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She couldn't say no. Nor could she ignore him.

His presence, it was pretty intense.

This was the first time she'd met someone like this in her life, and it left her stumped.

Finishing her water, Chloe put down her cup and walked into the bedroom with her phone in hand.

She decided that from today onwards, she would start fresh, a second life, and she wouldn't let herself be stuck in a rut anymore.

The next morning Monday

A black Volkswagen was cruising down the wide road.

Yesterday's rain had left the city's air feeling fresh

Chloe rolled down her window next to the driver's seat, one hand on the window and the other one steadily controlling the steering wheel

Her hands were clad in a pair of black thin gloves, and a caramel–colored trench coat wrapped around her slender body. Her hair was tied up at the back of her head, making her look all neat and nifty

With a poker face, her eyes were cold, but deep inside, there was a bit of sharpness that gave off an air of authority and pride.

As the car slowly approached the Olson Group building. Chloe rolled up the window, gripped the steering wheel with both hands, made a turn, and the car slowly drove into the underground parking lot

As Chloe got out of the car with her keys and bag, a shrill car horn echoed in the underground garage

Chloe paused, turned around, and saw Lance's Rolls–Royce whizz past her and park in a spot not far away.

Then she saw Lance get out of the car quickly, walk to the passenger side, open the car door, and extend his hand. A pair of delicate white hands landed in his. Keira stepped out of the car in a Chanel dress

Her brown hair fell in front of her, neatly styled, her makeup flawless. Standing there, she looked up at Lance with a sweet smile.

Chloe's eyes flickered slightly Without lingering, she turned around and walked towards the elevator.

'Chloe

She had only taken a few steps when Lance suddenly called out to her. Chloe didn't stop. She walked up to the elevator and pressed the button.

Lance and Keira followed closely behind Lance's voice rang out again.

"Chloe, when did you get discharged? Why didn't you tell me?"

Chloe didn't turn around. Her back to them, she said coldly, "What special relationship do we have that I need to inform you?"

Lance's face stiffened, a mix of embarrassment and complexity Mashing in his eyes.

Keira saw his expression, bit her lip, then looked up at Lance.

Seeing the vulnerability in the woman next to him, Lance withdrew his gaze and gave her a comforting smile.

Keira breathed a sigh of relief. In Lance's game, she watched Chloe's retreating figure and said softly. "Chloe, you can't swim and you were in the water for so long. You shouldn't have been discharged so soon...

Chloe felt a deep sense of coldness creeping over her

Others might not catch it, but how could she not?

Keira always seemed to be reminding her-

Even though he knew she couldn't swim, Lance didn't hesitate to save Keira first instead of her!

In a life–or–death decision, the one left behind seemed so pathetic and sad

She was deeply saddened by this matter, feeling the pain from the very beginning.

But, was the supposed to wallow in this sorrow forever? Was her life over without Lance?

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Chloe didn't utter a word, she just stood there quietly, her back towards Keira, completely ignoring her

That was just how Chloe was, sometimes she didn't say anything and yet she can make you feel pressured

Keira gritted her teeth in secret, feeling ignored, but Lance was right there.

Before long, the elevator arrived and Chloe, carrying her bag, casually strolled in Lance and Keira followed behind her into the elevator

Chloe reached out and pressed the twenty–first floor, where the Research & Development Department was located.

As for the two behind her, she didn't ask nor care, 'cause that ain't her job.

She initially planned to tell Lance straight about her resignation when she bumped into him, but seeing Keira, she didn't even want to say an extra word.

She just loved hogging the limelight and hyping themselves up!

If she brought up the resignation with Lance now, Keira would definitely seize the opportunity to show off. Why gave her the chance to make herself uncomfortable? Keira noticed that Chloe only pressed for her own floor, her heart sank, but then she smirked

She walked up to Chloe and pressed the highest floor number, thirty-six

Then she looked at Chloe with a smile, a hint of provocation in her eyes.novelbin

The thirty–sixth floor was Lance's exclusive area, no one was allowed in without his permission. But now, it was a place she, Keira, can freely enter.

She thought Chloe would care, but Chloe just looked at her, still with an impassive expression, not even a hint of reaction.

Keira clenched her teeth, walked over to Lance and whispered:

"Lance, isn't there an executive internal meeting at the company? Since Chloe is here...

Lance's expression stiffened for a moment, looking at Chloe's back, he was silent for a while before slowly saying

'Since she's here, let her join"

The elevator continued upward. Before Lance could finish his words, the twenty–first floor arrived and Chloe walked out without hesitation.

Chloe's indifference was suffocating for Keira, and her words felt like hitting cotton, never getting through.

Looking at Chloe's retreating figure, Lance suddenly understood

She really seemed to have let go, not forgiving him, not begging him to stay, decisively leaving no chances between them.

He felt a sense of heaviness in his heart, just like the last time at the hospital, as if he had completely lost something.

"Lance, what can I do to make Chloe feel a little better? Seeing her like this, it really breaks my heart...

Keira's small voice came from the side, her soft voice trembling, as she looked both strong and helpless, stirred Lance's sympathy.

He pulled Keira into his arms, lifted her chin with his fingers and wiped the tears from her eyes.

Keira looked even more saddened

"Ever since my sister came back from abroad three years ago, she only went to see grandpa three or four times. Now she has no one to take care of her, I'm really worried she can't handle it alone."

Keira's consideration made Lance treasure her more, her words also hit Lance's soft spot

Chloe didn't have a good relationship with her family, and now she was not willing to face him property.

Can she really be okay alone?

Just wait a little longer, until her anger subsides, then I'll talk to her properly Don't worry, Chloe is always a sensible person, given some time, she'll definitely understand

Keira sniffed lightly and nodded, her voice was soft but with a tinge of melancholy, "I really hope so."

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Twenty–first floor Research & Development Department and Public Relations Department

Chloe stepped out of the elevator and took off her coat, draping it over her arm. Her outfit looked stiff, but it was actually quite refined the work hugged her slender waist, with black dress pants that were ironed very neatly, accentuating her long and straight legs

cold as usual, with a simple and efficient style of dress

Chloe's beauty was undeniable, but people can get tired of it. She always had the same hairstyle and wore similar clothes For a long time she appearance Even the most beautiful woman can become uninteresting if she didn't put any effort into dressing up and only focused on work

Despite this, everyone in the 21st floor area was wary of her The Public Relations Department and the Research & De departments in the company, but she managed to handle them alone. She had the strength and courage to earn opment Department were the tes æct of her colleagues

As Chloe's high heels rhythmically tapped the floor in the hallway, the spacious office area suddenly became much busier Phones in different langua and employees scrambled to report their work, from basic product procurement to the development process, production progress, packaging puth appointments with partner companies, to the product launch

Chloe walked into the office without changing her expression, with a raised chin and a confident step, answering a few people's questions crisply This was something she faced every day when she came to work and had become a habit When she finally walked into her own office she realized she had the office area once, and now had a pile of documents in her arms. She sighed deeply and tossed thenovelbin

documents onto her desk feeling a bit helpless She wasn't here to work today, but to resign! What was she doing?

She sighed again, pulled out her chair, turned on her computer, and quickly drafted a resignation letter Even though she still had to go through the process Resources Department could handle it directly, she wouldn't have to face Lance again. She printed out the resignation letter, put it in an Human Resources Department

| constantly

elope and went stra

She knocked on the door of the Human Resources Department, and the managers urgent voice came from inside Since she was standing right quickly opened

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The HR boss was a middle–aged man named Tristan. He looked pretty irritated, but when he saw Chloe he froze for a split second, then quickly hustled her out of his office "Or, there's an executive meeting about to start. What the heck are you doing here? Get your butt to the conference room."

"Mr. Tristan, I need to talk to you about..."

"Whatever it is, it can wait. The meeting is more important. Go now, we can yap later."

Chloe frowned but didn't argue Until her resignation was processed, she was still a big cheese at the Olson Group. Attending a meeting was par for the course.

But when she saw Keira in the conference room, a chill ran down her spine. Since when was Keira part of the Olson Group's top executives?

And when Keira saw her, those beautiful eyes flashed with a challenge only they understood. Chloe tightened her lips, gave her a cold once–over, and headed to her usual novelbin

seat

Chloe always sat in the same spot for meetings, by the window, not too far from Lance. She'd chosen it randomly at first, but over time, no matter how often other folks switched seats, nobody ever snagged hers

As Chloe made her way to her seat, passing other execs, they all greeted her. Some were formal, some casual, but all were respectful.

When Chloe first joined the Olson Group, everyone looked down their noses at her. They thought the company was just clutching at straws by bringing her on board when the business was on the ropes.

But against all odds, the Olson Group started to get its act together. They remembered how Chloe had convinced Mr. Olson to hold a press conference, apologize to the public, and promise not to screw up again – a move that had saved the company from going belly up.

Chloe stuck to her guns, making amends and apologies, and persuading old investors to stay while attracting new ones. It was a risky gambit, borderline crazy. Nobody else would've even dared to think about it, let alone do it. But Chloe pulled it off

Later, she led the development of a perfume called "Simply You" which created a sensation in the fashion world. Three years on, it was still the Olson Group's best–seller. Every move Chloe made proved her PR savvy and her talent as a perfumer. From initial doubt and scorn, people came to genuinely admire and respect her. Standing next to Lance was Keira, her eyes filled with intense loathing and resentment. But along with the jealousy and bitterness, there was a smug sense of satisfaction. No matter what Chloe did, Keira saw herself as the ultimate winner and that hadn't changed

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In fact, it wasn't just Chloe, everyone was puzzled by Keira's appearance in the meeting room.

They were familiar with Keira.

She had been in the industry for five years. Although not a veteran, she was one of the hottest actresses and the top star of Pulse Entertainment.

Pulse Entertainment was owned by the Summers family. They promoted their own. What was wrong with that?

Moreover, she was indeed beautiful, slim, always dressed in high–end clothing and had impeccable demeanor. She had been very popular since her school days, excelling both academically and artistically. If they were in their shoes, they would also promote her heavily.

Everyone's attention was once again focused on Keira. Some praised her demeanor, some her beauty, and some even mentioned how much their sons and daughters liked

her novelbin

Whispers filled the room, but they clearly reached Keira's ears, making her feel even more triumphant, her smile becoming even sweeter Meanwhile, Chloe simply kept her head down, opening the notebook and pen Tristan had handed her, doodling on it, seemingly unaffected. "Alright, it's time, let's start the meeting"

Gavin, Lance's assistant, spoke up, and the noisy room gradually quieted down.

Lance sat in the main seat, his face as expressionless as ever, but his eyes kept drifting towards Chloe, his gaze somewhat complicated. But Lance didn't say anything, which led to a few whispers in the quiet

room

"Mr. Olson

Gavin leaned in and gently reminded him.

Lance lowered his head, was silent for a moment, and then stood up.

Everyone turned their attention to him, even Chloe looked up.

Lance walked over to Keira and said, 'Let me introduce you all to Miss Keira. I'm sure you all recognize her.

People nodded, of course, they did

A few brown–nosers quickly chimed in, "The hottest star right now, it'd be hard not to recognize her"

'True We used to only see her on screen, seeing her in person is truly an honor."

"So, Mr Olson, does Keira's presence mean that she will be endorsing our company's products?"

Lance's expression finally relaxed a bit.

"You're not wrong to assume that, but she has an even more important role this time"

Chloe looked up, her cold eyes finally landing on the two standing together

She was unaware of Lance's decision to have Keira as a product endorser, but it didn't seem unreasonable. Keira was very popular, and Pulse Entertainment had done an excellent job promoting her. Having her as an endorser was undoubtedly a smart move.

But she was a bit curious about the other role

Lance pondered for a moment, then nodded and said:

"I hereby promote Miss Keira to be the Leader Perfumer of the Olson Group, as well as the Director of R&D. Apart from me, she doesn't have to answer to anyone else"