

“She's way too picky. I'm afraid if she continues to behave so, she would be left with no other option than Casper.” Kenny provoked on purpose while casting an eye at Casper.

“Go to hell!”

Sarah was utterly annoyed by the mention of Casper as she threw an angry kick towards Kenny. “Get lost!”

He evaded her kick skillfully and fled the scene.

Casper, who had overheard their whole conversation, smiled helplessly in silence.

“Mark my words, Kenny! If one day I were to fall in love with that loser, I will swallow a table tennis ball in

front of you!”

Sarah yelled furiously at Kenny, but the latter was too far away to hear her. The only one who heard her was Casper, who was slightly offended.

“Rosaline, where's our next stop? I'm bored at the game.” Sarah took a tissue to wipe the sweat off her forehead.

While waiting for Rosaline's response, her eyes were already staring impatiently at the stadium entrance.

Just then, a blue sports car emerged from nowhere and stopped right at the entrance. The car's door was opened, and a suited man stepped out of it. His Tyrannosaurus glasses and those conspicuous rose-red trousers made him look rather ladylike.

“Fabian, did you buy a new car?”

Instantly, Sarah rushed out to the front of the car, forgetting the hot weather outside.

David also started walking out of the stadium to see the fancy car. As he walked past Casper, he cast him a gaze flashing with a warning.

Soon, the stadium became empty, except Casper and Rosaline, who were not attracted by the car at all.

“Mr. Nathan surely is the tycoon of this club. Unlike some poor guy, you've even bought a Forester. This is so cool!” Sarah did not forget to provoke Casper within her praise.

“Fabian, this car's awesome. I always wanted to buy it, but it seems like you beat me to it.”

David wandered around the car and scanned it

carefully with envy.

“Such an elegant car. I bet it's at least five hundred thousand, right?”

One of the ladies leaned closely to Fabian and expressed her admiration.

“Not so much. All the accessories are just second class, so the total is around three hundred thousand only. I just got my license, so I bought a car to practice. Maybe I will sell it after two years and change to BMW.” Fabian acted humbly.

Here's another one showing off.

Casper whispered in his heart while staring at Fabian, who was boasting so enthusiastically.

As expected, after Fabian finished his sentence,

everyone at the scene besides Casper was left amazed with his achievement at such a young age.

“Who's that guy?”

Just then, Rosaline asked curiously while sitting relaxed near the entrance, enjoying the breeze from the air conditioner.

Seeing that everyone was praising him, she began to show some interest too.

“He's Fabian, the vice president of the table tennis club. His family runs a coal business.”

Casper gave a brief introduction after thinking for a while. He had not paid much attention to Fabian. He knew the latter's family had a coal mine in Horington, but he did not know their business well.

But judging from his ability to possess such a car at this age, it looks like the coal business was doing well.

“Fabian, let's take us for a ride to the town. There's no more class this afternoon.”

Sarah got really close to Fabian while casting him a suggestive wink.

Fabian uncontrollably displayed a satisfied smile, as his initial motive for driving the car here was to attract Sarah's attention.

Ever since he fell in love with her, he could not get his mind off her sexy body, or else he would not have spent such a tremendous amount of money to pursue her.

However, he was fully aware that even though Sarah

was a gold digger, she had a picky taste too.

Especially when he found out she was still a virgin, he knew it was not an easy mission to pursue her.

In fact, he joined the table tennis club to get near her. One way or another, he was determined to conquer this virgin.

But to his disappointment, after more than a year of joining the club, nothing much worth mentioning happened between them.

Thus, he decided to go all-in while he persuaded his parents to buy him a Forester. His last move was to try to bait Sarah with his wealth.

With that in mind, Fabian's body started to burn with lust. He could not wait to drive Sarah to town and headed directly to a hotel, where he would ravage her.

“Rosaline, let's go for a ride with Fabian!”

Sarah sounded extremely excited, while she gestured Rosaline to join them.

“Fabian, it's been quite a long time since you last came to our club. Why don't we go for a drink?” Right then, David voiced out a timely suggestion.

Even though they had just eaten lunch not long ago, the sports had exhausted most of their energy.

In the table tennis club, Sarah was, without doubt, the prettiest. There would be quite a number of admirers secretly falling for her. However, none would dare to compete with Fabian in this matter.

Nevertheless, most of them did not wish to see Sarah and Fabian ended up together.

That was precisely why David's suggestion got support from the majority and thus Fabian could not help but comply with it.

Moreover, Sarah had already invited another lady almost equally as pretty.

“Sure. After a ride, let's go to Youngster Cafe. Guys will split the bill while girls just need to order. How's that?” Fabian suggested heartily.

“Sounds great. Let's do it.”

David would agree to anything that could buy him more chances to be with Rosaline.

“Should we ask Casper too?” Rosaline shifted her gaze at Casper, who was sitting decadently alone at his spot, and suggested.

“Casper? Forget it.”

Sarah waved her hand without thinking. “He won't be able to pay his share.”

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Chapter 82

“This meal alone could cost his living expenses for half a month.” David tried to humiliate Casper, at the same time trying to show off in front of Rosaline.

“I think his major is finance and management. How could such a poor guy like him be in such a good college? Now I remember. The last time I went to

Youngster Cafe, I saw him working as a waiter there.”

“What's in his mind to come to this college? I bet he wants to be part of the rich community.”

“We're from different worlds. Don't invite him please.”

Most of the members looked down on Casper just like Sarah.

“If our club didn't need someone to pick the ball, I would never allow him to join.” David was still pissed with the previous incident.

Sensing the mass protest from the club, Rosaline kept her silence. As she was not one of the members, she figured it was not her place to voice opinions.

“Hey, you there. Remember to clean up and turn off the air conditioner. You got that?”

Sarah instructed Casper abruptly, as she was worried that Rosaline would invite him to join them again.

Ring! Ring!

Right when Sarah finished her sentence, Casper's phone rang with a classical music ringtone. Everyone was stunned for a second and then burst into laughter, as that classical music was something beyond their age.

Ignoring those teasing laughs, Casper took out his phone and noticed it was Stallion. Without hesitation, he stepped inside the stadium to answer the call.

It turned out Stallion had completed his thorough investigation about the purchase of the Horington food street. All that was left now was Casper's decision.

Casper abruptly cleaned up the stadium and marched to the school entrance to hail a cab. On his way, he called Elena to join him.

“Mr. Simpson, where are we heading? I didn't bring any stationeries necessary for official duties.”

Elena got in the cab in a hurry, dressed in casual wear. She wanted to reject Casper when he called her as it was a weekend. But Casper said it was urgent, so she eventually agreed to come.

“It's fine. We will borrow them if needed. I need your keen judgment about this. I'm going to purchase a street...” Casper started revealing his plan in an extraordinarily composed tone.

“What? Are you going to buy me a street? That's too much...”

Before Casper could finish, Elena started rejecting in awe.

She honestly thought that Casper was going to buy her a street.

She felt as if her heart was about to jump out of her chest from beating too hard.

“I need you to evaluate the street potential for me. After all, you have more experience than me...”

Seeing as she had misunderstood his words, Casper shook his head helplessly while trying to explain patiently.

The moment Horington food street caught his eyes, he went back and studied the map. The street was located at the center of all transportation routes,

which was a great advantage. It would be an excellent place to develop business.

After considering all possible elements, Casper made his decision to invest in this particular spot.

“I see. Where is the street?” Elena was trying hard to recompose herself after such an awkward misunderstanding.

At that instant, she could feel her face burning hot from embarrassment.

She nervously turned to observe Casper's expression, as she feared that her true feelings towards him had been exposed. After seeing Casper was not concerned much, she felt relieved for a little.

“It's the same street that you treated me supper last time. Are you shocked?” Casper said honestly.

“Wow, you're really into that street. Mr. Simpson, but that street has no value. I'm afraid you'll lose money if you buy it.” Elena was deeply concerned.

She thought Casper was joking about it, but now she realized he meant every word he said. However, she doubted if it was a place worth investing in, considering the amount of money involved.

As an executive secretary, it was her obligation to prevent Casper from losing unnecessary money.

“I don't think so.” Casper grinned broadly at her.

Seeing that Casper had made up his mind, Elena let out a long sigh.

At that moment, she felt an extra burden on her shoulder. She swore secretly in her heart that she

must not let this investment failed. Needless to mention, the money needed to buy the whole street was beyond anyone's imagination.

The cab stopped at the street entrance, and the driver refused to drive any further in.

“Young man, don't come here after midnight. Remember that...”

Before leaving, the cab driver gave an earnest warning while staring at them sternly.

“Boss, all the owners here were leaping in joy when they heard someone was going to buy their shops. They thought it was a prank.” Stallion diligently welcomed Casper. “Let me show you the way. They're waiting under the tree.”

Guided by Stallion, Casper arrived at a tree, where

around thirty shop owners were gathering.

Upon Stallion's introduction, all of them stared at Casper skeptically. Judging by his age and his cheap clothes, they were half convinced that he was a person of wealth.

With that, they began to suspect if Stallion was fooling them. The second they spotted Casper approaching from afar, they even thought he was some trash collector. Even though the lady beside him did seem richer, she could not be anything more than a white-collar.

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Chapter 83





“Are you really Mr. Simpson? Are you going to buy our shops?”

“Do you have the money? This's not some joke, is it?”

“We're serious in selling these buildings...”

One after another, those owners started questioning Casper. In their minds, only a fool would consider buying the street.

“You guys can stop being skeptical. If you're willing to sell, let's talk about the price. If you're not willing to, then forget about it.” Casper announced directly to the crowd.

Regardless, it was just a matter of time the Horington food street became his.

“Of course, we're willing to sell. Let's talk.” Upon hearing that, all of them acknowledged immediately.

They were desperate to let go of those shop lots as though they were holding a time bomb.

Looking at their eagerness, Casper could not help but have a second thought. Could it be these buildings have ownership issues or other problems?

Stallion started explaining to him that all those buildings truly belonged to those owners, and there was no issue or lawsuit involved. They merely wanted to get their hands on some cash the sooner the better.

As a matter of fact, most of them needed to buy a house for their kids.

Never did they expect that someone would be

interested in their shop lots. It would be a fool to let this golden opportunity passed.

After they agreed on the price and signed the contract, Casper took them to the Real Estate Bureau to transfer the ownership.

The staff at the bureau glanced at the contract and narrowed his eyes, staring at the young Casper. What a fool.

However, Casper felt the exact opposite as he finally got hold of the street he dreamt of.

All the owners were secretly elated upon receiving the money into their banks, while they kept on praising Casper for having a unique vision.

Nevertheless, Casper could sense that none of those praises was sincere but rather, sarcasm. In their eyes,

he was none other than a fool who had too much money.

The whole procedure, including the tax payment, took around half a day to complete. Hence, all the shops in the Horington food street became Casper's.

However, this was merely a start, as there were more complicated procedures on the way.

“Ms. Schneider, I'll leave the rest in your hands. Rent these out to those stall owners. Get everyone onto this and make the street lively again,” Casper said while putting all the forty-two contracts into his bag.

Casper had checked beforehand that the water and electric supplies in all the old shop lots, even though deserted for ages, were intact. In other words, they were all ready for business.

He mentioned to Elena about Larry and his wife, who was operating a stall. He bet they would be happy to rent a permanent shop.

If all the shops succeeded in being rented, Casper would not have to worry about the survival of the street.

“But what if they refuse to rent?”

Elena furrowed her brows, as obviously, the rent of a permanent shop is way higher than a temporary stall.

“Stallion, it seems like you got another vital mission. If anyone refuses to rent, remove their stalls, or levy protection money or something else. Wouldn't that be great?” Casper patted on Stallion's shoulder confidently.

“Should I still do it under the name of Firewolf

Chamber of Commerce?”

Stallion turned motivated right away hearing Casper's proposal.

“Nope. You can use your name. Gather all your subordinates. It's about time they abandon their depraved way of life,” Casper said faintly.

Upon hearing that, Stallion seemed somewhat confused. Isn't collecting protection money illegal too? How could Boss sounded so confident and persuasive? Never mind! I'll do as he said!

“Alright!” Stallion agreed without any hesitation.

Now it was Elena's turn to be puzzled. She thought Casper was a nice guy who was willing to invest for her sake, but it turned out he was a completely ruthless devil.

Nonetheless, she had to admit that it was indeed the only available option if they were to revive the street.

“Mr. Simpson, I'll get it done. Let me go back to draft the contract now. By the way, do I use the signature of Tycoon?” Elena cringed as she suddenly thought of that important question.

“Nope. Please register a new company in these few days. Name it Horington Joint Investment. Notify me once done.”

Looking at Elena's befuddled expression, Casper added, “I'll give you an increment after all this.”

“Mr. Simpson, that's not what I mean. Forget it. I'll get started now.” Elena sounded somehow helpless, but still, she got ready to depart.

“Buy a pair of sports shoes. High heels are not good for your feet.” Casper reminded her before she left.

“Okay.” For that instant, Elena felt a warmth rising within her heart. All her tiredness seemed to fade as she did not expect Casper would care for her like this.

At the same time, Stallion had headed off to complete his assigned mission.

Casper also took a cab back to his college. He carefully took out the pile of property ownership contracts from his bag and hid them under his clothes in the closet. After that, he locked his closet tightly.

Around the evening, Casper received a sudden call from Giselle, asking him to stop by her dorm.

She's inviting me to her dorm. Is she going to have sex with me? Should I resist, or should I enjoy

it? After hanging up the phone, Casper's mind was occupied with countless thoughts.

It's already evening time. Probably I'll end up having dinner at her place just like last time.

“Who was it on the phone? Look at your lecherous smile.”

Felix who was playing computer games cast a glance at Casper. “Did some girl just ask you out?”

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Chapter 84



He really is sharp to have realized it has something to do with Giselle. However, Casper was definitely not going to admit it. Moreover, he had a date with Giselle and was even going to visit her dorm.

Just thinking of them being alone together caused Casper's heart to race.

“Who do you mean? I just saw a joke online and found it exceptionally hilarious.”

Casper glanced at his computer. “There are more jokes online nowadays, and they are getting funnier.”

“Is that so?”

Felix asked instead, “Do you need me to leave the door open for you at night? Remember, no glove no love; or else, you might have to graduate holding your child in your arms. But, it seems to be the rage

nowadays.”

Obviously, Felix didn't believe in Casper's excuse at all.

“Cut the crap. I'm leaving now.”

Casper didn't want to continue the conversation. After all, explaining himself would just make things worse. Hence, it was just better to remain silent.

When he stepped out of the dorm, he noticed that the lamps on both sides of the street had been turned on. There were also many student couples strolling along the street, whispering sweet nothings to each other. I wonder how it will feel like to stroll on the campus streets with Giselle?

Before he knew it, Casper had walked to the female dorm. Suddenly, a white Honda Accord brushed past

him. It was honking so loudly that Casper jumped to the side to avoid it. He was so close to being run over by the car.

Turning to look, he saw the car heading for the female dorm used by the students from the faculty of finance and business administration. Many of the students who were coming out of the building had no choice but to circle their way around the car.

Curious at who the brazen driver was, Casper walked over to take a look.

When the car door opened, a male student alighted.

“Darling, are you here to pick me up?”

Wearing a dashing white suit, the student was none other than Charlie—the one that stole Kitty from Casper.

When she saw Charlie, Kitty's face lit up in joy. With outstretched arms, she rushed out of the dorm and threw herself into his arms. Wrapping her hands around his neck, they look extremely intimate.

At that moment, there were many passersby who gathered around to look at them.

Furthermore, there were very few students who could afford a Honda Accord.

When she realized everyone was looking at her, Kitty's pride swelled. After all, ever since Casper shocked the school with the donation of a million, she had become the poster child of someone who missed out on a gold mine.

However, the matter quickly passed, and Casper was still a penniless loser that wore cheap clothes.

Therefore, when Charlie came to pick her up in his car today, she felt that she had redeemed her reputation given the amount of attention she was receiving.

Hence, she was so excited that she kept kissing Charlie on his face.

Hmph, dumping Casper was the best decision I have ever made. Can that penniless idiot ever pick me up in a car? Can he ever bring me honor?

At most, he is nothing but a broke and pitiful person.

While Charlie swept her off her feet and carried her into his car, Kitty's face was filled with pride. Looking out from the Honda Accord at the bystanders, she felt a sense of superiority over everyone else.

It felt as if she was on a higher level than them.

“Charlie, my dear, you are so awesome! Is this car yours?” Kitty asked excitedly as she ran her hand over the accessories inside the car.

Seated in the front passenger seat, she desperately wanted Casper to see her then, so that she could rub it in on him.

“Of course, I've just bought it. Going forward, I'll pick you up in this car after class and we go for a joyride. What do you think, baby?”

Charlie started the engine at once. With his left hand on the steering wheel, his right hand caressed Kitty's thigh back and forth.

“It's wonderful! I'm so happy.”

Kitty was delighted by the fact that Charlie would be driving her everywhere from then on. Everyone will be so envious of me. After all, I am the star that turns people's heads.

Casper, the penniless idiot, will never be able to provide me with any of these.

“Let's go for dinner first. After that, we can do something meaningful. What do you think?”

Not satisfied with caressing her thigh, Charlie fondled Kitty's back instead. Being rich, and also a playboy, Charlie had long salivated over the prospect of sleeping with Kitty.

After all, Kitty had pretty features and a hot figure. Moreover, her coquettish demeanor further added to her allure.

However, despite having stolen her away from Casper for a while now, he still didn't manage to sleep with her yet.

Therefore, resolving to make it happen, he enthusiastically bought a new Honda Accord to satisfy Kitty's vanity. He had hope that in her delight, she would finally agree to give herself to him.

“Mmm-hmm.”

Kitty knew what Charlie meant, so she simply agreed bashfully.

She was extremely satisfied with what Charlie had done for her. By having him pick her up in his car, she had managed to show off to everyone else how glamorous she was.

Therefore, she would naturally fulfill Charlie's request.

Nevertheless, she still felt disappointed that Casper wasn't there to see her.

Ever since they broke up, Kitty had always wanted to ridicule Casper for some inexplicable reason. She just had the urge to humiliate him in public.

If he had responded calmly to her provocations, she would be terribly unsettled by it.

On the contrary, she would feel ecstatic if he reacted with anger and jealousy.

When he saw Kitty leave in Charlie's car, Casper couldn't help but sigh before continuing his way to Giselle's dorm. Huh, Gigi is still the best.

When he reached Giselle's dorm and saw the smile on her face, the fleeting regret he felt earlier

disappeared at once.

Having found out that she hadn't had dinner, Casper resigned himself to cooking for her.


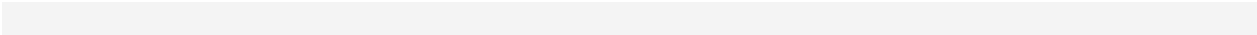

When he opened the fridge, he saw that it was filled with fresh vegetables and condiments. Hence, he wondered if Giselle was planning to cook for him or expecting him to cook instead.

“Ms. Clauder, are you waiting for me to cook for you?”

When he saw all the ingredients, Casper couldn't help but turn and give Giselle a curious look.

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Giselle blushed in response to Casper's question. Earlier in the day, she had passed by the market. Hence, she walked in and bought a lot of ingredients, hoping that Casper would be able to prepare dinner for them both, which she thought was a good idea.

Ever since she tasted his spaghetti Bolognese, she realized she craved his cooking very much.

Any man who could make a mean spaghetti Bolognese was definitely a skillful cook.

“What's wrong? Is cooking for me too much to ask of you?”

Giselle made a serious expression on purpose before rolling her eyes at Casper. “I've given you a chance to have dinner with me. Are you telling me that you're

not keen?”

“Alright. I'll do it.”

Casper was obviously more than keen even if he could dine with her every day. In fact, it would be even better if they could take their relationship to the next level.

“In that case, why don't you get cracking? My stomach is already growling,” Giselle pestered while giving him the side-eye.

“Alright, I'll get on it right away.”

After unloading the ingredients from the fridge, he quickly whipped up some spicy chicken wings, lasagna, and a salad. From their last experience, he had noticed that Giselle liked spicy food.

Therefore, he seasoned the food heavily and made sure they were spicy enough for her.

When she saw how earnest he looked when making dinner, Giselle was struck by a strange sensation. Deep down, she felt her heartstrings being tugged. She couldn't help but feel the warmth of having a family, and she was the lady of the house.

Shaking her head, Giselle quickly recovered her senses. She returned to her room and brought out a textbook to prepare for her lessons.

Half an hour later, Casper finally announced that dinner was ready. Walking out of her room, Giselle could smell the delicious aroma in the air. Gulping in hunger, she could hear her stomach growling furiously.

The moment she sat down, she began to devour the

food. She hadn't expected Casper to be such a good cook. Compared to the spaghetti Bolognese, she liked these dishes even more.

All this while, Giselle ate a small dinner to keep herself slim. She would also avoid having any fast food too. However, there was no place for such concerns right then. The moment she picked up her fork, she began digging in enthusiastically. Soon, her lips were all oily and looked especially sexy.

When he saw how she dug into the food, Casper didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. He quickly advised, "Slow down, or you will choke."

At that moment, Giselle savored the food so much that she was tempted to even swallow the chicken bones. She felt his cooking was even better than chefs in five-star hotels.

Staring at him with her big, beautiful eyes, Giselle asked, "Casper, be honest with me. Have you learned how to cook before? Why is your cooking so good?"

She then licked the residual sauce off her fingers, as if she hadn't had enough.

"No. I'm just a poor kid who was forced to struggle in life and learn to fend off myself," Casper replied.

"Hmph, no one is going to believe that bull."

Rolling her eyes, Giselle obviously didn't believe him. She continued devouring the food for a whole twenty minutes before finally stopping from being too full. However, when she realized that she had cleaned her plate, she began to feel embarrassed.

In contrast to Giselle wolfing down the food, Casper ate at a leisurely pace. When he was finally done with

his first serving, he realized that everything else had been cleaned out. All that was left were empty plates.

“It's so delicious that anything else I eat going forward will pale in comparison.”

Rubbing her stomach in satisfaction, Giselle rolled her eyes at Casper. “It's all your fault. My plan for a diet is now in shambles.”

“You thought that was good? Why do I feel as if my cooking skills have deteriorated? It seems I need to practice more whenever I get the chance,” Casper commented as he took another bite.

“Deteriorated? Your cooking is already amazing. Casper, are you saying this on purpose just to dent my pride?” Giselle asked in resignation.

When she heard Casper's remarks, she had the urge

to beat him up for making her feel bad.

All this while, she had only focused on her studies and never bothered about learning how to cook.

By complaining that his cooking skills have deteriorated, isn't he indirectly ridiculing me?

Nevertheless, Giselle didn't realize that she behaved differently in front of Casper now. In contrast to the formality between a teacher and her student, their interaction felt more casual, it looked more like they were chatting as friends.

“Of course not. I'm telling you the truth. Ever since I came to the university, I have only eaten at the cafeteria and never had the chance to cook for myself. Hence, today is my first time cooking here,” Casper explained honestly.

“It seems life has molded you into someone mature...”

When she saw how far Casper sat from her, Giselle jokingly commented, “Why are you sitting so far away? It's not like I'm going to eat you.”

“Back in my hometown, the elders always say that women are like tigers, the kind that will swallow you whole,” Casper quipped as he stared at Giselle's breast rising and sinking along with her breathing.

“You are full of horseshit. But, I like it.”

As Giselle swept aside the fringes over her forehead, she rolled her eyes coyly at him.

When he saw how alluring she looked, Casper had the urge to throw himself at her.

“Although you look gorgeous, I am not afraid of you,”

Casper replied calmly.

“Oh? Why is that?”

Suddenly, Giselle's curiosity was piqued.

“If you do eat me, I guarantee that I will not resist. In fact, I'll even cooperate,” Casper answered truthfully before breaking into a wide grin.

“You naughty fellow. I have no idea what goes on in that dirty mind of yours.”

Giselle shot him a glare before knocking his arm with her spoon. “Don't forget that I'm your teacher. Also, I'm older than you by three years old.”

“I find older women to be more desirable,” Casper remarked on purpose, causing Giselle to blush all over.

As his teacher, she didn't expect him to make such a brazen statement to tease her.

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Chapter 86



However, Giselle wasn't offended at all. Instead, she thought of it as a harmless joke.

“Here's your shirt from last time. I have patched it up for you. Why don't you try it on?”

Giselle stood up and threw Casper's collared T-shirt back to him.

“It's patched very nicely. I'll be wearing this every day from now onward.”

Casper didn't put it on at once. Instead, he scrutinized it closely and ran his fingers over where the patch was made. However, he felt that Giselle's sewing wasn't as good as his. Nevertheless, he didn't express his actual thoughts and praised her needlework instead.

In spite of that, his compliment was still very sincere.

“You keep forgetting your manners now.”

Giselle shot a glare at him before pointing to the dishes on the table. “Wash everything up and then go back and get some rest. You're not allowed to spend the night here.”

Casper was left with no choice given how volatile

Giselle's mood was. He cleared the table and did the dishes just like a dutiful housewife. In a short while, the whole kitchen was spick and span.

After that, Casper returned to his dorm with his badly sewn t-shirt in hand.

Felix was surprised to see Casper.

Looking at Casper intently, Felix teased, “Oh? I thought you weren't coming back tonight.”

“How is that possible? Do I look that open? Anyway, I'm heading to the library as it has been a while since I've been there. Do you want to come along? Should I leave the door unlocked for you tonight? When I walked past the female dorm just now, I seemed to have seen Wendy with another guy,” Casper remarked with a cheeky smile and a wink.

In truth, he didn't see Wendy at all. He was just saying it to get on Felix's nerves.

“Are you serious?”

Springing up from his chair, Felix's expression drastically changed as he stared at Casper anxiously.

He was well aware that Wendy had many admirers given how pretty she was. Furthermore, there were more girls than boys in the faculty of accounting. Therefore, he had recently suspected that someone was trying to steal Wendy away from him. However, he had failed to discover who the person was. But, now that Casper mentioned it, he naturally got worried.

“What's wrong? Are you worried that Wendy will be stolen by some other guy? Haven't you slept with her already? After all, you have already gotten what you

wanted,” Casper joked.

“Huh, Casper. I'm being serious. Did you really see Wendy with some other guy?”

Felix frantically grabbed Casper's shoulders. “This is no joke. Don't worry. Just tell me if you really saw someone. I'm going to kill whoever that's trying to steal my girl!”

“Haha, look at how nervous you are. I don't even know what else to say. After all, I was just pulling your leg.”

Glancing at his shoulders, Casper plainly asked, “Tell me, have you suspected that Wendy has been cheating on you?”

“Hehe, Casper. You have given me the shock of my life.”

Releasing his hands, Felix adamantly denied, "It's nothing. Nothing at all."

Given how embarrassing the matter was, Felix didn't feel like sharing it with Casper.

"Am I not your best friend? If something is going on, tell me. I don't want to see you looking sullen all the time. Together, we have never been afraid of anyone nor backed away from any problem," Casper declared after giving Felix an earnest look.

He could see that Felix and Wendy were having problems, and it didn't seem like a trivial one.

However, if Felix refused to talk about it, he wouldn't force the issue any further.

"Casper, thank you. But, I can handle it myself," Felix

replied, touched by Casper's words.

“I believe you will definitely be able to do it.” Casper nodded.

In truth, during their trip to Terragon Hill, Casper had already noticed that something was amiss, despite their jovial interactions on the surface.

As time flew by, Casper looked forward to noon every day. During that time, he would meet up with Amelia under the tree behind the hill. He would specially pack some food from the cafeteria and had lunch with her.

Fortunately, the weather had been wonderful with no rain lately. Hence, he didn't need to worry about Amelia not showing up due to rain.

Whenever he bought food from the cafeteria, he didn't pick the most expensive items. Instead, he chose

whatever ordinary food was available.

Casper wanted to keep a low profile so that his identity wouldn't be revealed to Amelia right away. Instead, he preferred to do it gradually so that it would be easier for her to accept it. After all, he didn't want her to be troubled by the gap in their wealth.

“Casper, why haven't you been lunching with us recently? Instead, you always disappear at noon. Do you have a new girl now? Who have you been dating? Hmm, it will do you good as long as you can forget about Kitty.”

“Casper, won't you make Lillian jealous by doing this? it's obvious to me that she's interested in you. The day you're no longer interested in her, please let me know. It would be a good opportunity for me to comfort her.”

“By the way, Casper. When are you free? Shall we go out again with Wendy and her dormmates?”

When they saw Casper about to leave their dorm alone, Remy and Colton, who were playing computer games, teased him. They made it sound like he was the epitome of a heartless person.

Casper felt helpless in the situation. With regards to Lillian, he had no intention of developing a relationship with her. However, fate seemed to have other plans.

Similarly, despite designating Giselle as his future wife, there hardly seemed to be any development on that front. In fact, Giselle didn't seem to be really interested.

Lastly, he couldn't bring himself to abandon Amelia. After all, she was as timid as a frightened little rabbit.

He was worried that if he let her go off on her own, he might end up causing her early demise instead.

Hence, after reprimanding both Remy and Colton, Casper put on his cap and headed to the cafeteria.

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When he arrived at the cafeteria, he ordered, “Mr. Clark, I want two portions each of the roast chicken, beef stew, and salad to go.”

“Sure, Casper. Which girl are you lunching with today? Haha. Nowadays, most youngsters don't seem to like having their lunch here,” Mr. Clark joked while

giving Casper an admiring look.

Casper knew Mr. Clark as he used to work part-time in the cafeteria. The man was a great cook and had two children who were now in high school. He and his wife rented the cafeteria stall to run their business.

Ever since he came to the university, Casper would eat there very often. After all, both Mr. and Mrs. Clark took good care of him. When he couldn't afford to buy any food in the past, they would always prepare something for him to feed him.

Consequently, Casper felt that there were still kind people within the Business University. During his darkest days, they had helped to ease his disappointment from turning into despair.

This time, the amount of food that Casper received was a lot more than anyone else.

He knew that this was Mr. Clark's way of showing their care for him.

“Mr. Clark, thank you. I'm going off now,” Casper remarked cordially with the food in his hand.

Casper had ordered something special—roast chicken. After all, he knew it was Amelia's favorite. As seven days had passed since she tried to drown herself in the lake, Casper wanted to feed her more food because he felt that she was too thin.

Prior to this, Amelia had led a miserable life. Although she didn't look anorexic, she was far from healthy given how pale she looked all the time.

Holding the packed lunch, Casper headed to the back of the hill. He was in such a relaxing mood that he couldn't help but whistle.

Although whistling at a girl was considered rude on campus, Casper wasn't just wolf-whistling. Instead, he was whistling to the tune of A Beautiful Day.

He had left his dorm earlier than usual. All this while, Amelia would be the one waiting for him. Thus, he wanted to give her a surprise by arriving early.

After arriving fifteen minutes earlier than usual, he sat down to wait under a tree. However, there was no sign of Amelia yet.

Nevertheless, Casper wasn't worried. Instead, he arranged all the food neatly and imagined how Amelia would react when she saw how much food there was. On top of that, he was looking forward to seeing the look on her face the moment she saw her favorite food—roast chicken.

Lastly, he just couldn't wait to see her alluring expression when her lips were all oily from eating. Just the thought of it alone caused his heart to race.

Every time he saw Amelia's stick-like figure, Casper would sympathize with her. She would only have bread in order to save some money. Hence, meat was definitely out of her budget.

If he were to only have bread for food, he would only be able to endure it for two days at most. However, he could see that Amelia had survived like that for a very long time.

Hence, Casper decided to treat her to a feast sometime down the road. Once the renovations at Tycoon were completed, he would get the kitchen to provide her with delicious food every day. Hopefully, she would put on some weight.

Time ticked by as Casper planned all that in his mind...

“It's already twelve, why isn't she here yet?” Glancing at his watch, Casper noted the time.

She has never been late. Did something happen today? Casper couldn't help but feel worried.

When he arrived at eleven fifty previously, she would already be there waiting; but, it was already twelve.

Gradually, Casper felt a sense of dread. Hence, he found Amelia's number and gave her a call.

The call connected at once.

“Amelia, I'm at the hill. Why aren't you here? Can you not make it today?” Casper asked right away.

However, he didn't mention the food he brought. After all, that was meant to be a surprise.

“Ah, you're there. I have something on today, so I don't think I can make it,” Amelia replied after she was briefly stunned.

“What are you busy with?”

“My class has organized a volunteer activity in the Eastside Library where we are to increase public awareness on banning smoking. Our teacher got everyone involved. Casper, I'm so sorry,” Amelia explained.

Casper was tempted to swear when he heard her reason. After all, he had planned to give her a surprise.

Shaking his head in resignation, he ended the call

and stared at all the food he had prepared.

The Business University had a sprawling campus. From the back of the hill to the Eastside Library, it was at least a two-kilometer walk, which would take him at least twenty minutes if he walked. Therefore, it was unlikely that Amelia could come over in time.

Despite how delicious the food looked, Casper had no appetite to eat at all.

Wait, why can't I bring it over myself?

Suddenly, an idea popped into his head. Sweeping the dirt off his thighs, Casper repacked all the food and headed down the hill.

When he saw a bike-sharing bike that had a broken lock he put the food in the basket and pedaled rapidly toward the Eastside Library.

In a very short time, he arrived at the plaza in front of the library. But, there was no one to be seen. Leaving the bike by the roadside, Casper brought the food into the library. However, the entire lobby was empty. Instead, the cool air that filled the place gave him a refreshing sensation.

There's no event highlighting a smoking ban here at all. Did Amelia make a mistake?

At that moment, Casper couldn't help but feel worried and frustrated at the same time. She must be avoiding me on purpose or perhaps, has she discovered my identity?

Instead of blindly speculating, Casper decided to confront her.

Casper felt that it was not likely for Amelia to have

discovered his real identity. After all, most people had poor memory. Furthermore, he had kept such a low profile that even if he were to announce it, no one would believe that he was rich.

Consequently, Casper took out his phone and gave her another call.

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He wanted to ascertain if his assumption that Amelia was avoiding him was correct.

“Amelia, where are you?” Casper tone was visibly concerned.

“At the Eastside Library,” she replied.

“I'm at the library now but can't seem to find you. Besides, there's no such public awareness activity here,” Casper answered resolutely after scanning his eyes around one more time.

“Erm...” Amelia's hesitation was obvious.

She replied, “Oh, the event finished earlier than expected. All of us have gone back.”

“In that case, tell me where you are. I'll come and see you at once.”

Casper was in no mood to enjoy the air conditioning in the library as he headed straight for the exit. When he returned to the bike, he prepared to ride toward wherever Amelia was.

“You want to see me? Err... ah...”

Panicking, Amelia began to stumble on her words. “In that case, I... my phone battery is dying soon...”

Before she finished, Amelia ended the call.

When he heard the call-end tone, Casper felt lost. It was obvious that Amelia had ended the call on purpose.

“Huh...”

Heaving a long sigh, he could tell that Amelia was avoiding him.

Has she found out about my identity? Obviously, there's no volunteer activity going on. She was using it as an excuse not to meet me for lunch. But, why is

she doing this? Battery running low? Is she avoiding me? Or, is she afraid that our relationship might develop further?

Casper had never felt so confused before. Even dealing with Giselle isn't this difficult.

Am I no longer able to befriends this kind-hearted girl?

Just when Casper had the urge to throw the lunch away, he quickly shook his head. It isn't like Amelia to behave this way. I need to hear her explanation no matter what.

Suddenly, Casper felt heartbroken. How did things end up like this?

Just yesterday, everything was alright. We met under the trees as usual for lunch. So why did she miss our

date today? Furthermore, there was no indication that she had any issues during lunch yesterday. She even used a napkin to carefully wipe the stain off my lips.

Also, we have never argued before. So why is she avoiding me all of a sudden?

Casper didn't understand how things turned out that way.

“It definitely isn't like that.”

Casper shook his head vehemently to cast aside his nonsensical thoughts. “Amelia definitely owes me an explanation!”

With that, he tried calling her again, but her phone had been turned off.

“There's no way you can hide from me.”

Although it never crossed his mind for them to be a couple, Casper still didn't want to lose a good friend.

Hence, he put the lunch boxes back in the basket and biked around campus, searching for Amelia.

However, Business University was the top university in the nation and consequently had a sprawling campus. There were around thirty to forty thousand students alone. There were about a hundred thousand people including the staff on campus.

Therefore, looking for a single person was like finding a needle in a haystack.

Nevertheless, Casper had resolved to find her and wouldn't rest until he succeeded.

With that, Casper braved the afternoon heat to comb the entire campus in search of Amelia. Sweating

profusely on his forehead, he looked as if he was a thief, checking every nook and corner of wherever he went.

“Where could she have gone?”

Casper furrowed his eyebrows as he looked all over. His body, along with the bike's handlebars, were all drenched in sweat. “I'll check the inside.”

This was the sixth athletics field that he was going to check through. Parking his bike at the entrance, he entered with the lunch boxes in hand. Inside, he continued his search by scanning the surroundings.

Within the huge expanse of the field, not a soul could be found. However, Casper searched every corner despite the scorching sun.

When she saw the thin and sweaty silhouette, Amelia

was caught by surprise. After all, she was very familiar with how it looked as it belonged to the person who saved her from the freezing lake.

Despite opening her mouth to say something, she decided against it as she didn't want him to see her in that state.

However, at the exact same moment, Casper walked over. From the corner of his eye, he spotted a familiar figure hiding behind the grandstand. He could easily recognize her hair and silhouette from afar.

That person was indeed Amelia. She was hiding there like an injured kitten, who was licking her wounds all by herself.

When they made eye contact, she was shocked. She didn't expect to be discovered at all.

“I...”

Despite all the things she wanted to say, nothing came out the moment she opened her mouth.

Hurrying over, Casper stared at her, just like a beast eyeing his prey.

“You... why are you avoiding me? Do you not want to see me again?”

Unable to bear it any longer, Casper started rattling off like a machine gun. “Amelia, do you know how long have I been looking for you? I looked everywhere starting from the east side of the campus to the west side of it. I have been drenched in sweat and didn't even manage to get a drink. Tell me, why are you doing this? If you no longer want to be my friend, you can tell me...”

“No...”

Jolted for a second, tears began rolling down her cheeks. Hanging her head, she let her jet-black hair cover her face.

“... and I will not bother you going forward.”

Taking a deep breath, Casper gritted his teeth and demanded, “Amelia, say something. Raise your head and look at me. Have you even lost the courage to face me? You...”

When he saw Amelia sobbing but refusing to look up nor say anything, Casper was infuriated.

What's going on with her? Why is she behaving like that?

Placing the lunch box on the parapet, Casper

approached her. He then grabbed her by the shoulders to straighten her posture.

At that moment, he was utterly stunned.

Looking at her in disbelief, the annoyance he felt earlier was replaced by rage. One that caused him to have the urge to beat someone to death.

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Amelia's eyes were filled with tears that streaked down her cheeks endlessly. She had a listless gaze and a slap mark on her left cheek.

She covered her face quickly, as she didn't want Casper to see her like that.

After all, she felt that she look utterly miserable.

Casper swallowed the urge to demand answers at once. Lowering his voice to a whisper, he asked, "What happened? Who bullied you? You can tell me, and I will seek revenge for you."

As his eyes began to fill with anger, Casper was going to make whoever hurt Amelia pay.

Glancing at Casper, Amelia bit her lip and shook her head. Her hair gently swayed along with her movement.

"What's wrong? Aren't we friends? You can tell me what happened, right?"

Casper sympathized with her when he saw her trying hard to stay strong.

Comforted by Casper's gentle voice, Amelia threw herself into his arms and bawled without restraint.

Crying loudly, her tears had wet Casper's shirt. She cried so hard that it felt as if she was trying to vent all the frustration that welled up in her. Also, she didn't understand why he cared so much about her.

“Hush. Stop crying.”

Feeling the warmth in his embrace, Casper couldn't help but sigh.

Trying to comfort her, he gently stroked her hair with his hands.

“It hurts. Wh-what did I do wrong? Why do they hate

me...” Amelia's voice was hoarse, and she looked especially frail after expending all her energy crying.

Casper gently patted her on the back. “They hate you because they do not know how to appreciate you. Tell me, how did you get the mark on your face?”

Amelia took a few deep breaths before letting out a long breath. Along with it, came all the frustration holed up within her.

“It's my fault. I accidentally spilled water from my cup on Jessica.” Amelia desperately tried to force a smile. “It was... only a slap. It's alright.”

She was feeling depressed earlier but she felt better after the crying.

Casper was peeved. How can she even say that she's fine given that her face is swollen?

“Tell me what happened.”

When she saw Casper's darkened expression, Amelia bit her lip and hesitated. “You have to first promise me not to cause any trouble after I tell you.”

“If you don't want to tell me, fine. I'll just find out myself.”

When Casper turned to leave, Amelia held onto him. She tugged his sleeve to signify that she had made her decision.

“Alright, I'll tell you. Today in class, I was walking from the front to the back. However, I accidentally tripped and dropped my cup, spilling water on Jessica. She demanded that I compensate her for her dress, which was branded and costs a few thousand. I told her that I needed a few days. But then, she proposed that I

allow her to slap me, and she will let the matter slide.”

As Amelia carefully explained, she didn't dare make eye contact with Casper. Instead, she would give him an occasional glance.

When she was greeted by Casper's silence and gloomy expression, she pretended to be relaxed. “Actually, it was not that bad. After all, it was only a slap. Do you know how expensive that dress is? It costs a few thousand. A slap in exchange for a few thousand is a really good deal.”

Casper was so outraged that he could feel his eyeballs bursting. Although he was saddened by Amelia's cowardice, he was more furious at Jessica instead.

Pulling Amelia along, Casper headed for her classroom. Due to the difference in strength, Amelia

had no choice but to follow him.

Along the way, Casper asked, "Where is Jessica?"

Amelia allowed him to lead her wherever he wanted.

"I... I don't know."

Suddenly, Casper, who was walking in front, stopped. His tone became extremely stern. "Amelia, if I am a friend to you, please tell me. If not, you can choose to keep quiet. But, I will not meddle in your affairs anymore from today onward."

Standing opposite each other, Amelia lowered her head. With her hair covering her face, Casper couldn't see her expression at all.

He sneered when he felt that his patience wearing thin and that he was wasting his time.

After all, he felt that it was pointless to exact revenge on Amelia's behalf if she didn't even care about it.

Just when Casper wanted to leave, Amelia finally relented. “The class was still in session when I fled. I estimate that it will end in a couple of minutes. She is now inside the classroom on the third floor.”

“Alright.”

Casper hurried to the third floor together with Amelia. The moment they arrived, they saw the teacher leaving the classroom.

With Amelia in tow, Casper entered the classroom, causing everyone inside to be stunned.

“Who is Jessica Taylor?”

A male student with a crew cut, who was sitting in

front, remarked, “Tsk-tsk. What are you trying to do here? Why is that materialistic girl with you?”

“That’s right. Who is that guy? Why is he together with Amelia?”

“She is a slut and is willing to accept just about any man.”

However, when they saw Casper's terrifying glare, all of them shut up at once.

Casper raised his voice and asked again, “Who is Jessica Taylor?”

The class was extremely silent as everyone watched the drama that was unfolding.

Meanwhile, a girl dressed in black, who sat at the back of the class, stomped her leg on the desk in front

and stood up. “Who are you? What business do you have with me?”

Jessica was chewing gum while having an exasperated expression—she is a stereotypical gangster.

“What do you want? Are you here to cause trouble over that poor girl?”

Casper walked ahead while dragging Amelia along. He scrutinized Jessica before he confirmed “Are you Jessica? I heard Amelia soiled your clothes. I'm here to compensate you on her behalf.”

Jessica was stunned before giving Casper a contemptuous look. “You want to compensate me? Hahaha, this is hilarious. It's just as big a joke as Amelia striking it rich.”

Laughing hard in disdain, Jessica held onto her stomach and leaned back into her seat.

The very next moment, the smile on her face disappeared. In its place, was an insidious expression. “You seem intent on making a name for yourself. But, is a poor person like you capable of even doing it? My socks alone are worth more than your entire outfit. Do you know how much does my top costs? Three thousand five hundred. Can you afford it?”

“How do you know I can't afford it?” Casper hated anyone who looked down on others, especially those who judged someone by their clothing.

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Casper took his wallet out from his pocket and it was bulging with cash.

Grabbing the wad of cash, he threw them onto the table. “There must be at least five thousand here. You can have it and she will return you the slap.”

Jessica's expression drastically changed. Looking at Casper, she replied, “Do you know who I am? My family owns the Taylor Group. How dare you let that poor girl hit me?”

Ignoring Jessica, Casper pulled Amelia to his side and gently pushed her forward. He urged her, “Amelia, slap her back as hard as you can.”

“How dare you!”

Not wanting to show any weakness, Jessica sprang up from the seat and glared at Amelia.

It would be utterly humiliating for her if she ended up being slapped.

When Amelia glanced at Jessica, she recoiled in fear the moment their eyes met.

Thrusting her chin forward, Jessica couldn't help but sneer when she saw Amelia's reaction. "Look at how cowardly she is. She even needs you to stand up for her."

Amelia's eyes flashed with animosity. She's the one who has been bullying me for no reason from the very first day of school. I have had enough of being harassed and mocked by them.

Suddenly, Amelia raised a hand and a cracking slap was heard, silencing the entire class.

Jessica's expression was filled with disbelief. How dare that coward hit me?

“F*ck!” Swearing, Jessica spat out the gum she was chewing and lunged at Amelia.

When she saw Jessica's fist about to land on her, Amelia closed her eyes and braced herself for the impact.

Reaching out and grabbing Jessica's wrist, Casper shoved her back onto the ground.

At that moment, Jessica's lackeys quickly helped her up.

Casper looked down at her and demanded, “How

dare you attempt to hit her?”

“I don't need your permission to hit that piece of trash.” Jessica glared fiercely at Casper. “Do you know who I am? By standing up for her today, I will make sure you are ruined tomorrow!”

Having heard Jessica's threats, Amelia began to feel nervous.

What has gotten into me just now? Why did I dare hit her?

Grabbing Casper's arm in panic, Amelia leaned in and whispered, “Casper, why don't I apologize to her. Poor students like us don't stand a chance against the powerful Taylor Group.”

Casper patted the back of her hand to comfort her. “Don't worry. Since you see me as your friend, I will

definitely keep you safe.”

Moreover, the Taylor family wasn't even among the top richest families in Horington.

“The Taylors are nothing but a small family. How dare you act with such impudence?” Casper couldn't help but shake his head.

Jessica was suddenly confused. Does Casper come from a powerful family?

However, no one wealthy dresses as shabbily as he does.

After a brief hesitation, Jessica decided to back down.

She felt it was better to act prudently until she knew who Casper truly was.

With a wave of her hand, Jessica left with her two lackeys.

When the other classmates saw that the drama had ended, they too dispersed quickly.

This is unbelievable. Who is that guy?

Even Jessica of the Taylor family is scared of him. Hence, he isn't someone to be trifled with.

After everyone had left, Amelia patted her chest and heaved a sigh of relief.

“Luckily, it didn't escalate into a fight,” she muttered. Suddenly, something occurred to her. “Are... are you actually rich?”

“Erm, not really. My family does have some assets, but we live frugally.” Casper scratched his head with a

smile. Since she was now his friend, there wasn't any need to hide his identity on purpose.

As for the rest, she would have to find out herself.

Overjoyed, Amelia smiled in return. Looking at the stack of cash on the table, she picked them up and handed them to Casper. “What luck! I slapped her in return, but she didn't take the money.”

When he saw how adorable her expression was, Casper couldn't help but stroke her head. “You should keep the money.”

“No... I can't. I won't accept it.” She stuffed the cash back into Casper's arms as if it was a hot potato that was burning her hands.

You can't give away so much money just like that.

Amelia disapproved of Casper's gesture. In fact, she was even angry over it. "Your parents worked hard for the money while you are also a frugal person. Hence, it's not right to just give it away. Furthermore, I am your friend. So, if you really take me as one, then stop giving me the money."

Casper wasn't able to convince Amelia given how stubborn she was. Hence, he had no choice but to keep the money.

This was the first time he had failed to give money away.

Despite the fact that Amelia was poor, she didn't allow her poverty to bend her principles.

Sighing in his heart, Casper smiled back at her.

"Since you insist on not accepting it, let me treat you lunch instead. You cannot reject me because I am

your friend. If you feel guilty about it, you are free to buy me lunch some other time.”

After a slight hesitation, Amelia finally nodded.

Nevertheless, she was touched by how much Casper had done for her. However, when she looked at what she was wearing, she decided to bury that feeling in the depths of her heart.

Casper tousled her hair with a smile. Suddenly, something occurred to him and he towed Amelia back outside.

“Wh-what is it?”

Amelia was stunned to see Casper's serious expression.

While walking, Casper explained, “In our rush to come

here, I left my bike and our lunch on the field. As I have used the bike for a few years now, I can't afford to leave it like that.”

In truth, Casper's bike was so old that no one wanted to take it in. That was the real reason he didn't sell it.

However, he didn't plan to share that fact with Amelia. After all, he still felt sentimental about his bike.

The moment he sighted his bike at the field, Casper felt as if a heavy burden had been lifted off him.

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