

## The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 451

Tears welled up in Sasha's eyes.

When Sasha saw Wendy rushing toward her excitedly from the main door, she called out in tears, "Wendy, I'm back."

"Oh, Madam, I know you'll be all right. It's wonderful. You're finally back." Wendy looked at Sasha and couldn't stop tears from rolling down her cheeks.

After exchanging pleasantries, Sasha and Sabrina finally entered the house.

However, they soon heard that Sebastian was not around.

"Mr. Sebastian almost hurt Mr. Frederick when his condition relapsed. After he recovered the next day, he left without informing anyone where he went. However, he calls every day to ask about the children," Wendy said.

"What did you say? His condition relapsed?" Sasha's face went pale.

As she had guessed, something severe happened.

Why did his condition relapse suddenly? Didn't he say that his condition has become stable?

Furthermore, my "death" previously gave him a severe blow and prompted him to better control himself.

Then, why did he relapse?

Sasha was in shock and asked Wendy, “What is going on? What made his condition relapse suddenly? What happened at that time?”

Wendy hesitated for a moment and said, “Mr. Sebastian... he fought with Mr. Hayes Sr. when the latter said that he can no longer manage the company because he... he can’t control himself.”

“What did you say? Can you repeat?” Sasha could not believe what she heard.

Did I hear wrongly? Sebastian’s father says that he can’t control himself?

Is he insane?

Is he trying to kill Sebastian?

However, that was indeed the truth. Wendy repeated to Sasha what she said just now.

Frederick resorted to such cruel means to make Sebastian give up the management rights of the company.

“When Mr. Sebastian heard what Mr. Hayes Sr. said, he went mad, but Mr. Hayes Sr. refused to stop. He continued to question Mr. Sebastian and said that if Mr. Sebastian could control himself, he would never have fired a shot at you...” Wendy said.

“That’s bullsh\*t!” Sasha roared.

She was shaking all over and rage burned in her heart. Suddenly, she had the impulse to rush to the Hayes residence and slap Frederick.

Does he understand what he had said to his son?

Does he know how much his words hurt Sebastian? He could have destroyed him.

Sasha's expression distorted from fury, and she turned around to leave.

“Where are you going?” Sabrina quickly stopped her.

“Where am I going? I'm going to your house to find that heartless father of yours. I want to ask whether he has abandoned his flawed son now that his illegitimate son appeared? Is he trying to kill him?” Sasha shouted, and tears streamed down from her bloodshot eyes.

Sabrina was stunned.

She found the truth hard to accept. However, she believed that the most pressing matter was not to confront Frederick but to look for Sebastian.

They had to make sure that Sebastian was safe.

Sabrina advised Sasha, “You should calm down. Frederick won't run away, and you can confront him some other time. However, Sebastian has been missing for a few days now.”

Sasha did not know what to say.

Then, Sabrina continued, “Sebastian is emotionally unstable. Aren’t you worried about what will happen to him now that he’s alone out there?”

In the end, Sasha decided to search for Sebastian.

However, she did not have to search hard. She contacted Karl straightaway and asked him to tell her where Sebastian went.

Karl was rendered speechless.

He hesitated for a moment, but knowing that he was facing an intelligent woman, he stopped resisting and told Sasha where Sebastian went. “He’s in the small mountain village that you went to for preschool activity last time.”

“What? That small mountain village?” Sasha was stunned.

Why does he go to that small mountain village? I thought he dislikes that preschool activity.

Sasha couldn’t understand what Sebastian was thinking.

However, now that she knew where he went, she decided to go there immediately. Furthermore, she planned to bring her children with her to help him recover from his mental condition sooner.

“Mommy, are we going on a vacation together?”

Vivian was elated to hear that Sasha would be bringing her and her brothers to look for their father in the small mountain village they went to for a preschool activity.

She instantly thought that it was a vacation.

Isn't it like a vacation anyway?

Ever since our family reunited, we have not been on vacation together.

Thus, Vivian is not wrong to think that it is a vacation.

Sasha suddenly found herself in a good mood too. "Yes, we'll be going on a vacation there. Do you like the village?"

"Yes. There are many chicks and ducklings in the village. They are also beautiful flowers and tasty food. Mommy, can we stay there for a few more days?" Vivian said.

"Yes, of course," Sasha said.

"Whoa! I'll tell Ian and Matt." Vivian clapped happily and went to look for her brothers.

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Vivian went to inform her brothers in their room. As expected, they were excited and began to pack for the trip. They wanted to bring everything.

Sabrina was speechless as she saw what was going on in her nephews' room.

"Silly children. What is there to be happy? Don't you know that your mother's going there to save your father?" Sabrina was

such a spoilsport. It was no wonder that she did not have many friends.

Sasha did not say anything when she heard Sabrina's comment. She pulled Vivian's luggage down the corridor and pushed it to her. "You should send us there."

"Why me? Sasha, you're becoming arrogant. How can you order me around like a housemaid?" Sabrina complained unhappily.

Sasha looked at her calmly and said, "I can't drive there myself in my current condition. Also, when did I ever treat you as a housemaid? You're my children's aunt and the only person we can rely on, so I can only ask you for help."

Sabrina was left without retort.

I'm the only person they can rely on?

Fine, I've no choice but to agree then.

With that thought, Sabrina pulled the luggage with her and went out.

A few minutes later, Sasha left for the village with her three children. Before leaving, Wendy reminded her again, "Madam, you have to bring Mr. Sebastian back safely. I'm counting on you."

"I know. Don't worry. I'll bring Sebastian back," Sasha answered Wendy confidently. She was trying to reassure herself too.

Yes, I'll bring him back safe and sound.

He has been lying to me for too long. I want to settle the scores with him.

They left Frontier Bay in a car that night.

It was late at night in Floral Village, a small mountain village in the countryside.

The surroundings were pitch black and devoid of any movement or lamps. It was as if the whole village fell into a deep sleep and was so quiet that one could hear the occasional sounds of frogs croaking.

Greg Hudson's house was at the edge of the village.

Sasha and her children had stayed in this house previously during the preschool event.

At this moment, a man was sleeping on the upper floor of the house.

He kept tossing and turning on the bed. One could vaguely hear his groaning downstairs.

“Hubby, is that man having a headache again? Should we go and check on him?” Greg's wife, Martha Hudson, had sharp ears. She woke Greg up upon hearing sounds of groaning and wanted Greg to check the man with her.

Greg opened his eyes.

It seems like the man is in pain again.

Both of them got out of their bed quickly. Then, Martha went to get some aspirin.

Knock, knock, knock...

“Mr. Hayes, are you having a headache again? I brought some aspirin for you,” Martha called out and knocked on the door. She wanted to give him some aspirin.

Although the couple did not have much and had always lived simple lives, they were willing to do their best to help this man who came to their house.

After knocking on the door for a moment, Martha finally heard unsteady footsteps.

Creak...

When the door finally opened, a wave of cigarette smoke came out of the room, causing Martha to sneeze a few times.

“My goodness, young man. Why are you smoking again? Do you have a headache again? You need to take care of your health,” Martha said.

“Young man, you shouldn’t neglect your health.” Greg smelled the smoke too, so he advised the haggard man at the door.

The man seemed unwell.

He was handsome when he first arrived. Now, after a few days, he appeared unshaven and had bloodshot eyes. Furthermore, he looked pale and was now a frightening sight.

Greg was concerned and asked, “Young man, do you need a doctor? I’ll call him now and ask him to come here.”

“There’s no need...” Sebastian had finally spoken. He had a severe headache and wished that the Hudsons would leave him alone.

However, the Hudsons grew more concerned upon seeing Sebastian.

“Wifey, you should cook some potato and leek soup for him,” said Greg.

“Oh, yes,” said Martha.

“I’ll look for Mason Hooper and ask him to come to see you,” Greg said.

Then, the Hudsons left the room.

Martha went to cook for Sebastian, while Greg left to bring that a doctor to see Sebastian.

Sebastian was rendered speechless.

However, he felt a wave of severe pain in his head and did not have the energy to deal with them. Therefore, he staggered back to his bed and lay down.

Ever since that day, his headache returned.

Sebastian lay on the bed in a daze and wondered if his mind became muddled from the pain. He wondered if it was exhaustion that made him hallucinate figures coming into his room.

“Madam, that’s him. Is he your husband?”

“Yes.” Her urgent voice made him feel a familiar warmth. Her voice was soothing like a cool breeze, reaching his eardrums and sending tremors down his spine.

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Am I dreaming?

Why do I hear her voice? She should be recuperating in Lightspring. How is it possible that I hear her voice?

Sebastian believed that he was hallucinating from the pain.

A few small figures walked into the room after he heard the voice.

“It’s Daddy. He really is here. What happened to him? Daddy, what happened to you? Are you sick?” asked Vivian.

“Vivian, don’t touch Daddy. Let me have a look...” Sasha said.

The children were worried when they saw him. They surrounded him and chattered in their sweet childish voices but were careful not to touch him.

Instead, they waited for Sasha to treat him.

It was a wonderful dream.

Sebastian looked at the blurry figures before him, and a smile appeared on his pale expression.

Sasha was surprised by his smile.

“Little Ian, can you take Matteo and Vivian downstairs? I need to check on your father,” Sasha said gently and turned to look at her children, who were waiting adorably with their heads resting on their hands.

Ian nodded and said, “Yes, Mommy.”

Then, he led his siblings out of the room.

After the children left, the room fell silent. Sasha sat by the bed and looked at Sebastian curled up beneath the dim light.

She had not seen him for a long time.

Since seeing him off at the Empire State Tower, she never saw him again.

Although she knew he came to see her after that, she couldn't see him because she was blind at the time. Furthermore, she could not understand why he made his voice rough.

She could not see him at all then and was desperate to see him.

Sasha slowly reached for his hands that were holding his head tightly.

“Go away!” As Sebastian was tormented by pain, he would turn violent the moment someone touched him and slap the person’s hand away.

However, the hand proceeded to press onto his hand firmly.

Then, he felt a needle piercing him.

Instantly, a tingling sensation spread all over him. Compared to the splitting headache, it felt much better.

“Miss, is it all right for you to do that to him?” Coincidentally, Greg had brought the doctor here. The doctor asked with concern when he saw what Sasha was doing.

Sasha nodded and said, “Yes, he has high blood pressure from insufficient rest and emotional instability. I injected him with medication to help him calm down.”

“Oh, so that’s the reason.” Mason heaved a sigh of relief when he heard her.

A few minutes later, Sebastian fell into a peaceful sleep and dreamt for the first time since he came to this house.

Sasha saw that he had fallen asleep and asked Greg and Martha for a basin of hot water. Then, she gave him a sponge bath.

Once she was done, she went downstairs.

“Mommy, how’s Daddy? Is he all right?” the children immediately asked her with concern the moment she reached downstairs.

Sasha consoled them and said, “Don’t worry. Daddy was tired, so I let him sleep. We should go to bed too so that we can give him a surprise tomorrow morning, okay?”

“Yes!”

The children answered in unison.

Then, they pulled their luggage and went to the room prepared by Martha.

They were all good children.

Sasha watched them leave and glanced upstairs again. Now, she felt a sense of peace that had been absent before this.

The next morning, Sasha woke up to the noises of geese and dogs at the break of dawn.

Honk, honk!

Woof, woof, woof...

It sounded like a disorganized symphony. As the sky brightened, the village began to awaken and grew noisy.

Sasha got up from the bed.

“Huh? Madam, you’re up? Did the noises wake you up?”

Sasha’s room was a food pantry, so Martha, who was tending to the stove, noticed Sasha the moment she got up.

Sasha shook her head and said, “No, you didn’t. It’s time for me to wake up anyway.”

Then, she held onto the bed frame to support herself up.

When Martha saw what she was doing, she rushed to help her up, but Sasha refused. “It’s fine. I need to train my strength to recover faster. Are you making breakfast? Do you need help?”

‘It’s all right. I can’t trouble you with such a simple matter. However, your husband seems unused to our food. He barely ate anything these few days.’

Sasha was stunned upon hearing that.

That’s right, I forgot about it. Sebastian is very picky about his food. When he is at home, he won’t touch any food he dislikes.

Furthermore, he grew up with a lavish lifestyle. How can he get used to countryside food?

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Sasha was a little angry because she realized that Sebastian exiled himself here despite knowing that this place was unsuitable for him.

Is he trying to torment himself?

Sasha went to the kitchen and thought about how to make breakfast for Sebastian and their three children.

Luckily, although the village did not have as much variety of food as the city, their ingredients were all fresh. Sasha put her heart into her cooking and made a delicious breakfast.

“Whoa, Mommy, what is this round thing? Is it pizza?” said one of her children.

“Yes, I made it using flour and baked it in the oven. I put a lot of your favorite cheese and bacon on it, together with tomato sauce. It’s delicious.” Sasha introduced what she made to the children.

The cheese was the product of the fermentation of milk. So, Sasha used the fresh milk from the farm and made milk curd.

As for bacon, the farm had plenty of smoked meat.

The tomato sauce was the easiest to make. Since it was the harvest season, Sasha asked Martha to pluck a few tomatoes from the vegetable garden.

The food could not get any fresher than that.

When the children heard what she said, they began salivating.

Soon, they each grabbed a homemade pizza and ate them heartily with delicious mushroom soup.

Sasha also made a Victoria sandwich cake. She used fresh berries to make jam for the filling and topped the cake with nuts and blueberries.

When she served the cake, Greg and Martha were both stunned. “Madam, you’re such a good cook. You made all this delicious food with simple ingredients.”

“It’s quite easy to make. I can teach you how to cook them too.” Sasha smiled humbly and piped fresh cream on the cake.

In actuality, she worked hard to learn to cook.

When she was in Clear five years ago, she worked on her cooking skills for the sake of her two children.

Now that Sasha had made breakfast, she went upstairs to get Sebastian.

She felt a little nervous as she stood before the stairs. After all, when they met last night, Sebastian was in a daze. He did not know that she was real.

She took a deep breath, grabbed the handrail, and climbed upstairs slowly.

Creak...

As she pushed the door open, sunlight shone into the room from behind her, and she saw that the room was simple.

The floor consisted of wooden planks. There was an old wooden table with a scarred bench and a bed in a corner. These were the only pieces of furniture in the room.

It was a sorry sight.

Why does he choose to come here? How long is he planning to stay?

Sasha felt sad for him and walked in with the support of the door frame. She looked at the mosquito net covering the bed and said, “Sebastian, are you awake? It’s time for breakfast.”

She did not walk to the bed, as it was difficult for her to walk.

Despite her calling his name a few times, the figure under the net did not move at all.

Is he still asleep?

Sasha remembered that she injected him with medication, so she decided to go near and check.

With some difficulty, she moved to the bed and pulled open the net. There was no one in there.

Where is he?

Sasha panicked and looked out of the room.

“Sebastian? Sebastian!” she shouted his name and stumbled out of the room.

He was nowhere to be found.

There were many people downstairs, and no one noticed him coming down. How did he suddenly disappear?

Where has he gone?

When did he wake up? Why has he decided to leave?

Is it because he doesn't want to see me?

Why doesn't he want to see me? When we were in Lightspring, didn't he disguise his voice so that he could stay by my side? Why is he now unwilling to see me?

Sasha's face went completely pale.

Her mind went into a full-blown panic. She could not calm down at all.

At this moment, she suddenly saw a black car traveling on the arched bridge in the distance, heading toward the main road.

Isn't that a Bentley?

Sasha felt blood rush to her head. She grabbed the handrail and stumbled down the stairs, desperate to chase after that car.

However, she tripped.

Bang!

A loud crashing noise sounded.

Sasha fell down the stairs and crashed into a grass bush. She could not move for a long time.

That son of a b\*tch!

Luckily, the stairs were outside the house, so no one heard that she fell, especially her children.

Sasha closed her eyes and lay in the grass bush.

She tried to gather strength to get up and chase him.

At this moment, she heard a series of urgent footsteps coming toward her. He was panting as he rushed to her, and his face went pale when he saw her lying unmovingly on the grass.

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“Are you okay, Sasha?”

Sasha was so angry that she nearly opened her eyes.

This b\*stard! This f\*cking b\*stard! I’m surprised he had it in him to come back! Honestly, I thought he wouldn’t come back even if I really did fall to my death!

Wanting to punish him, Sasha decided to keep her eyes shut.

However, that plan of hers backfired as he thought she was dying when he saw her trembling uncontrollably, and his mind went blank.

Unable to contain her emotions any longer, Sasha opened her eyes and shouted at the top of her lungs, “You b\*stard! Why are you always treating me like this? Did I wrong you in the past life or what?”

Damn it! He bullied me, so why am I the one who has to open my eyes and comfort him ?

Sasha thought to herself and cried her heart out as she lay in the bush.

The sound of her crying seemed to have snapped Sebastian back to reality, bringing life back to his dull eyes and his heart that had been consumed by fear.

Sasha thought he wasn't afraid of losing her, but what he truly felt was the exact opposite.

Sebastian had watched her "die" twice before his eyes, and he simply couldn't bear to witness something like that ever again.

Still pale and trembling from the shock, Sebastian slowly knelt down beside her.

He then reached out and carried her in his arms as he said, "I'm sorry. It's all my fault."

"Yes, it's all your fault! You b\*stard! You're always bullying me! Why are you running from me when I came all the way here to look for you, huh?"

Yes, why did I run away from her ? Maybe it's because of what Dad said when we had a fight the other day. He said I wouldn't have hurt her if I could control myself, and that left a thorn in my heart that I could never remove. He's right. I lost control over myself and shot at her... His words reminded me of how I killed Mom when I was young, and that the same could happen to Sasha now. Hearing that made me wonder if there is even a single thing

in this world that I have control over. I realized the possibility that there might be no cure for my condition, and that I'm doomed to be a freak for the rest of my life. That's why I've been running ever since. I ran away from the office, the kids, and even Sasha... I was afraid that I would lose control again and end up killing them all!

Unable to answer her question at all, Sebastian simply hugged her tightly in response.

Sasha slowly stopped crying when she felt him tightening his grip on her. She then looked up at him with teary eyes and asked, "You were by my side the whole time when we were in Lightspring, right?"

Her sudden question caught him off guard, and Sebastian looked away awkwardly as he said, "Why do you ask?"

"You insisted on staying by my side at the time, even at the risk of losing your voice. So why are you running from me when I dragged my sick self all the way here just to see you? Are you ashamed to see me because you've lost your position as the president of Hayes Corporation? Or is because I'm disabled and don't have pretty eyes anymore? Is that why you don't want to see me?"

"No, that's not it!"

Sebastian was quick to deny it this time.

"Then why? After everything that we've been through, what's scaring you so much that you'd choose to run instead of facing it with me?" Sasha pressed on and shot him a scorching gaze.

Sebastian was stunned as he felt a warm sensation in his icy-cold heart.

“Aren’t you afraid of me?” he asked after a brief pause.

“Huh? Why would I be afraid of you?” Sasha asked in confusion.

Sebastian pointed at her shoulder and said, “I once shot you...right here...”

His lips were pale, and his voice was trembling a little when he said that.

Sasha looked at where he was pointing and realized what he meant.

Oh, so that’s why... My goodness, he’s such an idiot!

“Are you stupid? You wouldn’t have shot me in the shoulder if you really wanted to kill me! Ask yourself this, why didn’t you shoot me here instead?” she asked while pointing at her heart, and that question hit Sebastian like a truck.

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“Also, I’ve heard about the fight you had with your dad. You were able to control yourself in the end and didn’t hurt him, right? So why should I be afraid of you?” Sasha continued.

Although she wasn’t skilled in psychology like those from the Rocke family, she was smart enough to target Sebastian’s weak spots effectively. That way, she could give him the guidance and reassurance that he needed.

Sebastian stared at her with reddened eyes, and she could feel his heart pounding in his chest as he said, “Do you... you really mean that?”

“Of course, I do! Why else would I have come this far for you otherwise? Heck, I even brought our three children with us! You really think I’d place all four of our lives in your hands if I was afraid of you?”

That last sentence really hit the spot, and Sebastian broke into a smile at last.

With tears rolling down his cheeks, he closed his eyes and hugged her even tighter than before.

“Mmph!”

“What’s wrong?”

“You’re hugging me too tight that it hurts... How long do you plan to hold me like this? Those kids are going to come looking for me if I don’t head back inside soon!” Sasha reminded him while clenching her teeth from the pain.

Sebastian then quickly carried her out of the bush and brought her upstairs.

“Why are you carrying me upstairs? We should be having breakfast now!” Sasha asked with her eyes wide. Breakfast? That can wait! I need to check your body for any other injuries!

Sebastian ignored her and continued walking into the room he had been sleeping in for the past few days.

Oh, all right... If he's that worried about me, I suppose I could just let him have his way...

It wasn't until he pounced on her after laying her down in his bed and smothered her with kisses that Sasha realized she had been deceived.

“Mmph... What are you doing? The kids...are downstairs...”

“Don't worry, the boys can take care of things on their own.”

Sasha lost whatever remaining ounce of strength she had left upon hearing that and stopped resisting any further.

Sebastian then unleashed all his pent-up sexual energy on her and went at it until she completely submitted herself to him.

Sensing the fear and tension inside her, Sebastian chose not to force himself inside her like he did before. Instead, he patiently caressed her and kissed her until she was ready before slowly going in.

That was how one should make love to another.

Sasha didn't even remember how she passed out from that lovemaking session of theirs.

All she knew was how much her body ached when she climbed out of bed later that day.

Damn it, that b\*stard!

“Hey, Mrs. Hudson! Who are those little angels in your house? They're so cute and adorable!”

“Oh, these triplets are that guy’s children!”

“Whoa! Triplets?”

The farmer speaking to Mrs. Hudson was shocked to hear that as it was rare enough to find triplets, let alone such adorable ones.

Sasha tried to get off the bed when she heard that from upstairs, but her legs ached so much that she ended up falling to the floor instead.

“Are you all right up there, miss? Do you need me to give you a hand?”

Mrs. Hudson looked up the moment she heard the noise, but Sasha wasn’t about to let her come upstairs.

I may have gotten dressed, but one look at the state I’m in right now is all it takes to figure out what happened!

Sasha was about to refuse her assistance, but Mrs. Hudson had already come running up the stairs.

She came into the room with a tub of hot water and said, “Here, you can get yourself cleaned up and come downstairs for lunch! Your man brought the kids out into the city earlier. Said he was going to buy some daily necessities or something.”

“Huh?”

Sasha looked up at her in confusion.

He went shopping for daily necessities? Ah, I suppose that makes sense... It was fine for him to live off scraps when he was here by himself, but the five of us are together now, so he has to buy more to accommodate all of us... Wait, does he not plan on returning to Avenport yet? How long does he plan on staying here?

Sasha felt her head ache when she recalled what Sabrina had told her.

“Miss, did you and your man get into a fight or something?”

Sasha was washing her face and paused when she heard that.

“Huh? A fight?”

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“Yeah. He kept himself locked up in his room and rarely ate anything when he first got here, so we were really worried about him. But then, all of that changed the moment you arrived today!” Mrs. Hudson explained with a chuckle.

Sasha froze when she heard that.

He did what? Oh, right, how could I forget? He came all the way here precisely because he wanted to run away from the world! I told him I wasn't afraid of him and swore to myself that I wouldn't rub salt into his wounds, so how could I let him return to that cruel, hostile world?

“Yeah. We had a little fight, but we're all good now.”

“See? I knew it! Either way, I'm glad you two managed to work things out. He looks like a really great guy, and you have no idea

how much he missed you during your absence!” Mrs. Hudson said what came to mind.

If Sebastian really did lock himself in the room without eating nor drinking, how would she know that he’s missing me ?

Noticing the strange look that Sasha was giving her, Mrs. Hudson explained, “He once saw me giving my husband a back massage. After spacing out for a bit, he said his ex-wife had been really nice to him too. That’s you, isn’t it ?”

Sasha froze.

Sebastian told them I was really nice to him ? I’ve never heard him say that to me before... Wait, does that mean he acknowledges everything I’ve done for him in the past ? I mean, I never gave him back massages, but I did write him letters for a good ten years! I’ve dedicated my all into loving him and protecting him since I was eighteen, so I guess I really have been very nice to him!

Sasha had a sweet smile on her face throughout the rest of the morning.

After lunch, she sat by the front door and waited for their return. It wasn’t long before a familiar-looking black Bentley began driving slowly toward her.

The kids had spotted her from afar and stuck their heads out the car window, waving happily as they shouted, “We’re back, Mommy!”

Sasha smiled back at them in response.

“Yes, I see you! Come on, show Mommy what you bought!”

It was still difficult for her to walk, but she was so happy to see them that she steadied herself with the doorframe and limped out of the house anyway.

The car gradually came to a halt on the lawn outside the house, and Sebastian quickly ran over to hold her steady.

“Why’d you come out by yourself like that? Do you know how dangerous that is?”

The sight of him reminded Sasha of their passionate sex earlier that day, and she found herself burning bright red instantly.

“I...I’m fine... I should try walking more during the recovery phase to speed it up. So, what did you guys buy? Hey, go carry Vivi! She’s going to climb out the window if you don’t!” she mumbled while giving him a gentle nudge.

Sebastian had no choice but to let go of her and carry Vivian out of the car.

“Look, Mommy! We bought so many things today!”

Vivian came running toward her with a bag full of stuff the moment Sebastian set her down on the ground.

Afraid that she would trip and fall over, Sasha quickly knelt down to embrace her as she asked, “Yeah? What did you buy?”

“It’s for the bath, Mommy! Look, we bought these huge towels too!”

“Wow, that’s a lot of stuff!”

“Yeah! There’s one for each of us! Oh, and Daddy also bought bathtubs, one each for all of us too! They’re in the trunk!”

“Look, Mommy! I’ve got us all a pair of slippers each! I picked them myself too!”

“Don’t forget me, Mommy! Look, I bought you this rug! It’s big enough to cover the whole room, so you won’t have to worry about falling down again!” Ian chimed in as well, but what he said made her feel a little awkward from being exposed.

Sasha was about to shoot him a glare when she noticed him waving at a truck heading toward them.

Oh, god... What could it be this time?

Sasha arched an eyebrow at Sebastian and asked, “Hey, Sebastian! What is it you bought that needs to be delivered in a truck?”

“Mattresses. Don’t you think the beds in this house are horrible?”

He spun around and replied with a smile so bright that Sasha found herself spacing out for a bit.

Oh, my god! That’s the first time I’ve seen him smiling so brightly!

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The truck then pulled up outside the house, and the men carried several mattresses into the bedrooms under Sebastian's instructions.

Naturally, Mrs. Hudson and the farmer were delighted to see that.

"Isn't it a waste of money to buy all this if you won't be staying here for long, Mr. Hayes?"

"It's fine," Sebastian said and didn't bother to explain himself any further.

Having regained her composure upon hearing that, Sasha ran up to them and said, "Don't worry, ma'am! We'll be staying here for quite a while, and we'll also be coming back pretty often!"

"Really?"

"Yeah, so look after these for us, okay? That way, we'd be able to use them whenever we come back!" she said while pointing at the mattresses in the bedrooms.

Mrs. Hudson agreed to it immediately.

Unbeknownst to them, a faint smile formed on Sebastian's face as he continued moving the stuff into the house.

She's right, I really don't feel like leaving this place... It's true that I came here a few days ago as a means of escape. Now that they're here with me, all I want is to stay here with them. Life in the countryside is a lot more relaxing compared to that in the city. I don't have to worry about work all the time, and I get to stay away from the hustle and bustle in the city. It's like I've come to

a whole new world where I can be a different person and just spend time with my family.

Sebastian spent the rest of the afternoon redecorating the house while the kids went off to play with the children in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Hudson got busy with their work on the farm, leaving Sebastian and Sasha the only ones in the house.

“Are you...going to use all this stuff you bought?”

Sebastian was installing a mosquito net on the kids’ beds when he heard that. He turned around and saw Sasha unpacking the daily necessities he had bought.

Why won’t I be using it? Does she see me as some spoilt rich guy who’s allergic to tap water or something?

“Huh? What do you mean? This stuff is all I can afford to use from now on.”

Sasha looked up at him in confusion. “What? Why?”

“Because I’m jobless now, remember? Without a source of income, I’ll have to be a little more thrifty!” Sebastian replied with a shrug.

Sasha was so shocked by what he said that she sat there staring at him for a few minutes in silence.

Sebastian needs to be thrifty? Did I hear that right? I know he’s lost his job, but he’s still the heir to the Hayes family, isn’t he? How could he possibly have no income? Besides, he’s been the

president of Hayes Corporation for so many years now! Shouldn't he have a huge amount of money saved up or something?

Unable to contain herself, Sasha blurted out, "What happened to your money, then? Where did it all go?"

"What money? All of my cards have been canceled after I resigned. For your information, all the money I spend are debited directly from the company's funds, so I'm broke now."

My god, what the hell is with this guy? I've never heard of such nonsense all my life! If what he says is true, then what would presidents of companies do once they retire?

That thought gave Sasha a really bad feeling in her gut.

"How much do you have right now?"

"I told you, I'm broke."

"Not even a single penny?"

"Okay, not that broke."

Phew... At least he isn't completely penniless!

Sasha patted herself on the chest and let out a sigh of relief.

"Okay, that's good... As long as you..."

"I still have two credit cards with me, and they have a monthly quota of five million each. I made the purchases earlier with one of them, but... If we can't afford to pay the installments on the 5th of every month..."

“Give it to me! You’re not allowed to use those credit cards anymore! Starting today, you will ask me for money when you need it!” Sasha shouted at him with a trembling voice.

Five million! My goodness! Does this b\*stard have any idea how long it’d take me to make that amount of money?

After confiscating his credit cards, Sasha pulled out her phone and transferred two hundred thousand into his account.

“Don’t waste this money, got it?”

“Got it, Darling!”

Having received the money, Sebastian not only addressed her affectionately, but also bent down and gave her a kiss.

Wait... Why does this feel like I’ve just gotten myself a gigolo?

They were finally done unpacking and tidying up the house in the evening. While waiting for Sebastian to bring the kids home for dinner, Sasha got a call from Sabrina.

“Well? When will you two be coming back?” Sabrina asked.

“I’m sorry, Sabrina, but I think we won’t be going back any time soon,” Sasha replied honestly.

Sabrina’s voice exploded on the phone the moment she heard that. “What? Are you crazy? Do you even remember why you’re there? You’re there on a search for Sebastian, not on vacation! What do you mean you’re not coming back?”

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“I mean exactly what I said, Sabrina. Did you know that your brother is having a really great time here?”

Sasha explained her reason for staying in hopes of calming Sabrina down, but that only angered her even more.

“What’s there to be happy about when everything our family owns has fallen into someone else’s hands? Those who fought by his side to help build the business empire are being weeded out by that scumbag one after another! Tell me, how could he possibly be happy about that?”

Sasha didn’t know what else she could say.

Being the former president of Hayes Corporation, it’s true that Sebastian would have no reason to be happy about its current state. Ever since Solomon rose to power, he had been getting rid of the shareholders who defended Sebastian. It’s just like what Sebastian did to the shareholders who betrayed him back then.

To make matters worse, the Rocke family has gotten away “scot-free”! Sebastian had managed to send Trevor face trial at a court in Sumanthova, but Solomon bailed him out with a huge sum of money. After that, Trevor made plans to have Roxanne enter a marriage of convenience with Solomon. The addition of the Rocke family’s huge pharmaceutical company to Solomon’s arsenal would undoubtedly make him even stronger than before! It’ll be a lot more difficult for Sebastian to take back Hayes Corporation then...

Sasha let out a huge sigh and said, “Okay... I’ll try talking to him about this, but I can’t guarantee that he’ll return.”

“Whatever, just do it! Honestly, I can’t believe you managed to screw up such a simple task!” Sabrina yelled angrily and hung up the phone after that.

Sasha placed the phone back down and saw Sebastian coming back with Vivian in one arm and the boys in the other.

“Welcome home!”

“Yes, it’s good to be home!”

“Mommy, look! Those guys over there went fishing by the river today! They gave us some of the fishes they caught!”

The boys handed Sasha a bucket full of fishes before Sebastian could even say anything further.

Wow, they actually asked for fishes that someone else caught...

“Wow, looks like we’ll be having fish for dinner tonight! For your information, these fishes from the river are completely organic, so they’ll taste amazing!” Sasha said with a smile.

“Really?”

Both Matteo and Ian got excited when they heard that.

Vivian too, climbed off Sebastian and walked up to the bucket as she asked, “Can we go fishing tomorrow too, Mommy?”

“I think we can, but I’m not sure if your daddy knows how to fish.” Sasha actually found it to be a great idea.

The kids immediately threw themselves at Sebastian, wrapping their arms around his legs.

“Do you know how to fish, Daddy?”

“I’m sure Daddy knows! Daddy’s so great, he knows everything!”

“Yeah!”

Sebastian felt a sense of glee when he heard his kids praising him, but the cunning look in Sasha’s eyes ruined everything for him.

“Okay, I’ll take you all fishing tomorrow.”

“Yay! We get to catch fishes tomorrow!”

Feeling thrilled after hearing Sebastian’s promise, the kids happily carried the bucket of fish inside so Martha could cook for them.

Sasha was about to head inside as well, but Sebastian grabbed the handle of her wheelchair before she could do so.

“Are you enjoying yourself so much that you don’t want to go back anymore?”

“Yes, I am. What about you, Mr. Hayes? Do you want to go back?”

Sasha looked up at Sebastian whose face had a golden glow thanks to the evening sun.

He arched an eyebrow at her and leaned in to kiss her on the lips so passionately that she nearly suffocated from it.

“You...”

“I will do as you say, Darling. If you want to stay, then we will stay. Besides, we’ve just bought mattresses earlier!”

This freaking pervert... I knew he’d say something like that!

Sasha didn’t actually ask that because she wanted to go back. She simply read his thoughts and worded them for him in a different way.

Just like that, the five of them spent the next couple of days in that small village.

Solomon too, had found out about Sasha’s return, but he did nothing about it.

“Mr. George, Roxanne has returned from Sumanthova. Would you like to see her?” his assistant asked after receiving a call from Roxanne.

Roxanne?

Solomon found it a little funny as he couldn’t understand why he had become involved with her.

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He soon received a call from Xenhall, Jetroina.

“Hey, Solomon! I hear Trevor intends to have his daughter marry you! This is a great opportunity, so you should take it! Frederick has yet to fully hand over his power, so having the support of the Rocke family’s pharmaceutical company will reinforce your position!”

It was a woman’s voice, and all she did was order him around without even asking about his well-being.

Solomon narrowed his eyes, and the look on his face grew cold instantly.

“And what if I don’t marry her?”

“Why not? Are you trying to defy your mom? This is all for your own good, so you will do as I say!”

The woman on the phone got really angry and scolded him harshly.

Mom?

A sarcastic smile formed on Solomon’s lips as he said, “My mom is dead! She died back when I was eight!”

He then slammed his phone on the ground, much to the horror of his assistant watching from the side.

Instead of going to see Roxanne, Solomon left the office and went looking for the shareholder that had been avoiding him.

He had only a few more to get rid of, and they were the most difficult ones of the bunch.

Most of the people in Hayes Corporation didn't respect him even after he rose to power as he was an illegitimate child and had taken over the company through underhanded means.

That was the reason why he had been "executing" a lot of people throughout that month, but most of them held lowly positions in the company and only owned a small amount of the company's shares.

As such, the only way for Solomon to truly achieve dominance was to take out the major shareholders.

"Mr. George, Peter lives in Lux Tower and has always wanted to acquire the building. He's willing to transfer his shares over if we can fulfill this request of his," his assistant reminded him over the phone when Solomon arrived at the Lux Tower.

Solomon took a glance at the building from inside his car upon hearing that.

Hmm, it does indeed have great commercial value. The first four floors are comprised of a shopping mall with lots of top-tier luxury brands within the city. The rent alone for this place should be enough to last you a lifetime.

He then parked his car and was about to go look for Peter inside when he saw two familiar figures in one of the men's clothing stores.

"Do you like this?"

"Yeah."

A handsome and elegant-looking man was trying on some clothes in front of the mirror. Although the outfits were plain and ordinary in design, he made them look surprisingly well when he put them on.

Solomon narrowed his eyes when he noticed that the man's gaze wasn't focused on his outfit, but the woman who was straightening his shirt collar for him.

She had a beautiful face, mesmerizing eyes, and a dazzling set of pearly whites. The look in her eyes was so gentle and affectionate as she helped tidy up the man's clothes.

Sebastian Hayes!

Pain and jealousy filled Solomon's heart instantly, and he gripped the steering wheel so tightly that his knuckles went white.

“Hey, are you listening to me? Why aren't you saying anything?”

Sasha looked up at Sebastian and pouted when she didn't hear a response from him.

The next thing she knew, her lips were sealed by his.

Loud gasping noises could be heard within the store, and the salesgirls who had been eyeing Sebastian the moment he came in held their hands to their mouths in shock and disappointment.

Damn it! Why are all the handsome men taken?

Sasha burned bright red when she regained her composure.

“What are you doing? There are so many people here!”

“What are you afraid of? It’s not like we’re in some indecent relationship or anything. You’re my wife, remember?”

“No, we’re divorced.”

“Since when? I’m not aware.”

Unable to continue the conversation, Sasha quickly changed the topic.

“Do you like this shirt or not? We need to head back as soon as we’re done shopping. The kids are waiting for us, you know?”

“Yeah, sure. I like anything you buy for me, Darling,” Sebastian said with a shameless smile on his face.

Sasha didn’t dare say another word and scurried off to make the payment at the counter.

Jackson had called Sasha earlier that morning and told her to get prepared as her dad would be released from prison in two days. That was why they came out shopping for clothes before heading over to Jackson’s place.

Sasha had wanted to leave after completing the purchase, but Sebastian stopped in his tracks when they passed by a restaurant serving Chanaean cuisine.

“Shall we have lunch here?” he asked.

“Huh? Are you hungry?”

We should probably have lunch at Uncle Jackson's place instead. Knowing how hot-tempered he is, he'd definitely scold me if he knew we were coming over but chose to have lunch outside instead!

As she couldn't bring herself to refuse his requests, Sasha kept those thoughts to herself and held his hand as they entered the restaurant.