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Yulia nodded. Skylar was right. They couldn't just let Anderson get away with it.

Her college mate had made her trade 20 million for a formula that could cause cancer.

How malicious could he be?!

"I need to attend this meeting now."

Yulia said.

Skylar nodded. "Alright, I'll pick Lola up from the kindergarten."

His cell phone rang not long after Yulia left the office.

It was Lola Sue's new homeroom teacher calling.

"Ms. Freeman!"

He hurriedly picked up the call before he had time to think about it.

His expression took a dramatic turn before Ms. Freeman could even finish. "Please keep Lola safe, Ms. Freeman. I'll be over soon!"

He didn't bother to fill Yulia in on the situation before racing for the kindergarten.

It was a perilous journey.

The trip typically took twenty minutes, but he was there within ten.

Many were gathered in the kindergarten when he got there.

Skylar hurried over and asked, "What's going on, Ms. Freeman?"

Lola's new homeroom teacher, Evelyn Freeman, turned her head and said, "Lola scratched his sports car."

Only then did he realize that a large red Porsche 911 was parked in the center of the crowd.

Next to it stood the flamboyantly dressed family of three.

They were a young couple around their mid-thirties with a young girl Lola's age.

Lola was standing before them.

Her eyes were tear-filled with a bright red palm print imprinted on her right cheek.

Someone had backhanded her!

Skylar's heart immediately surged with overwhelming anger, but before he could even vent, Lola made a beeline for him.

"Daddy!"

She cried out in distress. The dam finally broke. Tears rolled down her cheeks in rivulets.

"Daddy!"

Skylar hurriedly took her into his arms.

"I didn't do it, Daddy!"

She bawled as she spoke.

"I believe you. I know you didn't do it!"

"Don't cry, Lola. You're Daddy's little sweetheart. I won't let anyone bully you."

He was distressed by the child's anguish. The anger gushing in his heart turned into a cold killing intent.

He had always known Lola to be an honest child after spending so much time with her.

She always admitted her faults.

Of course, even if she was beaten for something she hadn't done, she wouldn't yield either.

The scratches on the car should have nothing to do with her if she was so adamant about denying it.

Even if she had accidentally scratched it, the other party could simply seek compensation from him, the parent. Backhanding a four-year-old was going too far.

The man from the family of three spat out, "You're this damn brat's Dad?"

"She scratched up my new sports car. What now?"

"It wasn't me! Really!"

Lola poked her head up from Skylar's hold and stubbornly voiced her objection.

It was as if Lola's words were a catalyst. The owner's daughter jabbed a finger at her. "It's you!"

"I saw you do it. It was you who scratched our new car!"

A hint of cunning flashed in the child's eyes.

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The male car owner scolded Lola, "You little bastard, my daughter personally saw you scratch my car, so how dare you deny it?"

"Why don't I give you two slaps?!"

After he finished speaking, he raised his arm arrogantly, scaring Lola so much that she rushed into Skylar's arms.

"How dare you?"

Someone actually dared to threaten his daughter in front of him! How could Skylar tolerate this?

"Skylar!"

As Skylar was about to burst into a rage, Evelyn, the homeroom teacher, suddenly grabbed his arm. She whispered, "He is the Harper from the Fox family. You must not offend him."

"The Fox family?"

Skylar snorted coldly. Damned Fox family!

How could someone blindly hit his daughter? Let alone the Fox family, but even if it were the emperor, Skylar would still kill him!

Seeing that Evelyn was stopping Skylar, Harper felt that his identity as the Fox family's eldest son was useful.

As Harper was feeling pleased, he saw Skylar's disdainful expression, and he immediately became furious.

"I think you really want to be hit!"

As Harper spoke, he raised his arm toward Skylar. However, before his hand could get close to Skylar, a loud slap landed on his face. The slap was so powerful that it had caused Harper to spin a few rounds.

After he stopped, Harper spitted out some blood.

The onlookers were dumbfounded. They never expected that Skylar would dare to slap Harper. Even Harper's wife and daughter could only stand there with shocked expressions.

"He's doomed!" Evelyn sighed.

Harper had a powerful family and business, so he was usually arrogant and domineering. Even if others did not provoke him, he would bully them.

The car's matter had not been settled, but Skylar had hit Harper. Was Skylar looking for trouble? Why did Harper not listen to Evelyn's persuasion?

At this moment, the dumbfounded Harper came to his senses and covered his swollen cheek. He shouted fiercely, "You bastard, how dare you hit me? Do you know who I am?"

Harper's wife also shouted crazily, "You scoundrel! My husband is from the Fox family! Since you dared to hit him, I'll kill you and let your daughter be buried with you too!"

"Yes, kill them!" The girl next to Harper's wife stared at Lola viciously and shouted.

Skylar glanced at the girl and said to Harper, "You said you wanted to hit me, but you ended up getting slapped instead. Now that your wife is saying she wants to kill me, aren't you afraid I'll be the first to strike like just now?"

Harper laughed and said, "You're right. Not only do I dare to hit you, but I also dare to kill you!"

As Harper spoke, Skylar's eyes became cold, and he exuded a murderous aura.

Harper was taken aback for a moment before saying in disdain, "I won't be scared by you." Even if Skylar had slapped him, he did not think that Harper had the guts to kill him.

On the other hand, Harper's wife became a little scared after seeing Harper's expression.

She held her phone and said warily, "I've recorded you threatening to kill us! If you don't back down, I'll call the police, hand over the recording, and sue you for blackmail!"

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"Call the police? Sure! I'll be waiting here!" Skylar sneered.

"Hmph, with the Fox family's power, you can expect yourself to go straight to jail!" Harper's wife was secretly delighted and immediately walked aside to make the phone call.

After a few minutes, the sound of sirens was heard. Soon, over ten policemen walked into the kindergarten. The one in the lead was a tall, burly man that seemed to be about 35 years old. It was clear that he was the captain.

"Mr. Taylor!" Harper's wife greeted enthusiastically.

Mr. Taylor walked toward Harper and his wife and said flatteringly, "Mr. Harper, Mrs. Harper, what's the matter? Who was daring enough to hit Mr. Harper?"

After he finished speaking, the onlookers were nervous for Skylar in their hearts. It was obvious that Mr. Taylor was one of the Fox family's men. Skylar was doomed!

Harper's wife gritted her teeth and pointed at Skylar, saying, "It's this damned bastard! His daughter scratched our new car. Not only did he not compensate us, he even slapped my husband! Is this world lawless?"

Mr. Taylor immediately said, "Mrs. Harper, don't get angry. Leave this trivial matter to me!"

Mr. Taylor then walked toward Skylar.

"What's your name?"

"Skylar Stone."

Seeing Mr. Taylor being so formal, Skylar frowned, but he still gave a reply.

Mr. Taylor continued speaking, "Since your daughter scratched Mr. Harper's new car, you as a parent should give them satisfactory compensation. Otherwise, you and your daughter will need to follow me to the station. Once you're there, I'm afraid you'll be convicted of gathering a crowd to cause trouble, intentionally hurting others, and endangering society."

Mr. Taylor's exaggerated words satisfied Harper's family, and they all looked at Skylar leisurely.

Little bastard, weren't you amazing just now? Do you dare to continue being like that in front of the police?

On the other hand, Skylar glanced at Mr. Taylor coldly and said, "Why should I admit things my daughter didn't do?"

Harper's wife panicked and said, "My daughter said she saw it personally, so why are you still denying it?"

She then sneered and continued, "If you want to deny it, shouldn't you take out the evidence? How can Mr. Taylor believe something just because that damned girl said she didn't do it?"

Evidence? Her words reminded Skylar, and he immediately raised his head to look for surveillance cameras. Unfortunately, the location was the surveillance camera's blind spot. No wonder Harper's family was this arrogant. They might have known from the start.

Seeing Harper's wife's delighted expression, Skylar sneered and said, "Fine! Since you want the evidence, I'll give you the evidence!"

As Skylar spoke, he took out his phone and called Dianne.

"Check the satellites covering Cloudtopia, and find the satellite video of Lola's kindergarten. Focus on the northeast corner. A red sports car was scratched, so I want to see who did it."

"Yes, Boss!" Dianne immediately replied and started to work on it.

Hearing Skylar giving the orders through the phone, everyone looked at him mockingly.

Satellite video? Was Skylar that amazing?

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Mr. Taylor sneered and said, "Skylar, I've brought so many men here, so I'm not joking. As a citizen, you've obligated to cooperate. Playing tricks to drag on time is considered as hindering law enforcement. You won't get any benefits, and it'll only worsen your situation."

Skylar glanced at him without saying anything.

Soon, Dianne sent a high-definition video over.

Skylar opened the video and said to the crowd, "Didn't you want evidence? Let's all take a look at this!"

Other than Mr. Taylor, a few other policemen also came over.

In the video, a girl was holding a key and scratching the side of the red sports car. It turned out this girl was Harper's daughter.

After scratching the car, she left and brought Lola to the car. What happened after that was seen by everyone. This meant that the one who scratched the car was none other than Harper's daughter!

Lola was framed by his daughter!

"What my daughter said is true. Mr. Taylor, do you believe it now?" Skylar asked coldly.

"I... I believe it."

Mr. Taylor laughed awkwardly in front of his men.

The reason Mr. Taylor made it seem like a serious situation was to stand up for Harper.

However, he never thought that Skylar could get the satellite video.

With such solid evidence, he could not hide the truth in front of all his men and onlookers even if he was biased.

Harper and his wife also saw the video's content.

Before Harper even said anything, his wife pointed at Skylar and said, "Hmph, even if the car's matter isn't related to your daughter, everyone witnessed you slapping my husband! They can all testify! Mr. Taylor said that you can be convicted for gathering a crowd to cause trouble, intentionally hurting someone, and endangering society!"

Upon hearing her words, Mr. Taylor's eyes lit up. "That's right! Someone who hits others at the slightest disagreement poses a great threat to society! Skylar, you must follow me to the police station today for interrogation!"

Skylar stared at Mr. Taylor and asked, "Mr. Taylor, why didn't you ask for the reason I hit Mr. Harper?"

"I don't care about the reason! Hmph, if you have anything to say, you can say it at the police station! Stop dragging out time here. You'll have to follow me back to the police station either way!"

Mr. Taylor was about to order his men to forcefully take Skylar away.

Skylar's eyes became cold as he exuded a murderous aura.

How dare this little captain hide the truth? What wishful thinking!

"Mr. Taylor, do you think you can bully someone who can get the satellite video with a single phone call?" Skylar said coldly.

Skylar did not plan on using his power to pressure others. However, Mr. Taylor insisted on helping Harper and his wife even though there was solid evidence.

Upon hearing his words, Mr. Taylor felt chills in his heart. However, he still had a serious look as he said, "Skylar, I'll say this once again. Please cooperate and follow me back to the police station."

Although Mr. Taylor's heart was rapidly beating as he spoke, his pride did not allow him to back down in front of the crowd.

However, he soon thought that Skylar must be bluffing.

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Maybe Skylar just happened to know a friend responsible for collecting satellite videos. If he had such power, he would have used it before I showed up. Thinking about this, Mr. Taylor's looked at Skylar mockingly.

On the other hand, Harper and his family looked at Skylar gloatingly. They were waiting for him to be escorted into the police car and brought to the police station for interrogation.

Ms. Freeman could not help but sigh and think, Skylar disregarded my reminder, so isn't he going to get taken away now?

Even if Skylar could get the evidence, Harper was from the powerful, wealthy Fox family, so even the truth could be covered up.

If someone offended Harper, how could it be easy for them to get out once they entered the police station?

"Is your identity number 8975745?" Skylar glanced at Mr. Taylor's uniform and asked.

Skylar did not expect Mr. Taylor to still be fearless even after he said that. In that case, Mr. Taylor should not blame him for being rude.

"What about it? Are you going to call my supervisors to report me? Don't be naive. If a simple phone call can affect me, the entire police department can be laid off!" Mr. Taylor said mockingly.

"I'm going to make a phone call, but I won't be calling your supervisors!"

Skylar sneered as he called Dianne. "Take away everything from the policeman with the identity number 8975745 in three minutes!"

Take away everything from him?

Hearing Skylar's words, the crowd was taken aback for a moment, but they soon sneered.

How could Skylar take everything away from Mr. Taylor in three minutes? Who did he think he was?

Even the most powerful person in Cloudtopia would not dare to say that.

"Heh, don't think I'll be afraid of you just because you can get a satellite video! How can you take away everything I have with only my identity number? Do you think you can really make me lose everything?" Mr. Taylor mocked.

"Three minutes, right? Fine. I'll give you three minutes. If nothing happens before the time's up, you and your daughter will have to follow me to the police station to admit your crimes!" After Mr. Taylor

finished speaking, he looked at Skylar confidently.

However, Mr. Taylor's phone rang before a minute had even passed.

He did not think much of it at first, but a bad feeling rose in his heart when he saw the name on the screen.

Mr. Taylor had fantasized about it countless times, but it was the first time such a person had called him.

It was Mr. Jones from the Cloudtopia police department!

After being taken aback for a moment, Mr. Taylor picked up the phone, having no time to think at all.

"Mr. Jones..."

Before Mr. Taylor could finish his words, Mr. Jones shouted from the other end of the phone.

"Jason Taylor, right? You're abusing your power and using it for personal gain. On behalf of the Cloudtopia Police Department, I'm expelling you from the police force! Moreover, the police department has already obtained evidence of your crimes. You'll need to report at the headquarters within an hour to cooperate with the investigation. Otherwise, you're considered as escaping from your crimes. Also, take off your uniform before coming over! Don't insult the police department's symbol of glory!"

"Mr. Jones..."

Before Jason could even react, Mr. Jones had hung up the phone.

Was Mr. Taylor expelled? Moreover, he had to go to the headquarters to plead guilty.

Jason's mind went blank.

At this moment, Jason's phone rang again, and he saw that it was his father. Jason subconsciously pressed the answer button. He then heard his father's anxious voice. "Son, what happened?"

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"A group of people in uniforms and top hats came to our house and said that you've broken the law. They confiscated everything at home, and even suspended our family's bank accounts!"

"Aren't... Aren't you guys my son's colleagues? Why are you investigating us?" Jason's mother's anxious voice was heard.

Immediately afterward, various footsteps and crackling noises also sounded. Suddenly, something fell onto the floor with a bang and shocked Jason.

Jason soon felt his back drenched with sweat.

In less than a minute, Mr. Jones called him personally to expel him and even ordered him to surrender within an hour. Soon after, his house was investigated and his parents' bank accounts were frozen.

Skylar was not bluffing. With a single phone call, Skylar had taken away everything from Jason!

Moreover, if the police department were to thoroughly investigate Jason and expose him for accepting bribes over all these years, Jason could be sentenced to at least 20 years in jail.

After 20 years, Jason would be almost 60 years old! This was equal to losing the rest of his life! Jason was going to lose everything!

Thinking about this, Jason almost fainted.

Jason just wanted to curry favor with the Fox family and make them in debt with him, but he did not expect to offend such a big shot.

If he had known that Skylar was this powerful, he would not dare to offend Skylar even if Harper held a knife around his neck!

As Jason was regretting it, Harper's wife even urged him, "Mr. Taylor, it's almost time, so what are you waiting for?"

Harper's wife even looked at Skylar in delight as she spoke. It was as if she had seen Skylar being forced to the police station like a criminal.

However, her smile soon froze, and her eyes were filled with shock.

She heard a plop as Jason's burly figure kneeled in front of Skylar.

"Mr. Stone, I'm sorry. It's me who has been ignorant and offended a big shot like you. I know that I'm wrong! If you can forgive me, I'll do whatever you want in the future! I won't hesitate even if you ask me to bite Harper!"

"What?"

Everyone was shocked.

Why did Mr. Taylor suddenly become like this? Didn't he speak to Skylar arrogantly just now? Why did he become so cowardly after picking up two phone calls? Could it be that those phone calls were related to Skylar?

Everyone was guessing in their hearts.

On the other hand, Harper and his wife looked at Jason on the ground in disbelief. The shock in their hearts was greater than the onlookers.

"You would bite whoever I ask you to? Are you trying to be my dog?" Skylar said to Jason with a cold smile.

Jason immediately nodded continuously. "Yes, yes, Mr. Stone. As long as you forgive me this time, I'll become your dog from now on. I'll do whatever you say."

Skylar laughed and said, "I'm sorry, but you're not worthy!"

Everyone was once again shocked by the scene.

Did Skylar say that Jason was not even worthy to be his dog? What arrogant words!

However, they did not dare to laugh at the person who said those words anymore.

No matter how unbelievable one's words seemed, as long as the one who said them was powerful, those words would not be unbelievable anymore.

Skylar could not be bothered to care about Jason anymore, and he turned his gaze toward Harper and his wife.

"You two, apologize to my daughter and slap each other until I say stop."

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Skylar would never show mercy to people who abuse their power to bully others, like Harper and his wife.

If Skylar had not returned or if he only had an ordinary background, who knew how they would bully Yulia and Lola?

Hearing Skylar's words, Harper's wife said disdainfully, "Who do you think you are to ask us to slap each other?"

"Jason is just a dog to our Fox family. He may be afraid of you, but we aren't!"

"You don't want to slap each other? Then you can die!" Skylar's eyes turned cold as he spoke.

Harper's wife laughed at his words. "You want us to die? I'm afraid that you won't live long enough to see that! If you don't give me and my husband a proper explanation, I swear you won't see tomorrow's sun!"

Skylar said, "Hmph, fine! It's you who is forcing me to do this! This is a kindergarten, so I don't want to leave any bad memories for my daughter. I'll send you two off to your afterlives at another place tomorrow!"

After he finished speaking, Skylar left together with Lola.

Seeing Skylar leaving, Harper's wife did not take him seriously. What about his words about killing them? They were just a few harsh words by a useless person before he ran away.

On the other hand, a while after Skylar left, Harper only gritted his teeth and shouted, "How dare this bastard hit me? I'll get someone to kill you!"

"Yes, don't let him see tomorrow's sun!" Harper's wife followed suit and said.

They were used to being arrogant, so how could they accept such mistreatment?

No matter what, they had to regain face in front of everyone. Of course, even if they did not kill Skylar, they would not settle for this. Harper already had an idea in his heart as he watched Skylar leave...

In the car, Skylar gently touched Lola's swollen, red cheeks. After using some special techniques, the clear palm print on Lola's face soon disappeared.

"Lola, does it still hurt?" Skylar asked.

Lola touched her face and said happily, "It doesn't hurt anymore! Daddy, you're amazing! You only touched it a bit, but my face doesn't hurt anymore!"

Skylar patted Lola's head lovingly and said with a smile, "My dear Lola always says such sweet words!"

"Daddy, my face is alright now, so can you not tell Mommy about the matter earlier?" Lola asked.

"Lola, are you afraid of worrying Mommy?"

Skylar was taken aback for a moment. He originally had the same intention, but he did not expect the young Lola to have the same thought as him.

Upon hearing Skylar's words, Lola nodded and said, "Mmhm. Before Daddy came back, Mommy would worry for a long time every time I had any conflicts with the children in the kindergarten. Now that Daddy is here, Daddy can protect me, so Mommy can focus on her work."

Seeing Lola being so sensible, Skylar felt both heartache and relief. If Skylar had not been absent previously, Lola would not need to be so sensible. Moreover, Yulia would not be as tired as she is either, taking on the role of both a father and a mother for Lola. All in all, Skylar had been in debt to Yulia and

Lola.

"Sweetheart!"

Skylar hugged Lola and kissed her. "Daddy is happy to see you being this sensible! What do you want as a gift? Daddy can get anything for you!"

"Really?"

Lola's eyes lit up, and she asked, "Daddy, you'll make whatever wish I have come true?"

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"Yeah, I'll make whatever wish you have come true!" said Skylar confidently.

With the influence and wealth he had in his hands right now, even building Lola's dream castle was just a matter of time.

If she had asked for the stars in the sky, he would gladly take her to space by getting a spaceship.

However, he believed that the 4 year old girl would not have wishes that were too over the top.

Lola, who was in his arms at that moment, blinked and looked up at him. With a serious tone, she said, "Lola wants a younger sister, daddy!"

Cough!

Skylar was so taken aback that he almost choked.

"Uhh..."

He never would have thought that Lola's wish was...to have a younger sister.

"What's wrong, daddy? Is it impossible?" asked Lola.

With a smirk, Skylar replied, "Well, it's not that it's impossible, but..."

"Daddy, you promised Lola just now that you will make my wish come true! No lying, daddy, or else your nose will grow long! Daddy will also turn into a puppy!" said Lola loudly, interrupting Skylar mid-sentence. She was determined to hold Skylar to his words.

Skylar touched his nose in embarrassment. He said, "Well, Lola, about that... Even if I say yes to a little sister for Lola, we still need mommy to say yes too."

"After all, your little sister has to come out from your mother's belly. So daddy is willing to give you a sister if you can convince mommy too."

Hearing Skylar's words, Lola raised her head as she thought about it for a while. She then asked, "So if mommy says yes, Lola can get a sister?"

Skylar tried to explain to Lola, saying, "Even if mommy agrees to the idea, it will take a long time before you can meet your sister."

"Oh, also, it's not up to us to decide whether you will get a brother or sister!"

"So troublesome? Lola just wanted a sister to play with." said Lola dejectedly.

"Do you have any other wishes, sweetheart?" asked Skylar as he looked at Lola nervously.

He was afraid the little girl would ask for another normal-sounding wish that was impossible for him to fulfill immediately.

I should not have made promises I can't keep.

For the very first time, Skylar, the great God of War of the Nine Continents, wanted to impress his daughter. His plans backfired spectacularly instead.

Skylar did not know whether to laugh or cry at his predicament.

Lola deliberated on it for a while before asking, "If Lola can't get a little sister, can Lola get a little puppy instead, daddy?"

"The little puppy can also play with Lola!"

Hearing that, Skylar secretly heaved a sigh of relief. It was a much more reasonable wish for him to fulfill.

He readily replied, "Of course!"

"Since mommy is still at work, let's go and get a puppy right now!"

After traveling for half an hour, both of them arrived at Highbury Street where most of Cloudtopia's pet shops could be found.

At the entrance of the marketplace, two plump girls were staring at Skylar and Lola.

"Is that the guy that put our Gerry in the hospital, Mitzi?" asked one of the girls who was wearing glasses.

"That's him! He kicked Blackie to death and had a group of raid dogs attack Gerry! He's the reason Gerry is in the hospital!" replied the other plump girl bitterly. Her name was Mitzi and she had frizzy hair.

It seemed like both of them were crazy fans of Gerry Porter.

When she saw Skylar walking into a pet shop, the bespectacled girl immediately exclaimed, "He entered your brother's shop, Mitzi!"

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"Why is a murderer like that going into a pet store? He probably has some disgusting hobbies like killing cats or skinning dogs, right?"

Mitzi laughed scornfully. "Who cares what he gets up to? What's important is that Gerry Porter is still in hospital, and I haven't made the culprit pay for what he's done yet. Looks like the *sshole himself has shown up on our doorstep without me needing to hunt for him! I'm going to make him suffer today and get revenge for our poor dear Gerry!"

After this spirited declaration, Mitzi dashed toward the pet store, followed by the plump, bespectacled female student.

Inside the pet store, a man in his thirties was refilling the water bowls in the dog cages. When Skylar and Lola walked in, he looked up and greeted them with a warm smile. "Welcome, both of you! Hello little miss, what sort of pet are you looking for today?"

"Mister, I want a puppy," Lola replied shyly.

"What a coincidence! I've got the widest selection of dog breeds in town. You take a look and see which of these puppies you like, little miss, and I'll bring them out for you." The man gestured to a long row of stacked cages.

Only then did Skylar realize that the entire wall was full of these cages. There were several dozen of them, each containing puppies. He recognized some of the breeds, but there were also others that he had never seen before.

Lola stared raptly, her eyes as big as saucers.

"Tell the nice man which one you'd like, Lola," Skylar told her, lifting her up so she could see better.

Lola looked at all the cages intently. She thought that all the puppies were adorable, but none of them truly caught her eye. She wrinkled her nose, unable to make a decision.

At this point, Mitzi burst through the door. Upon seeing Skylar and Lola, she declared, "It's ok if there aren't any puppies here that you like. My family has a bigger facility nearby with a lot more breeds. You could take your daughter over there if you'd like."

"Yes, my parents run the kennels there. If none of the puppies here catch your fancy, my sister can take you over to the kennels for a look. We're breeders and suppliers, so we can negotiate the price once you've made your pick!" The pet store owner asserted.

"Well, what do you think, Lola?" Skylar bent down and asked the little girl.

Lola's eyes lit up, and she clapped her hands together in excitement. "Yes! I wanna go see!"

Skylar tenderly tousled his daughter's hair, then turned to Mitzi. "Alright then. Would you mind taking us over to the kennels, please?"

Mitzi nodded and headed out of the shop immediately. Her plump, bespectacled friend detached herself from the wall and caught up with her, so they both were walking side by side.

Skylar followed behind the pair, so he did not see the malicious smirks exchanged by the girls.

They had walked for about seven or eight minutes when Skylar heard the sound of dogs barking. They had reached the kennels. Lola could not help jumping up and down with excitement; the four of them then went in.

Skylar and Lola were distracted by the sheer variety of brightly-packaged dog kibble stacked high at the entrance, so they did not realize until too late that a massive black dog had suddenly appeared next to Mitzi. From the looks of it, this was the reigning canine king of the kennels, the top dog.

The bespectacled girl shot a glance at Mitzi, who nodded and immediately opened a large black steel door.

Inside, Skylar could see a huge space filled with wooden dog pens that housed a large variety of breeds. Each breed had its own pen; a cursory glance indicated that there were at least over a dozen of these fenced-off areas.

"The dogs are all inside. You can go in and take your pick!" Mitzi said and stepped aside to let Skylar and Lola go in.

As the two headed down the walkway between the pens, a venomous gleam flickered in her eyes, and she could not suppress an expression of unholy glee.

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Mitzi and her plump, bespectacled friend exchanged swift glances. They had already noticed that Skylar was now inside the massive space, surrounded by hundreds of dogs in their enclosures.

"You're supposed to be some sort of big shot, right? How dare you shut my beloved Gerry into a room

with a ton of ferocious dogs? I'm going to make sure you get savaged to death by all the dogs in this place!" Mitzi gave a scornful sniff, then bent and cuddled the head of the massive black dog at her side. She pointed at Skylar, standing on the walkway by the dog pens.

The black dog let out a fierce, carrying howl that sounded like a battle cry.

Up until then, all the dogs in the pens had been tame, friendly, and behaving adorably well. The minute they heard the black dog's howl, however, they suddenly began barking in a mad frenzy as if something had electrified them.

Some of the dogs even began lunging violently at the sides of the enclosures.

The wooden fences that constituted the pens began to wobble dangerously. In no time at all, it seemed as if these hundreds of dogs would soon break out of the enclosures and charge at Skylar, ready to tear him to pieces.

The situation was dire!

Lola was so frightened that she whimpered and hid her face in Skylar's shoulder.

Despite the perilous situation, Skylar did not retreat or back off. Instead, he took two steps forward confidently. At the same time, he let out a loud snarl that carried easily through the massive space.

Grrr!

The hundreds of slavering, bloodthirsty dogs suddenly stopped dead in their tracks as if they had been struck by lightning. Even their barks and growls were choked off abruptly.

The mad frenzy of howling and barking immediately fell silent.

Mitzi and her friend stood rooted to the spot, staring agape at what was happening before their eyes.

Before they could react or even get their wits together, something even more astounding happened.

As they watched, all the dogs suddenly got down on their bellies and began shivering in fear. The pin-drop silence in the massive space slowly gave way to cowed, terrified whimpering.

All the dogs were behaving as if they had seen a terrifying vision and were now prostrating themselves on the ground, begging for mercy, even the huge black dog beside Mitzi.

Skylar slowly turned around, looking for all the world like a vengeful god of war emerging from a sea of blood. His brows drew together as his cold gaze alighted on Mitzi. "I'll let you off this time because you're still nothing but a child. But if you don't clean up your act and start behaving properly, I won't be so lenient next time!"

Mitzi was so frightened she was shivering in her shoes, unable to say a word. How could she do otherwise when Skylar's razor-keen eyes were fixed on her so unwaveringly?

Her friend was in no better state. Her legs gave way under her, and she collapsed onto the ground in absolute terror.

Skylar turned away without giving the pair a second glance. Gently stroking Lola's head, he murmured comfortingly, "It's alright, sweetheart, everything's fine now!"

Lola finally plucked up enough courage to peek out and look up. "Daddy, it was so scary just now! It's a good thing you're here! You can protect me!"

When Skylar saw her tear-smearred face, his heart ached at her obvious distress. "That's my good girl. Let's choose a puppy who's as good as you and bring it home, shall we?" He stroked his daughter's back lightly a few times.

It did not take long for Lola to recover her spirits. In no time at all, she was back to her normal chatty, excited self. "Yes! Let's! I want to choose my own puppy though," she demanded unapologetically.

All the dogs reverted to their tame, adorable selves once more.

Truth to tell, they were even more tame and adorable now.

Wherever Lola looked, the puppies and dogs in that area would wag their tails as if they were pleading for mercy and anxious to please.

"Wow, this white doggie looks just like a fox!"

Lola's gaze fell on a snowy-white Pomeranian, and she squealed in delight.