

## NOT TWINS

### Chapter 36

What if?

What if that wasn't the case?

All evidence pointed to Kenneth being their daddy.

Even Anthony was surprised by the strong intuition.

Benjamin leaned toward Anthony, who fell silent. “Did you find out about the results already?” His heart was thumping in his chest while waiting for Anthony's response.

Denise's gaze swung toward Anthony as well, anticipating and anxious.

Anthony finally answered after a long moment, “Courier and testing will take some more time.”

Benjamin and Denise let out sighs of relief.

“You frightened me,” Benjamin said, patting his chest reassuringly.

“Both of you, promise me to stick by Mommy, no matter what Kenneth's identity is,” Anthony stated.

“Absolutely,” Benjamin assured. “That goes without saying.”

Denise nodded solemnly. “Although I like, and I mean really like Daddy, Mommy is irreplaceable in my heart.”

Three of them were aware of how Natasha had single-handedly raised them and endured those who

looked down upon her. Only they knew she had stayed up countless nights when they fell sick or were hurt.

Hence, their daddy could never replace Natasha, no matter how amazing he was.

Anthony nodded satisfactorily at their promise. “Then you have my permission to like him.”

They returned to school instead of going home.

Terence arrived a few minutes later, and they feigned innocence as they followed him.

Everything was planned and timed perfectly.

Denise looked at Terence happily in the car. “How's your friend, Gramps?”

He smiled. "He's much better now."

"That's good." She nodded. "Take care of yourself, Gramps."

"Sure." He gave her a doting look, thinking she was a lovely girl.

"Don't worry. Gramps has Nat to look after him. Nothing is going to happen to him. He'll always be by our sides," Benjamin added.

Anthony gave a vehement nod. "That's right."

Terence's mood brightened at their interlacing comments.

If Liam knew the existence of the kids, he would definitely fight Terence for them.

His life was filled with joy, but unfortunately, Liam had missed out on it.

Natasha went home and took a nap. Food was almost ready when she woke.

She made a beeline to the couch after noticing the kids in the living room and sprawled languidly like a cat.

They immediately went forward to knead her shoulders and massage her feet, lavishing affection on her.

“Nat.” Denise looked at her with a burning stare.

“Yes?” Natasha drawled.

“How are things between you and Mr. Lynch?” she asked.

Natasha's brows gathered in a frown, almost forgetting about him if Denise hadn't mentioned him.  
“Nothing much.”

“Both of you aren't in contact with each other?”

“Not since we went out for a meal that time,” Natasha answered truthfully.

“Don't you like Mr. Lynch?” Denise continued.

“He's handsome, but I don't like him like that,”  
Natasha said.

“What's your type, Nat?” Denise pressed.

Suddenly Kenneth's face flashed in Natasha's mind.

Shit, what the hell? I must be hallucinating.

Natasha shook her head and answered, “A good person with a good character will do.”

This difference should set Kenneth apart, right?

“Then Mr. Lynch fits all your criteria.”

“But he didn't contact me first. That means he isn't interested in me.” Natasha shrugged.

Denise frowned. “So you haven't seen him since you had a meal with him.”

“Really?” A frown marred Natasha's forehead, and Denise nodded.

“It seems like I haven't seen him for a few days too.” Benjamin volunteered.

Anthony stayed silent, unconcerned about the topic of conversation.

“He must be busy, then,” Natasha muttered nonchalantly.

“Never mind that, Nat. If Mr. Lynch and you aren't meant to be, I can introduce another man to you.” Denise grinned.

Natasha cocked her head. “All right, Mommy's happiness is now in your hands.”

“Leave it to me!” Denise promised earnestly. Natasha had never had high expectations of her anyway.

Terence had just finished making dinner when he overheard their conversation and remarked, “It's always parents spoiling their kids, but it's the opposite with you.”



“I can't help it if I'm blessed.” Pride shone on her face.

“All right, let's eat.”

She stretched lazily. “Let's eat!”

They happily shared a meal as a family.

Meanwhile, in the hospital, Kenneth was bewildered by Liam's compliance to take his medicine.

In the next second, he saw Liam taking a piece of candy from the table and popping it into his mouth. He frowned. “Where did you get that?”

“A kid who looked exactly like you gave them to me,” Liam said with a smile.

Kenneth thought he was joking and brushed it off.

“Consume in moderation. It's not good for you.”

He rolled his eyes. “Save it. I won't take my medication unless I have candy. Also, find out where this particular candy is sold and get me more.”

Kenneth glanced at the vibrant wrapper and remarked casually, “They're just sweets to entice children.”

“Can't you think of me as a child who needs to be coaxed, then? You know I hate taking medicine, but you're still forcing me. I'll only do it when you bring me the candy,” Liam retorted in exasperation.

Kenneth acceded with a nod. “Deal. I'll buy you some.”

“Attaboy.” Liam savored his candy and gave him a sidelong glance before finally asking after a lengthy pause. “When are you giving me great-grandkids?”

“What great-grandkids?” Kenneth feigned ignorance.

“Great-grandkids for me, for the Hamilton family!”

Kenneth stayed silent.

“You know, I saw a kid today who resembled you. It was as if both of you were created from the same mold. Your child would have been the same age as him if you hadn't divorced Nat.” Liam was infuriated.

Kenneth's heart wrenched at the thought of Natasha terminating their twins.

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“Stop bringing her up,” Kenneth suddenly said.

Liam was stunned for a moment before replying, “Are you talking about Nat?”

Kenneth pursed his lips, his eyes flaring with coldness.

Liam stared at him. “Have you made up your mind?”

“I always knew what I wanted.”

Liam could not help but smile. There's no way I don't think what my grandson is thinking. I raised him, after all! Although he says he doesn't like her, his actions say otherwise. “All right. I'll stop talking about her. If that's the case, have you taken a liking to Thea?”

At that moment, Thea had just returned from shopping and was going to enter. When she heard Liam bringing her up, she decided not to go inside but listen in, her heart beating like mad as she waited.

“These are two different matters,” Kenneth replied.

“How could this be two different matters? Or perhaps you think she'll continue to wait for you forever?” Liam pressed on.

Kenneth felt a bit exasperated from all the questions.

“Does it mean that you accept her?”

“As long as you can get married as soon as possible and give birth to a great-grandchild for the Hamilton family, I'll agree even if you marry a blind woman,” Liam answered.

Kenneth was rendered speechless.

However, Liam did not seem to be joking by how earnest he looked.

Meanwhile, Thea felt a surge of happiness while listening outside the door. She was always worried about Liam obstructing her relationship with Kenneth. Thus, despite feeling uncomfortable with Liam comparing her to a blind woman, she felt relaxed knowing he was at least not against her being together with Kenneth.

“I will do as I see fit,” Kenneth replied.

“All right. If that's the case, I'll give you one month to settle this,” Liam agreed.

One month? “Why don't you just sell me off?” Kenneth asked in exasperation.

“I don't have a choice. You're the only son in the family. If I could sell you, there's no way I'll keep you till now,” Liam answered sarcastically.

Kenneth was at a loss of words, for he was not a match for his grandfather in terms of arguing.

“I've always felt guilty toward your relationship with Nat. Now that I know she doesn't blame me and that both of you have parted on good terms, I can finally stop worrying about it. Later, I'll recommend a few suitable men for Nat.”

Kenneth furrowed his eyebrows and gazed at Liam. Although the latter seemed nonchalant, Kenneth knew he was doing it on purpose.

“Are you going to get her a new boyfriend?” Kenneth asked.

Liam nodded. "That's right."

"Don't you think it's inappropriate?" Kenneth was helpless.

"What's inappropriate about that? Both of you have already gotten a divorce. Besides, I'm happy she's still concerned about me and calls me Old Mr. Hamilton. That's why I wish for her to find someone to spend the rest of her life with. What's so improper about that? Or perhaps... are you against this idea?" Liam tried to pry.

Kenneth laughed coldly. "No way. I just don't want your kindness to go to waste."

"What do you mean?"

"She already has a boyfriend," Kenneth answered.



“She has a boyfriend? Why didn't I hear about this?”

Liam furrowed his eyebrows.

Kenneth felt ironic recalling the sweet voice she put on while on the phone outside of Infinitium's restroom.

“It's not like she's obligated to tell you. Remember. You're my grandpa, not hers,” Kenneth said in a matter-of-factly.

However, Liam was not interested in that. “How do you know she has a boyfriend?”

Kenneth furrowed his eyebrows and replied unwillingly, “I've seen him.”

“You've seen him? When? How is he like?” Liam pressed on.

Recalling the scene of them chatting happily in the cafe, Kenneth answered coldly, "So-so."

After gazing at him, Liam secretly let out a sigh of relief. He knew his grandson best, after all. Although Kenneth pretended not to care, he was actually bothered about it.

"Well, at least the man has better taste than you," Liam replied.

Kenneth snorted. "After he spends more time with her, he'll know that she's just a pretty face."

"Didn't you call her a bumpkin before?" Liam had hit the nail on the head.

Kenneth felt that he could no longer continue the conversation. Thus, he stood up. "It's getting late, so you should rest earlier. I'll head home now."

“All right, then. You should go back now. I'll chat with Nat and convince her to bring the man to meet me.” Liam's words were filled with provocation.

Kenneth decided to pretend he did not hear him.

When he made a move to leave, Thea entered the room and pretended she had heard nothing. “Are you leaving?” she asked Kenneth.

“You're still here?”

“I went out to buy some things for Old Mr. Hamilton.” After saying that, she walked over and placed some fruits aside. “After inquiring the doctor, I heard that fruits are good for you as you have low blood pressure and are slightly anemic. Thus, I've gone to buy some for you. Once you finish eating, I'll purchase more for you.”

Looking at her, Liam nodded. “How thoughtful of you. Thank you.”

“No thanks are needed. I should do it anyway,” Thea replied with a smile.

Kenneth had an unfathomable glint in his eyes while staring at her.

“All right. It's getting late, so I'll drop you off,” Kenneth said.

Nodding, Thea looked toward Liam. “I'll take my leave now.”

After Liam nodded, Thea and Kenneth left together.

When the duo went downstairs, Thea seemed to be in a good mood, while Kenneth did not say anything.

“Kenneth.”

“Huh?”

“Do you prefer boys or girls?” Thea suddenly asked.

At that, he furrowed his eyebrows. “What do you mean by this?”

“Nothing much. I'm just asking,” Thea replied, already imagining having children with him. Kenneth should like children too, right? After all, he seems to like being around other people's kids.

When she thought of that, she admired Kenneth's face. His thin lips were currently pursed, and his facial features seemed to be a carved scripture by how delicate they looked.

His appearance, ability, and intelligence were enough for people to flock to him.

This man is mine.

“Right. My dad and mom are returning to the country the day after tomorrow. Thus, I want to take a few days off to accompany them,” Thea said.

Kenneth nodded. “As you should. Have you arranged their accommodation?”

“Not yet. I wasn't sure of how long they intended to stay.”

“You can arrange for them to stay at Ridgewood Hotel. I'll foot the bill,” Kenneth offered.

Thea felt a sense of warmth in her heart. “In that case, don't mind if I do. Let me thank you on behalf of

my parents.”

Although Kenneth seemed unfazed, his words brightened Thea's mood.

Now that Natasha had a boyfriend, all Thea needed to do was quickly get together with Kenneth. Nothing could get in her way anymore if she managed to accomplish that.

As that thought occurred to her, Thea looked out the window. Come here quickly, Mom! I need you to give me advice.

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The next day, Natasha bumped into Xavier upon arriving at the company.

Although he seemed to have something to say, Natasha averted her gaze and walked over to her desk.

Xavier furrowed his eyebrows, and his gaze was conflicted when staring at her.

At that moment, Thomas and Ross rushed over to Natasha and stared at her greedily, as if she was their prey.

“If you have something to say, say it.” Natasha did not even bother lifting her head.

“Do you have a thing for Xavier?” Ross asked.



Natasha lifted her gaze and glared at him murderously. “What do you think?”

“I think.... he doesn't seem to be your type.” Ross smiled sheepishly.

“Good that you know.”

Thomas and Ross exchanged glances. Then, the latter tried to pry, “Why did you do that, then? It doesn't make sense.”

“I have too much money and I have nowhere to spend them, that's all,” Natasha replied simply.

Thomas answered after a moment's hesitation, “If that's the case, are you admitting to it?”

Natasha shot them a glare, and the duo quickly zipped their mouths and walked away.

Then, they walked over to Xavier and talked for a while. After they finished speaking, Xavier's gaze seemed more conflicted when looking at her.

Natasha could only sigh. Thankfully, the two tattletales didn't broadcast it to the entire company. Otherwise, there's no way I can clear my name.

After lunch in the afternoon, Natasha went to the pantry to make some coffee. Then, she walked over to the balcony and got some air.

When it was time to head back, Natasha turned around and almost bumped into Xavier standing behind her.

“What?” Natasha's tone was filled with displeasure.

“I have something to tell you,” Xavier replied.

Natasha furrowed her eyebrows, knowing he would not give up unless he got an answer. “Go ahead.”

“Did you really pay for the surgery fees?” he asked.

Without hesitating, Natasha nodded. “That's right.”

Although he already knew the answer, Xavier's heart could not help but skip a beat after hearing the truth.

“W-Why?” His usual dense expression was now clueless and anxious.

“What do you think?”

“Y-You really-” Xavier hesitated, for her question had caused him to feel awkward.

“Nope,” Natasha cut him off.

When Xavier looked at her, he saw that she was looking at him with sincerity.

“I have no feelings for you,” Natasha emphasized.

“Why did you do that, then?”

Natasha took a deep breath. “Firstly, it was indeed because of me that you couldn't get your bonus. Although it wasn't really my fault, I can't just ignore what happened either. Next, I understand how it feels like to be a mother. Although you're her brother, I can tell you cared for her just like a mother would. Besides, there was nothing more important than human life.”

After hearing that, Xavier took a long time to ponder before answering, “Is it really because of all these reasons?”

“There's another reason, but you might not believe me.”

“What is it?”

“That I have too much money, and I have nowhere to spend it,” Natasha answered truthfully.

Xavier was rendered speechless.

Although he did not know if she was joking or not, he smiled. At the same time, he breathed a sigh of relief in his heart.

“I can finally relax after hearing that.” Xavier looked at her. “Natasha, I want to apologize to you sincerely.”

She looked at him without a word.

“I admit that I had gotten too emotional back then because of the money, not to mention I was prejudiced against you. However, you helped me out regardless of how I treated you before. I'm really thankful.”

“I didn't help you to make you feel thankful for me.”

“I know that. However, my motto in life is always to be grateful. Don't worry. Take it as I borrowed the money from you, and I'll definitely pay the money back to you in the future.”

“It's fine-” However, before she could finish her sentence, he had already walked away.

Natasha was speechless. What the heck?

Unable to wrap her head around his actions, she also walked outside.

At that moment, Xavier looked at everyone. “Back then, I've deliberately caused trouble for Natasha in front of everyone. Therefore, I would like to apologize in public too.” Coincidentally, Natasha walked into the room at that exact moment. “Natasha, I'm sorry. I was in the wrong last time. From today onward, anyone who provokes you in the Programming Department would also mean they're messing with me. You're my boss now!” he announced while looking at her.

Everyone was rendered speechless, while Natasha was struck dumb. What is going on?

However, Thomas and Ross seemed more excited than usual and quickly took the lead in clapping. After that, the atmosphere in the Programming Department became livelier.

Before Xavier apologized in public, everyone was still

clueless about his change in attitude. Naturally, Natasha became a loaded woman in everyone's eyes after they were filled in on what was going on.

Thomas and Ross quickly rushed over to her.

“Ms. Wealthy, do you really have no feelings for Xavier?” Ross asked.

Natasha was too lazy to be bothered with nonsense like that.

“Do I stand a chance, then?” Ross continued to ask.

Thomas quickly shoved his head to the other side.

“Save it. Why don't you take a look at yourself in the mirror first? Ms. Wealthy doesn't even like Xavier, let alone you.” After saying that, he gazed at her greedily. “Why don't you consider me instead? I'm also in need of some sponsorship right now. I would



like to purchase a car recently, and it doesn't cost much either. You can consider funding me.”

Natasha looked at him. “I can consider it if you decided to sell your kidneys.”

Thomas was speechless, while Ross burst out laughing beside him.

He could already imagine the bloody scene.

At that moment, Xavier walked over with a paper and shoved the cumbersome duo away. Then, he placed an IOU in front of her. “Nat-” Suddenly, he did not know how to address her. After pondering for a moment, he started, “Boss, keep this. I'll definitely return the money to you in the future.”

Natasha merely glanced at him. “No need.”

“You have to keep it. Otherwise, I can't sleep at night,” Xavier replied.

After pondering for a moment, she took it from his hands.

A relieved smile appeared on Xavier's face. However, just when he wanted to leave, a tearing sound was heard. He turned around only to see Natasha rip the paper into shreds and dumped it into the trash bin.

Thomas and Ross' eyes almost bulged out after seeing that, and they could not catch their breath. How could she just rip an IOU that's worth hundreds of thousands?

Xavier too was staring at her in surprise.

Natasha explained, “If you're really sincere in paying me back, there's no need for all the formality.

Besides, I'm going to lose the paper sooner or later.”

Xavier only felt more thankful for her in his heart. He could only curse himself when he thought of how he treated her in the past.

Meanwhile, Thomas and Ross looked at Natasha as if she was a delicious meal. “Ms. Wealthy, please sponsor us! I can do anything as your sugar baby!”

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## Chapter 39

At this point, Natasha finally had a firm footing in the company.

While Natasha had only begun working for Prosper Technologies, she managed to secure the Hamilton Corporation project, gave benefits to the company, and paid the surgeon's fee for Xavier. As of now, Xavier wasn't the only one who admired her. In fact, even those who had looked down on her were honestly impressed by her. She also became a wealthy woman in their eyes.

Although nobody knew how rich Natasha was or what her background was, they vaguely knew they shouldn't treat her lightly. Hence, they chose to be friendly toward her instead of offending her.

Besides, she had a lovable personality.

Natasha knew nothing about their thoughts. For her, it was just a job. There was no need to place too much concern on it.

The next day's mid-afternoon, around two o'clock, when Natasha was getting sleepy, someone called out to her.

“Ms. Watson, Mr. Yondel wanted to see you in his office.”

After waking herself, she walked toward Mark's office without much thought.

“You're looking for me?” she asked after knocking on the door.

Mark had just ended a call when she entered. Upon seeing her, he welcomed her with a smile and said, “Please have a seat, Nat.”

Hearing such, Natasha approached him and sat down.

“I want to let you know that I'm leaving for a last-minute business trip. However, later this afternoon, there will be a meeting with Prime Investment Corporation, which has expressed its intention to collaborate with us. So, I want you to attend that meeting on my behalf.”

She nodded. “Okay, I'll do it.”

The manager froze for a moment and placed the relevant documents before her. “These are the relevant information about the possible collaboration between Prime Investment Corporation and us. Please study it carefully. Do try your best to get them to collaborate with us.”

“I will do my best.”

Natasha was never a person who would belittle

herself or question the tasks given to her.

Mark initially thought he would have to spend some time persuading her. Hence, it was outside his expectation when she readily took the task without mentioning anything about money.

Having also heard the rumors in the office, he couldn't resist gossiping, "Nat, I heard that you paid for Xavier's sister's surgery. Is it true?"

Natasha nonchalantly nodded and answered, "Yes, I did."

Her response rendered him speechless.

One might say Natasha was ready to take the task because of money, but she had never talked about it before. Besides, she had unhesitatingly and generously divided the one million she received.

Having said so, he couldn't determine if money actually meant nothing to her because she treated her work seriously.

There was a sense that she merely worked for work's sake.

Having no way to see through her, Mark was a little more cautious against her. He smiled awkwardly and said, "Okay then. You can go now. I need to pack my things for the business trip."

Natasha then walked out of the office with the documents.

After studying them for some time, she got a gist of the possible collaboration with the other company and concluded that it would be a piece of cake.

Just then, Natasha's phone rang. Even though the



caller ID showed it was a call from a stranger, she answered it. “Hello?”

“Are you Ms. Watson from Prosper Technologies?”

“Yes, I am.”

“I'm from Prime Investment Corporation. As you know, we have sent your company an invitation to meet today at four o'clock. However, we might need to postpone it to six due to a change in our plans. Is it okay for you?” the young lady on the other side of the call asked.

“That wouldn't be a problem to me.”

“If so, I'll send you a new address for the meeting.”

“All right, thanks.”

The call ended after a brief exchange.

Suddenly, a cup of coffee was placed before her when she felt exhausted and sleepy.

Natasha raised her head and saw Xavier simpering at her.

At that point, she realized that a man could have many faces. Before she paid for his sister's surgery, she noticed that he always had a stern expression on his face, like most dense men, but, now, he often wore a silly countenance. Natasha had a difficult time accepting the change in his attitude.

“Thank you,” said Natasha.

“Are you having a new project?” Xavier asked.

With a nod, she answered, “Yes.”

“Do tell me if you need my help. I'm always available.”

“I can deal with it myself.” She shot back.

Her confident countenance made her seem somewhat arrogant. However, in Xavier's eyes, she had every right to be pompous.

“Good. I'll head back to work now.” With that, he left with a smile.

Natasha was speechless.

Why is his treatment of me so different now than it was before? When it comes to changing his expression, he is as prompt as Denise.

When it was time for everyone to leave work, Natasha had to attend a meeting.

When she got into her car, she called Terence to inform him about her appointment. However, before she could finish her sentence, Benjamin took the phone.

“Nat, the other party you're meeting at this hour for work is a man or a woman?”

“There are men and women.”

“Which company are they from?”

“Prime Investment Corporation, an investment company.”

“Nat, please hear my words as a piece of advice. You must remain attentive when attending a meeting since you're a pretty woman. According to my understanding, many companies love to invite pretty

ladies at late hours in the name of work when they actually have bad intentions. You must be careful," Benjamin reminded her.

Natasha laughed when she heard his words. "Where did you hear that from?"

"Erm... The dramas."

"Stop watching those dramas. It's bad for your development."

"Well, life is just like a play. Anyway, just be careful."

"I will."

"Well, go on then. Please come back as soon as possible too. We'll wait for you."

"Okay, got it."

“Goodbye, Nat. Love you!”

Natasha hung up the phone with a smile.

When she raised her head again, she had arrived at her destination.

After arriving at Spring Hotel and getting out of her car, Natasha saw someone waiting for her by the entrance.

“Are you Ms. Watson?” asked a lady.

“I am.”

“Mr. Williams asked me to wait for you here. Please come with me.”

Natasha nodded and followed behind.

When Natasha entered the big private room, she saw five to six people seated at a table big enough for a dozen people. There were dishes on the table too.

“Mr. Williams, Ms. Watson from Prosper Technologies has arrived,” said the lady who greeted her by the entrance.

All the people chatting inside turned to look at the door in unison instantly.

When they saw Natasha, all froze in place for roughly ten seconds.

The man who sat in the middle was the first to stand up and welcome her. “She's from Prosper Technologies? Well, come in and have a seat.”

Natasha swept her gaze across the crowd and walked

toward the man.

“Let me introduce her to you all. She is...” The man, Gaston Williams, wanted to introduce her to the others but didn't know her name.

“Natasha Watson from Prosper Technologies,” she introduced herself.

“I see. I had initially scheduled the appointment for the late afternoon but changed it to now because I have something else to do last minute. Now that everyone is here, let's listen to her proposal,” announced Gaston.

Those people looked at Natasha and nodded.

“It's nice to see you, Ms. Watson.” Gaston extended his hand toward her.



“Hello, Mr. Williams.” Natasha extended her hand and shook his politely.

“Come, sit here.” Gaston hurriedly arranged a seat for her.

After taking a seat, Natasha took out all the documents. “Mr. Williams, I have brought along the necessary documents.”

“Let's not rush into that,” Gaston responded. He then looked at the waiter behind him and instructed, “Please pour some wine for Ms. Watson. We'll talk about the collaboration while having our meal.”

“I'm sorry. I don't drink wine,” Natasha rejected his offer without hesitation.

Gaston froze for a moment. He then added, “I forgot that you're a woman. If you don't want to have wine,

what about coffee?”

The moment he finished his question, he turned to the waiter and said, “Please pour some coffee for Ms. Watson.”

Hearing such, the waiter served Natasha coffee.

Natasha had never before attended a dinner of such a nature. Overseas, they usually had buffet-style dinners, and she even hardly joined them. Hence, having been put in such a situation, she put her guard up out of habit.

Gaston, on the other hand, was looking at the waiter weirdly while the latter was pouring coffee for Natasha.

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“Here, Ms. Watson. Please try it.” Gaston then added, “It's one of the rare coffee beans I've collected. Please have a try.”

Natasha took a glance at the coffee, picked it up, and took a sip.

As she knew nothing about coffees, she didn't find it remarkable.

“I know that the person in charge of this project has changed last minute, but I didn't expect to see a gorgeous lady take over. I am astounded. By the way, please forgive me if I'm a bad host.” Gaston was being extremely polite.

“You're too kind, Mr. Williams. I'm aware that you

have a tight schedule. So, I figure that we should cut to the chase.”

Though Natasha's response was polite, it was full of determination. Either way, she was neither humble nor arrogant. Gaston gawked at her for a moment and nodded. “That's a good idea. Since everyone's here, we can discuss the details together.”

Natasha then took out the documents. “Mr. Williams, after taking over this project in the afternoon, I've glanced through the request your company made. I don't see any issues with them. However, there's one I think I feel that I should inform you about beforehand. We might have to raise the fee to meet your demands. I have with me here a simple price list produced by Mr. Yondel. Please have a look.”

“So long as your company could perform my request, I don't mind the fee,” announced Gaston while staring

at her intensely. He didn't seem to have interest in the price list.

She nodded. "If so, I'll produce a proposal once I return to the office. If you have any other requests, Mr. Williams, you can contact me any time."

Hearing such, Gaston nodded in reply. "Okay, will do. I have faith in your ability, and I believe you will be able to come up with a proposal that I am satisfied with."

Actually, the primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the fee. Hence, Natasha hadn't expected Gaston to agree so readily. As things were going too smoothly, she couldn't help but suspect that she was in a drama with an absurd plot.

"Well then, I'll leave you all to enjoy the meal, Mr. Williams. I'll head back to prepare the proposal and

personally negotiate the terms with you at your company once it's ready," informed Natasha.

"Why don't you stay for a little longer, Ms. Watson?"

"I can't. I still have family matters which need my attention. I'll take my leave now."

Gaston glanced at her and said, "Let's toast to our great collaboration ahead in advance then." At the end of his suggestion, he raised his wine glass, wanting to toast to her.

As it didn't seem proper to decline his suggestion, she took the coffee before her. "I'll toast with coffee instead then."

With that, the two clinked their glass.

While watching Natasha empty her glass, the light in

Gaston's eyes became brighter.

“I'll be off now, Mr. Williams,” informed Natasha.

Gaston nodded. “Okay. See you.”

After a nod, she looked at the others and bid her farewell. “I'll take my leave now.” With that, she left.

The moment she left, someone nearby to Gaston approached him and asked, “Mr. Williams, are you really going to let such a goddess leave just like that?”

As soon as Gaston heard that, an evil smile contrary to his previous smile appeared on his face as though he was a different person from a moment ago. “She won't be able to leave this place.”

Natasha immediately felt dizzy, and her legs grew weak when she reached the hallway, just as he had

predicted.

Please don't tell me that Benjamin, that brat, has guessed it right! That was the first thought that flashed in her mind.

Shit! There's no denying that brat is a jinx!

When a nearby restroom caught her eye, she decided to wash her face to get herself awake. However, her legs were too weak to move at that point.

She then wanted to take out her phone to call for help, but she noticed that her legs were too weak to support her. Even her hands were soft then.

When she was trying her best to stay conscious, someone grabbed her shoulders from behind. "Are you okay, Ms. Watson?"



The moment she heard the voice, she couldn't help feeling disgusted.

“Do you need help?” asked Gaston while supporting her. She didn't notice when he had gotten out of the private room.

“Let go of me,” Natasha ordered. However, because of the drug's effect, her stern voice had become unusually weak. She sounded like she was acting coy with him instead.

“You will fall if I let go of you. Let me help you, for now, Ms. Watson. I have booked a room upstairs. I'll take you there so that you can have a rest.” With that, he ignored her request and took her with him.

“Get off me...”

Meanwhile, Kenneth was attending a social event in

the private room next door.

One man, after returning from the restroom, excitedly asked, “Do you know who I've met in the hallway?”

“Who is it?” Everyone turned to look at him.

“Gaston Williams from Prime Investment Corporation.”

“The Gaston Williams who is famous for being lecherous?”

“Yes, that's him in the hallway. I saw him helping a lady. Well, that lady... Tsk, I bet she won't be able to run away from his clutches today. Ha! Can't this dude stop? He has caused calamity to so many innocent women. If he continues to do so, something will happen eventually. He always takes naked photos of the women and stuffed their mouths with money. If

those women refused his money, he would threaten them. There were a few women who were daring enough to challenge him.”

He then added, “But I think I've the lady before.”

“You've seen the lady before?”

“Yes, she's quite pretty. I've seen her at Kenneth's company once,” answered that man.

Kenneth was eating then. He didn't join the conversation.

“Kenneth, it is someone from your company?” someone asked.

Kenneth raised his head to glance at that person who saw Gaston and responded, “You might have seen it wrongly.”

“No, I didn't. I saw her with your grandfather when I looked for you at your company that day. Yea, I remember her correctly. She's rather pretty.”

Kenneth's body went stiff immediately after hearing that. “What did you just say?”

Seeing the shock and anxiousness on his face, the man asked, “It is her. Isn't she from your company?”

“Are you sure that you've seen it correctly?” Kenneth's voice became hoarse at that point.

“I doubt I recall her face wrongly since she's gorgeous,” the man replied.

The next moment, Kenneth jumped to his feet and darted out of the room.

Everyone else was taken aback by his reaction.

“What's wrong with him?”

That man shrugged. “I don't know.”

“Let's follow him and take a look.”

When Kenneth got to the hallway, the two weren't there anymore.

After checking the surroundings and seeing no one, he kicked open the door of the private room next door and demanded, “Where is Gaston Williams?”

Kenneth was a famous man in Glenport City. Even though one had never seen him, he must have heard about him.

“Where is he?” Kenneth repeated his question. Then, with his raspy and angry voice, he added, “If no one

gives me what I want, none of you can leave this place today.”

“H-He went upstairs, room 711,” someone answered in a timid voice.

Hearing such, Kenneth clenched his fists, turned around, and rushed upstairs.

Better not be you, Natasha. Please be okay. Gaston Williams, if you touch her, I will make you pay for it.

When he got to the elevator's hall station, the floor indicator showed him that the elevator was heading upstairs. He tried calling for the elevator for some time, but it never came to his floor. After spotting the stairs next to the elevator, he immediately darted upstairs without a moment of hesitation.

After arriving on the seventh floor, beads of sweat had

formed on Kenneth's forehead.

His eyes also turned red-rimmed due to the anxiousness he felt.

The environment of Spring Hotel was serene. He couldn't hear any movements at all when he was upstairs.

Kenneth hurriedly searched for the room while yelling Natasha's name.

However, he could only hear silence.

Soon, when he spotted the signage showing the location of the room, he quickly ran in the direction indicated.

With every step he took, he could feel his heart gradually constricted.

Soon, Kenneth halted in his tracks when he arrived at room 711.

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