustling city, right!?

"Why she can't go dine with us?" Jack asked.

"Because she can't..." Leo knew that Tristan Sinclair picked her up daily to go home together. Bella wouldn't allow Tristan to meet them, especially Jack.

A faint smile appeared on the corner of Jack's lips; he could guess what Leo meant. It must be related to the news he heard from Sam about what has been happening here lately. Faintly took a deep breath, Jack fixed his gaze on Bella again.

"Bella, we'll have dinner in just an hour... I guarantee you'll be home before Dax goes to sleep. I can also call Dax if you feel sorry for him. How!?"

She ignores his words.

"Boss, are you flying back to New York tonight?" Bella glances at Jack quickly before changing her stilettos to white sneakers.

Jack shook his head.

"Nope. I can't return home now. Someone may not believe my effort to help—" Jack's voice trails off when he sees Bella roll her eyes while walking past him. He follows her to the elevator without saying anything else.

Bella chuckled softly as she stopped before the elevator and looked at Jack beside her. She didn't know whether Jack pampered his wife too much or was really afraid of her.

"Why are you afraid of her too much, Jack? You even give her family the privilege to enter your company."

Jack instantly turns to see her in the eyes with his complicated gaze.

"It's hard for me to say whether you are spoiling or afraid of her..." Bella said casually. However, deep down in her heart, she felt envious of Jack's wife because that woman received the kind of attention she had never received from Tristan.

Jack rubs his eyebrow and avoids eye contact with her.

"Bella, you misunderstood something..."

He did not do it for his wife but rather to teach his wife's family a lesson. If he hadn't done it, they would have remained a burden on their marriage. He must help his wife stop her family from taking advantage of her weakness.

This is the opposite of Bella. Even though she sacrifices to help her family and willingly does the arranged marriage, in the end, she is brave enough to speak up and stop her family from forcing her again.

"Huh!? Was I wrong? But why do I see you so afraid of your wife? I mean, tell her what her brother did to the company. I'm sure she will understand. You don't have to worry about her throwing you out of your bed..."

"Pft..." Leo, standing nearby, almost spat out upon hearing Bella's words.

Bella's thought amused Leo. Jack's wife would not have the audacity to kick Jack out of his own house.

Before Leo could say anything, he saw Jack send him an intense gaze. He immediately sealed his mouth shut and turned to see elsewhere, pretending he didn't hear their conversation.

"Alright, my friend... It's hard to explain now. Let's just drop this matter," Jack smiled at Bella while gesturing for her to enter the elevator.

When Bella saw Jack avoiding the topic, she stopped to ask again. She entered the elevator with Jack following behind.

"I thought you would sleep upstairs? Why do you follow me now?"

"I want to meet him?"

Bella's expression slowly turned stiff. She pressed the open button. She didn't want this man to follow her to the lobby and run into Tristan.

"Him?"

"Your ex-stupid-husband!"

Bella, "..."

Imagine Jack and Tristan's meeting exhausted her. She remembered that Jack really hated Tristan. He suggested giving Tristan Sinclair a lesson a few times, but she always stopped him. And, if they met now, they might fight.

"Leo told you?" Bella asked, narrowing her eyes towards Leo, who was standing outside.

Jack shook his head, "Nope. But, Sam!"

Bella could only scold Sam in her mind. She felt betrayed.

"Jack, you don't have to meet him. He is nobody for me."

"Ough! Poor Tristan Sinclair..." Jack says with his comical expression, holding his laughter. "Well, at least you didn't give that man a chance..."

Bella, "..."

"You're wasting my time, Jack. Please get out of this elevator," she said impatiently.

Jack didn't pay attention to her words. He remained standing where he was and said, "Bella, let me remind you, he is your son's father... And I need to meet him!" He wants to meet Tristan Sinclair since Bella is starting to see him again — to warn him something.

He was concerned that Tristan Sinclair might try to win Bella's heart again, especially after she appeared with Dax. He felt the need to warn Tristan Sinclair not to mess with Bella's heart again, regardless of how wealthy he was.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 126: Almost Swayed Bella was left speechless as she looked at Jack's stubbornness.

"Fine! But not now. I need to ask him first. It will be awkward if you suddenly meet him, right?"

Jack frowned.

"Alright, Mr. Foster... Get out of this elevator!"

"Only if you allow me to meet Dax, too."

"Deal!"

Jack smiles widely and steps out. He slightly waves his hand at Bella as the elevator door slowly closes. He feels satisfied. Finally, he has a chance to meet Tristan Sinclair.

Upon arriving at the lobby, Bella was surprised to see Tristan behind the wheel of his SUV. This was the first time he had picked her up himself without his driver.

Bella quickened her step, fearing Tristan would open the car door for her.

After Bella settled in her seat, she was surprised to see Tristan was no longer wearing the same clothes he had in the morning but a black casual slim-fit shirt and trousers of the same color.

He appeared more casual, as if he was preparing to go on a date instead of returning from work.

Seeing him like this, Bella's mind began to wonder if they were going on their first date. She smiles inwardly with her own thoughts.

However, as if her inner soul warned her, Bella dismissed the thought as quickly as it came.

"Are you satisfied enough to look at me like that, Bella?"

Tristan's question snapped her back from her thought.

Bella hurriedly turned her gaze and fastened her car seat belt, ignoring his cheap words.

After a few seconds passed, when her awkwardness had lessened, Bella glanced at Tristan again to check his mood. She feared he would feel annoyed because he had waited almost two hours.

When she noticed his calm expression, she felt relieved.

"Sorry, Tristan, to make you wait."

Bella feels terrible about making this big boss wait for her. If Tristan's employees or fans out there know about it, they are probably cursing her, right?

Tristan glanced at her briefly without saying a word. He then starts the car engine and focuses on driving away from the Quantum Capital building.

After the car hits the road, Tristan answers, "It's fine. You were worth the wait. You should know, Bella...waiting for you for two hours was fun for me." He said this in the most gentle tone that Bella had ever heard without a shred of sarcastic tone, which made her heart stir slightly.

Bella felt her heartbeat speed up. Hastily, she turned around and scolded herself for being almost swayed by his lines and gentleness.

Gosh!

She starts to know Tristan's new hobby of twisting her words into a cheese line to waver her. How shameless!

Now, she must divert the conversation again, or this man will continue teasing her.

After a few minutes, no one talked; finally, Bella, the one who asked him first, "You didn't go to the office?"

He slightly smiled before answering, "I remember we got to the office together this morning, Bella. Have you forgotten!?"

"What I'm trying to say is... you didn't wear these clothes this morning."

"Oh..." Tristan's smile blooms before he continues his sentence. "Thank you, Bella..." he said, feeling so happy because Bella had noticed his outfit this morning.

He always tries to impress her, but she always gives him an uninteresting gaze when he picks her up in the morning. And her words earlier enough for him to know she is actually paying attention to him.

'Huh!? Why is he smiling like that?' Once again, Bella was confused as to why Tristan suddenly said thank you, and his smile looked like he had just found a treasure.

"I have a penthouse on the top floor of Sinclair Tower. I change my clothes before I come to your office," he explained.

Bella looked at him in surprise.

"You also have a penthouse at the office?" She asked.

Tristan nodded before saying apologetically.

"Sorry, Bella. I've never taken you to my office. Do you want to go there? Let's take Dax, too. I think he'll be happy to see my office..." He said excitedly.

Tristan knew Dax was very interested in the business world and had mentioned several times that he wanted to see his office.

Bella immediately rejected his idea. She couldn't possibly go there because his parents would know they were in contact again as soon as she set foot in the building.

Hearing Bella's words, Tristan could only take a deep breath. He couldn't refute them because this was one of his biggest obstacles — his parents.

Even though he had repeatedly told her not to be afraid or worried about them, Bella still refused. He found it difficult to convince Bella; she seemed traumatized to return to his arms because of them.

• • •

Tristan tried to break the silence after seeing her looking gloomy.

"Bella, earlier, you said you also have an apartment above your office?"

"Yes. The company gave me a place to live with Dax and Noora, but my grandfather insisted we live with him."

"I see," Tristan felt grateful to Isaac. He would never know Bella's address if they didn't live there because it was hard to find her personal info.

"It would be best if Dax grew up in a house, not an apartment," he said.

Bella chuckled at his words.

"Well, you know what? That's what Grandpa told me. That's why I agreed..." Bella stopped as she remembered her grandfather's following sentence. "Dax also needs a male figure in his life." But, for some unknown reason, she couldn't tell Tristan this.

Bella remained silent on the way home, fearing he would twist her words again.

When their car entered the front yard, Bella saw Dax and Noora standing before the main door, waiting for them as usual.

She didn't bother waiting for Tristan to turn off the engine; she immediately stepped out of the car and ran towards Dax.

"I'm sorry, baby... I felt terrible missing dinner with you."

"It's okay, Mom. You don't break your promise," Dax said. Bella let go of her hug and looked into his eyes, confused.

"I haven't had my dinner yet, Mom. I'm waiting for you." Dax smiled faintly as he looked at his surprised mother. "And please stop being dramatic, mommy. This is only eight. Let's have dinner now." He then turned to see Tristan.

"Dad, come join us..." Dax smiles at him.

Tristan couldn't help but smile widely at his adorable son's efforts to get them back together.

Noora, who saw Tristan smiling widely like the spring had come, walked towards him and whispered, "Master, you have to work hard to win my young miss' heart. Fighting, master!!"

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 127: The Night Before The Chaos * In a large luxurious bedroom in a private villa,

The room felt steamy after a sexy woman with a man in his early thirties had sex nonstop from nightfall until midnight.

Now, they feel exhausted. They took time to rest with their still naked bodies lying side by side.

They smiled at each other, amused at their messy appearance, hair wet with sweat, lips slightly swollen from kissing as if they wanted to devour each other, and bodies covered in love bites and scratches.

The woman pouts, looking at the man because he makes her entire body red with his love bite.

"Do you want to start another round, babe!?" the man said as he tilted his body to face her.

"Mmm... Mmm..."

A soft moan escaped her lips as he started running his fingers over her hard pink nipple. She tried to hold back her arousal while pushing his hand away from her chest.

"Andreas, please. I need to rest..." the woman said, her gaze meeting his sharp eyes.

He groans and feels disappointed, but he knows this girl is exhausted.

"Seriously, don't you feel tired?" She asked after they covered their bodies under the blanket.

"Because you're hot enough to make me aroused, babe..." Andreas smiled while tickling her beautiful, dainty nose.

The woman giggles.

"How about your wife?" she asks casually, but her heart felt slightly tightened, jealous of that woman.

"Laura!" Andreas snapped, narrowing his eyes at her eyes, "Can you stop talking about her when we're together, huh!? Please, babe..."

Laura nods while smiling at him.

"That woman will never be your match in bed, my darling. You're too hot to handle. You make my imagination run wild; just look at your lips... argh... You are irresistible."

His hands slipped under the blanket and began to squeeze her breasts.

"Mmmm... Andreas... Mmmm..." She can't hold herself. A series of moans escape her lips.

Andreas smiled, seeing how red Laura's cheeks were now. He leaned closer to her and captured her full lips. He kissed her intensely until he felt her hands push him away.

After their long and intense kiss, Laura gasped for air while lowering her gaze, too embarrassed to see him.

Andreas no longer teased her. He pulled her into his arms, and they lay there without speaking.

Before long,

"Andreas, you promise me. You will get me another movie project this year?"

"Of course, babe. I will give you anything you want as long as you stay by my side to warm my bed." Andreas chuckles when he feels her pinching his waist.

Laura placed her hands on his waist and buried her head into his chest once more, feeling happy after hearing his promise.

A few moments later, she said, "Andreas, I told you not to make a mark on my neck, but you still do that. Did you forget I had a photoshoot for jewelry ads the next day? How could I hide this? They will spot it..." She feels worried.

"Babe, I'm sorry... I can't hold myself to biting all over your body. Your skin to smooth and alluring..." Andreas said while pulling her tight.

"Andreas, you—" Laura can't finish her words. She could only smile secretly. Although this man was not as handsome as Tristan Sinclair, at least she could hold his heart.

Meanwhile Tristan? The man was as cold as a glacier. He never looked at her, even though she tried many times to trap and seduce him, but she never succeeded.

Laura begins to doubt Tristan's sexual orientation. The guy might be gay; that's why he was never attracted to her. After many failed to become Tristan's woman, Laura finally accepted Andreas Corby, her boss. And become his woman.

She was willing to be Andreas Corby's lover because she needed him to advance her career in the industry without worrying about someone new, younger, and maybe prettier replacing her.

Her mind goal was to become Stellar Entertainment's number-one actress as long as this man loved her. She didn't care about his status as a married man.

"Don't worry, babe. I will ask my secretary to postpone the schedule. How many days do you need?" Andreas asked while placing his hand on her chin to make her look him in the eyes.

"Two weeks!? Can you do that for me?"

"That long? Alright... Alright... For you, I will do anything. No worries, babe." Andreas smiled, looking at her alluring lips. He feels his arousal again.

"Yay! Thank you, Andreas... I love you so much," She kissed his cheek.

"Babe... You have to be responsible for this one," He took her hand and placed it on his hard cock. "My little brother, he awake again..."

Laura smiled and started rubbing his hard, swollen cock as they kissed.

The next day.

Andreas Corby, who looked fresh and in a good mood, entered the Quantum Capital building with his secretary, Kelly, walking beside him.

He glances at her with a smile.

Andreas secretly swallowed when he saw her tight white shirt with two buttons open wide, and he could peek at her black bra. When his eyes landed on her short, tight skirt, his mind started to imagine her naked body.

Instantly, Andreas feels the urge to touch and feel the skin beneath her clothes.

'This woman, why always seduce me using this kind of clothes?' He shook his head, trying to calm himself. Even though his babe, Laura, was able to fulfill his needs last night, seeing Kelly in the morning was enough to make his blood rush to certain parts of his body.

"Sir..." Kelly gestured for Andreas to enter the elevator. Then, she followed him behind.

Standing beside Andreas, Kelly worries about breaking the bad news to him early in the morning.

Kelly tries to say something to him a few times, but seeing that he seems in a good mood, she dismisses the idea. She allows him to enjoy his morning before the storm.

However, before their elevator reached the 18th floor, Kelly was shocked when Andreas stepped closer, and his face slowly leaned toward her.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 128: Audacity! *

Kelly was shocked when Andreas stepped closer, and his face slowly leaned toward her. Her heart pounded, but she didn't dare move. She only blinked to look at his gentle eyes so close to hers.

Their faces were only a few inches apart. She could feel his warm breath tickling her face.

"Kelly, did you perhaps issue a silent invitation for me to...sleep with you?" Andreas whispered in her ear, causing Kelly to flinch at his words.

"S-Sir...wh-what do you mean?" Kelly's voice trembled. She was utterly nervous.

This was not the first time his boss had done this to her—speaking too close and saying such vulgar words—but this was the first time he had done it in the elevator.

Andreas smiled while meeting her nervous gaze. His hand raised to rub her blushing cheeks. He feels her soft and warm skin, enough to make his imagination run wild.

"Kelly, your clothes are too tight for me to notice how tempting your body..." his hand slowly lowered to her neck but didn't stop there as he went below and only stopped to squeeze her breast gently.

"S-Sir... What... what are you doing?" She glared at him, but somehow, she didn't dare to stop him. Her hands were clenched tightly.

"Ogh... Kelly... you have to be responsible for me! Now, I want to eat you..." Andreas closed his eyes, trying to imagine they were both wild on the bed.

A few seconds later, he shook his head to try to dismiss the idea; however, when he opened his eyes, he saw her full red lips, again silently inviting him to eat her.

"S-Sir..." Kelly couldn't finish her words as his lips sealed hers. Her heart beat faster when she felt his other hand slipping under her skirt. "Mmm..." a moan escaped her mouth without her realizing it. She tried to push him away, but Andreas' hands held her tightly.

Ding!

Andreas lips slowly left her lips. She gasped for air while shooting an angry gaze at him.

"You taste good, Kelly," Andreas gently said, rubbing her corner lips with his thumps before continuing, "Follow me, let's finish this in my restroom..." he said and left the elevator.

Kelly felt her blood run cold at what had just happened. Her boss had just sexually harassed her, and she couldn't stop it. Again!

This made her mad at herself because she was afraid to do something to stop him. This man has the money and power to silence her if she reports him.

"Kelly!?"

She snapped, looking at Andreas, still waiting for her outside, holding the elevator door.

"What are you waiting for? Hurry!" He said with his commanding tone.

. . .

As soon as they entered his office, Andreas locked the door behind him, held her hand tightly, and led her to the bedroom in the corner. He pushed her on the bed, causing her body to slam on the soft bed.

Andreas is not rushing to climb onto the bed to join her but staring at her frightening face, feeling amused.

"Kelly, why do you look scared?" Andreas asked as he slowly removed his suit, his eyes never leaving her. After he placed his suit on the bed bench, he started to remove his shirt.

"Sir, please don't do this to me..."

"I thought you wanted this, Kelly? I see you wearing tight shirts every day, and your skirts are getting shorter by the day... Your clothes are torturing me, you know that, right?"

Kelly was speechless.

"You know, my wife is not in this country. I feel lonely here, yet you seduce me every day. How could I refuse you? You are so beautiful, and your body... Wow... So perfect..."

After removing his white shirt, he started climbing on the bed to join her.

"Please, Kelly... I need someone in my arms, and I'm starting to like you, too. Don't worry about anything, okay?" He kissed her cheek gently.

When Andreas saw her soften a little and didn't push him away again, he felt happy inside.

"You don't need to think about working so hard, Kelly. I will give you everything, my darling. I will take care of you... How about it? Are you willing to be my woman?"

Kelly felt confused when she heard his words, but looking at how sincere he was now, she couldn't help but nod—tempted by his offer.

"Oh dear, thank you..." Andreas kissed her lips while she started to undress her.

. . . .

After a few minutes, they finally left the room as if nothing had happened.

Andreas sat on his executive chair and pulled her onto his lap.

"Kelly, you can't meet other men because from now on, you are mine! Do you understand?"

She nods while smiling.

"Good, but make sure only us know this!"

"Yes, s-sir..."

"Take this card. You can buy anything you want." He kissed her lips once more before dismissing her.

Kelly didn't leave. She was standing there, worried about telling him the terrible news after their sweet make-out session and making his mood drop to zero again.

"What is it, dear? You still want to make—"

"No, sir..." Kelly interrupted him. "But, I need to inform you. This morning, I received an email from the legal department. You have been summoned to meet Mr. Daniel Sullivan, legal director of Quantum Capital, in his office."

Instantly, Andreas' expression changed upon hearing that.

"Why did a legal director have the audacity to summon me? Did he forget I'm the COO* of this company?"

"In his email, he said if you didn't show up at his office, it means you agree to show up in the court." Kelly's voice trailed off when she saw him smack his table.

BAAM!

Andreas flared in anger.

"What actually happened? Why did he want to send me to court?"

"Sir, I've printed the email. You can read it..." Kelly pointed to the black folder on his desk.

After several minutes of reading the report, Andreas felt his heart drop.

"Why didn't you tell me the new CEO had started work?" Andreas directed his gaze at Kelly.

"Sir, I only learned today from the legal department that she had been working for over a week..."

"The new CEO is a she?" Andreas was surprised to hear that the new CEO was a woman.

*COO = A chief operating officer is the corporate executive who oversees ongoing business operations within the company.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 129: Teach Someone a Life Lesson (1) In the CEO's office of Quantum Capital on the 19th floor.

Bella was busy reading reports on her computer screen when she heard a knock on the door.

"Yes?" She responded without looking at the door.

"Boss, someone asked to see you," Leo's voice came from the door, making Bella look at him with a frown. She saw Leo leaning on the door frame.

"Who?"

Bella remembered she didn't have any appointments today because she had a lot of files to read from their other subsidiary company.

"Andreas Corby," Leo smiled when he saw her eyes widen. She appears suprised.

"Why did he come to meet me? He supposed to meet Mr. Sullivan, right!?"

"Yes, you're right. However, after he found out that you were the one who gave orders to the legal team, he's furious out there and insists on seeing you."

"How troublesome!" Bella shook her head, feeling annoyed. "Leo, you know this person doesn't deserve to meet me, right?" She looked into Leo's eyes.

"Indeed! But he's so mad now, throwing a tantrum because Sam stopped him. Not letting that piece of trash into your office..." Leo chuckled as he walked in and casually sat down on the sofa. "Boos, do you want to meet him or not?"

Leo glanced at Bella, who walked to join him and then sat right before him.

Bella didn't rush to answer Leo. After quietly and relaxedly settling on the single sofa, she asked, "Where's Jack?"

"Sleeping upstairs. Looks like he's tired after working late til the morning, online with another office in a faraway country with a very different time zone."

"So? That's come within his responsibility. How dare he sleep while we're working now?" Bella said as she took her cell phone and dialed Jack's number.

"Hello," Jack's hoarse voice came from the other end. "Bella...why did you wake me up so early?" He sounded annoyed.

Bella chuckled at his words.

"Geez...You should be embarrassed by the sunshine out there. It's almost lunchtime, boss."

"Ugh! Bella, I got into my bed when the sun was just about to rise. I know, I know. It comes with the job. But please let me sleep for a few more minutes...hmm...?" Jack growls while burying his head under the pillow.

"Well, I'm sorry. You can't sleep now, boss. Your brother-in-law is making a scene in my office. Please come here immediately to look after him, or I'll call the police and throw him in jail!"

Beep!

Suddenly, the telephone connection was ended.

"Damn! He hung up?" Bella stared at her cellphone screen in disbelief. Just before, she wanted to call him again. An incoming message pops up on her phone screen.

[Jack:] Yea, yea. I will come down immediately.

[Jack:] No need to confront him yourselves. Let me handle it.

After Bella put her cell phone on the table, she narrowed her eyes at Leo, making him suspicious of her.

"Bella, what are you planning to do about it now!? Why do I see from your eyes that you are about to make a cunning yet slick plan?"

Bella curled her lips into a crafty smile, with an ungodly flame dancing happily in her eyes as she said, "You know me so well, Leo. Would you join me to teach someone a lesson!?"

"Teach someone a lesson? Is this someone you mean... Andreas Corby?"

"Yup! Let's teach him a life lesson before his brother-in-law comes and takes care of him." Bella said excitedly.

"You—" Leo was speechless when he heard her words. He vaguely heard Jack begging her not to do anything earlier. But now she has an idea to prank Andreas Corby.

"Come on, Leo... What are you afraid of? Jack will understand if he knows what Andreas Scum Corby does. He will even reward us if he knows... Trust me!"

Leo was tempted to join her plot after hearing the word "reward."

"Should I help with your plan, Bella?" He asked while looking at her in the eyes.

"You should, Leo!! You know what a jerk he is, right!?"

Bella was disgusted with Andreas Corby after finding out from Sam's investigation that the man was a womanizer with a terrible attitude toward women. He already has a legal wife, but everyone knows he is still looking for another woman to be his companion. He seemed to be building his harem, manipulating women with his romances in every city and every country he visited.

How disgusting!

After a few moments of thinking, finally, Leo agreed.

"Okay, count me in..."

Leo needed to vent his annoyance after Jack ruined his peaceful life. Since Jack arrived in this city, he could not rest at night; Jack made him work too and included him in every online meeting. He feels exhausted. Last night, he could only sleep for two hours.

Bella smiled happily when she saw Leo leave the room to invite Andreas to meet her. She also stood up from her seat and walked towards her desk, taking a brown envelope from one of the drawers.

A smile blooms on her lips while looking at the brown envelope in her hand.

'Andreas Scum Corby, you will soon meet your end after what you did to your wife...' Bella muttered to herself and returned to the seating area.

However, before Bella could sit down, she saw Leo had returned with a tall, large man following him. She knew the man was Andreas Corby.

Bella was taken aback when she saw Andreas Corby in person because he looked different from the picture she had seen. He had a square-shaped face and short, curly brown hair. He looked decent in his light gray suit, but his expression revealed anger when he entered her office.

"Boss, this—" Leo's sentence suddenly stopped when Andreas walked past him and stood just a few steps from Bella.

"You are the newly appointed CEO. Listen, I don't care how you become CEO of Quantum Capital..." said Andreas in an annoyed and angry tone. "You have to remember that you are nothing compared to me! You have to know how to position yourself. How dare you ask the legal team to question my work?"

Bella, "...."

Chapter 130: Teach Someone a Life Lesson (2) Sam was shocked by Andreas' loud voice, which could be heard outside the room. He immediately stood up to confront Andreas for cursing at his boss.

But Bella shook her head slightly, gesturing to Sam not to do anything. After he saw Sam stop and stand behind, she walked toward the seating area, ignoring the fuming Andreas Corby.

"Leo, please have a seat." Bella gently smiled at him.

Then Bella turns her gaze at Andreas Corby. She didn't rush to ask him but eyed him with obvious disgust.

When she notices him even more annoyance, she can't help but feel joy. With an innocent tone, she asks him, "I'm sorry. But who are you? Do I know you, sir!?"

Andreas, "...."

Leo, who heard Bella's question, tried not to make any sound. He held back his laughter, trying to maintain his deadpan expression.

Before Andreas could answer, Bella raised her hand to stop him from speaking.

"Agh! I remember you now..." she said with a half smile before continuing. "You must be the CEO of Stellar Entertainment and COO of Quantum Capital, right?"

Bella paused to allow him to confirm his status with a proud and disdainful expression.

She held back her laughter, looking at his expression. While in her heart, she said, 'Enjoy your proud face, Mr. Corby, before I destroy your dignity!'

"Ah, yes... I remember you now. You must be Mr. Andreas Corby. You are the one who caused the downfall of this company, wasn't it?"

Bella said calmly and even more casually now, but her words almost made Andreas choke. He was taken aback by her straightforward words, which pierced his heart.

Andreas Corby can't refute Bella's words. Because what she said is indeed a fact.

'Damn it! Who is this woman? How dare she talk to me like this? Even my brother-inlaw, the company's owner, never dared speak sharply to me.' Andreas couldn't help but vent his anger in his mind while glaring at her as if he wanted to punish her through his sharp gaze.

"Pft!" Leo almost choked when he heard Bella's sharp tongue. He held back his laughter and maintained his deadpan expression while sitting quietly, listening to her every word teaching this scum, Andreas Corby.

Bella didn't stop. She enjoys torturing this scum with her verbal punishment.

"Mr. Corby, you have led this company for seven years, but I have never heard of this company making any significant profit. Every year, you only get the minimum profit target the head office sets for you. This makes me curious... What the hell are you doing here!? Work hard? or... you just play hard?"

Despite Bella's casual speech, Andreas felt like this woman had just slapped him really, really hard on the face. She didn't just figuratively slap him once but from back to back, causing his blood to rush down under his face skin; he was so upset.

Andreas clenched his hands into fists, holding back his anger. He opened his mouth to refute her words, but her sharp words again silenced him.

"I can't believe you still have a face and dignity to come here to meet me, Mr. Corby. Well, as you know, if not for this gentleman beside me who convinced me to meet you, I wouldn't give you a chance to see me now."

Andreas, "..."

"So, tell me. Why do you want to meet me?"

"You... what—" Andreas' voice traill off again when Bella interrupted him.

"Ah, I'm sorry. Where are my manners...please have a seat, Mr. Corby." She grinned.

Bella gestures for Andreas to sit on the empty sofa opposite her.

Andreas stared at the woman before him. He silently swallowed to witness her goddesslike face. Although he wanted to add her to the list of women who could warm his bed, considering how sharp her tongue was, he rejected the idea.

Now, he is curious about where Jack found this sharp-tongued and shameless woman!?

Since he entered this room, this woman treated him like he was nothing—a mere company employee without proper respect.

In his seven years of working at this company, no one had ever dared to treat him like this. This was the first time.

'What a stupid woman. Did this woman know my identity as the brother-in-law of the owner of this company?' Andreas arrogantly wonders.

Although Andreas was annoyed and angry with the woman, he followed her orders and sat across from her. He gritted his teeth and looked her in the eye, attempting to calm his mind and heart.

However, when he tried to speak, everything he wanted to say couldn't escape his lips. How frustrating!

• • •

After a long pause, Bella was the first to speak.

"Why are you silent now, Mr. Corby? You said you wanted to speak to me. Either speak now or leave. I'm busy and don't have much free time like you."

"Did you know who I am?"

"You are Andreas Corby, right?" she asked with a pretended confused expression.

"No. I mean, did you know that the owner of the RDF Group, this company, is my brother-in-law?" Andreas asked. Before Bella could answer, he continued, "Well, I know you have high standards to achieve your goal of bringing this company to its profit targets, but—"

Andreas's voice trailed off when he saw her raise her hand again to stop him from speaking. He cursed her inwardly.

"Why the hell are you stopping me again?"

"Because you're talking nonsense, Mr. Corby," Bella was starting to get bored talking to this brainless man. "Have you heard that RDF Group has three owners?"

A frown appeared on Andreas's face, and he seemed to be in deep thought for a moment. He had heard that three people founded RDF Group, but he knew nothing about its owner's identity.

"Mr. Corby, with your silence, I assume you don't know about that. Well, let me tell you something. Actually, you are talking to one of the owners of the RDF Group right now..." Bella said casually, but Andreas felt like lightning just shaking his head.

"Y-You...One of the founders of RDF Group?"

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 131: Teach Someone a Life Lesson (3) "Y-You... one of the founders of RDF Group?" Andreas Corby asked in shock. He never imagined that this woman was one of the founders of RDF Groups.

Bella didn't reply. She could only smile half-heartedly. She had already stated that she was one of the founders and was bold enough to fire him from his executive position in this company. Only a fool would not believe her words now.

However,

Bella actually speaks to one of the fool men.

Andreas Corby didn't believe her at all.

"Bwahaha..."

A sudden, booming laugh echoed through the room, startling Bella and Leo. They exchanged surprised glances as Andreas began to laugh.

"You think I would believe you?" Andreas said, shaking his head. "Ms. Donovan, you must remember what you did to me today. I'm willing to pay you a hundred times over for the humiliation you caused me," he said in a cold tone that seemed to lower the temperature around him.

Nevertheless, Bella didn't flinch or feel intimidated by his words. She even ignores Andreas Corby's sharp gaze as she turns to look at Leo beside her.

Bella leaned closer to Leo.

"Do you think this trash is delusional and under pressure!? Is that why he foolishly tried to deny the facts and refuses to believe me?" she whispered, loud enough for Andreas Corby to hear. A clear line appeared on Andreas' forehead as he listened to her.

'Fuck! This woman calls me trash!?' Andreas held his anger while clenched his fist.

Still, Bella and Leo ignore him.

Leo whispered back to Bella, "Yeah, I guess so... I can't believe Jack put this scum of society in charge of Quantum Capital in this country."

Bella nods. She agrees with him.

"I know, right!?" She let out a deep sigh while wearing a fake-gloomy expression.

After a few seconds, silence hung in the air. Bella continued, "You know what, Leo... If I had known from the start, Jack would have appointed this piece of trash to handle this branch. I will refuse to accept his idea of establishing Quantum Capital in this country."

Leo also took a deep sigh, following Bella. From the corner of his eye, he could catch Andreas' anxiety as he watched them, Making Leo even more enthusiastic about following Bella's plan to crush Andreas.

"Well, Boss... You could impeach Mr. Jack Foster from his CEO position; you have that power. Besides, this is not something that should be allowed. He has abused his position to put his incapable family in the company..."

Bella closed her mouth, pretending to be suprised to hear Leo's idea.

"Oh my God, Leo, you are such a brilliant man! I feel so lucky to have you as my head secretary. I'm glad you chose me instead of Jack." Bella gently punches Leo's shoulder to show Andreas how happy she is with Leo's idea.

"Hahaha..." Leo waved his hand while laughing. "...come on, Boss. You know my reason for refusing to continue to work for Jack Foster's assistant, right?"

Andreas Corby was surprised that this man had worked for Jack. He attempted to recollect whether he had seen him in the main office, but his memory failed him. He could only recall that Jack's assistant was named Mr. Smith, and he had never heard his first name.

"I know... I know..." Bella nodded, even though she didn't know what Leo meant. She only pretends to know, which makes Andreas even more frightened to hear their conversation.

Bella is in a good mood when she notices Andreas' expression, which starts to change from pride to confusion to terror.

She continues to teach him,

"As you said, I can remove Jack from his position as CEO of the RDF Group and use this matter as strong evidence to get him dishonorably fired from the company. Yes! I will definitely expel him from the RDF Group and make sure he pays the total loss caused to his brother-in-law."

Bella smiled at Andreas, saying, "Mr. Corby, I must thank you. Because of you, I have a reason to expel Jack Foster, your brother-in-law, from the company. Thank you, sir..."

Andreas was shocked, but once again, he doubted this woman. Before he said something, he saw the man beside her speak.

"I will gather all the evidence for you," Leo said with a devilish smile while glancing at Andreas.

"Thank you, Leo..."

Leo spoke seriously, "Boss, there's no need to thank me. I am just doing my job. Moreover, I believe this is the right time for Jack Foster to step down from his position." He tried his best to hold his laughter inside.

Andreas, "...."

He was left speechless as the two ignored him. And their serious conversation started to worry him.

'No... No... They both must be bluffing. They're there to make me worry, right?' Andreas wonders.

Andreas couldn't take it anymore.

"Stop ignoring me! You two are just pretending to confuse me. Listen, I'm not going to waste my time here." He shouted, then stood up from his seat.

Andreas' eyes fell on Bella before he continued his stern warning.

"Ms. Donovan, you better clear your desk because you will soon lose your position!"

With a disdainful expression, Andreas turned around to walk to the door.

However, before stepping, he was shocked to see a figure standing at the door.

"Brother-in-law..." Andreas was surprised to see Jack standing near the door, "Since when were you there? No... I mean, when did you arrive in this country? Why didn't you tell me?" he asked as he walked towards him with a wide smile.

Jack nodded at Andreas. However, he didn't say anything to him; he completely ignored him as he walked in and joined Bella in the seating area.

His actions shocked Andreas. He turned to look at Jack with his brows furrowed, feeling confused.

Earlier, unbeknownst to Bella and Leo, Jack had been standing in the corner with Sam for a few minutes. He overheard Bella and Leo's conversation and was aware of their intentions.

Feeling in a good mood, Jack wants to join forces with them to expel his troublesome brother-in-law from the company.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .

Chapter 132: Frightened Laura Kiels In a luxury Villa.

Laura Kiels was angry when her phone rang during her sleep.

When Laura saw that her manager, Robert, was calling her, she picked up the phone and expressed frustration.

She lazily asked, "Why are you calling me now?" while lying on the bed with her eyes closed.

Robert was shocked to hear Laura's still hoarse voice.

"Laura, are you still in bed? Did you forget that today we must shoot your jewelry commercial?" He asked in disbelief.

He had been waiting for her for what felt like an eternity, but she was nowhere to be seen. The worry in his heart grew, fearing that Laura might once again forget about her packed schedule for the day.

"Damn you, Robert! Do your job properly! How dare you not know that today's commercial shooting was canceled!?" Laura grumbled irritably.

"Wha-What!?"

Robert was surprised to hear that. Since when did such information exist? Nobody had told him about it, so how could he know?

"Gosh, Robert!! You didn't know that?" Laura raised her voice, irritated by her manager's stupid reaction.

"I didn't know," Robert answered quickly. He had not received any messages from their office or the client. "Laura, who told you the schedule was canceled today?" he asked, confused.

A few minutes ago, he received a message from the jewelry company's manager confirming that today's schedule had not been rescheduled. The jewelry company manager reminded him not to be late because their boss would come to watch the filming process.

Instantly, Laura's eyes, which had been closed since receiving the phone call—she was still sleepy after last night Andreas forced her to make love until dawn—opened wide.

As she sat on the edge of the bed, Laura wondered whether Andreas had forgotten to postpone the filming process.

Robert urgently called out to Laura, "Are you still there? We only have 15 minutes to get to the filming location. Hurry!"

"Robert, I can't go now. I—" Laura can't continue her sentence. She can't tell him what exactly happened, right?

"What do you mean!?"

"I need to make a call. I will call you back in a few minutes-"

Beep!

Laura quickly ended the call, not waiting for Robert's response.

While on her way to the bathroom, Laura dialed Andreas' phone number to remind him to cancel today's filming. She can't go to the location now because her body is full of his love bites.

Standing in front of the mirror and seeing her smooth white skin, which now looked red all over her upper body, annoyed her. She feels regret for allowing Andreas to do that.

"Why didn't he pick up? Is he busy?" she muttered as she returned to the bedroom.

After several calls, the result was still the same — Andreas didn't pick up her phone. This started to annoy her.

She decides to send him a text, hoping he will read it and call her back.

[Laura] Andreas, please call me ASAP!

[Laura] This is urgent about the jewelry filming schedule.

After sending it and not getting any response, she typed another text.

[Laura] You said you would postpone the filming schedule. But why did Robert tell the schedule is still fixed today?

She stared at her cell phone for a while, waiting for Andreas to answer. Nevertheless, he did not answer.

"Ugh! Andreas, seriously?"

Laura sighed, annoyed, and threw her cell phone on the bed. She paced back and forth, biting her nails in nervousness.

She occasionally glanced at her cell phone on the bed. Hoping Andreas reply her text.

After several minutes passed, the phone finally rang. Laura ran to the bed and grabbed her cell phone. However, when she saw Robert's name written on the phone screen, her expression turned dark again.

"Are you done? Please hurry up..." Robert's impatient voice sounded again, making Laura even more nervous. "We are late now, Laura. You still remember who our client is now, right!?"

Laura sat on the edge of the bed, feeling her heart drop at Robert's words.

She ran her hand through her hair, feeling angry and confused at the same time.

'What should I do now?'

Laura is aware of the theme of today's filming. She will wear a dress with a low neckline to showcase a diamond necklace.

However, she has love bites on her neck and chest, which would not be suitable for the shoot. The makeup team would be visibly annoyed if they found out about them.

She also has to shoot with a male actor, which would be embarrassing if the actor knew about her condition.

What also worries her is if someone leaks this matter and circulates it on social media. It will make her name a trending topic again—She was tired of being bullied by netizens.

"I know. But I can't go now, Robert... Please help to cancel the filming schedule."

"Okay, I understand. If you're not feeling well, they may be able to comprehend the situation. I'll reach out to them and request to reschedule your filming schedule," Robert explained.

"However, Laura, please remember that if you claim to be sick, you'll need to go to the hospital. If not, they won't believe you, and you may face legal consequences for breaching the contract — not showing up for the filming schedule." Robert's words are enough to make Laura even more worried.

She gritted her teeth.

"Robert, I am seriously ill and having an allergic reaction. My whole body is red. How can I film in this condition?"

He was surprised to learn that Laura had allergies, which was new to him after managing her for several years.

"Laura, since when have you had allergies?" Robert asked, suspicious that this girl was making it up.

Laura was speechless.

'Can you just believe it!?' She scolds Robert in her mind.

Just as she was about to say something to Robert, Laura suddenly remembered someone who could help her.

"Robert, give me 5 minutes more—"

Beep!

Laura immediately dialed the person's telephone number, biting her nails tensely while waiting for the call to connect.

Come back and read more tomorrow, everyone! .