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Queenie cried so hard that she couldn't speak. Tears streamed down her thin face as she cried, feeling immense pain and despair.

"Flynn is just a bastard. You love him so much. How could he do that to you?"

I was a soft-hearted person and couldn't stand seeing others cry. Queenie was crying so sadly that I couldn't help but cry too. I felt sorry for her pure heart and for the sake of all the good times we had shared over the years..

I really couldn't believe that the charming and sometimes unruly Flynn, who swore to love Queenie for a lifetime, turned out to be a scumbag.

And the silly Queenie was truly hurt this time.

"Lulu, I don't want to love him anymore. I want to leave this place and never look back again. Her painful cries buried her bright self, and in its place, there was only deep despair.

Η

Flynn Hayes, look at what you did. You'd better not regret it. Otherwise, even if you realized you were wrong, there would be no chance for redemption.

"If you've made up your mind, then go ahead. I'll support your decision. Cry all you want. Let all the years of pain and grievances flow away with your tears. But after that, you need to start over. Queenie, you're a good woman. You'll definitely find someone better."

"I sent him a text to break up with him, but he didn't reply. I don't want to stay in this city anymore. I want to leave, but I don't know where to go.

"Lulu, I left home against my parents' wishes back then. I'm too ashamed to go back now. What should I do, Lulu? I'm so useless."

"Don't say that. You're not wrong, and none of this is your fault. You just loved Flynn too much. Queenie, why don't you come to Jinovy? Colin rented a house for me, so you can live with me. There are many job opportunities here. You'll definitely find a job you like. Come live with me, okay?"

We talked for over an hour. She kept crying all throughout. It was as if she was crying a

lifetime's worth of tears.

Fortunately, she agreed to come to Jinovy. Otherwise, I was really afraid that she might do something irrational.

Once she agreed, I immediately booked her a flight ticket for the next day.

I asked if she had a lot to bring and if she needed to check in her luggage. But she told me she would only bring her own things. She didn't want anything Flynn gave her or anything they bought together. She didn't have much stuff, so she only had one piece of luggage with her.

My heart sank when I heard that.

After loving each other for so many years, she would only be leaving with a small piece of luggage after breaking up.

Was love worthless, or did she choose the wrong person? I thought it should be the latter.

It was already late when we ended our call. Colin sent me a few text messages, telling me that he would be staying overnight at the rental house and to sleep well. He also told me not to overthink and that he had everything under control.

I couldn't sleep after the chat with Queenie as the emotional roller coaster was too intense. So, I chatted with Colin.

I wanted to ask about the conversation he had with his family. I wanted to know if they made things difficult for him. But then I thought it wasn't necessary for me to ask. He would tell me if he wanted to. He wouldn't wait for me to ask him.

If he didn't want me to know, why should I make things difficult for him? It didn't matter whether he told me or not. I knew he made the decision after considering my well-being.

Instead of worrying about Felix, it was better for me to take care of Queenie.

I asked Colin if he knew how Flynn was doing now, but he said that he didn't know much. He just knew that something had happened to the Hayes and they needed help from the family of Flynn's childhood friend.

So, they were using the family inheritance as an excuse to force Flynn to marry his childhood. friend. He did try to resist, but he failed each time. No one really knew what the future held.

"What's so difficult about it? It all depends on Flynn's decision."

After a moment of silence, Colin said, "Flynn naturally wants to have the best of both worlds, but reality won't allow it to happen. His family is pressuring him, causing a lot of mental stress. He even suffered from alcohol poisoning twice. He's not having it easy."

After listening to his words, I felt a mix of emotions.

Was it really so difficult to make a choice? If Flynn wanted wealth and power, he should choose the Hayes. If he wanted to stay with Queenie, then he should just choose her. It was just a matter of A or B. The difficulty lay in Flynn's excessive greed and desires.

In other words, it was not that Queenie wasn't important enough to him, it was just that wealth and power were more attractive.

Suddenly, I realized that Flynn was never the right person for Queenie. They were just too young back then and at the age where love reigned supreme. They failed to realize the cruelty of the real world.

Now that it was time to make a choice, it was not surprising that Flynn was indecisive.

Just like Matthew, I was sure he would eventually succumb to his family's arrangements and

be with Helen.

Helen was a good person, and I didn't have feelings for Matthew, so it was easy to part ways. But Queenie worshiped Flynn like a god. His choice would definitely crush her heart.

If things really happened as Queenie said and Flynn was having a baby with his childhood friend, then such a man was not worthy of Queenie's affection. He wouldn't be a good lover, nor did he deserve true love. Queenie had wasted all the feelings she had for him over the years.

What kind of person would be considered a good lover?

Power, status, and money were things everyone liked, but they were not necessities for love. A true lover should be someone like Colin. He knew full well the difficulties and hardships we would face in the future, yet he firmly stood his ground and protected me.

He built a wall to shield me from the harsh reality.

Perhaps someone might ask, "You've only been together for a short time. A lifetime is so long, so what makes you so sure that he would always love you, cherish you, and protect you?"

To be honest, I didn't know why, but I just had this feeling. Since we became a couple, I've had this confidence and conviction that we would be like this for the rest of our lives.

"Why is Flynn so heartless? Queenie has been together with him for so many years. How could

he bear to let her down? History says that men are heartless. It seems that it's true," I grumbled discontentedly to Colin, casting him a reproachful glance through the phone screen.

He chuckled at my annoyance and threatened me jokingly, "You little rascal, don't talk about this nonsense. Not all men are the same. But Flynn has tried his best. If Queenie is willing to wait, perhaps they could have a happy ending."

I exploded with anger upon hearing this and yelled at him, "You always take Flynn's side. Why should Queenie wait for him? What if he can't find a solution? Won't that ruin her life? Do women always have to be the one to sacrifice?

"Flynn is having a baby with someone else. He abandoned Queenie but still wants her to wait for him. Who does he think he is? Queenie endured so many difficulties to be with him. If he doesn't love her, he should just let go. Why cling to Queenie while having a baby with another woman?"

"Lulu, don't make judgments without confirming things. The situation between Flynn and Queenie is very complicated. It doesn't mean they don't love each other. As for the future, they have to decide for themselves. Although we're all friends, we shouldn't interfere too much."

"Hmph, I don't care. You always side with Flynn anyway. Men always side with men. Oh, by the way, Queenie's coming over tomorrow. I've asked her to stay with me. So, you should move back to the dormitory. I'm going to bed now. Goodnight."

Seduced by My Childhood Sweetheart's Brother

"Hmph, I don't care. You always side with Flynn anyway. Men always side with men. Oh, by the way, Queenie's coming over tomorrow. I've asked her to stay with me. So, you should move back to the dormitory. I'm going to bed now. Goodnight."

With a firm resolve, I hung up the phone without hesitation. I stared at the darkened screen

with frustration.

After a while, I noticed Helen staring at me with an ambiguous expression.

"What? Are you falling in love with me?" I pretended to be afraid and pulled the blanket over myself while watching her every move vigilantly.

Helen shook her head and clicked her tongue. "As expected, the favored ones are always emboldened. Something must be wrong with Colin's eyes. How did he fall for you?"

"You're the blind one. Take this." I threw a plush toy at her, hitting her butt accurately.

After turning off the lights and getting ready to sleep, I heard a notification from my phone. I opened my phone and saw a text from someone. The profile picture was a guy in a baseball cap who was flashing a mischievous smile. "I'll pick you up for breakfast tomorrow."

I smirked smugly and put my phone aside.

Yes, I was favored and pretty emboldened. Anyone who wasn't satisfied could just come at me.

The next morning, Colin picked me up on time for breakfast. Somehow, we ended up talking about Felix and their conversation the previous day.

Colin said their parents found out about Felix faking his illness. Uncle Austin slapped Felix while Aunt Mel scolded him harshly.

Felix remained silent throughout and refused to admit his wrongdoings. In the end, their parents decided to take him back to Southsville. They wanted him to recuperate for a while before returning to continue his studies.

"But he's fine now, isn't he? Why bring him back to Southsville?" I asked, feeling puzzled.

The subjects for the first and second years of postgraduate studies were quite difficult, and students were required to participate in many research projects. Many started their own businesses while they were studying. Once Felix applied for a leave, he would fall behind his

peers.

There were plenty of talented individuals in graduate school. Catching up would be difficult for him. How could Felix allow himself to lag behind others with that pride of his?

"My parents suspect that he has psychological issues and want to bring him to a psychologist. This will also prevent him from doing anything excessive in the future."

That made sense. Psychological illnesses could affect a person's character and behavior. Felix's irrationality did suggest some psychological obstacles. After all, a normal person wouldn't do the things he did.

In my heart, although I didn't love him romantically, I still hoped that the guy who spent 18. years with me would remain true to his pure and innocent heart.

"Oh, then tell Uncle Austin that I can cover the medical expenses if needed. Felix got injured trying to save me, so I should bear the medical bills."

Colin pinched my nose affectionately and kissed the tip of my nose lightly as he teased, "You

with must really be a rich young woman to speak with such confidence. Don't worry, your hubby here, you won't have to spend any money."

I buried my reddened face and concentrated on the soup in front of me. I glanced at Colin with a hint of annoyance. "You're not my hubby. Stop talking nonsense."

Colin's unabashed demeanor was becoming more and more evident. First, he changed his status from being my brother to becoming my boyfriend. Now, he was trying to upgrade his status from boyfriend to husband, as if everything was under his control.

Although I had decided to marry no one but him, that wasn't a good enough reason for him to be so cocky.

He was too full of himself.

"Lulu, Felix... wants to see you before he leaves. Will you... see him?"

Seduced by My Childhood Sweetheart's Brother

It was not like I could choose not to go..

I had no classes in the morning. Colin, who was familiar with my schedule, dropped me off in

the corridor.

Felix was already there, dressed in a set of black clothes. His hair was neatly trimmed with

ach strand standing upright, adding a touch of stubbornness to his sharp appearance.

"Go ahead. I'll wait over there." Colin pushed me forward and pointed to the bench outside the

corridor.

"Lulu, you're here." Felix turned around. He was tall, with handsome features and sparkling eyes. Despite the melancholic air around him, he still resembled the youthful him of the past.

I nodded and responded lightly, "Colin said you wanted to see me. What's the matter?"

Felix seemed taken aback for a moment and then glanced at Colin sitting on the bench. A self- deprecating and obscure look flickered in his eyes. "Lulu, why did you fall in love with Colin?"

"There's no reason. Love is just love. Just like how you fell for Lilac. Speaking of which, I must've been too stupid. I clearly had someone precious by my side, yet I was chasing after someone who wasn't mine. I was really stupid." I chuckled softly.

"You're right. I was stupid too. I didn't understand my own heart, always thinking that I was right, only to regret it later. If I hadn't been so rebellious back then and hadn't done those things to hurt you, maybe it wouldn't be Colin who's by your side today.""

Here it was again.

I couldn't understand why Felix kept saying such things. What was he thinking? What did he intend to do?

Since I came to study at Jesselton College, he had brought this up at least three times.

The harm had already been done, time had buried everything, and we had grown from ignorant youths to mature adults. We had completely moved on from the past, so what was the point of bringing it up again?

If all the "ifs" could be realized, there would be no more regrets in this world.

"I never believed in "ifs", because they were the most illusory thing in the world. I only knew that Colin accompanied me without any resentment or regrets. He took care of me and loved. me. That was enough for me.

"Felix, I still have things to do. If you have something to say, please say it now. If not, then I'm leaving."

Felix's expression changed several times. His head drooped in dismay. He seemed to bet thinking of something.

After a while, he finally raised his head. His clear dark eyes seemed to be shining. "Lulu, is there really no chance for us to be together?"

I was exasperated. Hadn't I been clear enough? He should've known the consequences, so why did he pretend to be clueless back then?

"Yes, it's impossible. Let me put it this way. If there ever comes a day when I can't be with Colin anymore, I'd rather be alone than be with you."

He seemed to have expected my response and wasn't particularly surprised. He just fell into silence again, this time for a longer period. It was so long that my feet began to numb from standing before he finally muttered, "Can we at least be friends?"

"Sure." Being friends was the outcome I had persuaded myself to accept.

"But I saved you and got injured because of that. Can't you repay me by being with me?"

"Who said that you have to fall in love with your savior?"

"You did. Don't deny it. You said it yourself. I heard it with my own ears.

Suddenly, I remembered that morning in this room, when Colin and I were fooling around. My face inexplicably felt a little hot.

Indeed, it was the best way to repay the favor of one's savior, but it depended on who the savior was too. If it was not the person I wanted, I would rather repay them with

Felix must have been planning since that day.

"So?" I asked impatiently.

my life.

Seduced by My Childhood Sweetheart's Brother

"Everything I did was just because I wanted to be with you. I just used the wrong way.

my fault. Give me a chance to make it up to you and love you

Everything in the properly, okay?"

past was

Okay? No.

I was so frustrated.

At this moment, I could confirm that Felix indeed had psychological issues. He was either suffering from depression or was paranoid. Otherwise, he would understand my clear rejection.

Mental illness was still an illness. When it started to affect one's life, it had to be treated.

I rubbed my temples helplessly and said impatiently, "Let me say this one last time. Please remember never to ask me this question again because I'm really annoyed. I don't like not now and not in the future.

"So I won't be with you, ever. Don't do these meaningless things anymore. Apart from annoyance, I feel nothing else."

you-

Felix's tall and thin figure swayed as if he had been deeply wounded. He stumbled slightly as if he were disappointed by me. The light in his eyes dimmed, turning into despair, which annoyed me.

His affection was truly meaningless to me.

"Lulu, you don't want you anymore, do you? Then, what do I have left?" Felix murmured softly. His eyes were filled with desolation like that of a wanderer without a home.

Seeing him like this made me uncomfortable as well. After all, we grew up together, and we shared 18 years of unforgettable memories.

But he had made his choices, so he had to bear the consequences.

"Felix, it's not that I don't want you. It's just that there's nothing between us. My life belongs to Colin now. Whether it's in life or in death, I belong to him. In the future, I'll be your sister- in-law, and we'll become a family. We'll still be together, just in a different way."

Felix smiled bitterly. It was a beautiful yet sorrowful smile.

When I walked over to Colin, Felix said behind me, "I knew before you came that we wouldn't have a future together. But I still wanted to try. Perhaps you're right.

"I'm just not willing to give up like this. Lulu, letting go of you is the greatest regret in my lifetime. Lulu, I really regret it."

"It's all in the past. It's a good thing that we didn't turn that into a fault."

"Yes. Actually, I did it on purpose both times. I allowed my mother to hurt you and watched my brother struggle because of me day in and day out. I wasn't only hurting you but also loved ones. I'm really despicable."

I chuckled and shook my head.

my

He had figured it out, and everyone had the right to pursue what they wanted. Although his methods were wrong, they didn't cause us any substantial harm. He had no intention of harming us.

So, he deserved forgiveness.

And I was willing to forgive him.

"Don't hate me, okay?"

"Live well and I'll promise you that."

"Okay."

As I walked out of the corridor, Colin, who was observing us the whole time, came over quickly.

The sun was shining behind him, casting a golden halo that highlighted his sharp features and sparkling eyes. There was a small smile on his lips as he opened his arms to welcome me.

I looked at the man walking toward me with admiration. I rushed into his embrace, sighing contentedly.

Studying watercolor painting since childhood had given me a keen appreciation for beauty. Colin was the most beautiful of all. Not only did I want to admire him, but I also wanted to possess him.

Talking to Felix turned out to be much easier than I had imagined. Perhaps, as he said, he just wanted to give it one more try even though he already knew the answer.

We didn't really talk much, nor did we delve deeply into the matter. Somehow, my anger toward Felix's feigned illness dissipated just like that.

I suddenly realized that I didn't actually hate him. As he was Colin's family, he would become mine too in the future.

There shouldn't be hatred between family members.

Colin lifted my chin and gave me a sly smirk. This melted me immediately. I leaned into him, naturally wrapping my arms around his waist.

This seductive temperament of his was truly alluring.

"Tired?"

"Mm."

"Seems like you're not fit enough, my wife. You need to work out more," Colin teased me with

a smirk.

My face flushed. We hadn't reached that stage yet, but it was necessary to make it clear to him. I was solving a problem for him too.

"When will you stop eavesdropping like that?"

"I was sitting so far away. How could I possibly eavesdrop? A certain someone must have spoken so loudly that even I could hear it so far away. You can only become his sister-in-law after becoming my wife. Have you thought about our marriage?"

I was caught off guard and thoughtlessly blurted out, "You haven't even proposed. Why should I think about marriage?"

Colin pressed his forehead against mine and asked me in a husky voice, "Will you marry me if I propose?" His voice was really making me weak.

"Huh?" I was dumbfounded.

Perhaps I was looking a little silly because he chuckled softly. The sound vibrating from his chest was especially seductive "You silly girl."

I patted my chest. He was just teasing me. It really scared me.

Although I had decided to marry him, we had only been together for a few months. We still hadn't fully enjoyed the sweetness of being in love with each other, so I didn't want to get married so soon.

Besides, he was still in the probationary period. Did he forget about that?

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When we looked back at this moment much later and after finding out about my thoughts, he

tightly all night. The next morning, he went to work feeling refreshed

angrily hugged, unable to draw oven a rabbit.

while I lazed around in the

"You ungrateful brat, I gave my heart to you for three whole years when you were in university. How dare you say that it wasn't sweet?"

When he flipped out in anger, I saw the Colln who was waiting for me In front of the

dormitory building at Lincoln University, holding an umbro

Indeed, during those three years, it was truly a sweet period of time if it was looked at from a lover's perspective. It was just that I didn't know about his feelings at the time, so I didn't think about it that way.

"Baby, did you know that I was on edge every day?"

"Why?"

"There was always someone trying to steal my girlfriend away from me. Would you not be on edge if you were in my shoes?"

Well, I would be.

"I've cleared things up with him. It won't happen again in the future."

"Hmph, I hope so."

I never thought that Felix would give up so easily. It was beyond my expectations.

He got injured because of me, and I appreciated that. I felt sorry for him, so I took care of him. But it wouldn't lead to us being together,

To put it bluntly, if there really came a day when Colin distanced himself from me because of his brother, it meant that I was not as important as his brother and that I could be abandoned.

Seduced by My Childhood Sweetheart's Brother

If that day were to come, I would rather leave by myself. I wouldn't want to see the Whites again, and I wouldn't yield to any pressure.

Perhaps Felix understood this point as well as how wrong his actions were, which was why he didn't insist. He let me go, and he let himself go too after some sincere talks.

It was like dealing with a mischievous child. The more you backed down, the more they pushed forward. Politely speaking, they were spoiled. They would naturally give up after realizing that there was no way out and that their attitude was unreasonable.

It was nearly ten when I returned to the dormitory. Surprisingly, Helen was back.

She was blow-drying her hair and wasn't surprised to see me back. Her pretty eyes scanned my face several times, as if she was looking for something.

"Why are you looking at me like that? It's creepy," I said.

She smirked coldly and teased, "You returned with swollen lips after being pampered by your boyfriend in broad daylight."

What nonsense was she spouting? When did my lips become swollen? We didn't even kiss.

I ran over to her in embarrassment, trying to stuff her mouth with her socks. But she escaped and mocked me, "You're just angry out of embarrassment. But with your boyfriend's looks, it's easy to lose control. I totally understand."

"Get lost. Nothing happened, okay?"

wh are

you so worked up? Don't tell me you were bitten by mosquitoes?"

I looked in the mirror and indeed, my lips were a little swollen. I must have bitten my lips. during the tense moment earlier. It had nothing to do with Colin!

I was innocent.

Ah, Helen must have been influenced by Matthew.

I naively thought that Felix's matter was resolved and that my future with Colin would be smooth. However, something happened later that made me realize that it was really hard to let go of love, even being separated.

For a long time after that, I struggled bitterly in that difficult situation, almost drowning myself in tears.

In the evening, Colin took me to the airport to pick Queenie up.

The arrival hall was bustling when I saw Queenie's petite figure. She had become so thin that it seemed like a gust of wind could easily blow her away. I raised my hand high to wave her over. When she saw me, she quickly dragged her luggage over. We hugged across the railing.

"Queenie, why are you so thin?" I hugged her tightly in public. The bones on her shoulder were poking into my arms painfully.

She had become too thin. How much torment had she endured to become like this? I was so sad, but I tried to hold back the tears welling up in my eyes to prevent her from feeling sad.

How much had she suffered while she was there?

Love was really like a glass of red wine. Some might find it aromatic and delightful, while others might find it sour and regret drinking it.

For Queenie, it seemed to be a bit of both.

Back when we were at Lincoln, we were all very close. Even if we hadn't seen each other for a while, our relationship wouldn't change.

Colin took us out for dinner.

Queenie didn't want to at first. She said she was too tired and wanted to find a hotel nearby to get some rest. I didn't agree and dragged her to the restaurant.

It was evident that she hadn't been eating properly for a while. I had to make sure she got her health back.

She might be tired, but would she really rest? She probably just wanted to hide somewhere and cry by herself.

If Flynn was really worth her sacrifice, I would cry with her. But if he was really a scumbag, then Queenie shouldn't have to shed another tear for him. He didn't deserve it.

Colin brought us to a local restaurant, which was relatively quiet and secluded.

Seduced by My Childhood Sweetheart's Brother

The restaurant's service was excellent. The dishes were served quickly, and Colin personally set things up for me. He even tasted the soup himself before offering it to me.

I was sitting there like a fool, waiting for him to feed me..

At first, I didn't really think much of it. After all, he had always been like this, taking care of me meticulously. After becoming my boyfriend, his actions became even more considerate.

To me, it had become a habit. I forgot that Queenie, who was sitting opposite me, was just battered and bruised by love.

It wasn't until her tears fell onto her plate that I realized our lovey-dovey actions were hurting her. I quickly pinched Colin under the table and signaled him to look at Queenie.

He understood my meaning and deftly put the piece of fish that had just been picked clean of bones into his mouth.

I knew how heartbroken Queenie was, yet I still made her unhappy. I realized my own selfishness.

"I'm sorry, Queenie. I-I..." I apologized softly, berating myself for being heartless.

Queenie poked at her steak a few times before lifting her head. Her nose was red, and tears were pooling in her eyes. She forced a smile to comfort me. "It's alright. Let's eat. The food's good."

"Okay, let's eat. After this, we'll go to my place. You can stay with me. We can have a good chat.

"No, there's no need for that." Queenie waved her hand and shook her head frantically, looking anxious. "I don't want to intrude. I'll just stay at the hotel."

When Colin heard that I wanted Queenie to stay with me, his expression turned as dark as ink. He warned me with a snarl.

As I tried to figure out how to get him to stay in the dormitory, he received a phone call. I took a peek and saw that it was Professor King.

Colin answered the call respectfully, listening to the person on the other end. The more he listened, the tighter his brows knitted together. His already dark expression became stormy.

"Professor, I just came to Jesselton not long ago. That's a big project. It's not a good idea for me to get involved.

"This is too sudden, I haven't made any preparations.

"Alright, Professor. I'll go."

"Where are you going, Colin?" I asked curiously.

Something must have happened to make him this unhappy.

He put away his phone and pinched the bridge of his nose before reluctantly saying, "There's an academic exchange at school, and the professor wants me to lead the team. Let Queenie stay with you. It's perfect for you two to keep each other company."

"Where's this exchange? Why didn't I know about it?"

Colin impatiently patted my head and said unhappily, "I just heard about it too."

"How long will you be gone? Summer vacation's coming soon," I pouted while saying that unwillingly.

I had planned to have a great time during summer vacation, but now it seemed like those plans would go down the drain. Why did the professor choose Colin when there were so many young teachers in school?

This was the cons of having an older boyfriend. We could never be in sync with each other. It was really annoying

I was full of resentment.

"This is a joint event organized by several well-known universities in the country. It'll be in Lagado. The professor has a new project there and hasn't decided whether to take it or not. So this will be a trip to inspect the site as well. It won't be too long, probably about two months.

"Two months isn't long? What's with the professor? Why can't he go there himself? That old man's always making others do his bidding

Colin pinched my cheek affectionately but with a hint of exasperation. "Alright now, be good. Two months will pass by quickly. Tell me what you want and I'll bring it back for you. Queenie, during this time, you two should stay together and take care of each other."

"Okay, I'll do my best to fatten her up." Queenie hastily agreed, fearing that any delay would disappoint Colin.

I could take care of myself even without Colin around. Besides, Queenie's situation made it difficult for her to even take care of herself, let alone me. Colin's arrangement was just to give her a purpose and help her recover quickly.

I understood this reason, and I believed Queenie did too.

After Colin dropped us off at home, he went back to the dormitory to prepare for his trip.

Queenie and I snuggled up on the large bed after showering to have a heart-to-heart talk. It had been so long since we spoke to each other, so there were so many things that we wanted to talk about.

To help distract her, I told her about Felix's accident and the subsequent happenings, as well as Aunt Mel's objection to my relationship with Colin. Queenie's eyes turned red in anger after I was done.

"I was wondering why you pulled yourself away from us during that time. You were so thin and your spirits were low. I didn't realize such a big thing had happened. Why didn't you tell us? It must have been so difficult for you to endure all that alone."

"Queenie, things were indeed tough for me at the time, and I didn't know what to do. Fortunately, Colin was always by my side. He never once thought of giving up on our love.

"His relationship with his family turned sour because of me. So, I've always been confident. about his feelings for me. Now that everything's over, things will get better.

"How about you? What do you think about all the things that have happened? You have to tell

me the truth

"Flynn isn't an ordinary person. He'll search for you after you leave, won't he? With his background, finding you won't be difficult. You have to be prepared for the day he comes looking for you."

At the mention of Flynn, Queenie started to cry again.

This was unavoidable. I didn't try to console her and just handed her a packet of tissues.

wwwww

Some grievances need to be vented, or they would only make you sick,

"I want to break up with him, but we've been together for five years. Five years, Lulu. Those were the best five years of my life. I gave him everything, the best that I had. But he couldn't even promise me one thing.

"The most ridiculous thing was that when he was accompanying another woman for a prenatal check- up, I was still asking him what he wanted for dinner. If it weren't for that pair of mother and daughter causing trouble at the company, I wouldn't even have known that he was going to be a father.

"Can you imagine how it felt to be called a home wrecker and get slapped in front of more than a hundred colleagues? At that time, I really wanted to die.

"The last straw was when he saw me get beaten and my face covered in blood, but he just took the assailant away without even a glance at me. If he had just taken a look at me, just one look, I might

have had the courage to persevere in our relationship.

"I didn't know how I managed to get up from the ground and went to the hospital. I stared at my phone the whole night, only for him to not even send me a single word.

"At dawn, I made up my mind. I wanted to break up with him. I wanted to leave him.

"The world is so big, and there are so many people in this world. I'll surely find someone who loves me. Even if I find someone who doesn't love me, we can live as respectful partners. It's much better than being tormented by him like this."

"It's good if you've made up your mind. I'll support your decision. If he really comes to look for you, I'll help you."

"But I've always had a feeling that he won't let me go that easily." Queenie's worry was also my concern. If Flynn decided to keep her by his side, the chances of her escaping would be

slim.

But no matter how slim the chances were, we had to try and fight for it.

"Don't worry. If you're really determined and he comes to pester you, both Colin and I as well as our friends here will help you."

Queenie told me many things that she couldn't express over the phone. We chatted until late at night, so much so that when we woke up in the morning, it was almost nine o'clock.

I was thinking about Colin's trip to Lagado and planned to get some ingredients so that I could prepare some food for him.

Just when I wanted to call him after getting ready, I saw the text messages he had sent me.

He had guessed that I would sleep in, so he didn't call to wake me up. Due to a change in plans, his evening flight was changed to the morning, and he boarded at 8:30 am. He told me not to worry and that he would be back soon.

He also said that during his absence, I should stay away from Matthew and other men who always stared at me, or he would deal with me after he returned.

He rambled on in seven to eight minutes of voice messages and transferred ten grand to me, saying that it was my living expenses.

Previously at Lincoln University, I had saved nearly a hundred thousand dollars. After coming here, I participated in two competitions with the professor and collaborated on a project, earning me quite a bit.

Moreover, there were subsidies for graduate students, and my parents were also giving me a monthly living allowance.

Usually, it was Colin who was managing my finances, so I didn't get many opportunities to spend money. Now, I had almost 200 grand in my savings. And I still had a project that I was working on. It looked like I would become a millionaire soon.

Honestly, I didn't lack money. I had originally wanted to return the money to him. But then I realized th

if we were going to be a married couple in the future, it wasn't necessary to split everything so clearly.

Plus, if I returned it, he would definitely be unhappy. So, I accepted it. After all, it was his heartfelt gesture. I couldn't disappoint him.

But he left quietly. Just the thought of not having him around for the next two months made me sad enough to want to cry.

So, I cried while I sent him some voice messages. I asked him to let me know once he landed and to come back soon. I also told him that I missed him. If he didn't come back after two

months as promised, I would search for another person who was willing to take care of me. I wondered about his reaction when he heard the last one. Maybe he would come back immediately just to strangle me. Anyway, I just wanted to make him a little nervous.

Since Queenie and I got up late, we didn't have breakfast. After getting ready, I took her out for lunch.

I had classes in the afternoon, so Queenie said she would take a walk around nearby and see if she could find a suitable job. I gave her a set of keys and asked her to be careful and to call me if anything happened.

It was good to go out for a walk. A change of place could change one's mood and way of life.

People still needed to live even without love. And with a job to keep her busy, she should be able to get over the gloom sooner. She might even find her soulmate.

Colin video-called me at around five in the evening.

I was reading in my room, so I quickly answered the call. As soon as I saw his chiseled handsome face on the screen, I teared up due to my fragile emotions. I gave him a puppy look, silently accusing him of abandoning me.

He felt sorry for me, but he couldn't hug me through the screen. We were so far apart from each other right now. He could only tell me to wait patiently and that he would be back soon.