

Reborn 351

Chapter 351

Edward left.

Susan finished her porridge after a while. She got up from the table and wanted to walk around for a while as she had eaten too much. No sooner had she reached the living room than she heard the door rang again.

Susan opened the door and kept saying, "I have told you to hurry away, why are you back again..."

Then she saw Justine. She thought it was her dad coming back.

Susan made a straight face.

"Why, you know too?" Susan's tone was hostile.

"My stepdaughter is pregnant. Of course I should know it." Justine said, sounding aggressive.

Susan rolled her eyes. And again, she complained about Manuel's ability to let things spread so fast.

"I have no intention of giving birth to this child." Susan deliberately said these words to make her angry. She still held a grudge against her for taking her dad away from her mother.

"No intention, so what is in your belly?" Justine's facial expression changed markedly. The way Justine treated her was so different from the way she was her stepmother at that time. Now, Susan knew that this woman just pretended to be nice to her at that time.

"Do you think I'm willing to?" Susan was angry.

"You're not willing to. So, did Manuel force you?" Justine asked back.

Susan didn't know how to refute this sentence. After all, it was not Manuel who forced her.

However, Justine looked straight at Susan and continued to embarrass her, "Manuel is disabled in both legs, what could he do to you?"

"..." The words made Susan mad to breath away.

Justine thought it was she who took the initiative to climb into Manuel's bed. But that was true anyway. She had been drugged at that time, so she couldn't control herself and had sex with Manuel. Susan was wearing a sullen expression because of Justine's words.

"I don't care about your young people's affairs. Anyway, those all your preference, so long as you are happy." Justine generously said, "I am here just want to take care of my granddaughter. The relationship between you and Manuel is nothing to do with me."

"What did you say? You want to take care of your granddaughter?" Susan looked straight at Justine.

"Tia." Justine did not answer Susan at all and called Tia who was packing the things that Edward brought, "Come and help me take the luggage."

"What are you doing with your luggage?" Susan's eyes widened.

“Didn’t I say? To take care of my granddaughter!” Justine was a little impatient.

“Who’s your granddaughter?” Susan was furious.

“Isn’t she in your belly?”

“Who says it must be a girl?” Susan asked.

“Before it was born, I’ll call it at will which is not your business.” Justine was strong.

Susan almost died of anger. Sure enough, all those years of her obedience were all faked.

“Here you are, madam.” Tia trotted out of the room enthusiastically.

“Take my luggage up to the room. I’ll be staying here.” Justine said naturally.

Tia came to take the luggage. Susan looked at Justine and Tia together into the house. Justine just walked in the house naturally as if this was her home.

“Who allows you to live here?” Susan was angry at Justine, “This is my home, did I let you stay?”

“This is my son’s house.” Justine said to Susan arrogantly.

Justine had never quarreled with her when she was her stepmother.

“You are wrong in supposing that I don’t know that my father bought this house with money.” Susan said definitely.

Justine smiled with sarcasm, which made Susan mad.

She knew Justine’s intention to marry her father. She desired his money.

“No wonder you don’t know you should love and who loves you.” Justine said sarcastically, “I’m afraid my granddaughter will inherit your intelligence in the future!”

“Justine!”

Justine paid no attention to her. She turned to Tia and said, “Give me Susan’s room. I’ll take it.”

“What!” Susan was on the verge of collapse.

It was rude enough to show up at her house without notice, and now she also managed to live in her room.

“There are three rooms in the house, one for Manuel, one for Tia, of course the last one is for me.” Justine said as if it was the way it should be.

“What about me? Where do I live?” Susan got barking mad.

“It is not my business, you can live with Manuel...”

“Are you kidding me?”

“Or you can stay with Tia.” Justine said.

"If you don't mind, it's my pleasure." Tia hurriedly made a statement.

"Who wants to live with you?"

"Then live with me." Justine was blunt.

"I'd rather die than live with you!" Susan gnashed her teeth.

"OK, the couch is for you." Justine expressed helplessness.

Susan stared at Justine.

"Tia, go and clean the room." Justine commanded.

Tia rapidly went to clean Susan's bedroom. Justine ignored Susan. She directly went to Manuel's bedroom and knocked on the door.

Manuel opened the door. Then they went into the room together.

Susan was left alone in the living room, growing furious. Justine was sent to torture her and she intended to cause her to miscarry for she didn't even want the baby, didn't she?

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"I'll be staying for a while. I'll take care of Susan cause she was like a bull in a china shop." Said Justine.

"I'm afraid it would made her mad." Said Manuel.

"Don't worry, after living with her for so many years, I know her well enough. I'm not gonna push her over the edge." Justine said bluntly.

"OK." Manuel didn't say any more.

His mother was never willful, and commonly speaking, her decision was mostly right.

"By the way, I will live in Susan's room. And you should give up your room for Susan, and sleep on the sofa." Justine said, "Susan will worry about you."

"..."

Susan was no match for his mother.

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Justine took it for granted to live in Susan's room. Tia put Susan's stuff into Manuel's room.

"Who told you to put my things in his room?" Shouted Susan, who totally lost her temper.

Tia was a little aggrieved.

As she was about to explain, Manuel came out of the room, "I asked her to."

"So you think I'm going to sleep in your room? I'd rather go out to a hotel..." Susan excitedly said.

"I sleep on the sofa." Manuel interrupted the words of Susan.

Susan was stunned.

"I have asked Tia to vacate the room for you, my stuff only occupies one cupboard, as long as you don't open the innermost cupboard, and you won't see my stuff."

Susan pursed her lips and she stated to feel sorry for her tantrum. But she instantly eliminated guilt for she thought it was Manuel's fault. If he said his plan early, she wouldn't have lost her temper.

"It's late. Good night." Manuel finished the sentence, and then pushed the wheelchair to the sofa.

Tia quickly followed, "Mr Johnson, will you feel uncomfortable sleeping on the couch? Why not let me sleep on the couch? I can sleep anywhere, and your sofa is big and soft and much more comfortable than my bed in the country."

"No, I'll sleep here." Manuel refused, "Please help me get a quilt."

"But Mr Johnson..."

"Just do it." Manuel was determined.

Tia actually knew, Manuel had his own ideas and his principles. He was not a person who would meekly accept everything, but Susan was his exception.

Tia just didn't understand why Susan didn't like Manuel. Any woman could easily fall in love with a man as perfect as Mr Johnson.

Susan was staring at Manuel and Tia for a while. At last, she still walked into Manuel's room, telling herself that she did nothing wrong-it was because Justine robbed her room that she had to occupy his room.

After taking a bath, Susan lay down in bed to sleep. Turning over, Susan still felt that the sheets smelt like Manuel, although they were newly bought. The smell was familiar yet annoying, making her a little cranky. It reminded her of what had happened to them that night in this bed.

It was impossible to sleep tight, Susan thought. Then she rose abruptly from her bed and opened the door. There was a light lamp in the living room, and she could see a man lying on the sofa, who seemed to be asleep.

Susan glanced at him, and then rudely knocked on the door of Tia's bedroom. Tia rubbed her eyes and came out in a daze. "Ms Phillips, do you want to sleep with me?"

"Sleep, you just know sleep!" Susan lost his temper.

Tia did not know where she had offended her again.

"Go and change my sheets, with the new one." Susan commanded.

"I've already changed it." Tia was very aggrieved. Susan woke her up at midnight, only to ask her to change the sheets.

"Why the bed still has the smell of Manuel, I can't sleep."

“That’s impossible,” Tia retorted, “After I changed them, I smelled them, and it just the smell of laundry detergent.”

“You have trouble smelling, don’t you?”

“You’re the one with the problem.” Tia muttered, in defiance.

“You have been bold, Tia. How dare you talk back to me!” Susan was so angry that she even wanted to sack her for it.

“That’s because you’re being unreasonable!” Tia really blew up for she was woken up in the middle of the night for some inexplicable reasons, and Susan was simply looking for trouble.

“Tia, you...”

“You miss Mr Johnson, so you would think the smell is his. It’s psychological. I’ve changed clean sheets, and you still accuse me!” Tia spoke with righteous indignation.

Susan suddenly didn’t know how to blame her.

“Anyway, I’ve changed your sheets. If you have nothing else, I’ll go to bed.” Tia said.

Susan was speechless in fury but she couldn’t vent it out on Tia.

She went back to sleep. Sniffing the bed carefully, this time, she found that it was mixed with the smell of detergent and Manuel. She told herself that she must go to buy a new one tomorrow and get rid of that man.

Tossing and turning, Susan found it hard to fall asleep since she had slept for a while in the afternoon.

Irritated, she slipped out of bed and walked out of the room.

There was a light lamp and Manuel lying on the sofa. Susan ignored him and went straight to the kitchen bar to pour a glass of water. After finishing it, she was walking to the sofa unconsciously, although she didn’t mean to.

Standing next to the sofa, she found that it was uncomfortable for him to sleep on it. The sofa was too sofa and there was a hollow on it because of Manuel’s weight. He would wake up the next morning with a sore back, she supposed.

But soon she realized what she was thinking about and turned to leave instantly. Anyway, she shouldn’t care about him and feel guilty, she thought. Then she walked away.

The man on the sofa opened his eyes and looked at her back, feeling a bit frustrated. Although his mother was smart and she knew well what Susan would think, she ignored one thing-Susan did not love him at all.

There would be no emotion if there was no love.

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The next day, Susan was awakened by the feeling of vomiting.

Last night, she had spent quite a lot of time to fall asleep, and she didn't know when she managed to sleep. It was early in the morning, but she felt ill and had to get up. She sat in front of the toilet, spitting out everything she ate last night.

Feeling badly awful, Susan sat down on the ground. And she started to complain about the baby that tortured her, to distract herself from pain.

After that, she managed to get up from the floor, cleaned herself briefly, and walked out of the bedroom for she felt with hunger again.

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It was 7 o'clock in the morning. Justine, Manuel and Tia were chatting in the living room and it seemed they comfortably fitted in with each other.

"Did you feel uncomfortable sleeping on the sofa last night?" asked Justine.

"I'm good," Manuel answered. There was nothing coming up to the surface of his face.

"But look at your black eyes." Justine surveyed her son.

"Maybe I slept too late." Manuel tried to put her off.

"Mr Johnson, What about resting in my room tonight? You must feel uncomfortable sleeping on the sofa." Tia suggested.

As a servant, she was very guilty about occupying the master bed.

"No, thanks."

"But the doctor said your legs were in recovery so you can't sleep where it's too tough. I saw your whole body sank into the sofa this morning, it must be against your recovery."

"It's nothing. You think too much." Manuel said.

"But..." Tia was still trying to say something.

Susan suddenly came up at this moment. She stood in the same spot for a while but no one noticed her, so she was doubting that they deliberately treated her as nothing.

She walked up to them and said directly, "Tia, I'm hungry."

"Breakfast is ready, I'll get it now."

Then Susan was up to the dining room without greeting Justine and Manuel, who were used to her behavior. They might feel unaccustomed if she suddenly expressed enthusiasm to them one day.

At that time, Justine and Manuel also went to the dining room together.

Susan showed a look of dislike.

"We haven't had breakfast, either," Justine said with an unfriendly tone.

Susan rolled her eyes, thinking that she didn't care if they had breakfast or not.

Tia served them the food, which was good to Susan who was pregnant. As she ate the porridge, her stomach felt better.

“Eat an egg.” Justine suddenly said and got a poached egg in front of Susan.

Susan had a glance at the egg and refused, “I don’t wanna eat it.”

“It’s good for your baby.”

“My baby didn’t treat me well, so why should I treat it better?” Susan said deservedly.

“How do you know it didn’t treat you well? Was it born yet?” Justine retorted.

“I don’t have to wait for its birth. It has already made me suffer.” Susan said with rage while eating the porridge.

Justine found nothing to say.

“She has a serious morning sickness.” Manuel explained all at once.

“That’s what happens to all pregnant women. I was the same as you when I was pregnant, throwing up every day for the first trimester. Nothing would stay down in my stomach after I eat! You’ll feel better after getting through the first trimester.” Said Justine.

“After the first trimester?” Susan had to ask. She thought she might be tortured to death in the first trimester.

“It would be lucky if you only feel uncomfortable in the first trimester. Some women will throw up forever until her baby’s birth.”

“...” Susan stared at Justine, while Justine didn’t care much about Susan’s feelings and she bent her head and continued to eat.

Justine knew how sick it would be while being pregnant, thus she did not force Susan to eat the egg.

In the suddenly quiet dining room, Justine looked up at Susan with a rush as if she had thought of something. A frown creased Susan’s forehead. She felt creepy about Justine’s stare, wonder what Justine was up to.

“Why are you looking at me like this?” She was in a bad mood now.

“Maybe you’re having a boy!” said Justine. She drew the conclusion because Susan’s symptoms were similar to hers when she was having Manuel—both of them had severe morning sickness. Susan’s eyes rolled back. She thought Justine was going to say something important. Manuel also inwardly let out a long sigh of relief for he thought something bad would have happened.

Susan spoke bluntly, “Fantastic. I want to have a boy.”

“And I have a hunch that I’ll have a boy!” she added with complacency.

But Justine just smiled with cattiness. Then Susan heard her say, “It would be nice if your boy is like Manuel.”

Feeling annoyed, Susan thought that if her son looked like Manuel, she feared she would abuse him.

“Manuel, you want a boy or a girl?” Justine was completely indifferent to Susan’s feelings, turning her face to Manuel and asking.

Manuel paused with surprise because he was not even thinking that far. It already made him feel unreal that Susan was pregnant. At this moment, however, he still answered, “A girl.”

He wanted a daughter who took after Susan.

“I know it, I prefer a granddaughter too.” Justine seemed to be in a good mood.

Manuel smiled and looked like being happy.

Susan was annoyed by the two of them. She swore that she would have a son, who looked like herself and pissed them off.

“That was the reason why I wanted to move into here.” Justine suddenly said. Neither Susan nor Manuel understood what Justine was trying to express.

Then Justine added, “Because I heard that the more time a pregnant woman sees someone during her pregnancy, the more her baby will look like him.”

Susan rolled her eyes again for she couldn’t believe that Justine would trust in this kind of superstitious words, which she found ridiculous.

“If my granddaughter looks like you, I’m afraid she must lose at the starting line.” Said Justine seriously.

Hearing with spleen, Susan asked, “You say who’s ugly?”

“Don’t you know who’s ugly?”

“Am I ugly?” Susan thought that Justine just made her mad on purpose. If she died of rage, then Justine would get all of her dad’s inheritance!

“You’re not as good-looking as me.” Justine answered bluntly.

Susan gritted her teeth.

Indeed, Justine was a good-looking woman. Even though she was not younger now, she still looked very beautiful and gorgeous. Compared with her, Susan’s appearance was a little more ordinary. However, Susan had a pretty foreign look and a terrific figure. But when people compared Susan to Justine, they would think the former was not perfect as the latter.

“And also not as good-looking as Manuel.” Justine gave her the last hit.

Susan wanted to spray her furious blood in her face!

What was wrong with them?

Suddenly, something ridiculous came out in her mind—if Manuel were a prostitute, he would make all the money. She thought he could become the richest man in the world.

“I’ve finished.” Susan put down the chopsticks.

In fact, it wasn't because she was so angry that she stopped eating. Her stomach was just full.

Before leaving the dining room she said, "Tia, come out with me later. I want to go shopping at the mall."

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"What do you want to buy?" Justine asked.

"Why I should report to you?" Susan ignored her question because she said she was ugly just now.

After hearing Susan's words, Justine was a little unhappy, but she didn't fuss about that and said, "I'll go with you later."

"Please no." Susan rejected out of hand.

"I'm gonna go shopping, too."

"Then you go by yourself! Don't be with me..."

"Manuel will go with us together." Justine didn't seem to hear what she was saying, but turned to her son and said, "You don't go outside much, do you? You'd better walk more often."

"Right." Manuel agreed.

Her behavior infuriated Susan. And Susan knew that Justine had looked down on her since the beginning, and had pretended to spoil her!

Susan thought she should take a photo of Justine's abominable behavior and show it to her dad. She wanted him to see how vicious the woman he liked could be.

Finally, all of them went to the mall together. There weren't many people in the mall because it wasn't the weekend.

Justine pushed Manuel's wheelchair and asked him, "Is there anything you wanna buy?"

"No. Just buy what you want."

"What about you?" Justine looked around at Susan.

"Sheets." Susan answered. She didn't want to sleep on a bed with anything relating to Manuel.

"I'll be with you first." Justine said.

Susan didn't refuse her and went to the bedding area first. She picked a set of sheets, a bedding bag, pillowcases, and a bed skirt which all are pink she liked. And she then picked another set of a different color. After the selection, she went to the cash desk to pay.

As soon as she took out her credit card, the cashier said to her quickly, "Your husband has paid for them." While saying, she sneaked a look at Manuel who was quiet in the wheelchair.

Manuel was aware of Susan's sight but didn't look back.

Susan compressed her lips, wondering how Manuel could afford the expensive bedding for sale here while he was unemployed currently. She thought about it, then realized that she didn't need to feel embarrassed because his money was given by her father anyway.

After that, they passed by the underwear area when they were going to go shopping for clothes.

"Wait a second," said Justine, "let's go buy some underwear."

Susan followed her reluctantly into a lingerie shop. When they just took two steps forward, Manuel said, "I'll wait for you outside." He was straightly pushed into the lingerie shop by Justine at the moment.

Justine was kind of speechless, "I don't understand why you're shy."

"I'll wait for you outside." Manuel said insistently, "Tia, push my wheelchair outside."

Then Tia pushed him outside the shop to wait for them.

In the shop, Susan saw some new arrivals that won her favor.

When she was heading to pay for them, Justine suddenly stopped her and said, "You should buy these two sets."

Justine was holding two sets of underwear in her hands.

"So ugly." Said Susan.

"They are for pregnant women."

"I don't need. They're so ugly and even have no curves."

"Don't you know your breasts are supposed to lactate during pregnancy? Lactation is the second physical development of breasts, so how do you let them develop while fixing their shape?" Justine said seriously.

"I don't care..." Before Susan could finish what she wanted to refute, she suddenly saw Martina coming out from the dressing room of the lingerie room.

Susan didn't expect her to show up here.

"Are you pregnant?" Martina asked her.

"Yes. Dad is Manuel." Susan said it deliberately. She knew that Martina liked Manuel, so she intended to say so to annoy her.

Martina's facial expression changed. Face clouding badly, she stared at Susan, speechlessly. She had been overwhelmed by the fact that Susan and Manuel were married, and now she couldn't believe that Susan was pregnant.

Suddenly, something evil flashed in Martina's eyes and she left without saying more.

Watching Martina's sulk back, Susan felt quite great. She thought the advantage of marrying Manuel was that it would piss Martina off, besides not having to live with her dad anymore.

"Let's go." Justine said to her.

Then she saw Justine was carrying a shopping bag. Obviously, she had bought those two sets of ugly underwear. But she didn't want to argue with Justine at this moment and she planned to purchase another pair of bras for herself later.

They walked out of the lingerie shop, where Manuel was waiting for them. Seeing they were out, he let Tia push his wheelchair to follow them.

"Did you see Martina?" Susan abruptly said with unconcern.

"Yes." Manuel responded.

"Didn't she say anything to you?" Susan quipped.

Before Manuel had the chance to say something, Tia interjected hurriedly, "Yes. That lady said to Mr Johnson that he'll fall in love with her sooner or later."

Tia thought that Martina's goal was to let Susan have a sense of crisis. She knew that Manuel must be courted by a lot of women.

Susan had guessed Martina would do that, so she didn't have any mood swings. On the contrary, she felt in a good mood because Martina looked like a loser before her.

"She kissed Mr Johnson forcibly." Tia added.

The smile on Susan's face froze inexplicably for a second. She abruptly looked around at Manuel, her eyes were on his lips without reason.

"Mr Johnson ducked, so she only kissed him on his cheek." Tia realized Susan's sight and hastened to explain.

Susan seemed to be indifferent, "You don't have to report it to me. It's none of my business."

"You and Mr Johnson are a couple and now some other woman kissed him, how could..."

"That's enough, Tia." Manuel stopped her with some seriousness.

Tia pouted and was discouraged to carry on. Yet she still felt wronged for Manuel in her mind, because he would protect Susan at any time. She thought Susan should learn to cherish her husband, even though she would be taught a lesson.

Otherwise, she would never know the world of evil and couldn't tell good from the bad.

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Martina walked straight out of the mall. She sat in her car and itched to kill someone at the thought that she was rejected by Manuel and Susan was pregnant!

Suddenly, she started screaming, insanely, which scared her driver.

Who could Susan have Manuel's child?

Martina thought that Susan didn't deserve it. Because she was the only woman who was qualified to have his child in the world!

Gnashing her teeth with rage, she took out her smartphone and called Henry's number. She swore she would never let Susan's baby have a successful birth!

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"Susan is pregnant!" Martina said, as soon as Henry put through the phone.

The person who answered the phone was silent for a few seconds.

"It's Manuel's child!" she snapped again while saying it.

Grinding her teeth, she felt like tearing Susan apart. She couldn't accept the truth that another woman have Manuel's kid. She just couldn't accept!

Henry clenched his hand with the phone more tightly, and said with a cold tone, "How do you know?"

"I happened to see Susan when I went to go shopping, and Manuel and his mother were accompanying her in the mall..." Martina almost went crazy when she recalled that scene, "I really wanted to kill her right there!"

Henry's face clouded, too. He didn't expect that Susan was pregnant.

Thinking about what he promised Susan a few days ago, he felt regretful and furious.

"Henry! It's all because of you, you useless man! You're the fucking reason that night they're sleeping in the same bed now, that she has Manuel's baby. You coward..."

"Enough!" Henry was in a bad mood at first, and his facial expression turned colder now because of Martina's insult, "The rooted reason why Susan could have Manuel's child is all because you have to eat your own bitter fruit. It wouldn't have happened if you hadn't used shabby tricks!"

"Huh?" Martina sneered at him with sarcasm, "Henry, You don't deserve to belittle me in the shoes of a great man. Right, I used some shabby tricks, but you're also full of shit, okay? At least I did it because I loved him, what about you? You approached her with murky motives in the beginning, and you took advantage of the one you love. You big jerk!"

Henry's face became stern and sallow because of her words.

"Don't think others still don't know how bad you are. I can tell you my brother has already checked up on you, and we both clearly know what an asshole you are. Don't pretend you're great in front of us anymore!" said Martina, fiercely. She was contemptuous of him very much.

Henry's hand holding the phone was shaking with rage.

"Henry, you'd better be a good boy, or I will kill you as easy as pie." Martina said nastily, "I wouldn't simply keep your life if my brother didn't think you were still useful. After all, you've done to me, you think you can threaten me with those nude photos? You take yourself too seriously!"

Henry was embarrassed about what she had said. Actually, he was clear that she wasn't intimidating him. Because he knew it would be very easy for the Sawyer family to kill him. Therefore, he wanted to become powerful, so that no one could bully him anymore. He wanted to stand in a higher place and overlooked the whole world!

“What? Why shut up now?” Martina continued her sarcastic word, “Didn’t you just be arrogant?”

“I also have a temper, and also feel bad about the fact that Susan’s pregnant. You’re right, I can exploit the person I love, but it doesn’t mean I’m willing to give her up to another man.” Henry explained, his anger had subsided noticeably.

Martina smiled even more sarcastically.

“We definitely cannot let Susan keep the baby. “ said Henry firmly, “I need some time to figure it out.”

“You’d better hurry up! I can’t stand her baby being inside her, even for one more day.”

“OK.”

After the call with Henry, she dialed her brother’s number and started crying as soon as the phone got through. Completely different from that aggressive Martina faced with Henry, now she was pitiful and wronged.

“Charles,” she said and started sobbing.

Charles frowned slightly and asked, “What’s wrong?”

“Charles, Susan is pregnant.” Martina wailed.

“It’s none of your business.” Charles was indifferent. He didn’t pay any attention to Susan.

But then when he thought of Hannah getting pregnant with Oscar’s child, his face grew ghastly and he forced himself not to think more about it.

“Charles, Her baby’s father is Manuel, I can’t accept it! I love him so much! I can’t accept another woman having his baby!” Martina was mad and sad, “Charles, You have to help me!”

“What ‘s good about him? If he hasn’t lost his leg, he might have had the chance to inherit the fortune of Phillips Bank. But now he’s an invalid. Why you still like him?”

“I love him, and that’s it. Nothing you can say will change my mind. I’ll love him forever no matter what kind of man he becomes, whether he’s poor or disabled. I don’t care. I can’t live without him...”

“Shut up!” Charles said impatiently with a very cold tone, “You are doing something with Henry, right? Just let him find a way to abort Susan’s baby.”

“But I’m afraid that he’s useless! He’s just a coward!”

“Don’t sell him short.” Charles said, “He’s been able to go from nothing to get here. He’s a person to be reckoned with. In some ways, he’s similar to me.”

“You overestimate him. Don’t mention him in the same breath as you.” Martina said contemptuously.

In her mind, no one could come up to her brother because he was the best and ablest man for her. Even Manuel, the man she loved, would never have the capacities her brother had.

“In a word, you and Henry need to work it out first. If there’s anything I can do for you, I’ll be back to help you guys. But I don’t have too much time now. I’m planning to help our family get the South Bay project done.”

“Can you do that? I hear that Cooper Group is also vying for this project.” Martina asked.

“Hannah, that bitch, did ruin many good plans of mine!” At the thought of her, Charles gritted his teeth with anger. He was so mad that he wanted to rip her into pieces.

“She deserved to die!” Martina said virulently, “One day when you have everything, you have to kill her!”

“Of course, I will.” A wicked look crawled on Charles’ face, he said, “I got something to do. Now you figure out how to deal with Susan’s baby by yourself first. “

“OK.”

After hanging up, Charles looked a little upset. Every time he thought about Hannah, he got so irritated that he felt like his heart was scratched by a cat. His eyes were getting dark. Then he phoned a number and said, “Hello, Sandra.”

“Hi, Mr Sawyer.” Sandra, Charles special assistant, answered, “You finally think of me.”

Nowadays Charles worked at the City hall, so naturally, he had much less contact with Sandra.

“I want to see you in the same old place tonight. I’ll let you know how much I miss you.”

“You bad!”

“You think I’m bad?”

“Charles...”

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Charles flirted with Sandra for a while on the phone. After hanging up, a sinister gleam flashed into his eyes. He thought every woman in the world was at his mercy, except Hannah. And one day, she would succumb to his domination, too. She would be tortured by him to the living death.

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A week passed.

Hannah was sitting in the conference room having a meeting.

“We cannot afford to fail in the project of South Bay.” Without saying anything superfluous words, Hannah came straight to the point, “There is still a month to the bid. This month, I’ll form a special team of 20 people from the employees in our company. Team members need to put everything on hold and devote themselves to this project, until the end of it.”

The people in the conference room were all the top executives of the departments, but they were overwhelmed by Hannah’s strong power even if they had been working here for years.

"I spent a week drawing up the member list of the special team. They are all picked from the departments you managing. Now I'm gonna release the list and hope you can ensure a smooth handoff. I need them to come to me in person at ten tomorrow morning." Hannah said, and she was announcing the member list without any delay, "The sales department: Mila, Wang, Mann..."

As she read the names on the list one by one, all the executives noted down the employees under their departments.

"Does anyone have any opinion on this list?" Hannah asked.

No one said anything. They almost bowed at her every word obediently to her arrangements.

To save everyone some time, she wanted to end the meeting," So, I hope all of you can arrange it well. Dismissed."

"I have an opinion." Wayne spoke abruptly.

Hannah was always clear about how to behave herself in public, so she said, "Mr Cooper, go ahead, please."

"You've drafted three employees in the public relations department. And I want to replace one of them."

"OK. But I need a reason."

"I want to work with you personally."

Hannah's forehead creased for a moment for she felt a little surprised that Wayne would say something like that.

"I want to replace one of the employees in my department and be a member of your 20-employee special team. I admit that I've not contributed much to the company since I worked here. I'm willing to learn more from you so that I can be the department executive officially and reasonably at least. Not because I'm a part of the Cooper family."

What he said was just brilliant. That put Hannah into a trying situation where she could not simply reject his suggestion for she would be gossiped about if she could not give reasonable grounds. There was a rumor in the Group that Hannah intended to push all Roger Cooper's offspring out of the company since he was sentenced to prison.

Therefore, she couldn't refuse his request and agreed immediately, "I also hope that our family can really run the company successfully."

"Agree." Hannah looked confident.

"If there is nothing else, the meeting will break up." Hannah stood up and left the conference room first. Then the others also successively left the room.

Following the leaving crowd, Wayne rushed back to his office with a sneer on his face. He shut his office door and dialed a number.

The call got through fast, "How's it going?"

“I made it.” Wayne was very excited, “I did what you said. There was no way she would turn me down in front of all the executives, so she just accepted my request.”

“Good. Once you’re in the special team, we can know what’s going on within it.” Charles laughed evilly.

Charles had thought it over that he had to start by infiltrating into Cooper Group if he wanted to get the South Bay project. He had to acknowledge Hannah’s abilities, coupled with the fact that Cooper Group was an iconic company in the construction sector. It would be an impossible mission for Sawyer Group to get this project. But it would be a piece of cake if he got an inside man in Cooper Group to win the game.

Yet he still felt a little depressed because if Hannah had married him, he wouldn’t have had to put so much effort into this project. Hannah would have given him everything he wanted! And the engagement broken off by Hannah would be the darkest shadow of his life, which could only be ended with Hannah’s death. He tried to suppress his emotions and forced himself to think calmly. Then he thought of using Wayne to get what he wanted.

Now Roger was in prison, and Jane Cooper was dead. Even if there was some bad blood between them, he could buy Wayne off with simple tricks, for example, the temptation of a woman. Then he thought of Sandra immediately. After having sex with Sandra that night, he told his plan to her. He knew that Sandra wouldn’t agree with his plan in the beginning. But she was greedy. As long as he gave her enough interests, she would compromise in the end. He promised her that if he won the South Bay project this time, he would take all the credit for her and help her become the general manager of the sales department of Sawyer Group. So she agreed with his plan and it only took her three days to handle Wayne.

As expected, Wayne was useless without Roger’s help, although Roger would never come to anything, either, in Charles’s eyes. Otherwise, he would not have been caught in Hannah’s trap.

But Charles could use Wayne at present, at least for it would never occurred to Hannah that Wayne would be obedient to him. And he wanted to see Hannah’s look when he won the South Bay project. The awful sadness on her face would give him the best exaltation ever, he supposed.

...

After returning to the office, Hannah was sitting in her office chair and was somehow quiet.

Rose placed a cup of black coffee on the desk in front of her and turned away.

“Rose,” Hannah called her abruptly.

“Yes?”

“What do you think of Wayne’s sudden positive attitude yesterday?” Hannah asked.

Rose thought for a second and said, “He must be up to no good.”

Hannah agreed with her opinion.

“Alright, you can leave now.”

“OK.” Rose said and left the office.

Taking a sip of coffee, Hannah slowly picked up the phone and dialed a number.

“Hannah?” There was slight uncertainty in the voice from the other side.

“Theodore, it’s me.”

“Don’t tell me you can’t stand the loneliness once Oscar’s gone?” queried Theodore.

Hannah was kind of speechless,

“I got a favor to ask.”

“I’m busy.”

“It means a lot to me.” Hannah was serious.

“What happened?” Theodore compromised immediately.

“Theodore, I need you to keep an eye on this guy.”

“He’s still stirring up trouble?”

Obviously, Theodore had never paid the slightest attention to Wayne.

Chapter 357

Hannah thought that she could scrap his post and leave him alone when he still didn’t achieve any results after a time. But she didn’t expect that he had a plot again and wanted to show up now.

“He’s not capable, so I’m afraid someone’s behind him.”

Theodore kind of admired her prudence. And he kind of figured out the reasons she could have a career in Cooper Group. And he began to respect Oscar for his ability to see things in people, especially in women. After all, Hannah was still nothing before marrying him.

“Right, I’ll keep an eye on Wayne. I’ll notify you if there’s something wrong.” Theodore promised without hesitation.

“Thanks.”

“Anything else?”

“No.”

Then he hung up immediately and called Oscar’s number at once.

“Oscar.”

“Yeah?” Oscar responded with coldness in his voice, which made Theodore kind of unhappy.

Oscar cared less about him now for he hadn’t even called him once in a week since Oscar had been away from Kensbury City. And he couldn’t stand that Oscar was so indifferent when he phoned him.

Theodore suppressed his bad mood and said, "Your wife asked me to keep an eye on Wayne."

"Just do what she asked."

"I've promised her." He said, having anticipated what Oscar would say.

"Great." Oscar said with a perfunctory tone.

"Are you busy?"

"Kind of."

"What do you have to do in the boonies?"

"A lot." Oscar wouldn't hide anything from him, "I have to be busy not being analyzed and framed."

Theodore frowned and immediately realized the meaning of what he had said. For him, these six months were crucial. Because he could never come back if he made any mistake. And there were always some people who didn't want him coming back, so they would play tricks, of course.

"Anything else?" Oscar asked.

"Nothing. When are you coming back?"

"It depends." Oscar said, "I won't come back for at least a month, or I'll be caught out by someone."

"I don't think you're free ever since you went there!" Theodore complained.

Actually, Oscar thought he never had freedom.

"I gotta go, call me again if you have any problem." Then Oscar just hung up directly.

Theodore also put down the phone, and he felt that something big was coming soon that made him look forward to it.

...

Hannah got off work at 10:00 PM, and this was her slot these days. Sometimes she even wondered if she didn't look forward to coming home from work because Oscar wasn't there.

When sitting in the car, she suddenly wanted to call Susan to give her some care.

"Hi." Susan's voice was drowsy.

"Are you sleeping?"

"Yeah," Susan answered.

"Then lie down again." Hannah didn't want to disturb her sleep because she was pregnant. But she didn't expect that Susan would go to bed so early.

"It's OK, I'm awake. I sleep almost 24 hours every day so you won't take away my sleep."

"Did you get over your morning sickness?" Hannah asked.

“No. Not at all.” Susan said with great pain, “I only feel better when I’m asleep, but when I wake up, I feel terrible again...” While saying these words on the phone, she suddenly made a sound of puking.

“Wait a minute,” Susan said in anguish. Then Hannah heard the sound of her throwing up constantly through the phone, which was so miserable.

After a while, Susan picked up the phone again and said, “I’m OK now.”

“You feel that bad? You should go to the hospital. If you keep vomiting like this, will it affect you or the baby?” Hannah asked.

“I don’t want to go to the hospital.” Susan said determinedly, “Injection is my fear.”

“Who said you have to get an injection if you get there? What I want to say is that you should see a doctor and ask if you need an extra nutritional supplement because of the morning sickness.”

“I’m fine. I only throw up like this once in a while. Once I see Justine, I’ll be very angry and I just forget my morning sickness.”

Hannah couldn’t help but laugh. Of course, she knew Justine had moved in with them, and she also knew there was a conflict between her and Susan. She even was clear that Susan was no match for her.

“Why are you laughing! You have no idea how annoying she is!” Susan was in a bad mood, “She doesn’t allow me to wear makeup, heels, and tights, and she also forces me into eating chicken soup every day. She’s killing me! If you can’t see me one day, I must have been pissed off to heaven by her!”

“No, stop talking about heaven.” Hannah chided, “What about Manuel? Is he all right?”

“I don’t want to talk about him! He was just an onlooker when I was bullied by Justine. You think he’s going to support me?” Susan was always angry when she mentioned Manuel’s name.

“I mean, does he still sleep on the sofa?”

“That’s his choice.”

“His legs are in recovery, so he needs good quality sleep. I’ve tried the sofa of that brand, it’s too soft for him.”

“Stop talking about him!” Susan was getting mad, “I managed to wait for your call, so can you stop mentioning him?”

Hannah smiled slightly. She knew that Susan would try to avoid something while being intrinsically insecure. She shouldn’t irritate Susan too much. After all, it was getting late.

“I’ll hang up now. Take good care of yourself and phone me if you need anything...”

“Hannah, I said I didn’t want you to mention Manuel, and then you just wanna hang up now. Am I important to you?” Susan said with anger.

Hannah had no words and it seemed there was nothing she could do to clear her name.

“I’ve always thought you are the most important person in my whole life. But you’ve changed a lot since you married Oscar! You have to reflect on your own!” Susan then hung up.

Hannah smiled reluctantly but felt kind of pleased. Now Susan was living in the way that Hannah expected the most. She hoped Susan would never have to suffer the anguish in her previous life again!

Hannah's phone rang. Indeed, as Susan said, since she married Oscar, she had changed a lot but that was because there was one more important person in her life.

Chapter 358

Oscar's name flashed on the screen.

Oscar would call her around this time every day when they were both off work since he departed from Kensbury City a week ago, and that had been the highlight of the day for Hannah.

She controlled her crush and answered the phone, "Clock off?"

"On the way ,and you?" Oscar asked in a magnetic and gentle voice.

"Me too."

"Such a busy day?" Oscar asked her.

"Yeah,the South Bay New Town project."

"I got a call from Theodore today."

"I've always been curious, how come Theodore does whatever you say?" Hannah frowned .

The Wold family played on both sides of the law. Accordingly, the four strong powers all respected the Wolds.

But Theodore had been obedient to Oscar all the time. It was a confusing truth.

"Do you wanna know?" Oscar raised his eyebrows.

"Will you say?"

"No."

"But that's okay,you can instruct Theodore to do anything." Oscar sent her a message.

"Are you sure ?"

"Mrs Wells, relax. He will obey you without complaints."

"..." Damn it, was this a warning to her ?

"Did you have dinner tonight?" Oscar changed the topic.

"Yes, you?"

"Me too, but I still feel hungry."

"Then you eat some more."

"Nothing make me feel full." Oscar sounded a little melancholy.

“Nothing appetizing there?”

“Not really just because there’s no Mrs Wells over here.”

Hannah frowned.

” I can’t make love with you so I am hungry.”

“...”

“Is there anything making you think of somebody??” Oscar asked.

“No.” Hannah denied it directly for she avoided any possibility to be molested by him.

“Just as I expected.” Oscar’s voice contained a sense of loss.

Telling from his voice, Hannah felt she was a bit cruel to this guy as she didn’t take his honesty seriously.

“But I miss you every night when I see your things.” Oscar said as if being hurt.

“Such as?” Hannah asked. She always avoided falling into Oscar’s trap but failed every time .

“Didn’t you notice the big hole of your bed sheets?”

Hannah got it at once and her face turned red at once.

What a jerk!

He said it to embarrass her, he meant that.”I can only make out with it while you are not here.” Oscar spoke in a coquettish tone.

“...”

Hannah blushed by the Oscar’s flirtation.

“I’m home.” Hannah converted the content. She felt there was something vaguely sexual about the talk, even through the phone, so she controlled her thoughts and feelings. “Do miss me, good night.”

Kind of irritated, Hannah hung up the phone immediately. Sometimes she felt she could be pregnant just by talking with him on the phone.

Oscar was in a trance sigh.His eyes looked at the strange night scene of River Town. There would be some day when he would come back to Hannah’s side with innocence identity.

...

Susan couldn’t sleep and kept tossing and turning on the bed. Since Hannah called her, she had been in insomnia. She got up and checked the time.

It was 1:00 am.

She was not feeling well in the stomach and she was so uncomfortable that she got up to drink a cup of water.

Outside the her bedroom, there was dim glow of the light in the living room. She saw him lying on the couch. Manuel had been sleeping on it for a whole week. She did not know if it was comfortable for him to lay huddled up on the sofa.

She walked to the kitchen to get some warm water. Just as she placed the glass at the automatic water dispenser, her stomach churned fiercely inside. Sometimes morning sickness was unpredictable. Susan vomited on the floor while she was trying finding a trash can. Just now she had vomited a lot so now she started to throw up water. Susan squatted on the ground, covering her stomach with her hands, with bouts of uncontrolled vomit.

Suddenly, someone appeared by her side, who was trying to relieve her pain with a big warm hand fondling her back. Susan wanted to refuse but at the moment she couldn't say anything because her stomach kept rolling over inside.

After a while, she was a little better.

"Feeling better?" Manuel asked her.

Susan did not reply. Manuel handed her a tissue. Susan took it and wiped her lips casually. Then she stood up.

"Do you want to go to the hospital?" Manuel asked.

"No need." Susan said, "It's better to death."

Susan took a cup of warm water away and left in a angry rush.

Manuel just watched her back silently and he went to get a mop from the utility room to clean up the floor where Susan had just puked.

But i was inconvenient for Manuel to do the cleaning.

When Susan came out of the room,she caught the scene, staying in surprise. She planned to clean up the room by herself when she felt better.

After all, it was so late and Susan even didn't want to bother Tia to get up in the middle of the night. That was not a good place to look.

She went over and took away the mop from his hand and said in anger, "I'll do it on my own."

Manuel looked at her.

"I don't need your help." Susan said. Then she focused on cleaning.

In fact, it was almost cleaned up by Manuel. Susan was just to finish the end.

Manuel did not say anything and he just wheeled himself to the sofa.

Susan turned around and then she saw Manuel struggling to lie down on the sofa. It was inconvenient for Manuel, who was currently disabled in both legs.

Susan was really annoyed to see him.

“Go to sleep on the bed!”

She had to admit that her insomnia was related to Manuel. She kept thinking about what Hannah had told her about how bad it was for Manuel to sleep on the couch.

How bad it was for his health!

But what did it matter to her if he was dying or not?

Susan had a breakdown!

Chapter 359

“No, thanks,” Manuel rejected. He kept waiting still in the wheeler, other than moving himself to the sofa, for he wanted to reach there after Susan was back to her room.

Susan was irritated for no reason. Laying down the mop, she headed to Manuel with anger.

Manuel stared at her. Susan pushed him in to the bedroom and slammed the door shut.

Manuel seized his words. And the room suddenly fell to quietness.

“Can you help yourself up to the bed?” Susan asked.

Anyway, the question was not for an answer but notice for him.

Manuel nodded.

“Then hurry up and let me sleep.” Susan laid herself to the bed as saying so.

She lied at one side, obviously allotting enough space for him. Of course, she turned her back to him. Manuel watched her back, astonished. As he previously expected, Susan might leave the bed for him and settle down herself in the sofa for a night. But out of his expectation, she slept onto his bed. It must be a conspicuous lie that he was calm and peaceful. He managed to contain his excitement and elbowed himself onto the bed.

There was only one duvet. Manuel moved to Susan slightly. But his movement drove her further instinctively. So Manuel dared not to advance, even by a centimeter. He was afraid to expel Susan off the bed due to his nearing.

The couple kept a great distance between which 2 people, at least, could make a good rest. The room was occupied by silence.

What a quiet night for slumber.

But Manuel failed to meet his. She was so closed that he could not control the flame in his heart.

The great deal of toing and froing for the whole evening took it out of her who was easily caught by the slumber.

She had prepared herself for a sleepless night, because of sharing a bed with the man she disliked. But she overestimated herself. She set off her journey in the dream as soon as her eyes got closed.

Asleep, Susan had no idea that a man getting close to her, leaving alone that he ever held her up and moved her to the bed center from the edge.

A warm hand slipped onto her lower abdomen.

The slumbering woman was wrapped by a touch of warm.

The dawn came.

Susan was awake earlier by her suffering stomach due to the pregnancy effect. She intended to dash to the toilet as her eyes opened. But she stopped for a bit while as she was in shock when unfolding the duvet.

Why did a man lied beside?

And she had a leg on the man's waist, with her head resting on his arm. Had they been that intimate for a whole night?

Damn it.

Susan rushed herself out of the bed before making a sprint to the bathroom. Then there was terrible vomiting, turning her insides upside down. Manuel was awake as soon as he felt Susan beside him wake up. Then, her vomiting was heard.

He sat up from the bed, moved to the wheeler and pushed himself to the bathroom.

Kneeling by the water closet, Susan was suffering from vomiting so seriously that it might only stop after her stomach was gutted out.

Manuel sat by her quietly. After a long while, Susan recovered a bit. She crawled up from the water closet and staggered her way to the vanity to gargle. But the gargle awakened her impulsion to vomit again. She just made a retch without pressing out any more.

"Do I make you sick so much?" Manuel asked suddenly. He was right behind Susan.

Susan watched him in the vanity mirror.

"True. It makes me sick for you are the first man I saw on the morning." Susan made no excuse. She was leaving the bathroom as saying.

"I doubt if you have any common sense." Susan remarked and turned to cranky suddenly.

Manuel was puzzled.

"This is the morning sickness of pregnancy." Susan added angrily, "Who do you think you are that can make me sick when I cast a sight on you?"

"..." Manuel was left speechless.

"Leave me alone!" Susan was irritated.

Whenever she intended to show any kindness to him, she could not help but erupt into fury. She was tired of that. How could he manage to rouse her anger but at the same time trigger her mercy on him?

Susan finished her washing in anger before leaving for breakfast. When she arrived at the dining hall, she saw the breakfast was ready by Tia. Since from she was informed about Susan's pregnancy, Justine had been joining Tia to prepare for meals.

"Morning, Ms Phillips. The breakfast is ready." Tia said to Susan who was walking into the dining room.

"Call her Mrs Johnson, no Ms Phillips." Justine corrected in a strict way.

Tia cast a glance at Susan before following Justine's order.

"No! Just call me the way before!" Susan made a direct objection.

"How can you prevent yourself from embarrassment when you required Tia called you Ms Phillips, as you are already married and pregnant? A stranger must be misled to that you are a single mother at hearing that nonsense calling." Justine said ironically. Justine always had a way to get Susan trapped in angry speechless.

"Mrs Johnson." Tia said carefully, echoing Justine's correction.

Susan was so furious that she felt her lung might explode next minute. Living under the same roof with Justine could someday cause the tragedy of miscarriage. She turned around and intended to withdraw to her room.

"Time for breakfast now," Justine said to stop her, "I remember that you said you missed the taste of meat bun, so I had Tia prepared that today."

Susan seized her pace.

The worst part of pregnancy was that it gave the best appetite while bringing in the worst vomiting. The meat bun managed to retain her.

She told herself she must swallow her anger for the bun counted more than the old woman. So she resumed herself and sat down by the dining table, enjoying her breakfast.

She was not used to have breakfast. But the baby changed her routine. The first thing she desired every morning now was food. That desire was a monster of which was hard to get rid.

She fed her mouth with a bun.

What a delicious!

Meanwhile, others sat by the table, joining her for breakfast.

What a sweet home!

But Susan got cranky for that sweetness, so she could only enjoy her meal in angry. As soon as she finished it quickly, she dropped her sticks and left rudely. She locked herself in the bedroom, cranky and furious.

"Ms Phillips...My apology. Mrs Johnson instead, was a kid who never conceal her emotion." Tia said with a smile as seeing the figure moving further.

"So keep obedience to her as much as possible." Justine said.

"..." As hearing so, Tia was too shocked to utter a word. Because Justine was obviously the last one who would show any kind of obedience to Susan.

"Make sure the chicken soup this noon free of oil, for oily smell can lead to morning sickness." Justine ordered.

"Yes, my Lady." Tia responded.

Justine took a good care of Susan, though she never showed a smiling face to her.

After hearing Susan missed the taste of buns, Justine got up at 5 o'clock this morning to join her in preparing for the buns, and made sure that those must be Susan's cup of tea.

Maybe that was a so-called love-hate relationship.

...

After coming back her room, Susan stretched herself on the bed annoyed.

Strange it may seem that her stomach could feel better every time after a fight with Justine for no reason.

Damn it.

Had she developed to the Stockholm Syndrome?

She took out her cell phone, planning to ease her emotion by game. Then her phone rang.

She saw the name of Henry on the screen.

Chapter 360

Susan answered the phone.

"Hi, Susan," She heard Henry's gentle voice through the phone.

Susan was mute for a while. Then she said, "Hi, Henry."

"Why didn't you come to the office for such a long time? Are you OK?" Henry asked. He pretended as if nothing happened.

Susan shut her mouth, for she was searching for words to announce her pregnancy. She had Manuel's baby.

He asked, "Do you feel well? Or just have another fight with your dad?" He was as gentle as always.

"No," Susan replied, "I am pregnant." She chose to tell him directly.

So that's why this sentence muted the man on the phone. He was silent for a long while.

With tears gathering in her eyes, Susan could imagine how hard this moment could be for Henry. Just like her, it was a tough moment as she was notified she had a baby with Manuel.

"Sorry, Henry." She added.

“No need for apology.” The man chuckled and said, “Congratulations.”

“No, please don’t. You must know that can hurt me for saying so. Indeed, I am...” She failed to finish her line.

“If only that’s what you want. Whatever.” Henry disturbed her and added, “If only you were happy.”

“No, I’m not. How can I be happy to have Manuel’s baby?” Susan said it loud. It was loud enough to hear as standing by the door which Manuel was going to open.

He was just right at the door. But he did not come in. So Susan did not notice him.

“The baby is innocent.” Henry added, “Don’t transfer your hate for Manuel to this innocent baby. That might hurt him.”

“I know. I am surely clear that the baby is innocent. And that’s why I keep him. If not, if not...” Susan choked with sobs.

“I know.” Henry tried to comfort her and said, “Susan, don’t be hard to yourself. I understand what that means to you.”

“But that means it’s over for us.” Susan said. She felt heartbroken as saying that. She had planned a divorce to Manuel someday. And she must go back to Henry then. But the baby made that day impossible. She might doom to get tangled with Manuel for all her life.

“I see.” Henry said peacefully, “There is no need to consider me. Just do whatever is important for you. I can accept if that is your choice.”

“Henry, how can you be so nice all the way?” Susan said with a broken heart. That was too much for her. The kinder Henry was, the more she suffered.

“To get you hurt or suffered is not what I want from you, Susan. Take good care of yourself. I have to go.” Henry said.

Susan gripped the phone so firmly as if that was her last treasury. She knew what it meant for hanging up the call. That was an official bye. But there was no other choice. She hung up the phone finally.

Officially bye, Henry.

They had no future any more. After the call, Susan cried her heart out. Manuel, standing at the door and hearing all this, left silently. He could feel how hard Susan was. But he was not the one that could console her. So he could only leave in silence.

As hearing the buzz of the call, Henry’s expression changed. Though he had said if only Susan was happy, he could feel Susan’s leaving him. She gave him up. And he had nothing to do but accepted.

But how could he! How could he give up the property of Phillips Bank that he had coveted for so long?

With a black look, Henry refused to accept. It was impossible for him to allow a happy ending for Susan and Manuel.

...

Hannah just came back to her office after a meeting. Then Susan's call came to her.

"How are you today?" Hannah asked with a smile.

But what she only heard was a fierce cry.

"What's up? What's going wrong, Susan?" Hannah said, being a bundle of nerves.

"I broke up with Henry. This time we're over actually..." Susan howled in a cry.

Hannah got released at hearing so. Susan's cry aroused her worry about the baby.

"You did scare me, babe. Just take it easy. Actually, you have been broken up since from your wedding with Manuel." Hannah said.

"Hannah, do you really understand? Why you are so cruel to me?" Susan accused. Susan could not accept Hannah's response, so casual and even cold-blood.

"OK, my dear. I understand that was hard for you. But please, stop your cry. That won't do any good to your baby."

"It is the baby that kills my love!" Susan said angrily.

"Stop it. I heard that a baby can feel its mother's emotions. If it realizes it is not wanted, it might be so upset that it could even..." Hannah said. She managed to calm down Susan.

"Now it was a piece of flesh. How can a flesh have mind?" Susan said with a touch of terror.

"Of course, it has. My mother was so sick when she was carrying me. And she was angry and tread to give me up. Then she found a bleeding which sent her to hospital. Thanks to the in-time treatment, the little me was saved at last." Hannah said seriously.

"Come on, Hannah. No more scaring. Do I need to go to hospital to check it up? I don't think I am nice enough to him..." Susan said in guilt.

"Well, you do care your baby, right?" Hannah said in a smile.

"..." Susan was left speechless.

Damn it.

This was a trick.

"Susan, you can do nothing but just follow the decision you have made. It's not wise to keep focusing on those which you already leave behind. Try to put yourself to Manuel's shoes. What you suffer now is what Manuel went through as he decided to let you go, seeing you running into Henry's arms. And this man is the one that deserves your love, don't complaining."

Susan could not retort.

"Just look forward." Hannah decided to shift the topic, for she did not wanted to force Susan so hard, and said, "Will it be a boy or girl?"

"A boy, maybe. I want a boy." Susan said without thought.

Hannah laughed at hearing so. After all, the baby was wanted by Susan for she cared it so much. Otherwise she would not have any expectation.

“Justine and Manuel want a girl. So I must want a boy!” Susan said fiercely.

Hannah was left speechless. That was her, her childish friend.

“The boy must be badly handsome, if he looks like his father.” Hannah added.

“No, he must look like me! Must!” Susan retorted at a high voice.

“I cannot agree.” Hannah said directly.

“Are you really at my side? Hannah!” Susan said in fury.

“OK, just kidding.” Hannah said with a good laughter, “ I have to go for a meeting. I will get back to you later.”

“Fine!” Susan hung up the phone angrily.

Hannah put down her phone.

It must be blessed to have a baby, she suddenly thought.