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'But she didn't.' Sandy's pregnancy was like a ticking time bomb that had exploded right next to me and completely caught me

off guard.

On one side, it was the ex who I couldn't get my mind off and was pregnant with my child; on the other, it was the woman who

wanted to marry me.

I really didn't know what to do.

Whenever I saw Sandy cry, I would always think of Pearl.Pearl has never cried, and I've never seen her cry or show her fragile

side to me ever since I got to know her.

When the engagement was canceled, and she moved out of the apartment, I couldn't control my urge any longer and defiled her

while I was drunk.

I finally got my hands on the woman that I once despised.

'She isn't as bad as I thought, and it wasn't that she couldn't or wouldn't cry. It was just that she didn't care. It hurts me deep down

when I see her crying. That's why I didn't want to see her cry.

It's undeniable that I have feelings for Pearl.

Perhaps I was already tempted from the moment I started paying attention to her or from the moment I felt a little strange about

her deep down.

After learning that Sandy had framed Pearl for her miscarriage, and then the truth that she had once borrowed money from loan

sharks, it became clearer and clearer to me that what I loved was the Sandy that I knew in the past, and what I couldn't let go of

was the beautiful emotions and memories that we had created in the past.

And when the flaws of the near-perfect person who gave me all those memories appeared, it became clear to me that everything

was just an illusion, and the bubble formed by the memories I shared with Sandy popped in an instant.

I couldn't accept Sandy's true colors, however, I could accept Pearl, whose past was even more unbearable than Sandy's.

Was it because Sandy had changed? In fact, it was not.

It was only because of the change in my perspective.

'I was the one who had changed.'

If Sandy didn't choose to commit suicide because she couldn't accept that I've fallen in love with Pearl, I would have chosen to

confess everything to Pearl.

However, Sandy's death was unacceptable to me.

How could I still fall in love with Pearl like nothing's happened after Sandy just died because of this?

'Even if I do love her, I can't do it.Sandy committed suicide because I fell in love with Pearl.That's why I've attributed all the

mistakes to Pearl.Yes, if she hadn't appeared in my life, causing me to fall in love with her, none of that would've happened.'

But all those are just excuses for me to escape reality. I didn't want to admit I'm in love with an unbearable woman"

Tanner took Pearl into his arms abruptly, and Pearl was stunned.

He tightened his hug as if he was afraid that she would disappear instantly.

"I've let one woman in my life down, and I've hurt another one.I already can't make it up to the woman I let down, but I want to

apologize to the woman I hurt.I wanted to tell her that I've fallen in love with her, but she no longer remembers me anymore."

Pearl was trapped in his arms, and while she was listening to his trembling apology, a drop of tear rolled down her cheek

inexplicably.

Time passed by day after day, and it was already Christmas in a blink of an eye. Maisie saw the two children decorating the house with bells and whistles.

As soon as she stepped into the Goldmann mansion, she covered her face with her palm.

"Daisie, Colton, must it be so exaggerated?" Daisie climbed down from the ladder.

"We decorated our classroom and school just like this last Christmas, so how is this an exaggeration?"

Maisie felt extremely speechless and helpless.

'The whole mansion is covered in all the colors that can be found in a color palette, so how is this not an exaggeration? Sure

enough, I just can't understand the kids' aesthetics"

Daisie walked up to her, jerked the hem of her clothes, and asked, "Mom, can I invite a classmate over to our house to play on

Christmas?"

Maisie paused and replied with a smile, "Of course, you can decide for yourself when it comes to inviting your classmates."

Daisie nodded.

Colton, who was still arranging flowers by the side, clicked his tongue.

"You must've invited that boy, haven't you? I don't understand what's so good about him.He's a feeble boy and sissier than

Nollace."

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"Colton—"

Maisie wanted to stop him, but it was already too late.

"He could've mentioned anyone, but he mentioned Nollace instead"

Sure enough, when Daisie heard Nollace's name, her delighted face dimmed in an instant.

Colton realized that he had misspoken and scratched his head.

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to say that.Just invite whoever you want.I'm not-"

Before he could finish speaking, Daisie had already sprinted upstairs, and the slamming of a door followed the series of

footsteps.

Maisie glanced at Colton, and the latter pouted.

"I didn't mean it." Maisie patted his head.

"Go and comfort your sister."

"I know."

Colton put down the flower in her hand and followed Daisie upstairs.

He came to Daisie's room and knocked on the door.

"Daisie, it was all my fault, and I'm apologizing to you now! So please open the door!" Daisie, who was standing downstairs, heard Colton's voice and could not help but chuckle.

"Colton can be disagreeable and critical from time to time, but he does so only because of his love for his sister. And this kiddo

sounds just like his father when he apologizes"

Daisie had always been a pure and headstrong girl.She had gotten very used to being coaxed by her brother.

Thus, her temper subsided quickly as soon as her brother apologized.

She responded from the inside of the room.

"I heard you.You're so long-winded."

Colton crossed his arms and leaned against the door.

"So, are you still angry?"

She replied loudly, "Of course, I'm still angry! The only way to relieve my anger is to give me ten presents tonight!"

The corner of Colton's lips twitched.

"Alright, alright, ten presents it is then."

'Sigh, raising a little sister is really not an easy task"

At noon, Barbara came to visit with her child.

Beatrice was already half a year old.

Although she was still babbling, she looked much bigger in size than when she was two months old.

Daisie and Colton carried Beatrice and brought her along to play in the courtyard.

Maisie sat in the pavilion and drank tea with Barbara.

Barbara exclaimed, "Christmas is quite lively for the kids, huh?"

Maisie responded helplessly, "Because it's the time of the year when they get presents, Daisie is the happiest when it's time to

receive gifts."

Barbara took a sip of tea and thought of something.

"Have you seen Pearl since she lost her memory?"

Maisie shook her head, picked up the teapot, and poured tea for both of them.

"Perhaps amnesia is a good thing for her.It's sometimes a blessing to be able to forget about unpleasant incidents.Me getting t o

see her or not is no longer an important matter."

Barbara said with a smile, "I just don't know what will happen when she regains her memory."

"Her life might've already been filled with good memories before she remembers the bad ones, so no matter how painful they

are, they will be buffered. It depends on whether she'll accept them after remembering them."

Maisie was referring to Pearl and Tanner.

After learning that Pearl had lost her memory, Tanner had been approaching her as a friend.

Maybe h e was trying to get her to accept him again and to make up for the mistakes that he had made.

However, despite wanting to make up for it, the damage had already been done. Pear! would not have lost her memory if it were not because of the despair she had gone through.

Thus, Tanner's efforts to be kind to her and to make it up for her would be at her mercy because everything would still depend on

whether she could accept him again once her memory was restored.

In the evening, the children started to get busy, helping to arrange the barbecue dinner in the yard.

The butler asked the servants to help set the table, and there were various delicacies, snacks, drinks, and other foods on the

table.

A Mercedes-Benz was parked outside the gate of the Goldmann mansion.

Daisie saw the person who got out of the car and ran over with a wide grin. "Zephir, you've come!"

Zephir smiled and handed her a Christmas present that he had prepared.

"Merry Christmas, Daisie."

"Thank you, Zephir!"

Daisie responded with a smile and grabbed Zephir's hand.

"Come in, come with me "

Zephir looked back at the bodyguard in the car and said, "Come pick me up at night."

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The bodyguard nodded and drove away.

"Mom!"

Daisie took Zephir to Maisie's side and introduced him to her, "Mom, this is Zephir, the friend I've been mentioning to you."

Zephir greeted her politely, "Hello, Mrs.Goldmann.I study in the same school as Daisie.I'm currently in the sixth grade, and my

name is Zephir Gosling."

Maisie laughed.

"It's nice to meet you, Zephir."

'This boy seems very humble and polite"

She then glanced at Daisie.

"You're in charge of your friend tonight.You have to entertain your guest well." Daisie nodded.

"I know, Mom, I'll definitely try my best to entertain him!"

After Daisie took Zephir away, Barbara came over with Beatrice in her arms.

"Your daughter is quite popular among boys, huh?"

Not to mention, as far as Daisie's appearance was concerned, she was already very pretty-looking at the age of nine.

She would definitely look breathtaking in another few years' time.

Maisie rubbed her temples.

"Yeah, this is the pain in m y *ss right now."

'After becoming a parent, I really wish Daisie would look a little more ordinary.Although it's not her fault that she looks good, I

only worry about her future ... "

As the night sky covered the surrounding in darkness, the Goldmann mansion's courtyard was brightened up by the lights found

around the garden, and the banquet was looking extremely boisterous.

In addition to Zephir, Daisie had invited Lisa and Sapphie too.

Kennedy brought Sapphire over.

Sapphire was already one year old and had learned how to walk.She could also babble a few simple words and address others.

Maisie picked Sapphire up.

"Sapphie, I haven't seen you in a while, and you' ve learned how to walk."

Kennedy laughed along.

"Indeed, kids grow very quickly.She still needed others to carry her around just a few months ago, but now, she sometimes

doesn't even let others pick her up."

"Auntie!"

Sapphire called Maisie with her adorable voice, and Maisie could not stop laughing. When Nolan and Helios came back, both of them were stunned.

Helios came over and said, "You guys actually organized a Christmas gathering."

Maisie replied, "It's Daisie's idea, so whatever that makes them happy."

She then put Sapphire down, and Sapphire teetered toward Daisie.

Barbara shoved Beatrice into Helios' arms all of a sudden.

"Hold her.I'm going to grill some food."

After saying so, she ran toward the children and got together with them.

Helios could only stand in place and glance at her helplessly.

Nolan walked up to Maisie's side and looked at the children.

"Why didn't you tell me that Daisie wanted t o organize a party earlier?"

"You'd surely arrange everything and pay for everything for Daisie if I were to tell you about this beforehand. You'd definitely

reserve a high-end restaurant, wouldn't you?"

Maisie looked at him and crossed her arms.

"We must encourage the kids to accomplish things on their own, and you can't always solve problems with money.We must do

something t o develop such good habits in them."

Nolan sneered.

"My wife is correct. This is my fault. I haven't been thinking about this thoroughly." Daisie taught Zephir how to grill a skewer, but Zephir did not seem to have grilled such food before this, so he looked as if he

was fumbling through the skewers frantically.

Colton drank his drink and glanced at the two of them from time to time.

Thinking that his sister did not care about him as much as she cared about an outsider, he was not very delighted about that.

Lisa turned to look at Daisie.

"Daisie seems to get along quite well with our senior."

Even she could not help but envy Daisie because she would always have someone around her who treated her well.

Although the girls in her class did not like her, most of them were just jealous.

Daisie had always been really popular among male students.

Colton snorted softly.

"That idiot gets along with just about everyone, and she's not afraid of being cheated." 'It used to be Nollace, and it's Zephir now.I wonder who it's going to be in the future" Lisa glanced at Colton, and as a bystander, even she could feel that Colton was very protective of his younger sister.

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"Colton, hold on to these for me. The smoke just got into my eyes."

Daisie handed the uncooked skewers to Colton, who looked reluctant but grabbed them from her anyway.

Barbara picked up a tissue and helped her wipe her eyes, feeling rather helpless and funny.

"How did you manage to get so dirty from only grilling a few skewers?" Zephir looked at Colton.

"Perhaps I can grill them for her?"

"I don't need your help."

Colton squatted down and placed the skewers back on the grill.

Daisie smacked his head while he was at it.

"Don't yell at my guest!" He talked back with a cowardly tone.

"Alright, alright, I shouldn't yell."

Lisa sat in her seat, stared at the noisy but harmonious scene over at the grill, and looked a little downcast and lonely as if it was

a scene that she could not fit into.

The Santiago manor looked relatively lonely and still compared to the bustling Goldmann mansion.

Antonio was away because he had to deal with his company's affairs, so Mrs.Santiago and Pearl were the only ones having

dinner at home.

Pearl had just eaten two mouthfuls of food when she suddenly felt nauseous.

She covered her mouth and rushed into the bathroom.

"Pearl?"

Mrs.Santiago noticed something, and her expression changed slightly.She bent over the toilet bowl's edge, vomited, and then

flushed the toilet.

As soon as she got up, she saw Mrs.Santiago standing at the door solemnly.

"Pearl, how...How long has it been since your last period?"

Pearl was startled for a split second, and she shook her head.

Mrs.Santiago knew that she did not remember anything, so it was pointless for her to ask her about that, but it was rather clear to

her that her daughter might be pregnant.

'Pearl has finally gotten rid of all her ties with Tanner, but getting pregnant at this moment is...Karma is really a b*tch"

She grabbed Pearl.

"Pearl, come with me to the hospital for a check-up tomorrow. If you really are pregnant...Just listen to me, and don't let Tanner

know about this baby."

"Are you saying that I'm pregnant?" Pearl was bewildered.

She could not understand how she had gotten pregnant and why her mother had asked her not to let Tanner know about the

baby.

Mrs.Santiago lowered her head.

"Pearl, don't ask so many questions.Just listen to me."

She did not want her daughter to have anything to do with Tanner because of this child.She did not want her daughter to get hurt

again.

The next day, Mrs.Santiago took Pearl to the hospital for a check-up.

And the result showed that she was seven weeks pregnant.

Pearl was at a loss the moment she saw the test results.

'I'm actually pregnant! ?'

Sitting on the bench in the corridor, she still could not get around the shocking news.Mrs.Santiago hung up the phone and

walked toward her.

"Pearl, do you want to keep this child? If you want to keep it, all you need to do is give birth to it. Your father and I can help you to

raise it."

'If such incidents hadn't happened in the first place, I wouldn't allow her to give birth to this child.After all, she hasn't gotten

married yet, so how will she be able to get herself married into a good family with a child i n the future? But now, I no longer wish

for Pearl to get married. If she wants to keep the child, at least the child will be able to accompany her in the future"

Pearl looked numb.

"I...I don't know, Mom.I'm not prepared for this at all.How did I get pregnant? I really can't remember..."

Mrs.Santiago hugged her, and her eyes turned bloodshot.

"My silly child, just let it be if you really can't remember anything.I'll always be with you."

Pearl calmed down a little.She bowed her head, lowered her gaze, and did not speak for a long time.

At noon, Tanner came to see Pearl at the Santiago manor and brought her many gifts. Pearl sat absent-mindedly on the couch, and she was not listening to what Tanner said. "Pearl..." He called her name softly.

Pearl raised her head to look at him, only to see him squatting in front of her, holding the back of her slightly cold hand.

"What's wrong, don't you like the gifts?"

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Pearl stared at Tanner and did not utter a single word.

'I'm pregnant.But Mom doesn't let me tell Tanner about this"

Tanner claimed that he had hurt a woman before this, but he kept apologizing to her.

These things were constantly replaying in her mind like a fragmentary video.

Even though she could not remember anything, she kept on feeling a sense of heaviness looming within her chest cavity, making

it very difficult for her to breathe.

"Pearl, what's the matter with you?"

Tanner wanted t o caress her cheek, but she ducked his hand abruptly.

"I feel a little tired.I wish to rest."

His hand froze in mid-air, only a few inches away from her face.

But seeing that she had said that, he slowly withdrew his hand and could not help but clench it tightly.

After a while, he stood up with a smile.

"Then you should go and grab some rest first.I'll come to visit you some other day." When Tanner was leaving the manor, Pearl stared at his back and did not know what to think about.

At Bassburgh's airport...

Maisie got out of the car, only to see Saydie walking out of the exit with her luggage.She had not seen Saydie in almost a year,

and there were some changes in her appearance.

Her hair had gotten longer than before, and her shoulder-length hair was side-

parted.She used to look like a tomboy, but she

looked like a lady now.

Saydie walked up to her.

"Ma'am, I've returned."

"Welcome back."

Maisie was about to grab Saydie's luggage from her when she immediately stopped her.

"Ma'am, I'll do it myself."

She neatly placed her luggage in the trunk and then got into the car with Maisie. Maisie asked Saydie about her parents while they were in the car, and Saydie kept quiet for a short moment before explaining, "They've built a new family.I've gotten used to wandering around freely, s o living with them doesn't suit my lifestyle much."

Her parents now had four children and had long forgotten about the child they had abandoned.

What her sudden appearance had brought to them was not a pleasant surprise but enormous pressure.

In the past, she could not get over the reason her parents would abandon her cruelly. She did not know why until she met her parents in person.

It was because her parents had suffered to raise all their children, so they could only sell her to another party for the living

expenses that they desperately needed.

Reuniting with the child they had sold back then had only made things and emotions complicated within the family.

Maisie looked at her.

"It doesn't matter. The Goldmann mansion will be your home from now on. You can stay here and continue to live with us."

Saydie nodded and said seriously, "I'll stay by your side wherever you go in the future.I'll be loyal to you and only you for the rest

of my life."

Maisie lifted her hand to stroke her hair and could not help but laugh out loud. "Let's just forget about the ' being loyal to only me for the rest of your life' part. You still

have to get married in the future."

"I won't get married."

Seeing that Saydie had suddenly gotten serious, Maisie stopped teasing her.

"Okay, no matter what you want to do, just do it.I'll support you wholeheartedly."

Maisie took Saydie back to the Goldmann mansion.

Quincy just so happened to come downstairs and saw the person beside Maisie, who looked a little familiar t o him.

"Mrs.Goldmann, this is..."

"You've forgotten about her so soon?" Maisie smiled.

Quincy took a closer look at the person, and the familiar poker face finally reminded him who it was.

"Is this Saydie?"

Quincy was very surprised.

"Wow, that's rare.Ms.Saydie, you've grown your hair.Have you made up your mind to quit being a tomboy?"

Saydie gazed at him calmly.

The intensity and ferocity of her glare had not fallen behind after spending all those time away from the field, causing Quincy to

make a wise choice to shut up immediately.

Maisie patted him on the shoulder.

"Would you like to dance a little with Saydie in the practice room?"

Quincy gave off an awkward smile.

"No, there's no need for that.Love and peace have always been my life motto."

Maisie shook her head and went upstairs to find Nolan.

Nolan was in the study, reading a magazine, and he raised his gaze when he heard footsteps approaching.

"Have you fetched Saydie back?"

"Yeah."

She turned around, sat on his thigh, and wrapped her arms around his neck.

"She'll stay in the Goldmann mansion from now on.Will that be fine?"

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