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Sebastian had apparently given a firm reassurance. Nonetheless, Sasha looked up abruptly and blurted out, “What if you have other children in the future?”

“What?” Sebastian raised his brows and asked quizzically.

“Let me put it this way. Since you are now engaged to Ms. Locke, you will surely get married and have other children with her. By then, what are you going to do with the two boys?” Jackson explained on behalf of Sasha.

At the instant, Sebastian’s subtle smile widened. “I will not have any more children.”

Sasha and Jackson gaped at him. Is there something wrong with our ears? I can’t believe that he has just said that!

Even so, Sasha was over the moon the moment she heard Sebastian’s words. It seemed everything bugging her all this while was gone within seconds.

“Sasha Wand, look at what you have done!” Once they were back from the cafe, Jackson lashed out at Sasha.

Sasha held her tongue and did not dare to retort. Standing in front of Jackson obediently, she chose to zip her mouth. Other than that, she dared not refute that Jackson was the one who let her come back and showed her Matteo’s photo, telling her that he was abused by Roxanne.

No matter what, I mustn't blurt out any words on that. If not, Uncle Jackson surely won't allow me to step into this house again once he is infuriated!

Thus, she could only face the music as Jackson vented his anger by reprimanding her.

After quite a while, he finally cooled his head off and advised, "Since it's a blunder, just give in to him and don't fight for the boys' custody anymore. After all, you will never be able to defeat him."

"Alright, Uncle Jackson." Sasha nodded obediently.

"What are you planning to do after this? If I'm not mistaken, you have bought the Wand residence?" Jackson asked her with great concern.

"Yeah, I was supposed to sign the sales and purchase agreement a few days earlier. Nevertheless, it is on hold due to the issue of my two boys. Since there's nothing to worry about them anymore, I will proceed to get the related procedures done. O-other than that, I'm thinking of buying a new house for you," Sasha told Jackson everything about her following plans and stammered as she mentioned about getting them a new residence. In fact, she had been thinking of buying them a new house long ago.

Even so, Sharon stepped in right after she brought up the topic.

"Buying us a new house? Forget about it! We don't need your money! Stop shedding crocodile tears! Jackson Blackwood, you'd better put an end to this. If I ever hear you crossing paths with

her again, don't blame me for divorcing you!" She stormed out and slammed the door behind her.

Sasha and Jackson could not utter any words for quite a while. Needless to say, Jackson knew that their daughter's death was the reason that led to Sharon's bellow of anger. Even though it was proven that the Hayes had nothing to do with her death, they were still in vain in tracing the real culprit. Since then, Sharon bore a grudge against Sasha, claiming that she had indirectly caused the loss of her beloved daughter.

Huh! That's why she can't stop dwelling on the past and won't accept Sasha. Jackson turned to look at the girl standing behind him with her head lowered. At the sight of Sasha's tears which were trickling down her cheeks, he could only grit and get a grip of himself by saying, "Don't mention anything about buying a house for us anymore. Just go ahead and settle your matter; then, get back to your place earlier."

The next moment, he left in his wheelchair without sparing another glance at Sasha.

Sasha looked up and gazed at Jackson sorrowfully with her teary eyes until his figure was out of sight. She could barely breathe as she was overcome by another wave of indecipherable mixed emotions.

I knew it! They won't easily forgive me. Thus, I must find out who's the murderer! Why did he kill Xenia out of a sudden? How did Xenia and Xandra get involved with each other? They didn't know each other before that, did they?

There was still another doubt which kept Sasha wondering all this while. Since Xenia had feelings for Sebastian, why was she willing to take the risk to steal my manuscripts and letters just to fulfill Xandra's wish. Why?

Sasha's gut instinct told her that there must be an unveiled secret behind all these.

In the afternoon, Sasha still headed for the Wand residence in Old Town.

Throughout those few years, Avenport had been developing significantly, and the local authorities were focusing on setting up New Town. Subsequently, Old Town was more like a deserted area at the moment.

When Sasha took a cab there, the driver was flabbergasted. He could not resist but double confirm with her. "Miss, are you sure you are heading for this area? It's basically unoccupied now after most people nearby moved out one by one."

"Yeah, I need to settle something over there," Sasha replied indifferently. How can I not go over there? Even though the Wand family had a downfall, it will always be her home.

When the taxi came to a halt near the Wand residence, a middle-aged man standing outside the residence advanced toward her at once. He had probably guessed that she was from the Wand family based on an unmissable vibe of dignity that she was exuding. "Are you Ms. Wand? I'm Bryan Xander, who has made an appointment with you earlier."

Sasha nodded as she gazed at the house behind him. Even though it was not comparable to the Hayes Residence, it was still the place where she grew up all those years, and she still liked it a lot.

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Sasha signed the sales and purchase agreement for Wand residence with Bryan without a second thought. According to him, he was initially thinking of transforming the Wand residence into a commercial building when he bid for it during an auction.

Nevertheless, he changed his mind as the local authority was focusing on the development of New Town lately. Thus, nothing was done to the residence ever since it was under his possession.

As for Sasha, it was a blessing that nothing was done to the house. She shuddered as she pushed open the door and entered eagerly. At that very moment, she was overcome by a wave of inexplicit emotions as that was the first time since she last stepped into it seven years ago.

As expected, there was not the slightest bit of change to everything in the house and the yard. Even the furniture looked exactly like the way they were when she left seven years ago. The only difference was there was dust everywhere at the moment.

Sasha walked around sorrowfully. She scanned every corner of the ground floor before she went upstairs to have a look at her parents' room. After that, she went to her own room and Xenia's room which was next to hers.

Xenia? She pondered for a while before she pushed open the door and entered Xenia's room instinctively.

Xenia's room was about the same size as hers. When her parents brought Xenia back to stay with them in the house many years ago, they treated her exactly like their own daughter. They catered to her needs well by giving her everything owned by Sasha as well.

Other than the dust, the room was exceptionally messy. There were piles of things on the small couch and bed. Besides, it was a total mess on the desk as well. It seemed that Xenia had never tidied up her room all the while.

Sasha could only tiptoe into the room and roughly looked around. To her surprise, something among the piles on the desk caught her eye. She found a diary with a lock underneath the piles of books.

“What is this?” she mumbled in bafflement as she pulled it out. It was the type of diary that was very popular during her high school days and was well-liked by most young girls in those days.

Furthermore, it was a trend for them to jot down their daily thoughts and secrets in their diaries.

What had Xenia recorded in it? Prevailed over by her curiosity, she unlocked the diary effortlessly with a pin. The next moment, she was astonished at the lines that came into view.

17th March, usual place, Sasha's second volume of manuscript.

25th March, usual place, Sasha's third volume of manuscript.

2nd April, usual place, Sasha's fourth volume of manuscript.

What does she mean? Why did she have a record of all my manuscripts in this diary? What on earth was she trying to do then?

Sasha's hands trembled in agitation as she flipped till the last page of the diary. To her astonishment, the whole diary was mainly recording about her manuscript! Xenia even listed the relevant titles of Sasha's books from time to time. Other than that, the record was made consistently weekly, and there was the term "usual place" in every line.

Where is this "usual place"? What did she mean by that? Did she send my manuscripts there? What was her intention to do so? Was there anyone waiting for her at the so-called "usual place"? So had she started to steal my manuscripts since then? Who did she intend to send my manuscripts to? Was it Xandra? All sorts of questions began to flood her mind.

No, it's impossible! I was not even married to Sebastian at that time. Apart from that, she was still staying under the same roof with us here. How could she do that to me?

Sasha was preoccupied with a series of questions; her mind turned mushy. Fortunately, after flipping through the diary again, she managed to spot a phone number on the front cover. It was as if Xenia had purposively jotted down the phone number on it, so it was not easily traceable by anyone. Somehow, it was fated for Sasha to spot it.

Sasha whipped out her phone at once and dialed the number spontaneously.

“Hello, this is Blue Enchantress, do you need any room reservations?” Sasha was stunned when the languorous voice sounded from the other end of the line.

Blue Enchantress? What’s this place? Room reservation? Is it a hotel?

“Hello, anyone there? If you are interested, please make your reservation earlier. If not, all the rooms will be fully booked by tonight.” The woman on the other end of the line started to sound impatient and was almost hanging up.

Sasha finally came to her senses and asked hastily, “Excuse me, is this a hotel?”

“Hotel? It’s a nightclub! How ridiculous! Pfft! A prank call! Wasting my time!” The woman on the other end of the line hung up at once.

Sasha was dumbfounded again. My goodness! This is a nightclub? Xenia started visiting a nightclub even when she was barely eighteen years old at that time? She’s really daring! I wonder who’s the person she dealt with at the nightclub. It couldn’t be she was selling off my manuscripts there. It doesn’t make sense that anyone at the nightclub would be interested in my manuscripts!

Even so, Sasha made up her mind to drop by Blue Enchantress at night. At the same time, she came across a real blue rose that was drawn in the diary.

On the other hand, when Roxanne knew that Sasha was released, it was already nighttime. As she was on bad terms with the two boys lately, her mother suggested sending desserts to Frontier Bay more frequently so she could win their hearts. Needless to say, her mother was the one who made the desserts.

Upon entering Frontier Bay, she spotted the two boys whispering to each other in the garden.

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“Has Daddy agreed to let Mommy leave?”

“Yeah, I called Granduncle Jackson about that earlier. After that, he went to the hospital to look for Daddy and requested to bring Mommy home.” Matteo’s voice could be heard.

Ian heaved a sigh of relief. It’s our fault this round. If not because our plot turned into a failure, Mommy wouldn’t have had to endure so much. Thus, we must ensure that she is safe and sound now!

“Do you think Daddy will put Mommy in a tight spot again?” Ian asked with a worried look.

“I don’t think so. This morning, Granduncle Jackson brought Mommy out to meet up with Daddy in a cafe. She was apparently having a good mood when she stepped out of the cafe just now.” Matteo described to Ian what he had seen a while ago when he was trailing behind them.

Right that instant, Roxanne, who was eavesdropping on their conversation, tightened her grip on the food container in her hands.

She's having a good mood? Sebastian, so this is the way you get the matter resolved, huh? That woman not only slandered me out of the blue but also bashed me up with her friend! Yet, you just easily let her off without taking any actions? A wave of fury started to surge from within Roxanne.

“Ah! Ms. Rocke, you are here! Why are you standing over there? Please come in at once!” Coincidentally, Wendy happened to see her standing outside the villa and doubted why she did not enter. Apart from that, there was a grim look on her face.

Stifling the simmering anger within her, Roxanne asked, “Has Mr. Hayes reached home?”

Wendy shook her head as she replied courteously, “Not yet. Most probably, he won't be back for dinner tonight. He had just given both Mr. Ian and Mr. Matteo a call a while ago.”

In a split second, Roxanne's face turned grimmer. He's not coming back for dinner? Is it something to do with the matter in the office?

Roxanne made up her mind to drop by Sebastian's office to take a look, as she intended to verify if there was something awry with her hypnosis.

Meanwhile, by the time Sasha reached Blue Enchantress, it was almost eight at night.

It was more like a small-scale nightclub located at the meeting point of Old Town and New Town. In other words, it was not the type of nightclub which would be patronized by those from the prestigious families of the upper-class society.

“Miss, how many of you?” The moment Sasha stepped into the nightclub, she was greeted by a scantily dressed waitress.

Nevertheless, she was apparently being pretentious by asking Sasha in a businesslike tone. Sasha could even sense that the waitress was scanning her from head to toe in bewilderment.

Well, I can't blame her for staring at me like that. After all, it is really unusual for a woman to come here by all by herself. Without hesitation, Sasha straight to the point by whipping out a blue rose and asked, “Excuse me, do you have this here?”

“Ah! You are Mr. Hayes's friend! This way please!” Miraculously, there was an unexpected twist in the waitress' demeanor. The next moment, she sashayed and led Sasha into the nightclub.

Mr. Hayes? Which one? Is Hayes a common family name here? Oh no! It can't be that man! Sasha's eyes twitched uncontrollably as her heart skipped a beat.

Within seconds, her sixth sense told her that it was beyond the possibility. Such an assertive and omnipotent man can't be a patron here!

Sasha was relieved and followed the waitress upstairs. She was led to a room on the first floor. There was a gilded blue rose on

the room number pasted on the door. Once the door was flung open, a sleek-haired and good-looking young man seated with his legs crossed came into sight. Her sixth sense was proven right, as it turned out to be a different Mr. Hayes.

At the moment, he was flirting frivolously with a few scantily dressed women surrounding him.

Who is this? Have I seen him anywhere? As he was chain-smoking, it was as though he was shrouded by a mysterious mist in the dim room. Hence, Sasha could not make out his feature at once. Even though she could roughly sense a hint of inexplicit familiarity in the man, she was convinced that he was not Sebastian.

“Mr. Hayes, I have brought your friend here. Here she is.” The waitress put on a fawning smile and said coyly to him.

Friend? There was a puzzled look on the young man’s face. He lifted up his head and glanced at Sasha spontaneously.

When Sasha and the man exchanged gazes, both of them froze simultaneously.

“Robert? It’s you!” Sasha called out his name first and her eyes widened in disbelief.

The man turned out to be Robert, Roderick’s son. He was a typical type of a good-for-nothing playboy who was also a spendthrift.

So he is the so-called Mr. Hayes! Does it mean that Xenia was keeping in touch with him previously ?

It makes sense if he's the one. After all, Roderick is plotting to seize the inheritance right of the Hayes family for him, isn't he ?

She presumed that he had been manipulating long ago by assigning Xenia to steal her manuscripts. After that, Xandra was instructed by him to disguise herself as the author of the manuscripts and approached Sebastian with a fake identity. He could be the mastermind so he could acquire Hayes Corporation secretly step by step.

Sasha was worked up instantaneously at the thought. She glared at the man with clenched fists.

Robert stood up immediately and shoved the women who were clinging to him aside. "Oh! It's you, Sasha! Long time no see. What brings you here ?" he grinned gleefully in an exaggerated way.

Sasha remained silent as she was repulsed by the way Robert addressed her intimately. She did not really know him well. After marrying Sebastian years ago, she seldom moved around freely in the Hayes residence, knowing that she was not well-liked by his family members. Thus, she seldom bumped into him during those days; hence, it was a little unusual to be addressed by him in such an affectionate way.

Suppressing the great displeasure within herself, she asked, "You are the so-called Mr. Hayes here ?"

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Robert shrugged his shoulder. “Yes. What’s up? Do you come just to see me today?”

He still showed his old goofy stance while his extremely fair face assembled his father, Roderick.

She had almost forgotten that his father died in Sebastian’s hands.

Plus, it was caused by none other than her two sons.

With that in mind, Sasha instinctively took a few steps backward.

“No... I’m just stopping by.” At that moment, she suddenly realized that speaking the truth might not work in her favor.

She just wanted to confirm her prediction by coming here.

At this point, she figured it was best for her to act cautious.

With that, Sasha waited for a timing to leave the scene.

However, Robert seemed to have read her mind. As she was slowly approaching the door, the former stepped towards it and shut it up abruptly.

At that moment, Sasha was rendered speechless.

“You look a bit nervous. What’s wrong? Has it been too long since we last met?”

“No, it’s not that...”

“Then why are you retreating? Are you scared of me?”

Right then, the smile on his face had vanished. Stepping slowly towards Sasha, his eyes looked like a hungry snake waiting to attack.

Sasha's heart skipped a beat, while she continued to retreat one more step.

“No. I said I just stop by randomly. I didn't know you'll be here.”

“Sasha, it has been so many years, but you still s*ck in lying. Whenever you lie, your ears will become red and your eyes will look everywhere. You've not changed at all.”

“You...”

“And you say you are not here to find me. Then, what's with the flower in your hand?”

Never did she expect that this man could read through her lie so easily.

What petrified Sasha the most was the he was staring at her flower.

It made her heart fell with a thud.

If he was Xenia's man, he would know that she was investigating him.

If that was so, there is no way he would let her go free.

I don't want to die here!

“No... Robert. Listen to me. I’m here not to see you but your cousin. I picked up this flower outside just now.”

Thinking on her feet, she could only bring up Sebastian eventually.

As for the flower, she failed to think of a better excuse.

However, to her delight, Robert seemed to stop pressing her.

Nevertheless, his expression suddenly turned peculiar, as his lips curled into a rather sensual smile.

“It’s been so long since I last heard you calling my name.”

Utterly disgusted, Sasha felt a chill in her back.

“Honestly, I kinda miss that. You say you come to find Sebastian. Will he usually come here? Could you at least come up with a more reasonable excuse?”

Sasha was lost for words.

Seeing herself unable to talk herself out of the situation, she felt the potential danger engulfing her.

“Tell me. Why exactly are you here? Did anyone send you? And why are you holding this blue enchantress?” His eyes shifted towards her flower once again.

In that instance, Sasha’s hand that was holding the flower trembled incessantly.

A few seconds later, she denied again, “I’ve told you. I just stop by randomly.”

“Are you for real? Sasha, who’re you trying to fool? Do you know why there is this blue enchantress in front of the door? It’s because that’s how I contact my pawns. If they need to find me, they need to bring a blue enchantress and come here. So tell me again. Are you really just stopping by?”

In that instant, Robert’s expression had turned entirely hostile and murderous.

Sasha paled in fright upon seeing his face.

“I’ve no idea what you’re talking about. If there’s nothing, I am leaving now. Sebastian is still waiting for me.” Sasha lifted her feet and started to walk out.

With that, Robert totally lost his patience.

Before Sasha could react, Robert grabbed her arm forcefully and stared ferociously into her eyes.

“Do you think I will let you go? Did Xenia give you a clue? And what took you such a long time to find here?”

Sasha’s eyes widened in awe as she had never expected that he would mention that name.

So I was right! He is the culprit behind Xenia’s back.

Beyond exasperated by that truth, her chest heaved up and down as she tried to suppress her rage. At that instant, she had forgotten all her fear.

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“So it’s you! Why did you do that? Did you kill Xenia?”

“So, you finally admit it.”

Robert was delighted with Sasha’s reaction while he responded to her questions composedly.

“Are you asking me why I did it? Sebastian killed my dad. So why can’t I go after him?”

“...”

“As for Xenia, what’s the point of keeping a useless pawn?”

“You rascal...”

Losing her mind, Sasha threw a slap towards Robert.

However, her hand was stopped effortlessly by Robert. With that, he gripped her hand forcefully, making her unable to move an inch.

“Calm down please. By the way, you should be thanking me.”

“What’re you saying?”

“Don’t you know? The Wand family went bankrupt all because of Xenia. She was the one who reported to the police about your

father's illegal business, which resulted in your family's bankruptcy and your mother's suicide."

Gripping her arm tightly, Robert spat out a shocking secret.

Upon hearing that, Sasha was left in awe.

Xenia would never do that. The Wand family has been so kind to her. Why would she do that? Even if she were jealous of me, she wouldn't have gotten this far. She was just eighteen at that time.

"Bullsh*t! That's impossible!"

Right then, Robert let out a cold smile. "What's impossible? Are you a fool? You have been played by Xenia all this while. First, marrying into the Hayes family was a mistake. By bringing down the Wand family, Frederick wouldn't want you as his daughter-in-law. That sounded like a pretty good reason."

"..."

"But she miscalculated in the end. Even after your family went bankrupt, that old man still let his son marry you. That was why she worked with me out of desperation."

The news was a bolt out of the blue for Sasha.

Sasha was at a loss until she almost fainted.

Why did it turn out like this? How could she be so heartless? Has our family done anything wrong to her?

Closing her eyes despondently, tears began rolling down her cheeks.

Upon seeing that, Robert added, “There’s no need to cry. Didn’t I take revenge for you already? Her body almost became a meatball in that car crash.”

He spoke as if he was boasting an achievement. Upon saying that, he used his finger to pick up a tear from Sasha’s face and put it into his mouth.

Sasha felt goosebumps all over instantly and was all disgusted.

“Let go of me! You’re a freak. You’re a monster just like her!”
Sasha started struggling recklessly.

Robert was initially patient, but he got pissed by Sasha’s disrespectful name-calling.

Bang!

“Argh!”

Sasha let out a painful scream after her head was knocked into the wall abruptly. With that, her body fell weakly onto the floor.

“Are you calling me a monster? I’ve helped you avenge her. If I’m truly a monster, I would’ve killed everyone, including you.”

Robert’s face turned utterly hideous and distorted. Before Sasha could regain her senses on the floor, he forcefully held her up again.

Sasha let out another shriek.

At that moment, Robert's subordinates, who were at the scene, were petrified. Discretely, they tried to leave the spot without Robert noticing.

Little did they know that Robert was such an inhuman maniac that no one would be able to escape from his wrath once he lost it.

“Are you guys leaving? Did I say that you can leave?”

“Mr. Hayes... we...”

“Stay here and take a good look. Do you know who this woman is?” Just then, he grabbed Sasha's hair mercilessly and forced her to face the crowd.

All the female workers were trembling incessantly until they could barely stand up straight.

Nonetheless, they had no choice but to respond politely, “Mr. Hayes... who is she?”

Robert let out a boisterous laugh. “She is my beloved sister-in-law. She is the wife of the most respectable man in this city, Sebastian, the president of the Hayes Corporation!”

Oh my goodness!

All the staff was left in complete bewilderment by that.

Is she really the wife of Mr. Hayes? How could that be? She looks so plain and ordinary!

Everyone seemed unwilling to believe that, as it was customary for any woman to be jealous of a woman with such a high social status.

However, they knew Robert may be a crazy man, but he was not particularly a liar.

With that, everyone gasped in envy and resentment.

Sasha was sweating all over as the pain was killing her. Yet, her eyes were still staring at Robert unyieldingly.

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“Since you know that I’m his wife, then you’d better not touch me or he won’t let you off easily!”

Overwhelmed with desperation, Sasha eventually used Sebastian’s name as her last resort.

Never in a million years would she expect this outcome.

She had always thought that Xenia’s partner would be some stranger. Thus, she just needed to stop by and see who the culprit was. To her startle, the man turned out to be Robert.

Robert would definitely not spare her life after she found out about his secret.

Even if she did not find out about his secret, Roderick’s death alone would be sufficient to make Robert want to kill her.

Never in her life had she been wanting to see Sebastian.

However, what made her heart fall with a thud, was that Robert did not seem bothered about Sebastian.

“Is it? Great. I want to meet him too. I’ve not settled the score with him yet after he killed my Dad. Since you’re in my hand now, it’s a good opportunity for me to meet him.”

As soon as he finished his sentence, he pulled Sasha’s hair backward strongly.

“Mmm...”

Sasha moaned in pain and tried hard to collect herself.

The next moment, Robert leaned close to her face and provoked, “However, there’s no guarantee he will show up. I heard he has married Trevor’s girl. I don’t think he cares about you anymore.”

“You...”

As much as her physical pain, Sasha felt that those words were just like a knife stabbing through her heart.

Not only did Robert torture her physically, he knew how to pick on the most extensive wound in her.

Pissed by the insult, Sasha decided to fight back. Enduring the pain in her head, she tried to reach the silver needle hidden on her with her another freehand.

However, Robert seemed able to predict her move.

Before her hand could move an inch, Robert had grabbed it tightly.

“Don’t move. You should know that I dislike women who are disobedient. Even though you’re my sister-in-law, I won’t have mercy on you if you disobey me.”

Right then, Robert gripped both her hands around her back, forcing her to face him at an extremely close distance.

“What do you want to do? Let go of me!”

“I’m not doing anything. But to be frank, you look so sexy. Your skin is still so smooth even after giving birth. I bet you must have lived a really good life.”

While he was speaking, his eyes locked onto Sasha’s seductive breasts which was half exposed.

Due to her intensive struggle with Robert, her clothes had gotten half torn, displaying most of her bodyline. Staring at that, Robert’s eyes turned extraordinarily lustful!

As a matter of fact, he had always fantasized about Sasha when she first got married into the Hayes family.

“Let me go, you perv*rt!”

Sasha’s eyes had welled up with tears, as she had never experienced such humiliation her entire life.

At the same time, all the females in the room were at a loss.

That's his sister-in-law. He won't do it, right ?

All of them underestimated Robert's shamelessness. After all, after the famous engagement a few days back, Robert knew the woman in front of him had nothing to do with his cousin anymore.

Maybe that was why he dared to behave wildly.

Seconds later, Robert lifted his hand and started unbuttoning Sasha's clothes.

Beyond desperation, Sasha bit her lips helplessly.

Thump!

At that split second, the door was suddenly kicked open by someone.

Robert halted his act, turning his head around. Before he could figure out who it was, something was thrown towards him at a swift speed.

Bang!

There was a loud glass breaking sound, and instantly fresh blood could be seen splattered. In that instant, everyone in the room panicked and started screaming.

This is way too horrifying! Who's that? How dare he attack Mr. Hayes like that?

Then, a handsome but hostile-looking man entered the room, everyone was stunned momentarily. From his simple elegant suit to the branded watch on his wrist, every detail on this man showed that he was a man of the highest social status.

Slowly, he walked towards Robert, Sebastian's face was devoid of expression like the Grim Reaper.

Recoiled in fear, Robert covered his bleeding head nervously. "Sebastian, what're you doing? Don't make me kill her now!"

With one hand still grabbing Sasha, Robert used his other hand and locked her neck quickly.

In an instance, Sasha's face turned a shade of deep purple.

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He really has a death wish!

No one noticed how Sebastian did it, but a chair was cast right into Robert's head in a blink of the eye.

With a loud bang, Robert collapsed to the ground together with the chair.

D*mn! This is brutal! He's way more violent than our boss!

Everyone's jaw dropped at the sight of that.

However, the worst was yet to come. Right after throwing the chair, Sebastian randomly picked up a knife from the fruit plate on the desk.

With that, he started cutting down Robert's fingers one by one.

“Ahhh-Aargghhhh!!”

Upon seeing that, everyone started screaming with their hands over their heads.

They had always thought that no one would be more brutal than Robert, but they could not be more wrong.

Even Sasha froze in fear witnessing such brutality.

However, it was not her first time seeing Sebastian's inhumanity. The last time was five years ago when she saw Sebastian kill a dog.

Overwhelmed with terror, she failed to avoid the blood that splatted towards her direction.

After a short while, all Robert's fingers were cut, as he was wriggling in extreme pain on the floor.

However, Sebastian did not seem to stop at all. Picking up the chair that he had just thrown, he smashed it right down onto Robert's head.

“Stop beating me... I'll die if you don't stop...”

“That's my intention.”

A second later, Sebastian picked up another wine bottle.

Robert had never seen Sebastian with such an expression. The latter looked like an emotionless robot, programmed to throw anything he could lay his hand on.

It looked like he would not stop until he ended his life.

What if he kills him? What will the Hayes family think? When he killed Roderick, the Hayes were offended, and they almost brought it up at the board of directors. If he kills Robert today, what will happen then? After all, the rumors about his illness have not yet faded.

As Sasha finally cleared her thoughts, she saw Sebastian holding a knife and trying to cut Robert's throat.

Panicking, she stood up with all her might and jumped towards Sebastian, hugging him tightly.

“That's enough, Sebastian! Stop beating him!”

“Screw off!”

He had clearly lost his mind completely, with his both eyes turned red with hostility.

Is it because he saw Robert molesting me? Maybe not. Based on our relationship, I don't think I'm that important to him. I guess he holds a deep grudge against this pair of father and son.

Sasha still did not let go of him. “Sebastian, listen to me. Even if you want him dead, you don't have to do it yourself. Your hands might get dirty.”

With her eyes brimming with unstoppable tears, Sasha was hugging Sebastian's muscular back from behind.

Feeling that familiar body warmth and heartbeat, Sasha finally lost control and started bawling her eyes out.

Instantly, Sebastian's back got wet from her tears.

Meanwhile, Sebastian's body finally stop moving.

His bloodshot eyes and his maniacal expression made him look like he came straight from hell.

While his face was half-covered with blood spilled from Robert, he looked like a savage carnivore.

With the warmth of tears at his back, all his hatred and vengeance started to melt away.

Clang!

Eventually, he threw away the knife in his hand.

Everyone in the room let out a long sigh of relief while Robert had lost consciousness.

A few moments later, Karl entered the room and saw that scene. Without hesitation, he ordered his men to carry Robert who was in terrible shape out of the room.

“Mr. Hayes, are you okay?”

After settling Robert, he walked over to check on Sebastian as he noticed something unusual about the latter.

Only then did Sasha come back to the sense of reality as she immediately let go of Sebastian and took a step away from him.

“Mmmm...”

Enduring the pain throughout her body, she did not dare to make a sound.

What was I doing? Am I crazy?

Sasha lowered her head, unable to accept her behavior towards Sebastian.

Karl intended to care about Sebastian, but he noticed something off his complexion.

He was all friendly just now. But now, he looks as though the whole world is against him.

With that, Karl changed his mind and reported, “Mr. Hayes, if there’s nothing else, I’ll bring Robert back. Don’t worry. I’ll make sure he never left the Hayes Residence alive.”

Upon saying that, Karl left the scene along with his men and Robert.

He could read me well.

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As soon as Karl left, all the women scurried away too, leaving behind Sasha and Sebastian in that messy private room.

Sasha wanted to leave as well, but was held back by her aching body.

Both her head and hands felt like they were going to break. She was determined not to show her disheveled side in front of that man.

Hence, she sat there waiting.

“Why are you still here? Reminiscing the good times?” The annoyed Sebastian threw her a question while wiping the blood off his hand.

Sasha was rendered speechless.

Just as I’ve predicted, it’s impossible that he came to save me. Look at how cold and impatient he is right now! He has no slightest concern for me.

A moment later, Sasha nodded while lowering her head. “Yup, I’m about to leave.”

Then, Sasha decided to bite the bullet, straighten her back, and walk out as if she was perfectly fine.

Before she could move a muscle, that man came over after cleaning his blood-stained hands. Grimaced, he bent down in front of her.

Oh my goodness!

His action came like a bolt from the blue.

Sasha froze for five seconds before blurting out a stupid question, “What... What are you doing?”

“What do you think? You want me to carry you bridal style? Dream on, Sasha!” he said harshly.

Sebastian had a horrifying look on his face as he assumed that Sasha wanted him to carry her like a princess instead of piggybacking her.

Gobsmacked, Sasha’s eyes went wide with shock.

No, I wasn’t asking for more. The fact that he wants to carry me on his back is crazy enough.

Blushed, she quickly explained herself, “No, I didn’t mean that, I...”

“Hurry up and get up. I don’t have so much time to waste on you. You won’t even make it to my priority list if not for the two children.”

His words made her heart sank. She had completely lost her last shred of dignity.

With that, she got up on his back with ease.

After all, he has clarified that he’s doing this for the sake of the children.

In the end, that was how Sasha managed to leave the place. His last sentence impacted her in a way that she had totally let her guard down.

As they walked, they started chatting.

“Why did you come here out of the blue?”

“Why can’t I be here?”

“What a coincidence! You don’t look like someone who would appear in this kind of place.”

Lying on that man’s back, Sasha recalled how touched she was when he kicked the door open and rescued her in the nick of time.

Her eyes welled up.

Regardless of his intention, I’m grateful for what he’s done for me.

Sebastian had been staring at their overlapping shadows. Though the lights were dim, their elongated shadows were very clear.

While lowering his head, he could also see the little head behind his back poking out from his shoulder to take a peek at him.

“I was monitoring Robert. He’s involved in human trafficking recently.”

“Huh?” Sasha gasped in disbelief.

“Human... trafficking?”

“Yeah. When I heard that you’re his target tonight, I knew I had to come over. Sasha, I don’t want my sons to know that their mother was sold right under my nose!”

Sasha was at a loss for words.

Right then, it dawned on her that something about him had never changed although he had lost his memory. He was still the same person who would not hesitate to seize every opportunity to diss her.

Just like that, the two incompatible individuals walked out of the alley together and arrived at Sebastian’s black Bentley.

At that time, Sasha was slowly dozing off.

She did not get much rest during the day and became exhausted after being tortured by Robert for an entire evening.

When Sebastian put her down on the car seat, she crawled in immediately and snuggled up. Within a heartbeat, she fell asleep on her stomach like a cat.

“Send me... to the hotel...”

He vaguely heard her muttering those words.

Frowning, he looked in the rearview mirror.

To the hotel? Why? Isn’t she staying at the Blackwood residence?

He wanted to wake her up so badly to ask her about it, but gave up after hearing her deep breathing sound. Subsequently, he ignited the engine.

What's the Blackwood family up to?

On the other hand, Roxanne could not get in touch with Sebastian that night.

Luke informed her that the latter might be engaged in an urgent meeting with a client. He assured her not to worry about Sebastian and that she should return to Frontier Bay to wait for him.

Shortly after Roxanne had reached home, she received a photo. It had nicely captured the image of a man carrying a woman on his back, walking through an alley.

What a beautiful scene!

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It was a silent night without anyone around. The atmosphere and congenial environment made the two stand out in the picture, in an intimate way.

As the gentle breeze lifted the hem of the woman's skirt, the man instantly held it down for fear of being seen by others.

How close are they for him to make such a move?

Roxanne almost smashed her phone into pieces.

No, this can't be!

How could the hypnosis go wrong? I'm a well-known psychology prodigy in the country as well as internationally. How could a little hypnotism possibly fail?

Infuriated, she grabbed her handbag and left the residence.

On her way out, she ran into her mother. "Where are you going at this hour, Roxanne?"

"Leave me alone!" she replied rudely.

Then, she sped off.

What she did not know was that a black BMW was lurking in the dark nearby, waiting for her appearance.

When she was seen leaving the house, the man inside the BMW took out his phone and reported, "Hello, Boss, she has set off."

"I see. She should be on her way to see Sebastian. If I'm not wrong, this woman will definitely make another move once she starts doubting her own medical skills."

"So, what you're saying is that... she will hypnotize Sebastian again?"

"That's possible. No matter what, she will surely check if he has recovered from amnesia. You can easily launch your attack then," the man reminded him in a sinister manner over the phone.

Upon hearing that, the man in the BMW stared at the gun in his hand and fell into a deep thought.

Why is he doing all these? He actually did not quite understand the plan.

This gun and its bullets are meant to kill people. Why does this boss want to go through so much trouble instead of loading it now and get rid of the person once and for all? Conversely, he's asking me to pull the trigger only when Sebastian's fiancée is hypnotizing him.

What on earth is going on?

With a mixed emotion, he kept his gun.

“Oh by the way, Boss, I don't think Robert can hold on any longer. Should we save him?”

“Whatever for? He has accomplished his mission. Retiring from the plot is the best ending to us all. Just focus on your task and I won't let you lose out on your reward.”

He did not expect to hear such a determined response about Robert.

Retiring from the plot?

The best ending for Robert is to be beaten to death?

The man in the BMW broke out in cold sweats at the thought of it.

Robert is one of the Hayes too, isn't he?

Meanwhile, it was already midnight when Sebastian got home.

Supposedly, the two children and their housemaids should have been fast asleep with all lights switched off at that time.

However, the living room was still brightly lit.

“Roxanne ? Why are you still here ?”

He was astonished to see that woman sitting on his couch, watching television at an ungodly hour.

Roxanne had never spent the night at his villa because the kids would not allow it.

In order to respect their opinions, he had never let her stay overnight.

Therefore, Roxanne would always return home no matter how late it was.

What’s up with her tonight ?

After changing into his slippers, Sebastian strode across the room with his car key.

Calm and composed, Roxanne quietly examined him from head to toe.

Her gaze did not leave his body at all.

She realized that he did not bring home his laptop.

He reeked of blood and there was also a faint scent lingering around him. Many thoughts ran across her mind, making her enraged. “Where did you go? Why are you back this late?”

“What?”

Displeased at how she was interrogating him, Sebastian’s expression turned grim.

“Work issue. Why? What’s the matter?” he said indifferently. He initially wanted to walk toward her, but switched his direction and headed to the dining room.

Upset, Roxanne could no longer control her anger.

Jumping up from the couch, she darted across the room and bombarded him with more questions, “Did you go and see that woman? You didn’t suffer from a memory loss, did you?”

“What are you talking about? What memory loss?”

“Don’t try to act in front of me, Sebastian! I know that you didn’t fall for my hypnosis, right? You’re still keeping all of your memories about her. You’ve never forgotten about her. Is that so?”

What’s wrong with this woman? Look at her veins, they’re bulging out. She looks like a lunatic, barking loudly in the dining room in the wee hours.

It turns out to be true that people who’re extremely talented in a certain field act differently from ordinary people, especially when their pride is challenged.

Sebastian could not be bothered arguing with her.

Pushing her aside, he grabbed a glass and headed toward the water dispenser.

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Roxanne closed in on him. Seeing how cold and indifferent he was toward her, a wave of emotions stirred up within her. Like a crumbling river bank, she could collapse any moment.

“Sebastian, look me in the eyes and tell me the truth.”

“Let go of me. Are you crazy? Why did you come here all the way and make such an awful scene in the middle of the night?”

Enraged, Sebastian swung her arm away and went upstairs.

At that moment, Roxanne knew that her last hope was shattered.

He's well-aware what I meant when I asked him to look into my eyes. But, he refused to do so. He's avoiding eye-contact with me. What does that tell me?

Roxanne was up in arms over Sebastian's attitude. She dashed toward him.

Ring!

It was a very weird bell.

Sebastian stopped in his tracks and started losing his senses.

“You...”

“It’s okay to fail the first time. We can try it again. Come over here, Sebastian, let us forget those unhappy incidents. Be good... Come...”

Holding a bell in her hand, Roxanne was pacifying a towering figure by the stairwell.

Sebastian was stunned as he felt a cold chill down his spine.

Knowing how good she was in the psychological realm, he had been very wary of her.

However, there was nothing he could do about it once she took out her bell. Even her grandfather would not be able to control her.

Gradually, Sebastian’s mind was turning blank.

“No... Roxanne, no...”

“It’s all right, dear. Don’t you want to forget about that woman? Have you forgotten the pain she’s brought you? It took you a long while to walk out of that abyss. Sebastian, you can’t go back into that pit again.”

Right then, Sebastian was holding his head, struggling in agony. Step by step, Roxanne approached him. She stretched out her hand, trying to console him.

Before she could touch him, he flung her away and yelled, “Get lost!”

Roxanne went quiet.

For a second, her arm which was hung mid-air stiffened. The next moment, she saw red and shook the bell even faster.

What an impudent brute!

I've been giving my all to grow this relationship for over a decade. I've spent so much effort pleasing you. Yet, you did nothing in return and never once appreciated me for who I am!

He knows very well that the woman will destroy him. It has happened once and it will surely happen again. However, he's like a fool, still betting on her. Is he out of his mind?

Blinded by her blazing fury, Roxanne began using the highest frequency to hypnotize him. It was a method which might be detrimental to his wellbeing.

As a result, the livid man quietened down amidst the sound of her bell. It was a déjà vu, like what took place over ten years ago. Then, he let her take him to the couch without protest.

“Sebastian?”

“Hmm..”

“Do you know who I am?”

“Ms... Rocke...” Sebastian murmured these words while dozing off.

Ms. Rocke. Yes, that's what he used to call me when he was sent abroad for treatment.

A smug settled upon Roxanne's face. Just when she was about to lay him down, a bullet flew in unexpectedly from outside and smashed onto the TV screen.

Bang!

A loud noise resonated through the French windows and across the room.

Roxanne was shocked to the core.

Before she could recollect herself, the man in her arms widened his eyes in horror as he covered his ears, and moaned in agony.

“Sebastian! Sebastian!” panic-stricken, Roxanne screamed at the top of her lungs. She knelt down to check on him, only to realize that he had curled up in a fetal position. Blood was gushing out from both of his ears and filled his eyes.

“No, this can't be it...”

Looking ghastly like a corpse, she could not believe her eyes.

No one knew better than her what the situation meant.

Upon hearing the gunshot, Karl and the others rushed to the scene. Like a bloodthirsty devil, Sebastian rose to his feet and dragged the wailing Roxanne into the kitchen.

“Please, don't, Mr. Hayes!”

Extremely terrified, everyone followed him into the kitchen.

The children were awakened by the commotion. Thankfully, Wendy retained them upstairs.

“What happened to... Daddy?”

Matteo caught a glimpse of the gruesome scene before Wendy came into their room. It was his first time seeing the frightful side of his father. Scared out of his wits, he hid himself in Wendy’s embrace as he trembled violently.

Ian, on the other hand, went as white as the sheet.

Terribly shaken, that was also the first time he had seen his father in a grisly image.

Fortunately, Karl was able to subdue Sebastian by knocking him out and taking him away.