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Just as Celia tilted her head to glance underneath the bed, Nigel lunged forward and knocked the knife out of her hand.

Neil deftly picked the knife up and held it against her waist.

Everything had happened so quickly that by the time Celia finally came to, the knife that she had held against Neil's neck pointed at her waist instead.

The sharp blade had already pierced through her clothes, and she could feel the cold edge against her skin. Her entire body stiffened.

"Put your hands above your head and stand up slowly," Nigel ordered.

This woman, who was more than so years old, was so unnerved by the two boys that she had no choice but to do as they ordered. She raised her arms above her head and stood up tentatively.

Beads of sweat covered her forehead. "Nigel, Neil, I 'm your grandfather's wife. This means I 'm your grandmother. You can't treat me like this..."

Neil sneered. "Why didn't you say this when you held the knife against my neck just moments ago?"

The color drained from Celia's face. She was just about to say something when all of a sudden, someone kicked the door open.

The first thing Joshua and Luna saw when they stormed into the room was Celia, restrained by Nigel and Neil.

Luna, who had initially been worried about them, let out a sigh of relief when she saw the scene before her.

During this time...Neil had lost his memories and

was tricked into thinking that Aura was his mother.

On top of that, Nigel and Nellie had almost died in a car crash.

All these events had made Luna anxious and tightly strung with worry, so much so that she almost forgot that even though her sons were only six, they were still brave and intelligent, like their father.

One of them was a skilled hacker with undefeatable logic and quick wit. The other was smart and mature, having taken up the responsibility of looking after them since young.

Therefore, Celia was no match against the two of them combined.

"Lucas," Joshua called out with a frown.

<u>Lucas immediately stormed into the room alongside some of Joshua's men. They took the knife from Neil and restrained Celia.</u>

Celia, whose hands were kept behind her back by the bodyguards, bit down on her lip in anger. She glared first at Joshua, then at Granny Lynch. "What use is there for you to live a few more years? Michael is still young. You're his grandmother; can't you make this sacrifice for him?"

She gritted her teeth. "Where did you hide the antidote, you old hag?"

Celia had rummaged through every nook and cranny in the room and even looked beneath the bed, even though it was just a trick, but she could not find the antidote anywhere!

Where did Granny Lynch hide it?

Granny Lynch leaned against the headboard and fixated her gentle gaze on Celia. "I agree with one thing that you said just now: I 'm going to die in a few years anyway, so there's no use for me to take this antidote at all. Some of the people who were poisoned had far brighter futures ahead of them than mine.

"As their elder, I should make this sacrifice for them." With that, Granny Lynch gestured for Nellie to approach her.

Nellie did not understand what was going on. She pattered over to Granny Lynch's side, still clutching the empty milk bottle, and lifted her head to look at Granny. She gazed at Granny with big, watery eyes and said with a grin, "Yes, Great-Granny!"

<u>Granny Lynch smiled when she saw how sweet Nellie looked and reached out a hand to stroke Nellie's dark hair.</u>

Joshua immediately furrowed his brows when he saw this.

There was a dark expression on his face. He seemed to know...what Granny was about to say next.

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That night, when Nellie was at Lynch Mansion, she had drunk the poisoned tea that Celia had made for Granny Lynch...

Joshua's guess was correct.

Granny Lynch let out an exhale and grabbed hold of Nellie's hand. Then, she lifted her head to glance at Celia. "Even if I had to give the antidote to someone else, I'd never choose Michael.

"Nellie, on the other hand, is already a talented jewelry designer at six years old. Her future is full of potential."

Granny Lynch let out a kindly smile, then lowered her head to gaze at Nellie's tiny face. "How did the milk I gave you taste?"

Nellie nodded earnestly. "It was delicious! "

<u>Everyone —apart from Nellie —was so stunned by this sudden turn of events that none of them could say a word.</u>

Celia gaped at the empty bottle that Nellie was clutching.

If she remembered correctly, Granny Lynch had instructed Nellie to drink the milk only after she barged into the room with Neil as a hostage.

Therefore, Nellie had drunk the milk right in front of her eyes!

Was the antidote inside the milk? Did this six-year-old child drink the only antidote in the entire world?

Celia's entire being was engulfed with rage. She lunged toward Granny Lynch with all her might, screaming, "You crazy hag! You should die now. Now! "

Try as she did, she could not release herself from the two bodyguards keeping her restrained.

The bodyguards held onto her tightly, and she could even get an inch closer to Granny Lynch.

Joshua shot her a somewhat complicated look and ordered, "Take her out of this room."

<u>Celia was dragged out of the room, screaming and crying. When she reached the door, however, Joshua frowned and glanced at her. "Where's Adrian?"</u>

Adrian and Celia had been inseparable ever since they returned to Banyan City, so why was Celia alone when she came to steal the antidote away from Granny?

"Adrian..." Celia paused for a moment, then lifted her head to sneer at Joshua. "He's gone to take care of something important, of course! "

With that, she cackled and added, "Joshua Lynch, just you wait. One day, Michael is going to defeat you. Just you wait! "

Granny Lynch let out a sigh and closed her eyes when she saw how deranged Celia was acting. "Get her out of here. I can't bear to take another look at her."

At this exact moment, on the sea below Bay Bridge, Adrian was on one of many boats, trying to fish Aura out of the water.

One of the men dressed in black that Joshua had appointed to seal off the ocean stood next to Adrian with a pained expression. "Master Lynch, Mr. Lynch has given orders that no boats were allowed to come near the bridge within twenty-four hours. If he finds out about this, I'll get into trouble..."

Adrian barked some orders into a walkie-talkie, then turned to shoot the man a cold look. "I'm Joshua Lynch's father! Am I an outsider to you? Besides, don't you know who I'm looking for? It's the woman pregnant with my son, Michael's child!

"The great-grandson of the Lynch family is inside her belly right now! Are you willing to bear the consequences if the search is delayed and she dies?"

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Inside the hospital room.

Luna bit down on her lip and stared at a white- haired Granny Lynch with a pained expression. "Granny..." she said in a hoarse voice. "Why did you..."

Granny feigned nonchalance and reached out her hand to stroke Nellie's head, then squeezed Neil's hand reassuringly. "I've already told you; Celia was right. I don't have much time left, so I'm glad that I get to do something good for my great- grandchildren."

Luna's eyes were red -rimmed. "But Granny, Joshua and I went to so much trouble to obtain the antidote and cure you. You're the only elder that Joshua respects, and you're the only family member that not just him, but the children and I cherish..."

She sniffed and continued in a choked voice, "Nellie is still young; she still has such a long way to go. I highly doubt that the poison within her body will never be able to get neutralized. We'll eventually

find a way to save her, but you..."

Granny Lynch was more than 70 years old. When Luna first got in touch with Dr. Janet, she had mentioned that Granny Lynch's organs were so damaged from the poison that if she did not receive the antidote soon, her organs would erode and die.

If that happened, Granny would only have days to live.

This was why Luna had been desperate to get her hands on Aura's antidote and was even willing to let Dr. Janet administer a similar poison into her body just to fool Aura...

"I 'm fine." Granny let out a sigh as she closed her eyes. "I'm already so old now; there's no point living a few more years anymore."

With that, she reached out a hand to stroke Nellie's hair. "As long as she's fine, I can rest in peace."

"Great-Granny." Nellie sobbed so hard that her eyes were red and swollen. "I don't want you to die. I don't want you to leave.

"You haven't even had the chance to see me win an international prize yet, and I haven't had the chance to make you a piece of jewelry that you like. I haven't..."

Nellie had so much more to tell Granny Lynch, but she was sobbing so hard that she could not say a single word.

<u>Luna could not help but feel saddened by the scene before her. She turned to glance at Joshua, who was standing behind her.</u>

His face was expressionless, but Luna could still tell that he, too, was saddened, by the look in his eyes.

She knew that he was more mournful than her, but because he was too used to hiding his emotions, he did not know how to express them anymore.

Luna reached out to grab hold of Joshua's hand. His hand was as cold as ice.

Granny Lynch could not bear to see Nellie crying any longer, so she let out a sigh and pressed a kiss on Nellie's head. Then, she lifted her head to stare at Luna. "Luna, please take the children out. I have something to say to Joshua."

Luna nodded, then walked over and picked up a crying Nellie.

Nigel obediently walked over to Neil's wheelchair and pushed him out of the room alongside Luna.

Together, the four of them left the room.

Joshua closed the door behind them, then turned and sat down next to Granny Lynch's bed. He grabbed hold of Granny's hand and said, "Granny."

His voice was so low and hoarse that it was hard to hear him.

"Joshua, my dear." Granny Lynch gripped his hand tightly. "I don't have much time left."

Joshua's expression darkened upon hearing this. He clutched her hand tightly and said in a low voice, "No. That's impossible. I saved you from the brink of death when I was seventeen; I can do it again."

Granny Lynch waved her hand dismissively and chuckled. "That's different. At that time, I was still young and healthy, so my body could withstand the poison."

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"Now...I can't anymore." She let out a bitter smile and stared at Joshua. "Having lived such a long life, I no longer have any regrets. The only person I'm worried about is you.

"Your mother passed away when you were born, and your father never cared about you at all, so I was the one who raised you. I know how stubborn and how lonely you are..."

With that, Granny Lynch glanced at the door. She could make out the four people through the matte glass.

Neil was sitting in his wheelchair while Nigel stood behind him. On the other hand, Luna was crouching in front of Nellie, wiping the tears from her face.

Granny Lynch stared at their vague silhouettes through the glass, a faint smile playing on her lips. "Luna is a good woman. I'm glad that you have her by your side, and I'm extremely touched that she's willing to sacrifice so much for an old lady like me, but..."

She lifted her head to gaze at Joshua. "I have two requests for you."

Joshua gripped her hand tightly and said, "Please tell me."

"Number one... I want you to stay away from the Landry family. Don't try to take revenge on them.

"The rivalry between the Landry family and me is entirely personal. They killed my daughter in the past, which sparked the feud between our family and theirs, but...as you know, my daughter had nothing to do with the Lynch family. I gave birth to her before I married your grandfather. She belonged to my ex- husband and me.

"The Landry family killed my daughter, so I killed one of their sons in revenge. They poisoned me, so I chased them out of the country...

"This vengeance had ended long before my retirement when you were seventeen. I shou1d've died at that time, but you were the reason I 'm even alive today...

"Therefore, after I die, please don't take your revenge on them. Don't put you and Luna—and your little family—at risk because of me."

Joshua held Granny Lynch's hand tightly but did not say a word.

He did not want to make this promise.

He had abided by Granny's wishes all these years. He refrained from getting into conflict with the Landry family, so much so that he even deliberately avoided them when expanding Lynch Group overseas.

What did he get in return for this?

The Landry family allowed Aura to return to Banyan City and caused Granny to fall ill!

If it were not for Luna's guick wit, Granny Lynch would not be the only one in the hospital!

<u>Granny Lynch leaned against her headboard and sighed. When she saw the hatred in Joshua's eyes,</u>

she did not force Joshua to agree to her terms and instead continued, "The second request I have for you is...

"Luna is a good person. No matter what happens, you cannot give up on her or the children.

Remember this: You cannot let go of her...unless one day, she tells you she doesn't love you nor the children anymore. Can you promise me this?"

Joshua paused for a moment upon hearing this. He squeezed a bitter smile and stared at Granny's face after a moment. "Granny, even if you don't make this request, I'll still do so."

Granny closed her eyes. "Well, if you can promise me this...then I can finally rest in peace."

On the other side of the world, inside a European – style villa, was a beautiful woman dressed in an exquisite dress. She smashed a vase onto the floor in anger and snapped, "You still can't get in touch with Aura? What a useless b*stard!

"She's useless, and so are the rest of you!"

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When Joshua came out from the room, Luna had just finished consoling a crying Nellie.

Even though she was just a child, Nellie fully understood the consequences of Granny Lynch's action when she tricked her into drinking the antidote that would cure her disease.

Nellie had stopped crying but was still sniffling. "Great-Granny... How much time does she have left? Will she get better if the doctors draw out my blood and give it to her?"

Luna sighed and pulled Nellie into an embrace but said nothing in response.

"Great-Granny won't want your blood." Joshua closed the door behind him, strode over to Nellie, and squatted in front of her. He looked straight into her eyes and continued, "Nellie, Great-Granny is willing to give the best to you because she wants you to be well. In that case, she won't want to see you suffer, will she?"

Joshua's words made Nellie cry. The tears streamed out of her eyes and down her cheeks. "What will happen, Daddy? I don't want Great-Granny to die..."

Joshua sighed when he saw Nellie crying again. Then, he pulled her into his arms. "I still remember that you promised Great -Granny that you'll learn from Mommy and make the jewelry that you designed especially for her, right?"

Nellie nodded earnestly.

"Why don't you follow Mommy to the studio at Daddy's office and make the jewelry, then? If Granny Lynch wears the jewelry you make for her when she passes, she'll be able to reunite with you in her next life."

"Okay." Nellie wiped the tears off her face and removed herself from Joshua's arms. She turned and gazed at Luna. "Mommy, can we...go now?"

Luna nodded. "Sure."

She took the keys that Joshua handed her and picked up Nellie in her arms. Just when she was about to leave, she heard the sound of footsteps and wheels turning from behind her.

<u>Luna turned around and saw Nigel, who was wheeling Neil along, following behind her. "We can help, too."</u>

A surge of warmth spread through Luna's heart, and tears built up in her eyes. "Sure. Let's make the jewelry for Granny Lynch as fast as we can."

With that, the four of them boarded the elevator and left.

Joshua remained motionless, watching the elevator doors close, and let out a sigh of relief.

<u>Granny Lynch loved jewelry</u>. He sincerely hoped that she would be able to wear the jewelry that Nellie handmade for her before she passed.

After a moment, Joshua took out his phone. "Lucas. Help me check if there's any news on Adrian. No matter where he is, bring him to me."

Granny Lynch was in very critical condition. Even though Adrian was a wicked and shameless person, he was still Granny Lynch's only child. Even if Joshua had to kidnap him, he would do it so that Adrian would be here to pay his last respects before she passed.

"Sir..." Lucas hesitated for a moment. "We don't need to look for him. I already ran into Master Lynch downstairs. According to the time...he should already reach Granny Lynch's room. Didn't you see him? "

Joshua was stunned by this. "When did you see him downstairs?"

"About ten minutes ago?" Lucas tried to recall his memory. "He was drenched and seemed to be in a rush; he almost bumped into me. When I saw it was him, I greeted him and asked if he was there to see Granny Lynch, but he didn't answer and went straight upstairs."

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Joshua, who was holding the phone, narrowed his eyes.

It had already been ten minutes. He knew that it only took one minute to board the lift and arrive at Granny's ward from the ground floor.

Ten minutes had passed, yet Adrian had yet to arrive. This meant Adrian was not here to visit Granny Lynch at all.

Joshua let out an exhale, walked into the lift, and asked, "Michael is here in the hospital too, right? Which level is he in?"

"The twelfth floor."

Inside the patient's room on the 12th floor.

Covered in seawater, Adrian took off his jacket and said, while wiping away the excess water on his body, "Don't worry. Although she's still unconscious, she's alive. I hid her in a safe place. A doctor from a small clinic is with her. The doctor said she choked on a large amount of water, and it caused her to pass out. She cou1d've died if we didn't manage to save her so soon."

With that, he looked up and stared at Michael, who was lying on the bed. "Didn't you say she's pregnant with your child?"

Michael was wrapped in so many layers of bandages that he looked like a mummy.

When he went to find Luna in the ICU, he was pushed off the bed and landed in the broken glass all over the floor. On top of that, Joshua had pressed him against the shattered glass and beat him up, so his entire body was covered in cuts.

His face was so swollen and bruised that he looked like a pig from afar.

Michael glanced at Adrian and replied, "Of course she's pregnant with my child."

When Michael first heard Aura say she was pregnant with Joshua's child, he believed it. Later that day, after Joshua beat him up, Aura went to visit him.

After the two of them talked, only then did he find out that Aura had never slept with Joshua before ever since she returned to Banyan City.

The only person Aura had slept with was him. She had never slept with Joshua.

Who else would the child in her womb belong to, apart from him?

Adrian rolled his eyes at Michael. "Well, the doctor says she was never pregnant!"

Adrian grew more and more outraged when he talked about this. "If I had known she wasn't pregnant, I would've never saved her at the risk of getting discovered by Joshua! "

"How is that possible?" Michael widened his eyes in shock. "She told me herself that she's pregnant! I even saw her pregnancy test!"

"The pregnancy test is fake. I showed it to the doctor." Adrian rolled his eyes again. "You and Joshua were both tricked. She was never pregnant!"

Michael was so stunned by this discovery that he could not say a single word.

Adrian pursed his lips slightly when he saw how crestfallen his son became. "Alright, you shouldn't be sad anymore. At least she's rescued and is now in a safe place. Do you think you won't be able to impregnate her after she wakes up? No matter what, I saved her life, so it's only fair that she bears a child for you in return."

Michael was silent for a moment. Then, he sighed in relief and nodded. "Yes. Let's wait for her to wake up. Then, I'll plant my seeds in her, and she'll give you and Mother a few grandchildren!"

After hearing Michael bring up his mother, Adrian suddenly realized someone was missing from the room. He raised his eyebrows and looked around. "Where's your mother?"

It had been about ten minutes since Adrian arrived at the hospital, but there was no sign of Celia anywhere. Where could she possibly be?

Michael lowered his head and bit down on his lip rather forlornly, "Mother, she—" Before Michael could finish his sentence, however, he was interrupted by a cold, stern voice coming from the door, "I sent Celia to the police station."