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Kate vented her resentment. "That entire family is abnormal!"

Scowling, Nathan said coldly, "Why do you still go easy on people like them? You should teach them a lesson that they'll never forget."

Olivia snickered. "Did you know you just said exactly what North said? He said that I should only reason with human beings and not animals."

"Hahaha..."

The three of them burst out laughing. Then, Kate continued, "North's right. You shouldn't waste your effort talking to her."

Meanwhile, Nathan also smirked. "That kid will seek revenge for even the pettiest grievances. I'm kind of worried about that fat kid."

Olivia responded, "About that kid, I don't think he went to class today. When I left, I saw him leave with his grandma."

Nathan answered, "Good that he has the foresight."

Olivia continued, "Let's not talk about him anymore. Please help me with this studio. I need it to be at a prime location, and money's not a problem. The closer it is to Anna's studio, the better. I can't wait to see the look on her face when she finds out."

"No problem. I'm on it," replied Nathan.

While they were discussing, Olivia's phone rang. When she looked at it, it was an unknown caller ID. Though slightly baffled, she proceeded to answer it. "Hello."

A familiar male voice sounded out from the other end of the phone. "Is this Miss Maxwell? This is Brian. Do you have some time this afternoon?"

It took Olivia a while to process that. “Oh. Hello, Mr. Mccarthy. Is there anything?”

Kate quietly nudged Nathan to look at Olivia. “It looks like she’s going out for lunch. Did I hear it right? Is she being targeted by that trashy man again?”

Nathan gave Kate a look. “You go and listen in.”

“No, you go!” Kate pushed him.

“Why me?”

“That’s your job.”

While they two were still trying to work out who should go, Olivia had already returned from the phone call. “What are you two talking about?”

They looked at each other before simultaneously turning to Olivia, remaining silent. Olivia became skeptical and puckered her lips. “Why are you looking at me like that? Do you wanna join me?”

Kate purposely put up an unfriendly look. “Who’s bringing you out for lunch? Is it a guy or a lady? Do you like that person?”

Olivia was rendered speechless. “Come on, Kate; don’t stare at me as if I’ve just betrayed you. People might think we’re a couple!”

Kate pouted and sent Olivia a flying kiss. “The whole world knows that. Spill it—who’s had their eyes on my woman? Are you going now? Are you still going to love me when you get back?”

Olivia glared at her. “I don’t think you belong in the fashion magazine industry—you’re a born actress!”

“Don’t divert the topic. Spill it.”

Olivia was annoyed. “That was the man that I saved on the street the other day. He said he wants to take me out for a meal as a token of his appreciation.”

Kate asked, “The guy at the restaurant?”

Upon seeing Olivia nodding, Kate was full of anticipation. “Ah, that man is good-looking! He’s taking you out for a meal—does that mean he likes you?”

The moment Kate finished her sentence, someone slapped her on her head. Then, she heard a familiar male voice. “Has anyone ever told you that you’re a moron? How does taking her out for a meal mean he likes her? I go over to your place for meals every day; does that mean I like you too?”

“Nathan, are you tired of living?” Kate had a fierce look on her face as she pounced on him.

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Very quickly, the two began beating each other up.

Olivia shook her head, feeling annoyed. "Please take care of my couch! If you guys break it, I'll make you two sit on the floor!"

As she spoke, she went in to get changed.

Kate tried picking at, pinching, twisting, biting, and kicking him. She tried everything she could.

However, Nathan could not fight back. He was left with no choice but to use his trump card—he spread his legs and sat on Kate while his huge palms locked her wrists and he lifted her. This move was definitely nipping it in the bud.

At this moment, Kate had no other moves, so she began yelling, unwilling to accept defeat.

"Nathan, I'm so going to kick you when I get down!"

Nathan snorted and pressed her harder, restricting her ability to move around. "I guess that means you aren't coming down anytime soon."

"You b*stard. Let go of me, or I'm going to make you pay!" Kate howled angrily.

Nathan did not give in. "Say something nice to me then I'll put you down."

"I'm so going to bite you later." Kate panicked and decided to bang her head against his.

Seeing this, Nathan subconsciously moved away from that headbutting motion that would injure the both of them. Then, he gradually released his grip.

Kate turned around and started chasing after him. "Stay put if you are a man."

Nathan could not help but run. "Stop chasing me if you are a woman!"

The total age of the two was somewhere between forty to fifty years old, but they were nonetheless running around in the house chasing each other.

Whilst getting changed in the room, Olivia heard the noise outside her room. Getting annoyed, she grabbed one of them after coming out of the room.

"Stop messing around. I'm heading out for lunch now. Are you guys going to stay here to wait for me or will you go back?"

"Now?" inquired Kate.

Olivia responded, "It's 10:30 AM already."

Kate responded, "Oh, alright. I'm going to head back now. Please remember my love for you..."

Rendered speechless, Nathan glared at Kate and pushed her away while singing, "I send you a thousand miles away; please don't ever come back."

Kate turned around and scowled at him. "Do you want to get beaten up again?"

Nathan remained silent.

After leaving the house, Olivia headed straight to the Western restaurant Brian talked about, and it was just after half-past eleven when she got there.

That restaurant had a nice ambiance which was attributed to its interior decoration. The soothing saxophone music and the sporadic scent of jasmine that was just the right strength had a strangely calming effect.

Furthermore, the well-mannered servers, the quiet patrons, and the occasional laughter and whispers added to the wonderful environment.

When approached by the server, Olivia pointed at the deck next to the windows where Brian was sitting. His head was half-tilted as he looked at his phone; he was wearing a white-collared dress shirt and a pair of black jeans. He looked gorgeous. The sight of this delighted her.

Olivia could not help but exclaim inwardly, What a gorgeous man!

Perhaps because he heard her footsteps, Brian tilted his head and looked toward her. After seeing that it was indeed Olivia, he immediately stood up. "You're here."

Olivia smiled rather apologetically. "Sorry, I'm late."

"It's fine. I just got here too." Brian politely pulled the chair out on the other side of the table for her. "Please, have a seat!"

Olivia nodded. "Thank you."

After that, Brian went back to his seat and received the menu from the server. "Order whatever you want to eat. Their French-style steak is pretty authentic."

"Sure. I'll get that then."

Olivia agreed with it before adding some other orders recommended by the server, then they concluded their order.

The sight of Olivia delighted Brian. "Why didn't you bring your son with you?"

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Olivia took off her coat and laid it on the chair. "He's at school."

Brian replied, "Oh. Was he alright that day?"

Olivia took a deep breath. "Not too bad. I thought he was fine until I found out about his bruised knee after getting home. Some parts were even bleeding. I have no idea what caused the injuries."

Looking slightly heavy-hearted, Brian asked, "Is that woman your younger sister from a different mother?"

"Yes," Olivia responded rather reluctantly. No longer wanting to talk about that, Olivia intentionally changed the topic. "How's your health?"

Brian sounded rather perfunctory as well when he said, "It's alright."

After that, Olivia turned around, took out a metal box from her handbag, and gave it to Brian. "This is for you."

This somewhat baffled Brian. "What's this?"

"These are candies. You should bring some of them with you next time and take one every time you feel unwell. It has different kinds of flavors and this is one of my favorite brands. It reminds me of my childhood."

Brian was pleasantly surprised and then naturally let out a smile. "Thanks."

Olivia responded, "Don't be a stranger. This is nothing compared to this expensive meal that you're buying me."

Brian smiled, looking like a graceful gentleman. "I guess my life is still worth something, isn't it? How can one meal be sufficient to pay you back for saving my life?"

"It doesn't work that way. It doesn't matter how expensive a meal is or how many times you buy me one; it's about how you were willing to help me out when I needed it the most. I'll forever remember your help. I guess that makes us even."

Brian chuckled and commented, "It sounds like you're breaking up with me."

Olivia guffawed. "That's not what I meant. What I'm saying is we don't have to be so formal with each other."

Looking at her, Brian appeared to look somewhat shy. "If you don't let me use this excuse again, how am I going to ask you out for a meal next time?"

This caught Olivia off guard. She smiled and then said, "Why do we need an excuse to have a meal together? We can do this anytime."

Brian was a little shocked to hear that. "Really? So we're friends?"

Olivia nodded and agreed, "Of course. I saw your restaurant's sign on the internet the other day. Personally, I feel that it looks heart-warming and generous."

Smiling, Brian replied, "I don't want to have customers like them."

Olivia asked, "Will being so picky bring you any problems?"

Brian looked startled. "Problems? It's my restaurant, so it's my call."

At this juncture, the server showed up. "I'm sorry to interrupt, but your food is ready."

Olivia quickly put the things on the table away while Brian still held on to the candy box and asked, "Have you had any of these before?"

"Yes. All the time back in the days."

"You like candies?"

Olivia agreed, "Not too bad. I'd have one of them whenever I was in a bad mood. Something sweet can really brighten your day. Try it. It's pretty effective. I like the green ones the most—they're apple-flavored."

Brian opened the candy box and picked up a green candy. "You're making me want to try it."

Olivia laughed heartily. "Look at you. Let's eat first."

Brian followed suit and laughed. "I'll save it for later then."

Olivia nodded as if she sensed something, and her gaze inadvertently fell on a couple not far away from them.

The guy there was huge and looked stony-faced whereas the lady was tall and looked somewhat arrogant. Right now, they were looking in their direction.

Olivia frowned. Isn't that Eugene and the lady with the doctorate in medicine? Her name is... Penny.

Then, Olivia smiled and greeted them. "What a coincidence!"

Eugene had a smile on his face and responded, "You're right. Penny said she wanted to eat their steak, and she's making me pay for her."

Penny frowned and grumbled rather flirtatiously, "Eugene, what do you mean by that? You promised me before."

Eugene remained silent.

Meanwhile, Olivia smiled awkwardly, not knowing how to respond. If she was the one buying the meal today, she would probably have invited them to join Brian and her.

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However, it was Brian's treat today and she did not dare to decide on his behalf. Hence, she looked toward Brian.

It was fine had Olivia not looked at him, but once she did, she was startled by how he looked. Brian's face seemed gloomy as if a heavy downpour was about to happen. His eyes glared furiously at Eugene while he pursed the corners of his lips tightly without saying a single word.

On the other hand, Eugene's face was indifferent as he looked at Brian and asked, "How's your body?"

Brian's gaze turned haughty; he was the complete opposite from the warm, handsome man he was before. "What does it have to do with you?!"

Olivia was slightly shocked and looked toward Eugene and then at Brian again. What relation did these two have?

Before she had a proper understanding of the entire situation, Penny opened her mouth and said, "Why are you acting like this, brother? Eugene's concerned about you, so how could you say such things?"

Soon after, Brian opened his mouth; his tone of voice was chilly as he spoke to Penny. "Don't call me your brother. I don't have a sister like you!"

At this moment, Eugene did not wait for Penny to speak. Instead, he continued, "Whether you want to recognize her as your sister, you're still a

part of the Nolan Family. Mom already passed away a long time ago, so it's better to let go of the past."

All of a sudden, Brian became agitated. He then immediately stood up; his eyes were bloodshot as he exploded, "If you want to acknowledge this, then, by all means, be my guest. However, I'm not as

forgetful as you. My mom suffered from so many humiliations and I remember each and every one of them. If you're willing to enjoy all the glory and wealth by licking someone's boots, then go ahead and do it yourself. Please don't come and disgust me with all this! Now, get out of my sight!"

"What's so great about you, Brian? Who's still willing to take care of you?" Penny puffed as she dragged Eugene and was about to leave.

Eugene did not budge. Instead, his eyes felt heavy as he looked at Brian and asked, "Brian, Grandpa is sick. Do you have time to visit him?"

On the other hand, Brian snorted. "He's your grandpa. You can keep the opportunity to brownnose him to yourself!"

Eugene gave a cold snort. He looked at both Brian and Olivia with intense eyes before leaving with Penny.

As the entire situation unfolded before her, Olivia was stunned. What exactly was happening?

She carefully looked at Brian and noticed that he was already sitting on the ground. His face remained gloomy while his entire body exuded a terrifying hostility.

"A-Are you okay?"

Brian took a deep breath and remained silent. Instead, he opened up the candy box Olivia had gifted him. He then took out a candy with green wrapping, opened it, and stuffed it into his mouth.

Olivia did not say anything more and sat quietly opposite him.

Perhaps it took ten minutes; perhaps it took even longer.

When Brian was about to finish eating the candy, he slowly opened his mouth and uttered, "He's my elder brother."

Olivia was shocked to hear this. “Who are you talking about? Eugene? Are you a part of the Nolan family too?”

Brian then continued, “I’m not a part of them since ten years ago.”

Olivia was stunned again. “Why? Erm, it’s okay if you don’t want to tell me.”

Brian’s dimmed eyes looked into the distance as if he was recalling the memories from many years ago.

“There’s nothing I can’t talk about. They’re not ashamed of it anyways, so I can just say whatever I want to. The relationship between families of the wealthy is more apathetic. Only self-interests are eternal. More than ten years ago, in order to marry Penny’s mother, Lara Roberts, Edward deliberately framed my mom for cheating on him so that he could divorce her. In the end, he succeeded in doing so and managed to force my mom out of the house. I still cannot figure out how a man could be so heartless.”

Olivia was also in disbelief. This man Brian talked about was crueller than her own dad. “Were the Roberts wealthy?”

Brian took a deep breath before adding, “Yes. They’re loaded. Even more so than the Nolan Group. I was twelve years old that year. Eugene and I knew that our mom was being framed in this incident. However, we did not have evidence. Hence, I discussed with Eugene that by the time the divorce rolled around, we would have to choose our mom as a way of supporting her. Nonetheless, I did not expect that he would choose to follow Edward after their divorce.”

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“That was the darkest year of my life. I followed my mom back to the Mccarthy Family, but because my health wasn't good, I would faint from time to time. Additionally, my mom was forced out of the house by the Nolan Family, and since my uncle was afraid of offending both the Roberts and the Nolans, he refused to let us go back to the Mccarthy family. In the end, my mom had to rent a room outside. Just a few months later, she passed away in a car accident, and since then, I’ve never had a family member.”

With just a few words, Brian explained the entire experience of that particular year. Even so, Olivia could still imagine how helpless Brian must have felt during that time.

He was only twelve years old, yet he had already gone through his parent's divorce, the betrayal of his own brother, and his mom's death.

In just a year, he lost all of his relatives.

Oh my God! How was he able to push through everything?

It was no wonder that his face looked hostile when he saw Eugene.

Perhaps in Brian's heart, Eugene was a heartless brother, an unfilial son, and a traitor who betrayed his family in order to pursue riches, regardless of the injustice faced by their mom.

Olivia's eyes subconsciously became gentle as she asked, "Where are you staying right now?"

Brian gave a light smile while giving her a look that said 'don't look at me with that pair of sympathetic eyes'. "I'm doing fine now. Later, my grandpa found me. I also did some business and was able to take care of myself."

For a moment, Olivia did not know what to say. "Has the situation from that year been clearly investigated?"

Brian replied, "That man is dead, so it's impossible to find out the truth. I suppose I could not disassociate from Lara and Edward. Without the evidence, I can only make them pay using my own methods. However, the Nolan Family did well under Eugene's management. Now, I don't have enough strength to compete with them."

After taking a long time to digest the entire situation, Olivia then took a deep breath before giving a word of comfort. "Have you ever thought about it? Perhaps some things are not like what you see on the surface. Have you ever sat down with your brother to have a proper chat?"

Brian then gave a cold snort. "What should I talk about with him? Talk about family? Or brotherhood? What does he have?"

Olivia opened her mouth but did not know how to persuade him. She felt that Eugene was not the kind of person that Brian thought he was.

Would Eugene abandon his own mom, who was being framed, and even destroy the relationship with his brother, just so he could enjoy riches?

Nonetheless, she did not experience the situation firsthand and did not know the real truth behind it.

To put it bluntly, Olivia did not know Eugene very well and had only come into contact with him twice.

Just like how she always thought that Brian was a warm and gentle boy, but he turned out to be full of scars!

Olivia stayed in the restaurant with Brian for two hours before they went back.

She had the feeling that some things were unspeakable and felt inexplicably heavy. Surely, everyone would have some difficulties and problems unbeknownst to others.

Olivia had just arrived at her driveway, and even before she got out of her car, she saw a man holding a large bouquet of roses walking over to her. She was not able to see the person's face as it was blocked by the large bouquet.

Hence, Olivia got out of her car suspiciously. As soon as she shut her car door, the bouquet of roses was already in front of her.

She did not accept it. Instead, she was busy looking at the face hidden behind the roses.

By observing the figure, it did not look like Nathan. So who exactly was this person? Or did they send it to the wrong address?

However, the person did not wait for Olivia to accept the flowers and revealed his face from behind the bouquet of roses. With a smile on his face, he greeted Olivia.

“Miss Maxwell.”

The corner of Olivia's mouth twitched. “Robin?”

Robin then smiled and nodded his head. “Yes, Miss Maxwell. I’m really sorry about yesterday. I’m used to joking with them, and I didn’t mean to harm you in any way.”

With this, he handed the bouquet to her. “Please accept these roses and don’t worry about that issue anymore.”

Olivia stretched her lips awkwardly. This was her first time receiving a bouquet of roses as an apology.