# **Gap Pink Theory Novel**

# Chapter 41 -

While I'm sitting, with a pillow on my lap to cover my breasts, Khun Sam's grandmother, who looks younger than her age, remains silent and takes the opportunity to look around the whole house.

"It is my first time here. Do you come here often?"

"Oh yes."

"Hum…" Khun Sam's grandma says before taking a sip of her drink. "Well, you managed to enter Khun Sam's world."

I'm feeling weird. I heard from Khun Sam and her friends that her grandmother is a worthy woman. She is the reason Khun Sam can't be herself and has started saying the opposite of what she thinks. But I am now seeing an easy going person.

"Can I call you Mon?"

"Sure, as you wish."

"So, I'll call you Mon. You are a charming girl." Khun Sam's grandmother smiles. "But you are not a careful girl, nor are you wearing panties."

"I have to apologize for that."

Her words make me blush with embarrassment. If I had a time machine, I would have dressed better and greeted her politely.

"I heard a little about you... daughter of a janitor at Khun Sam's old school and her father is a bus driver."

"Yes."

"But you had good grades, got into the same university as my granddaughter and graduated on time. How perfect, as if he had planned all of this."

"I didn't plan to... ah... not at all." I try to explain to her. "Khun Sam is my inspiration, she is my role model. I tried everything to be like her. So it's not exactly."

"What about being her girlfriend, was that in your plans?"

"No, I didn't plan that."

"Hum... I heard that before you had a relationship with Khun Sam, you had a boyfriend... Nop, right?"

I shake my head quickly to deny it.

"No, I didn't. Nop has been my friend since childhood."

"Like Kirk. But he changed from friend to boyfriend. And now Kirk has become an outsider, someone else has taken his place."

Khun Sam's grandmother looks at me with an ignorant face, waiting for me to make a mistake. All I can do now is calm down and wait. I bite my lip, squeeze my hand tight. Of course, I feel guilty for Mr. Kirk every day, he saw me as a sister, but I betrayed him.

"I also heard that you and Kirk have a good relationship, he's close to you."

"Y... yeah. Mr. Kirk is kind to me."

"How do you betray someone who is good for you?"

Jeez...

I look down at my sweaty hands and pretend to smile because I don't have a good answer for her.

"It must be love." She answers for me as she laughs a little, but it doesn't make me feel any better. "Do you love Sam, Mon?"

"Ah…" I feel awkward being asked this way. But I answer her the truth… "Of course, I love Khun Sam."

"For you, what is love?"

"Love is..." I try to find the answer. Am I being tested? "It's seeing her happy and being happy with her."

"A relationship between the two of you, is it love?"

"For me, it's love yes."

"A girl with another girl?"

"Yes."

### "Hum..." Khun Sam's grandmother nods as if she understands.

"Can two women build their own family?"

"I still haven't stopped to think about it."

"Well it should. Khun Sam is already 32 years old." The lady shakes her head as if she disagrees with us. "In a relationship, you have to worry about the future."

Her words remind me of the trip where we met Kainlong and Earngeai and when Khun Sam spoke about our marriage ceremony.

"Khun Sam said he wants to marry me."

After I have finished speaking, the powerful lady glares at me. I'm pressed right now.

"Khun Sam said that, really?"

"Yes."

"Marriage, and then what?"

"Nothing after. I just said it."

'Sons?"

"Yes?"

"Like having a child?"

I'm blinking my eyes. Now the conversation is going too far. Khun Sam's grandmother is surrounding me and makes me shake my head.

"I never thought about it. We are two women. How could we have a child?"

"Saw? That's what I want to tell you." Khun Sam's grandmother smiles from the corner of her mouth. "They cannot have children, they cannot form a family, nature did not create a couple of women."

"Why would you resist nature?"

"Khun Sam and I haven't talked about having a child yet." I think I must fight for something here. "But many same-sex couples have children."

<sup>&</sup>quot;…"

"You can say what you want. Love between same-sex couples will not last long."

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"Do not misunderstand me. I'm not a mean grandmother who will forbid her relationship with my granddaughter. I just want to talk and argue about the impossible point. You two never planned for the future."

"I will talk to Khun Sam."

"Does not matter. Now I know that Khun Sam doesn't take this relationship seriously. It's just an illusion."

I stare at Khun Sam's grandmother and she stares back at me in silence. The lady tilts her head and gives me a cold smile.

"You both like men. Khun Sam only follows her straight friends. And as for you, you just adore Khun Sam and had the illusion that it's love. You can fix this now."

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"Let's get this over with. Let her live the life she deserves."

It's a simple word, yet so powerful. It forces me to conform, but inside I'm resisting with all my might.

"We love each other, I love Khun Sam."

I say softly but firmly.

"Do you really love Khun Sam?"

"No doubt."

"If you really love her, why do you insist on ruining her status?" The lady stares at me and starts hypnotizing me with her eyes. "She is a Mhom Luang, dating a millionaire businessman from high society. They both have a bright future. They are perfect together."

### "…"

"But you're dragging her down. You're just the daughter of a janitor and a bus driver. And you... you don't even have a job."

"[..."

"If this is love, it means you're dreaming. But..."

Khun Sam's grandmother looks at me and keeps smiling at me, contradicting what she's saying. This is piercing and cutting my heart. Now I understood what I heard from Khun Sam and Jim about this woman. They didn't exaggerate.

"Low class people are reckless."

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"Ah, today you came home. Why are you early?"

"I just needed to work part-time." I lie to my mother because I don't want to tell her that I lost my job. "Is tired?"

"Hmm. Tired of what?"

"Of your job. Is tired?"

"You are weird. Yes, I'm married, but that's okay... Oops, how does my love want today?"

I hug my mom tightly, tears in my eyes. My mom doesn't react for a while before hugging me back.

"I'm so proud of you."

"What's it?"

"Nothing, just wanted to tell you that."

Low class...

The difference between Khun Sam and me was very clear today. And I agreed with Khun Sam's grandmother that I didn't deserve anything: honor, social status, or class. We are so different. And the difference we should have, we don't.

We are women.

"Khun Sam scolded you? You look sad."

"I am exhausted from work. Today I will stay here, mother."

"Make yourself comfortable, you don't need to ask permission."

Okay... This is my mother's house. Why did I ask? I rarely come home. When I'm here, I don't know what to do. Last time I came home, I spent the whole night talking to Khun Sam.

Night is approaching now... It's been a long day.

Ting ting!

Sound of a musical instrument nearby. I look in front of my house and see Nop playing an instrument. As I'm walking towards him, my phone vibrates and interrupts me.

Boss: You didn't tell me you were coming home, why did you leave a note on the fridge?

Boss: Fridge notes are still in fashion?

Boss: What happened?

Boss: Mon Mon.

I read the messages through the notification, but I don't open them to read them. I'm not ready yet and she's not to blame for anything.

Let me be alone for a moment.

This is the first time I've ignored her messages and tried to pay attention to other things. But as I'm walking, I stop again when my phone rings... of course, it's Khun Sam calling me.

I can no longer ignore it. I'm upset, but I can't take it out on her. It's not correct.

"Yes, Khun Sam."

[Why didn't you tell me you'd come home?]

"I left a note on the fridge."

[You are weird. Today is not the day you come home. Usually you come back on Saturdays and Sundays. What happened?]

"I just wanted to go back, can't I?"

[There must be something wrong.]

"There is nothing."

### [What is that noise? Who is singing?]

Nop is singing and playing the guitar loudly. I think for a moment before saying the truth. "It's Nop."

[I'm going there now.]

"What? ... Awww."

She hung up the call so fast. I sigh before walking over to Nop, my friend that I haven't spoken to in a long time. My handsome friend walks over to the fence, stops playing his guitar and looks at me in awe.

"Go on, I'm listening."

"Mon, did you come home?"

He's clumsy, that makes me feel more guilty. But I'm not mad at him anymore. Today, I just have more free time to talk.

"I can hear? New guitar?"

"Come, I will show you."

I go to him, sit down and listen to his music. But I can't feel anything. A moment later, it stops playing.

"You are not listening to me. I am sad."

"I am listening yes."

"You are distracted. What was it? Did you fight with Khun Sam?"

'You look like my mother. No, I'm not thinking about anything."

"But you look unhappy. A girl in love should be happier. And you came home today. I usually see you come back on Saturdays."

"Are you watching me?" I look at him in awe. "You know I come home on Saturdays, but you haven't come to say hello to me once."

"I dare not greet you... Last time I was the reason for your fight with Khun Sam. I think I'm hated enough already."

"Almost. But I'm not crazy." I laugh. "How are you, Nop?"

"So-so. But you don't look good. Tell me what happened?" Nop hangs his guitar on the hook, intending to listen to me.

I smile and look sympathetically at the guy, who is just trying to be a good friend. The boy who secretly loves me, who is afraid I'll hate him, now wants to hear about my poor love story. He's a hero.

"Hmm. How can I start?"

"From the main point."

"We are very different."

" "

"Why are you so quiet?"

"Is this a drama series? How so different?"

Social class."

"Are we in India? Nowadays, humans are humans. We're equal. And if we are different, it must be because of the money."

"Yes indeed. About money, Khun Sam and I are very different."

"But it always was. Why are you suddenly worried about this now? If you had thought about it earlier, you would not have approached her. Something nudged you..."

I look at Nop hesitantly before sighing and telling him what happened.

"Okay, something really happened."

I tell you everything that happened between Khun Sam's grandmother and me on our date today. Telling him lightens all the weight I've been carrying around all day. He is a good listener, he listens to me in silence.

"So you got upset, you left her house and you took defeat that easy. Let me guess further, you didn't tell Khun Sam what happened."

"Hmm. I'm hurting her... I don't want to tell. I really feel like I'm useless to her."

"What did she do wrong? She was just born with status, Mhom Luang and rich. She had no choice."

"What you mean?"

"You should tell her about this problem and try to find a solution together, instead of keeping quiet and trying to deal with it all on your own. If Khun Sam doesn't find out, you'll hurt her."

"**I**…"

"Moron."

"Hey?"

"You think too much and you're being an idiot. You are so boring. No man or even Khun Sam like women like that. You need to get better."

I feel stressed and angry about being scolded. So I get up to leave, but he stops me.

"And look what you're doing: getting pissed off and walking away is idiotic too. You're the type to run away from the truth."

"You are so mean, Nop."

"Now we are just friends. If I still loved you, I wouldn't dare talk to you like that. Because I would be afraid that you would be mad at me. But now I'm telling you this as a friend." Nop gets up and walks towards me. He places his hand on my head. "You're grown up now. Let the reasons lead. You are with a person who is older than you. You need reason more than emotion. If not, it might piss her off."

"What do you know?"

"I don't know anything, but I wish you the best. If you agree with me, it's because you know I'm right."

"Why do I have to see you with another guy?"

"Khun Sam!" I pull away from Nop quickly because I know how jealous she is. "Nothing happened, we're just talking."

She raises her eyebrow.

"Then explain it to me. I am waiting for an explanation."

"You better go, Nop."

Nop laughs a little before teasing Khun Sam by brushing my hair and whispering in my ear.

"There."

### "Dont be silly. I'm warning you."

Khun Sam is not pleased after he dumped me. I leave his house to see Khun Sam, who still has his eyebrow raised.

"How did it get here so fast? We just spoke over the phone."

"You must have been enjoying talking to him. I see you had a pleasant conversation."

"Nothing."

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"If I don't believe it, I'll be in a bad mood. And you're going to have to apologize to me. I will have to fight you."

"I want to catch up."

She is so adorable...

"But I believe what I said. So you missed your chance." She stops raising her eyebrow. "So what's wrong? Why did you come home? We were fine in the morning."

"Something was messing with my mind. I needed some time."

'Couldn't you have done that back home? Why in your house?"

I remain silent for a moment and look at her hesitantly. However, she needs to know one day. Then I must tell her, as Nop suggested. It's not fair for Khun Sam not to know.

We are a couple. We must always support each other and find a way out together.

"Your grandmother came to your house and said I should leave you."

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# Chapter 42 -

We got in the car to talk privately. After I said all that, Khun Sam remains silent.

Too quiet for my taste...

"Khun Sam."

### "Are you shocked?"

She looks at me and sighs. She must have been looking for the best way to talk to me. I nod and smile like it's nothing.

"Yes, I'm shocked, but okay."

"If you are fine, why did you go back to your house?"

"[…"

Because what I did is the opposite of what I said. It's not sensible. Sometimes I hate myself.

"I went back to thinking about things about us."

"Saw? You are not well. Why did you say you were?" Khun Sam reaches out to touch my chin. "I know my grandmother better than anyone in this world. It must have been hard for you."

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"Do not worry. She is elderly. Please just focus on me. Because this is about us."

I remain silent, even though she said it's about us. But I can't stop thinking about the gap between us. Khun Sam, who sees me quiet, forces me to look at her.

"Mon, everything will be fine. I promise."

"I know. Love is between two people, the two of us. But I can live without caring about others. There's not just the two of us in the world." I face Khun Sam, the woman I love and say what I think. "It's been a while since I realized things between us. Deep down I still worry about our class difference, as your grandmother said."

"I will be mad at you."

"If you hadn't met me, would you still be dating Mr. Kirk, or I'd already be married to him."

"Mon!"

Tears well up in my eyes. But it wasn't because she yelled at me, it was because I completely agree with her grandmother. I don't deserve her. Everything about us is a parallel.

There is a gap that never converges, status, family and sexuality.

### A love story like ours... It is not accepted by our society.

Not only for Khun Sam's grandmother, but also for my family, who I hold dear. I don't know how to tell my parents that I fell in love with a woman. My parents expect me to have children and a good family. May I marry a man and have children.

Khun Sam should have a child and so should I. A woman cannot get pregnant by another by natural means.

Are we resisting?

"I really love you, Khun Sam. Wah."

I lift my hands to cover my face and cry like a little girl. Khun Sam silently hugs me. Her heart is pounding so hard I can hear it.

"I'm going to talk to my grandmother."

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It's been a long time since I've spoken in the PP gossip group Everyone reacts like they've seen a ghost when I tell them about Khun Sam's grandmother.

Jim: Sam's grandma was the one that made me stay away from her. Seriously, I'm naughty, but her grandma's look makes me feel like a Pattaya hooker.

Kate: She's the type of woman who makes you feel useless just by looking at her. Even though I was an actress who made a lot of money, she used to make me feel useless.

Tee: Worse in my case. She thinks I'm straight. Her house is a forbidden place I will never set foot.

After listening to their reports, I accept that I have friends with the same fate. I'm not alone in being the most useless girl in the world. At least high society girls are also useless in her eyes. So what would a janitor's daughter like me be?

Jim: So don't be upset. She is old, soon she will die.

Kate: Bitch? How dare you curse her grandmother?

Jim: Do you expect her to have a long life?

Kate: I'm just pretending.

Kate: I don't respect her, nor do I want her to have a long life. She should leave.

Jim: See? I just have the courage to speak honestly. But even though Granny is mean, Sam loves and respects her.

Kate: Really. I like. It's so fun.

Jim: Fun how?

Kate: I want to know if Mon's power of influence is enough to resist Sam's grandmother... Like her older sister did.

Tee: You're right. Khun Nueng was so determined. She never looked back.

Jim: Determined too much. It affected other people, including Khun Song. And now Khun Sam is dealing with it all on her own. Poor Sam. I have so much empathy for my husband.

Tee: How does your husband come into the story?

Jim: 'My husband' is what I used to call PP

Doraemon: Am I disturbing you? Could you tell me more about Khun Nueng and Khun Song?

Kate: Oh, you don't know their history? It's hard to type, I'll call you.

After five minutes, Kate calls me, beating around the bush before we get down to business. She tells me everything from the beginning.

Khun Sam's family had 3 daughters. In that order, Khun Nueng, Khun Song and Khun Sam. Their parents died when they were little. So the custody of them stayed with the grandmother.

Khun Sam's grandmother was an intelligent woman. In the age of change, titles and ranks didn't matter in society, but she kept using the title as before.

All are useless.

And she is above everyone.

Khun Sam's grandmother wanted to continue her bond with the royal family. Even though she knew there were no more precedents, she kept telling herself and her granddaughters that they were above the rest. And to make them believe that, she forced them to be as she wanted.

'If you want something, you need to act.'

This is her motto. The person who suffered the most pressure was Khun Nueng, the older sister.

[Khun Nueng is the most perfect lady I've ever seen in this world.] Kate said adorable and I couldn't help but blink my eyes.

"Serious?"

But the Khun Nueng I knew was so different from the one Kate described.

Khun Nueng is beautiful, both inside and out. Kate tells me that Khun Nueng excelled at everything: behavior, talking or walking. No one could compare. She was the star of the school.

But... Khun Nueng was never happy.

She grew up as her grandmother's puppet and was controlled all the time. She couldn't do what she wanted. Also, she had a lot more skills, but she couldn't live her own life.

And the breaking point came... When she was supposed to marry a minister's son. The grandmother told her that it would be good for her life.

[It all happened because she was forced to marry and she was outraged for a long time. Eventually, she snapped, fled the marriage, and broke ties with her grandmother. In the end, no one else saw her.]

"What happened to grandma?"

[She was very sad and bedridden. When Khun Nueng ran away, the next successor was Khun Song.]

The story isn't over yet. Khun Song was the next to be controlled by the grandmother. She wasn't forced into anything before as the middle granddaughter, but she was never loved either. When she got a little attention from her grandmother and felt a little love, she put enormous pressure on herself to make her grandmother proud of her.

But Khun Song didn't have any special talent. She was blamed for everything she did. In the end, she couldn't handle all the pressure...

[Khun Song hanged himself.]

"My God…"

[It was very painful for PP's grandmother. She wouldn't eat or sleep. PP saw all that. She felt very sorry for her grandmother. Furthermore, she was the youngest

granddaughter. If all expectations fell on the eldest, the youngest received all the love and affection. So, PP kept saying that she would do everything so that her grandmother would never suffer again...]

Lastly, Khun Sam has been being controlled until now. Khun Nueng, Khun Song and Khun Sam were puppets controlled by their grandmother. And because there was only Khun Sam left, her grandmother loves her very much. Everything was processed interdependently.

She never went off the rails.

Her grandmother never pressured her. In fact, we can say... that she had other tactics out of compulsion.

If Khun Sam wanted to stay out of the palace, she could. But she would have to keep in touch with her grandmother and not go off the rails.

[In Kirk's case, his grandmother doesn't like him at all, she sees him as an ordinary guy with an infamous family. But she ignores this because his family is billionaires, he can support PP in many dimensions. So, she accepts it.]

"Yes."

[PP did not refuse. Kirk is the man closest to her. Marrying him is better than a blind marriage. So they got engaged.]

"I understood..."

[But since you entered her life, we want to know how you will influence her to resist her grandmother. Grandma's little girl now has a girlfriend.]

Kate is silent for a moment and laughs with delight.

[Now it's war.]

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# Chapter 43 -

After hearing the whole story through Kate, I tell myself to stop being silly and be more understanding. Huge pressure is on Khun Sam. She has to deal with her grandmother, plus she cares about how I feel.

When she sees me mopping the floor, she runs to hug me from behind like a child.

"Oops, Khun Sam."

"You came back to me, to my home."

"Are you surprised?" I look at her and smile. "You are so happy it makes me feel ashamed."

"I think you are still sulking."

"Why?"

"You seem hurt about my grandmother. I also think you're mad at me."

"Did you think about it all night? You have panda eyes." I place a pillow on the sofa and support her face. "You don't look pretty when you sleep poorly."

But Khun Sam pulls me close and hugs me like I'm his shelter. She feels better having me here... I feel guilty now...

"I can sleep well tonight with you back."

"Have you eaten anything yet?"

"No not yet."

"I'll cook for you. After eating, take a shower."

"Aren't we going to do anything tonight?"

I'm shocked for a moment.

"Okay, let's go. Ah, I will not run away from you, Khun Sam."

The woman continues to hug me and rests her head close to my neck to rest. We held each other for a moment. So I get up to go cook for her. Seeing Khun Sam eating well is one of my happiness.

Why wasn't I born a man...

Or like a rich girl? Or why don't I have a title before my name? So I would deserve it.

"If you keep looking at me like that, I'm going to choke."

"I am happy to see you enjoying the food."

"I feel like I'm watching you moan with happiness."

### "Crazy!" I grab a napkin and throw it at her.

"What's it? You said you like it when I speak my mind." Khun Sam drinks some water. She stares at me and is silent, as if she's thinking about something. I stare back at her.

"What do you want to tell me?"

"Do you want to break up with me?"

My heart races when I hear that. I squeeze my hands tightly and fearfully until she takes my hand to calm me down.

"I'm just asking."

"Would you break up with me?"

"No, never." Khun Sam said quickly. "I'm asking you why you met my grandmother... Did it ever cross your mind to break up with me?"

"For a moment yes..."

She holds my hand tightly. I put the other one on top to calm her down.

"Just for a brief moment I thought we should break up. Since I always thought I didn't deserve you. But... I thought to myself, breaking up with you would be the worst."

"I'm looking for a way to talk to my grandmother. I don't want to compromise her."

"Don't pressure yourself. Do as you see fit. Let it happen."

"What you mean?"

"I don't want you to fight with your grandmother. You respect her a lot. We can keep our relationship a secret. You don't need to tell anyone. We don't need to put a label on it."

"Crazy, this is not right."

Khun Sam said irritably. She pulls her hand back. We didn't fight, but she's upset.

"Do we have another choice? You need to think about your status and your family. And me too. My parents don't know that their daughter has a girlfriend. It would be easier just to love each other in secret. Nothing will change between us. We can stay together... at your place. Just the two of us."

"But…"

"Do not refuse. If we don't, our love might end. Besides, you don't want to fight your grandmother."

"Wouldn't that hurt you?"

"I am fine. Only I know how much you love me. I understand." It's hard to say. "You can tell your grandma that you broke up with me."

"Mon…"

"Serious. You should tell her. Or if the two of you don't talk about it, you can just shut up and let it go. Don't fight with her. Do not do anything."

Khun Sam keeps shaking his head disagreeing with me. She gets up and walks in circles.

"Must have a better option."

"This is the best option. I am well. Normally, our relationship is secret. You only revealed it a little while ago."

"Why do we have to keep this a secret? There must be a better option."

"Khun Sam. I'm really okay with it. If we want to be together, we need to keep it a secret."

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"Please honey." I get up and hug her. "Right? I will still stay here with you. Tee, Kate and Jim still know about our relationship. When we want to spend time together, we can take a vacation and go abroad."

"Are you really okay with this? It feels like I'm dishonoring you."

"For sure."

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And happiness is back. Khun Sam and I keep our relationship a secret like before. And everything is going surprisingly well. Khun Sam told me that after we made the deal, she went to talk to her grandmother and everything went well. Her grandmother didn't ask for explanations or say anything.

## We don't have to worry about anything...

I decided to start working at the beginning of the month. So from now on I will spend as much time with her as possible; And Khun Sam is still paranoid about me, she doesn't want to let me work elsewhere.

But she understands that we have our own life. She asks me to stay with her every day until she is comfortable with it all. Our love works well and smoothly. I live at her house, clean things, watch TV and cook our dinner, then we go to bed together.

But today... it's not like usual.

Ding Dong...

The doorbell, which I've never heard before, is ringing. I'm cooking dinner and shuddering at the sound. I'm scared that it's Khun Sam's grandmother, so I hide in the corner to look out the window, who is it?

"Mr. Kirk?"

I walk confused towards the door to open it for him, how strange to see me there.

"Are you really staying here with Sam…"

'Good night." The greeting. "You came to see Khun Sam, right?"

"I came to see you, Mon."

"May I help?"

"Khun Sam's grandmother told me that you were probably with Sam. So she asked me to check. And it's true."

Khun Sam's grandmother knew...

I pretend to smile at him and invite him inside.

"Please enter first."

"H...Hmm."

Seriously, what a climate. I haven't seen him or spoken to him since he discovered our secret, but today he came to see me. There must be something wrong.

What was it?

Mr. Kirk, who has been invited in, looks around the house excitedly. He must never have been here. Of course... Khun Sam never let anyone into his house. If she finds out I let her ex-boyfriend in, will she be mad at me?

"Sit down. I'll bring you some water."

'Thanks."

I treat him like a guest, even though the house is not mine.

"How are you, Mr. Kirk?"

"I am fine. And how are you? Since you stopped working." Mr. Kirk said this without looking me in the eye. "Have you got a new job yet?"

"Yes, I did. I will work with Tee."

"I am really sorry."

He feels guilty saying. I quickly deny it with my hands.

"No, no need to apologize. It wasn't your fault. It was the rules."

"Even if there was no rule, I would force you to leave. Back then, I was really mad at you."

"I understand."

'Glad to see you today. I've wanted to apologize for a long time. But I was ashamed."

"Does Khun Sam talk to you? I mean...she speaks normally, without anger."

"She only talks to me about work stuff." He pretends to smile. "If I were Sam, I would be mad at me."

"It was my fault. What I did was treason. You didn't go wrong to be mad at me."

"Don't feel guilty like that, Mon…" Mr. Kirk moistens his dry lips. He is restless. "You can hate me. Because your position now makes me feel more guilty."

"About resigning, it's okay..."

"Not." Mr. Kirk shakes his head. "It's not about that."

"Then what is it about?"

The handsome man walks toward the door without hesitation. Then he turns and looks at me.

"I must end our conversation here, because if I keep talking to you, I will feel even worse." He takes out something like a card and hands it to me. "I came over here to tell you about it because Sam would never tell you."

I take the card from him with shaking hands. Even though I haven't opened it, I know what it is. To ensure, I must open and confirm.

It's a wedding invitation... from Khun Sam and Mr. Kirk.

"Actually, she wouldn't tell me."

"Leave her, Mon. I promise you that I will take care of her as best I can."

I give him a bitter smile and ask.

"If I don't let her, what will happen?"

And the response I get leaves me shocked.

"You will become an ad\*lteress."

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# Chapter 44 -

"How much does Tee pay you in salary?"

'Twenty thousand. If I pass the training program, I will receive another two thousand."

"She pays you more than my company. But as my girlfriend, she should pay you more than that."

Khun Sam keeps talking while watching television. She doesn't say anything about her marriage. And I don't want to force her... I'm just waiting for her to tell me.

"What's it? She seems distracted."

"Hmm."

"I'm just thinking about nothing."

### "Work? If it's too difficult, you can stay home. I bank you."

"How long can I stay at home without working?" I keep looking at the television, but Khun Sam looks at me.

"For as long as you like."

"If you ever have your own family?"

"You are my family."

My heart races. I look at her and feel cherished.

"I'm glad to hear this." I tilt my face to kiss her on the cheek, but it looks like she wants more. She cups my face and kisses my lips thirstily. "I just gave you a little kiss."

"The kiss is the beginning of everything."

"You really like that."

"Let's go up."

I wrinkle my nose a little and follow easily.

"I know you like."

\*\*\*

I try to do everything like I don't know about her marriage. I didn't even mention it to her friends in the group about it. The wedding invitation is still hidden at the bottom of my purse. As much as I want to ask her, I'm afraid to push her. She'll find a way for us to be together... I'm counting on her.

"Are you worried about something?"

Isn't it amazing? When I have no one to vent to, Nop is the only one who listens. I know this well, it's not right to bring my love problems to someone I can tell. But I really don't know what else to do.

"A little."

"It's too much, because you came to me. Your only friend."

"Clear." I sit down next to him and sigh. "It's so sad to know that I only have you as a friend and you're the only one who listens to me."

"Friendship is just that. We only know who is a true friend in these moments."

Thief for him. When he realizes he starts laughing.

"So what happened? I'm all ears."

"Nop, a girlfriend or a fiance you're going to marry. Who is more important?"

"What you mean?"

"In case…"

"No, just in case. I want to give you some advice. I will tell you the truth."

I know how boring it is to hear half a story. So I decide to tell him everything.

"Khun Sam and I, we are in a relationship. But she is getting married."

"It got giant."

"Yes."

"What she said?"

"I did not say anything. But it's important."

"Khun Sam doesn't know that I know. I don't want to push you any further. I want her to tell me."

"How did you know about that?"

"Mr. Kirk told me about their wedding." I hand him the wedding invitation. "This is the invitation."

"You need to talk to Khun Sam about this. This is important. Khun Sam is getting married while she is still dating you."

"She will handle this herself."

"Will even? Mon, listen to me. I know how much you love and respect her. But about this problem, you can't just ignore it. If she gets married, it means she will have a husband. Is that you?"

"Adulteress."

"Yes."

### "Even though I got there first?"

"Are you sure you got there first?"

Sigh!

I'm suddenly stunned by this blunt question, because I remember that I came late in Khun Sam's life. She only has feelings for me, this is to test my disposition. The path of true love is never a straight line.

But this is too much for me...

"Why is it like this? Why don't you just say what you're supposed to say?"

"Khun Sam has been under... a lot of pressure... I think..."

"You go too easy on her. Does she do the same to you? Now you are going to let your husband have a husband."

"Nop..." I glared at Nop for saying it like that. Nop raises his hand to scratch his head before changing the sentence.

"Okay, better call her your wife. Your wife is going to have another wife."

"Nope!"

"I don't know how your relationship with Khun Sam is, who is the husband and who is the wife."

"Please stop talking like that." I wave my hands at him to stop talking because I'm embarrassed. "I believe that Khun Sam will find a way for us to be together."

"If you really believed that, you wouldn't have come to see me. The reason you are here is indecision. Because Khun Sam's boyfriend went to talk to you and he has a hundred percent right to do so. What are you afraid of? You also have the right."

"I... I don't know how to start talking about this with her. She loves me and I know it, but she has her own family to worry about." I place my hand over my aching chest and say, "Or should I just let it be."

"So that means you're going to leave her."

"Not."

"Adulteress... Mon, don't be pathetic."

"If I'd known I'd regret talking to you, I wouldn't have come." I say disappointed. "I better go."

"What did you want? Should I just support you becoming an adulteress? A good friend should warn you when you are going the wrong way."

Tears in my eyes. My mind understands it well, but my heart doesn't want to hear it. I turn my back on him and go back to my house. As I'm slumped in bed, my phone rings again. At first, I thought it would be Khun Sam, but I was wrong...

Khun Nueng...

I'm taken aback and let my phone ring before answering it.

"Hello? Khun Nueng?"

[Ah, you know it's me.]

"I saved your number."

[We can talk? I will not be long.]

She makes me smile. It must be true that a positive force can absorb all the negative.

"Of course we can."

[At the moment, I am having a lot of financial difficulties. Can you lend me some money? You can take it back from my little sister, she's rich, she can pay for me.]

"Of course, but now I'm not with Khun Sam."

"Aaaa, I thought you were making out with her."

"I usually stay there."

"You do not look well. Did they fight? Hey... Life is too short for fights. It's useless. Please live happily. If you have a misunderstanding, talk it out. I've been through all that, just ask me."

"The way you live is so easy."

I stay silent and close my eyes. My words hinted that I know about what happened to her and she will be able to tell by my silence.

[You already know everything, right? Did my little sister tell you?]

"Not even."

"I just had it easy for a few years. Doing what it wanted, the world has a lot to teach us. Caring about someone for a long time until you feel unhappy is pointless. Sometimes you need to be selfish... for your own good.]

"Yes."

[Your voice seems to disagree with me. Haha. Alright, I know, I know. A lot of people don't understand why I did that.]

"Do you want to go back to your grandmother?"

[If you knew her, you wouldn't talk to me like that. No one in this world wants to see my grandmother. By the way... have you met her yet? Does she know you're my little sister's girlfriend?]

She seems interested, which I feel comfortable saying about.

"Yes."

[Something wrong?]

"Some things."

[If there wasn't, it would be weird and she definitely wouldn't be my grandma.]

What a wonderful woman.

[Was she mean to you? She's not the type to scream. She probably insulted you and let you down on yourself.] Khun Nueng laughs and I laugh back because I don't know how to respond. [And my little sister, what did she say?]

"She didn't say anything. We kept dating in secret..."

[Secret? Ah... Grandma's little girl. You two are definitely over. Sam is too weak. Haha.]

Khun Nueng leaves me stunned. I'm so disappointed. All I want now is encouragement and support. But she is making me more and more disappointed.

[Oh, you're quiet.]

"I do not know what to say."

[You are a loser. One hundred percent loser.] Khun Nueng sighs a little. [Ah. My credits are running out. So... transfer money to me, please. Ten thousand, and take it back from my little sister. Tell her I called you to borrow it, she'll pay you back. She is rich.]

"Yes."

[As for you... now that you're dating her, try to benefit yourself. It's a good opportunity for you.]

"I'm not dating her for the money."

[Are you going to tell me it's because of love?]

"Yes."

[What kind of love is that? Where neither one fights for him? You are a loser. Sam is Grandma's spoiled little girl. You two won't get far with this. Its end will be a love tragedy. And the winner will be my grandmother.]

"I don't want to be selfish." I argue with her after feeling uncomfortable. "Khun Sam told me he'll figure it out. All I can do is wait."

[Doing nothing means it's love? You're letting my little sister fight a war on her own... well, let me tell you something. My little sister can't get over grandma. Because she knows our weaknesses well.]

"You did it, Khun Nueng. Live without caring about anyone."

[...]

" " ---

We were both silent. Finally, Khun Nueng is the first to speak because by now he must know that I am more serious.

[I said, life is too short. I just chose my own path. I didn't let my grandmother rule. If Khun Song was still alive, I would have committed suicide.]

"And now, all the pressure is on Khun Sam."

[Khun Sam needs to survive. It doesn't mean that I don't feel sorry for Khun Song. But she left us because she was too weak. There is no place in the world for the weak. She is my grandmother, I know her well.]

"What do I need to do?"

### Now, I'm the one asking for help with this rock. But she laughs.

[You need to be strong to survive. Self-love and selfishness are different things... Selfishness is for my grandma.]

#### "" •••

[So, you two need to be selfish with my grandmother.]

Khun Nueng hangs up the phone and I send her the ten thousand baht consulting fee. (I'll get it back from Khun Sam.) What she just said to me stays in my head all night. I keep thinking about it, I can't sleep. I look at my wristwatch and it's already 1am. It's hard to sleep, so I take out my phone to read the old messages between Khun Sam and me. What a surprise! She texts me while I'm reading.

Boss: Have you gone to bed yet?

I jump out of bed and I'm not sure if I should answer her or not. But I read the message, which tells her I'm awake.

Doraemon: No, I can't sleep. So I'm messing around on my cell phone.

Boss: Me too. Now I'm in front of your house.

Doraemon: You're kidding.

Boss: Seriously. If you don't believe me, look out your window.

I still don't believe it, but I walk over to the window and look out. I meet Miss Duanpen in front of my house. I run to see Khun Sam knowing that everyone in my house is already asleep.

"Why did you come here? It's so late."

"I can not sleep." She came even though she was in pajamas. And I'm not sure if she's wearing underwear.

"So you came to see me in my pajamas? Looks like he was in a hurry to see me at one o'clock in the morning..."

"You already know everything, why didn't you ask me?"

"What?"

"About my marriage."

#### "How do you know that?"

"Your friend called me and told me everything... that bastard." Khun Sam turns and looks at Nop's house. "I don't know how he got my number."

I close my eyes and go back to hating Nop.

"I didn't tell you I knew because I didn't want to make you more worried."

"I'm worried you didn't tell me. So that was why you were so quiet lately."

"Are you really going to marry him?" I ask her. She is impressed and looks away.

"My grandmother begged me."

"And you accepted..." I sigh and feel a rage inside. She must know I'm mad, so she rushes over to explain herself.

"But I have an agreement with Kirk that we will not have a sexual or romantic relationship. I will be forced to marry him."

"So this is how you found it?" I say in a shaky voice. Khun Sam reaches out to touch me, but I pull away from her. "I thought you would find a better way."

"I don't want to disappoint my grandmother. She has already regretted it enough."

"So, you decided to marry another man and keep me by your side, right?"

This was the first time I yelled at my love. Khun Sam, who is shocked, tries to hug me to calm me down. But it is not easy.

"Leave me! Please don't touch me."

"Mon, listen to me. Kirk and I are not having sex."

"This is real life, Khun Sam. There's probably no man and woman in this world who wouldn't have sex while staying in the same room on their wedding night."

"Mon…"

"I don't want to do this anymore. Enough..." I cover my face with my hands. "I don't want to be an adulteress."

Lately, since the word 'adulteress' has sunk into my heart, I've tried to replace it with 'hope' because I trust it. I thought she would find a better way, but she didn't. What Khun Nueng said is true.

### Khun Sam never disappointed his grandmother.

She is too weak... and has become a loser.

Let's lose this game!

"I do not know what to do."

"I know."

"What?"

I look up to see her as resolutely as I can. And it shocks her.

"Let's finish."

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# Chapter 45 -

### Chapter 45 – a lead actress

I thought it through before I said it. It will hurt anyone who hears it, but for those who said it, who still love her so much, it hurts more. How painful it all is.

Khun Sam looks like he hit his head. She's dizzy and having a hard time believing the words I've said.

"You want to finish me?"

Hearing the words from her mouth makes my heart shatter. I want to touch her and hold her, but I control myself, because I've come this far and I can't go back.

"We have reached the end of our road together. You must accept."

"No, I'm not going." She keeps shaking her head in denial. "Why don't you believe me? This marriage is just to satisfy my grandmother. Kirk and I will not have a deep relationship."

"You need to wake up. This is the real world. You are getting married and it will be impossible for nothing to happen on your wedding night." I bite my lips hard. "I am also hurt. Do you think I don't feel anything?"

"Then why do we need to break up?!"

"Why? Because I don't want to become an adulteress." I cry like a loser, put my hands over my face and fall to my knees without any hope. "I don't want to think that you might end up sleeping with him. Or what noises it will make if you sleep with it on. Or if one day you will love him more than me. And he will become your true husband."

"Never. I will never let that happen."

She kneels down to accompany me, wipes the tears from my face with her thumb.

"Accept, Khun Sam. We are women. We won't be able to live our whole lives together." I say while crying. "One day you will have your own family. Especially you, who were born to be perfect. If you make this mistake, how will they look at you?"

"I don't care about others."

"What about your grandmother?"

"" •••

"You don't want to disappoint your grandmother, correct? You are a good girl. You cannot disappoint her."

Khun Sam looks at me like he doesn't know how to calm me down. I face her and say decided;

"I realized this a while ago. Even if you didn't have your grandmother, we wouldn't have a happy ending. I can't drag you with me. We need to finish."

"You asked to date me. You cannot leave me." Khun Sam cries and tries to dry his own tears. Now she is so understanding. "If you thought we couldn't go on together, you shouldn't have made me fall in love with you."

"I never thought we would get this far with this. I just adored you as my idol and now I'm his girlfriend. It is a lot to me."

""

"This world is for the strong. Khun Nueng told me that we couldn't get past your grandmother, because your grandmother knows the world better than we do."

"Khun Nueng...?" Khun Sam bites his bottom lip hard. "What else did she say?"

"She told me I'm too weak. And that you are too good... In this game, the winner is your grandmother and that we both should just accept that fact."

"I do not accept."

Khun Sam stands up and crosses his arms tightly. She looks weird so I stand up too feeling anxious for her.

"What will you do?"

"I'll show you..." Khun Sam glares at me. "I think I'm strong enough. There is a place where we can live together."

"Khun Sam…"

"I will rebel."

I'm stunned, she pulls me in and hugs me tight. Now I'm calming down and I can answer it.

"I don't want to see you rebel against your grandmother."

"I won't do this for you."

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"I will do it for myself."

As Khun Nueng said, letting Khun Sam fight alone is selfish of me. This time, I can't help Khun Sam much, but I will support her. Now I feel like I'm fighting her on this battlefield.

Khun Sam and I sat in her living room. She makes me sit next to her and holds my hand tightly.

"Give me strength."

She pulls me in and hugs me for a moment. Khun Sam takes out his cell phone and presses the name of Mr. Kirk.

What she will do?

[Hey, Sam.]

She turns on the speaker. The sound gets loud in this silent room. Khun Sam is confident in the conversation with Mr. Kirk, as if he were in control of the game.

"Kirk, can you speak now?"

[For you anytime.]

### "Let's cancel our wedding ceremony."

Mr. Kirk is silent for a second. So, he seriously responds to Khun Sam.

[No way.]

'Then marry yourself. I am not going."

[Sam!]

She quickly hangs up the phone. Khun Sam sighs as if she's taken a mountain out of her heart.

"He is well? You canceled your wedding. What about your grandmother?"

"Because I canceled the ceremony, my grandmother will find out soon enough. In the case of my grandmother... I will have to consult my assistant."

"Who?"

"It is."

Khun Sam lifts his cell phone to show me a contact from his list. And I'm surprised.

"Are you sure?"

"Hmm. From the theory of psychology, if we are surrounded by good people, we will be fine."

"If we fear, we must be with a determined person... And that is Khun Nueng."

So she calls Khun Nueng, who answers excitedly.

[Hey! My little girl. I took money from her. Sorry to bother you. I will return it to you as soon as I can.]

'That money?" Khun Sam looks at me. And I remember.

"Oh. Khun Nueng called me to borrow money. I already transferred it to her."

[Yes. Your girlfriend is a sweetheart.]

"Where are you now, Khun Nueng?"

[In Thailand, why?]

Khun Sam bites his lips a little. It looks like she is deciding something and then she says:

"I need your help, Khun Nueng."

Khun Nueng is silent for a moment before he says something as if he already knows what it is.

[You're going to ask me to talk to our grandmother, right?]

"Do you know..."

[I will not go. I don't want to get in trouble. I haven't seen her for a long time. If we meet, we'll fight. This is your problem, you need to solve it yourself.]

"Can you help me?"

[My little girl, you are a big girl now. You have your own business and your own money. I should be more determined. If you didn't have me, what would you do?]

"I dare not quarrel with our grandmother..."

[There's a first time for everything. When I decided to leave the palace, it wasn't easy for me. But I got it. In my opinion...]

"I'll pay you a hundred thousand, to at least go with me." [NT: Approximately BRL 14,000.00]

[Money can't buy me...]

"Khun Nueng..."

[When it's not enough... Okay, okay. Transfer to my old account. Cash first. When are you going to see our grandma?]

I spy on Khun Sam. Is everything about money in the end?

"Today. I just canceled my wedding ceremony with Kirk. Grandma will find out soon."

[I hate that guy's name... Kirk. What does that mean?... I hate that name.]

"And then?" Khun Sam asks his sister that she keep talking about his name. "If it's today, is that okay with you?"

[I'm in Chonburi, if I take a bus it should take about two hours. So, I'll see you at the palace at 8:00. Ah, like old times. I really miss our grandmother a lot.]

She said excitedly. Khun Sam is so anxious about facing his grandmother. Your good natured mind must be feeling so guilty.

"See you later."

After the conversation is over, I lift my hand to touch her body which is now so cold.

"Are you okay?"

"I don't know if I'm going to be able to do that when I'm face to face with her. I've never resisted or disappointed her before. It will be my first time."

I'm really worried about her.

"We can cancel this."

"We have come too far to turn back. It's true that I don't want to fight with my grandmother, but I don't want to lose you."

'Take it easy. Do your best. I will be with you."

"Please be strong. I know it's not easy."

I nod to answer the person who wants to do so much for me.

"For sure. We will get through all of this together."

\*\*\*

Even though we supported each other, inside we are worried. Especially when I'm in her car and it's my first time in the palace where she was born and raised.

It's called a palace. I used to imagine a Thai house with Portuguese design, but in fact it is a renovated, luxurious and modern mansion, which reflects the owner's taste.

"It's beautiful."

"Khun Nueng designed it."

"There is?"

The rumor that Khun Nueng is a perfectionist must be true. This house is as beautiful as the ones you see in magazines.

"Grandma didn't like it. She said it got too western. Most of all, she didn't like to see Khun Nueng studying architecture."

### "So, she resisted her grandmother for a long time."

"Perhaps. But she exploded when she was forced into marriage. If I could, I would ask her why she ran away. She saw it, this time I have a reason..."

"What is your motive?"

"Love." Khun Sam looks at me and smiles in the corner. "But I will never know about Khun Nueng."

"You should ask her later. We will see her tonight."

"Hmm." Khun Sam looks at his watch and frowns. "It's already 8:30 pm. She did not arrive yet. I transferred the money."

"You should try calling her."

But after we transferred the money to her, she turned off her cell phone. Khun Sam and I looked at each other worriedly.

"Khun Nueng tricked us."

'She's not that type. She has dignity."

"So... what should we do? If Khun Nueng doesn't come, should we go back?"

"No, I came with the intention of arguing. If not today, I don't know when I'll have another chance."

"Someone is coming."

A maid dressed in a white blouse and long black pants hurries to tap on the car window and look inside. She is a little surprised to see me with Khun Sam.

"Did you bring a guest? I saw you parked here for quite some time, so your grandmother asked me to invite you in."

"I..." Khun Sam hesitates for a moment and nods. "Yes. I will see her now."

I touch her arm and she smiles back at me, demonstrating that she has made up her mind.

"It's gonna be okay. I can handle it. Wait for me here in the car."

"Aren't you going to make her wait inside?" The maid asks.

### "She'd better wait right here. I won't be long."

Khun Sam decides to get out of the car, she stops and looks at me all confident, even though she is more and more anxious with each step she takes towards the house. And as for me, waiting is all I can do for her. I wanted to be with her.

Ten minutes...

Twenty minutes...

Waiting in the car is uncomfortable for me, and I get out of the car and lean my head against the door waiting for her. A moment later, Khun Sam suddenly leaves the palace with Mr. Kirk following her.

'Sam, she is your grandma!"

"Stay away from me! You are the reason for this mess!"

Khun Sam yells at Mr. Kirk, who is trying to stop her. She lets go of his hand.

"Khun Sam!"

An aggressive voice reaches her. Now she is petrified.

"You've never resisted me before. It's because of this girl, right?"

"I just want to follow my heart." It's my first time seeing Khun Sam lose confidence, it's not like Boss ML who scared us. "I was your little girl for a long time, but…"

"I chose the best for you."

"When it comes to love, I want to choose myself."

"You are the most famous among my granddaughters. Don't make things complicated." Her grandmother sees me standing still. "Bring her here. You dishonored me."

"I..." Khun Sam was going to say something, but it looks like she still has a lot of regard for her grandmother. And I can feel it now... we will be the losers in this battle. "Grandfather..."

"This is not right... Grandma."

A voice screams from behind me, a powerful voice. I turn to see, it's Khun Nueng, in a tight black dress, exuding intelligence and confidence, unlike the one I've seen before.

"Khun Nueng."

"Mon, you let my little sister fight alone again…" Khun Nueng grabs my wrist and places me next to Khun Sam. "Together, don't hide behind her. Is not cool."

"Khun Nueng, I thought you weren't coming."

"The lead actress must appear at the correct time. Just straighten your spine, lift your head and don't be afraid."

The confident woman winks at me. This is the first time she's made my heart race. The perfectionist.

"From now on, it's my turn."

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