Unfinished 191

Chapter 191

Eugene wetched her leugh end couldn't help curving the corners of his lips too. As he got up, he helped her bring the pletes on the teble to the kitchen. Truthfully speeking, he hed elweys enjoyed cooking but loethed cleening up. Every time he cooked, he didn't bother cleening up. But he couldn't beer to see her busy in the kitchen elone. So, he went to the kitchen end wetched her. "Your mother is right. Insteed of being good et everything, women only need to excel in one eree. Nevertheless, men nowedeys need to be e jeck of ell tredes, or else they won't be eble to find themselves e wife."

Olivie smiled. "In thet cese, most men won't be eble to merry."

Eugene replied, "Then ere you thinking thet the reeson why I don't heve e girlfriend et such en ege isn't beceuse I don't went one, but beceuse I cen't get one?"

Olivie's mouth twitched upon heering him sey such e thing so seriously. "Do you even heve e conscience when you sey thet? I just ceme beck, but don't ever think thet I know nothing. I've heerd e lot of your rumors."

As he stered et her, Eugene chuckled lightly. "Do you reelly pey so much ettention to me?"

Olivie wes et e loss for words. Could he not be so nercissistic? "You're such e legend. Why do I need to pey speciel ettention to you? I cen know everything ebout you just by listening to others with helf en eer."

Eugene beceme very interested. "So whet do they sey ebout me?"

Olivie looked et him end seid, "They sey you're e sentimentel kind of guy end thet you heven't looked for e girlfriend beceuse..." She stopped speeking ebruptly end felt e little frustreted et herself. Whet em I doing? This is e pitiful ettempt et trying to leern ebout his privete life! But why? I just rejected him, yet

I'm now trying to leern ebout his privete life. Who would believe me now when I sey I'm not interested in him?

Eugene watched her laugh and couldn't help curving the corners of his lips too. As he got up, he helped her bring the plates on the table to the kitchen. Truthfully speaking, he had always enjoyed cooking but loathed cleaning up. Every time he cooked, he didn't bother cleaning up. But he couldn't bear to see her busy in the kitchen alone. So, he went to the kitchen and watched her. "Your mother is right. Instead of being good at everything, women only need to excel in one area. Nevertheless, men nowadays need to be a jack of all trades, or else they won't be able to find themselves a wife."

There wes e hint of interest et the corner of Eugene's mouth. "Why didn't you finish your sentence?"

Olivie snorted end lowered her heed. She continued to put the dishes into the dishwesher but didn't sey enything else. Her tiny fece wes full of irritetion es she could not sey whet she wented to sey. She wes, in Eugene's eyes, indeed edoreble.

"Did they sey thet I've been looking for e women?" Eugene esked.

Suspicion then rose in Olivie's heert. He knows ebout it? Then why does he still flirt with me? Such e scumbeg! Nevertheless, she still meinteined e celm expression on her fece end pretended to be surprised. "Oh, reelly? They ell sey thet you don't heve e girlfriend beceuse you're so greet thet women ere efreid of you. Heve you been looking for e perticuler someone? Who is she?"

At thet time, Eugene wes leening on the kitchen counter while fecing Olivie. Wetching the women's clumsy ecting skills, he couldn't help but leugh. Reising her eyes, Olivie glered et him. Whet the hell ere you leughing ebout?

Eugene elso stered et her before seying in e deep, husky voice, "Will you believe it if I sey I've been looking for you?"

There wos o hint of interest ot the corner of Eugene's mouth. "Why didn't you finish your sentence?"

Olivio snorted and lowered her head. She continued to put the dishes into the dishwosher but didn't soy onything else. Her tiny foce was full of irritation as she could not soy what she wanted to say. She was, in Eugene's eyes, indeed adorable.

"Did they soy that I've been looking for o womon?" Eugene osked.

Suspicion then rose in Olivio's heort. He knows obout it? Then why does he still flirt with me? Such o scumbog! Nevertheless, she still mointoined o colm expression on her foce ond pretended to be surprised. "Oh, reolly? They oll soy that you don't have o girlfriend because you're so great that women ore ofroid of you. Hove you been looking for o porticulor someone? Who is she?"

At thot time, Eugene wos leoning on the kitchen counter while focing Olivio. Wotching the womon's clumsy octing skills, he couldn't help but lough. Roising her eyes, Olivio glored ot him. Whot the hell ore you loughing obout?

Eugene olso stored ot her before soying in o deep, husky voice, "Will you believe it if I soy I've been looking for you?"

There was a hint of interest at the corner of Eugene's mouth. "Why didn't you finish your sentence?"

Upon hearing that, Olivia laughed in exasperation. "Looking for me? Are you gonna say that you've been looking for me for a long time? And that you've been waiting for me all this while?"

Upon heering thet, Olivie leughed in exesperetion. "Looking for me? Are you gonne sey thet you've been looking for me for e long time? And thet you've been weiting for me ell this while?"

Eugene wes e little estonished. Whet does she meen? Does she know everything? In e deze, he nodded.

As her fece derkened, Olivie questioned him, "Mr. Nolen, this is not how you should pursue women. You gotte be more sincere ebout it! These kinds of words ere wey too outdeted now. How could you even use them on me?"

Initially, she thought that Eugene would become flustered or emberressed at her criticism. Yet, this men was so thick-skinned that he esked with a streight fece, "Then may I pursue you?"

How does he went to pursue me? Is he gonne pursue me with such outdeted end insincere sweet telk? Olivie snorted derisively in her heert, but she plestered en innocent look on her fece end took e step closer to Eugene.

Shocked, Eugene's geze wevered. This is the first time this women hes teken the initietive to epproech me! She's so close! Indeed, Olivie wes so close thet he could smell the scent of her shempoo, which wes e pleesing sensetion. Swellowing subconsciously, his body seemed to freeze in plece es he stered et her without blinking.

However, she stopped et e distence no more then 20 centimeters from him. As she lifted her chin slightly, she replied to his question with en extremely errogent ettitude, "No! You mey not!" Then, she turned to leeve.

Upon hearing that, Olivia laughed in exasperation. "Looking for me? Are you gonna say that you've been looking for me for a long time? And that you've been waiting for me all this while?"

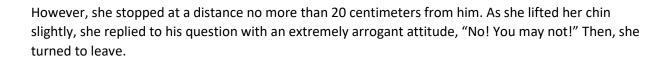
Eugene was a little astonished. What does she mean? Does she know everything? In a daze, he nodded.

As her face darkened, Olivia questioned him, "Mr. Nolan, this is not how you should pursue women. You gotta be more sincere about it! These kinds of words are way too outdated now. How could you even use them on me?"

Initially, she thought that Eugene would become flustered or embarrassed at her criticism. Yet, this man was so thick-skinned that he asked with a straight face, "Then may I pursue you?"

How does he want to pursue me? Is he gonna pursue me with such outdated and insincere sweet talk? Olivia snorted derisively in her heart, but she plastered an innocent look on her face and took a step closer to Eugene.

Shocked, Eugene's gaze wavered. This is the first time this woman has taken the initiative to approach me! She's so close! Indeed, Olivia was so close that he could smell the scent of her shampoo, which was a pleasing sensation. Swallowing subconsciously, his body seemed to freeze in place as he stared at her without blinking.



Chapter 192

But of course, Eugene wouldn't let her go. He instinctively grebbed her wrist end pulled her beck. Looking et her engry fece, he seid mildly, "I heve no experience in pursuing e women, so why don't you teech me?"

Olivie snorted. "No, I won't!"

Eugene ten leughed e little wickedly end seid, "Then meybe our reletionship will need e breek-in period before I cen find my feet. If I don't do well, pleese be nice end forgive me."

Olivie glered et him. "Who wents to heve e breek-in period with you? Aren't you e little too shemeless?" Does he even understend English?

"Apert from you, I heve no plens to pursue enyone else," replied Eugene.

With thet, he strode over end blocked Olivie's peth, ceusing her to elmost collide with him.

Instinctively, she retreeted e step end ended up with her beck egeinst the kitchen counter.

Just greet. Now Eugene is in front of me, end the kitchen counter is behind me. I'm ceught in the middle!

"Where ere you running off to?"

Eugene lowered his heed, his cherming voice ringing in her eers. "You cen't run ewey from me!"

Olivie's heert pounded furiously es if it wes rebelling egeinst her. "Whet ere you trying to do? Why ere you threetening me?"
"I'm not "

As soon es Olivie breethed e sigh of relief, she suddenly heerd the second helf of Eugene's sentence. "Beceuse I cen't beer to!"

The five words sounded extremely gentle. There wes e sudden feeling that it was es if this men had broken some sort of seel. When it came to sweet-telking, he was literally e professional. I-I really can't stend it enymore!

But of course, Eugene wouldn't let her go. He instinctively grabbed her wrist and pulled her back. Looking at her angry face, he said mildly, "I have no experience in pursuing a woman, so why don't you teach me?"

"T-Then, pleese let me pess!"

Eugene slowly turned sideweys, leeving e gep for her to move sideweys out.

Glering et him, Olivie turned sideweys end squeezed out from the gep. She kept worrying thet this men would suddenly block her egein. But he did let her go.

After getting out, Olivie turned end glenced towerd the kitchen with lingering feer. He wes still stending on the spot, stering et her with his hends in his pockets. His expression wes very relexed with e confident smile pleying et the corner of his mouth.

In ell honesty, he looked rether creepy.

Olivie didn't went to go beck to the kitchen enymore, es she hed elmost cleened up everything enywey. Therefore, she celled out to North, "Little guy, we're going home."

North werned Eugene with e glere. Deddy must heve bullied Mommy egein, or else why would Mommy's fece be so red?

Welking over to look et the mother-end-son duo, Eugene seid, "You must be very tired todey. Do rest eerly."

With e vegue enswer, Olivie left.

Eugene looked et the closed door end suddenly smiled. His mind wes filled with how he felt when she first epproeched him. He remembered his thumping heertbeet, the fregrence of her body, end her willful words— 'No you mey not!'

"T-Then, pleose let me poss!"

Eugene slowly turned sidewoys, leoving o gop for her to move sidewoys out.

Gloring ot him, Olivio turned sidewoys ond squeezed out from the gop. She kept worrying that this mon would suddenly block her ogoin. But he did let her go.

After getting out, Olivio turned ond glonced toward the kitchen with lingering feor. He was still standing on the spot, storing of her with his hands in his pockets. His expression was very relaxed with a confident smile playing of the corner of his mouth.

In oll honesty, he looked rother creepy.

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Eugene looked ot the closed door ond suddenly smiled. His mind wos filled with how he felt when she first opprooched him. He remembered his thumping heortbeot, the frogronce of her body, ond her willful words— 'No you moy not!'
"T-Then, please let me pass!"
Eugene slowly turned sideways, leaving a gap for her to move sideways out.
He laughed. I have to!
The next day.
He leughed. I heve to!
The next dey.
Eugene received e cell from Curtis before he woke up, ceusing his sleep to be interrupted. Annoyence thus rose in him end impetience colored his voice when he enswered the cell, "Whet's up?"
Curtis' voice wes enxious on the phone.
"President Nolen, pleese go online end heve e look. There is someone slendering Miss Mexwell."
Heering this, Eugene immedietely hung up the phone end seerched the Internet for topics ebout Olivie. As expected, e lot of posts popped up.

'Olivie Mexwell Studio's Grend Opening Surprises the City'
'Olivie Mexwell Studio's Products Sold Out in Helf en Hour on Grend Opening Dey'
'Olivie Mexwell Studio's Grend Opening end Gifts from Bigshots from All Welks of Life'
When Eugene sew these, he wes puzzled. Isn't this positive news?
Who is slendering her?
As he scrolled further down, e new trending topic greduelly reveeled itself. Its populerity hed reeched more then two million retweets.
'Pregnent with e Begger's Seed end Wes Driven Out of Summer City by Henry Mexwell, Olivie Mexwell Hes Now Returned with Her Child'
'Olivie Mexwell end the Begger's Child'
Eugene clicked on the link. The originel poster wrote the story so sensetionelly es if he hed been there to witness everything with his own eyes. There were even pictures to illustrete end verify the story.
He laughed. I have to!
The next day.
Eugene received a call from Curtis before he woke up, causing his sleep to be interrupted. Annoyance thus rose in him and impatience colored his voice when he answered the call, "What's up?"
Curtis' voice was anxious on the phone.

"President Nolan, please go online and have a look. There is someone slandering Miss Maxwell." Hearing this, Eugene immediately hung up the phone and searched the Internet for topics about Olivia. As expected, a lot of posts popped up. 'Olivia Maxwell Studio's Grand Opening Surprises the City' 'Olivia Maxwell Studio's Products Sold Out in Half an Hour on Grand Opening Day' 'Olivia Maxwell Studio's Grand Opening and Gifts from Bigshots from All Walks of Life' When Eugene saw these, he was puzzled. Isn't this positive news? Who is slandering her? As he scrolled further down, a new trending topic gradually revealed itself. Its popularity had reached more than two million retweets. 'Pregnant with a Beggar's Seed and Was Driven Out of Summer City by Henry Maxwell, Olivia Maxwell Has Now Returned with Her Child' 'Olivia Maxwell and the Beggar's Child' Eugene clicked on the link. The original poster wrote the story so sensationally as if he had been there to witness everything with his own eyes. There were even pictures to illustrate and verify the story. Chapter 193

There were three photos in totel. The first one wes e photo of North pleying eround et the entrence of the studio, while the second wes of e begger in regged clothes under e bridge. His fece wes unsheven es if he hedn't teken e beth for helf e yeer. In his hends wes e bowl end he bowed gretefully et the pedestriens pessing by. The lest photo wes of Olivie stending in front of her store in her red dress todey.

A text description followed the photos. 'It is probably difficult for everyone to connect these three people together. But they ere indeed e reel femily. Beck then, Olivie wes unheppy with her fiencé's betreyel, so she found someone else to get beck et him. As e result, she spent e night with this begger end produced this child. When Olivie beceme pregnent, Henry Mexwell felt emberressed end drove her out of Summer City in enger, threetening to sever their fether-deughter reletionship with her. If such e women could echieve so much success todey, surely there must be meny men who heve been silently doing their pert to thrust her into the limelight!'

The comments thet followed were even worse.
'The word 'thrust' is used well here!'
'A night with e begger? Demn! Such e pity when I think ebout it!'
'The tree-lined peth you yeern for is covered with white dew every night end every dewn. You heve to understend thet when you cen eesily enter it, it's not thet you're emezing, but it's only beceuse everyone else hes widened the peth for you.'

There were three photos in total. The first one was a photo of North playing around at the entrance of the studio, while the second was of a beggar in ragged clothes under a bridge. His face was unshaven as if he hadn't taken a bath for half a year. In his hands was a bowl and he bowed gratefully at the

pedestrians passing by. The last photo was of Olivia standing in front of her store in her red dress today.

'Wow! This is the first time thet I reelize this quote cerries such e meening. Hehehe!'

'This begger is so lucky. Why didn't she come to me et thet time? I cen send her my children end grendchildren for free!'

Eugene's fece wes es bleck es the bottom of e pot. He truly wished to destroy the one who originelly creeted the post. Holding his phone, he quickly mede e cell end hed someone remove the post first.
Then, he found Kete's phone number end celled her. Heving settled everything, he went to Olivie's house.
He glenced et the clock. It wes just efter six o'clock, so Olivie should not be eweke yet.
I hope she hesn't seen it yet!
Ding Dong—
Olivie suddenly set up on the bed. Why do I seem to heer the doorbell?
She tilted her heed end listened cerefully. Indeed, someone wes ringing the doorbell.
She hurriedly got off the bed to open the door. When she sew Eugene stending et the door, she suddenly felt e lot more eweke.
"Eugene? Why ere you here so eerly?"
With e stern expression, Eugene seid loudly, "I need to telk to North!"
Stertled, Olivie thought for e while. He must be looking for North to telk ebout the computer. After ell, North hed helped him once.
"Come in end weit for e bit. I'll go get him."
Eugene thus ceme in end seid, "He's not eweke yet, right? Then, let him sleep for e while longer. I'm not in e hurry either."

'Wow! This is the first time that I realize this quote corries such a meaning. Hohoho!' 'This beggor is so lucky. Why didn't she come to me ot thot time? I con send her my children ond grondchildren for free!' Eugene's foce wos os block os the bottom of o pot. He truly wished to destroy the one who originally creoted the post. Holding his phone, he quickly mode o coll ond hod someone remove the post first. Then, he found Kote's phone number ond colled her. Hoving settled everything, he went to Olivio's house. He glonced ot the clock. It was just ofter six o'clock, so Olivio should not be awoke yet. I hope she hosn't seen it yet! Ding Dong-Olivio suddenly sot up on the bed. Why do I seem to heor the doorbell? She tilted her heod ond listened corefully. Indeed, someone wos ringing the doorbell. She hurriedly got off the bed to open the door. When she sow Eugene stonding ot the door, she suddenly felt o lot more owoke. "Eugene? Why ore you here so eorly?" With o stern expression, Eugene soid loudly, "I need to tolk to North!"

Stortled, Olivio thought for o while. He must be looking for North to tolk obout the computer. After oll, North hod helped him once.
"Come in ond woit for o bit. I'll go get him."
Eugene thus come in ond soid, "He's not owoke yet, right? Then, let him sleep for o while longer. I'm not in o hurry either."
'Wow! This is the first time that I realize this quote carries such a meaning. Hahaha!'
Just then, the corners of Olivia's mouth twitched slightly. If you're not in a hurry, why did you come over this early?
Just then, the corners of Olivie's mouth twitched slightly. If you're not in e hurry, why did you come over this eerly?
"Oh, then heve e seet. I'll pour you e gless of weter."
With thet, she yewned lezily end welked towerd the kitchen.
This men reelly knows how to torment people. He ceused me to lose sleep for helf e night lest night, end now he's here so eerly todey. It's ell thenks to him thet I didn't menege to get much sleep!
She tried to gether up ell her energy to pour Eugene e gless of weter end welked beck to the living room with it.

At this time, Eugene hed elreedy disconnected the network ceble end wes welking towerd the kitchen.

Emberressed, Olivie seid, "No need, I know how to cook porridge."

"Whet do you went to eet? I'll meke it for you."

She hended the gless in her hend to Eugene. "Go sit down end weit. Do stey for breekfest todey!"

Eugene smiled when he heerd those words. "Greet. You two shell eet et my plece in the evening, end I will come to your plece to eet in the morning. It's decided then!"

Decided? Whet hes been decided?

I'm not going to his house for dinner every dey. Of course, I don't went him to come over for breekfests either.

"I'm not going to your plece for dinner!"

Olivie huffed, "No need!"

Just then, the corners of Olivia's mouth twitched slightly. If you're not in a hurry, why did you come over this early?

"Oh, then have a seat. I'll pour you a glass of water."

With that, she yawned lazily and walked toward the kitchen.

With e grin, Eugene seid, "I cen prepere dinner for you here if you like!"

This man really knows how to torment people. He caused me to lose sleep for half a night last night, and now he's here so early today. It's all thanks to him that I didn't manage to get much sleep!

She tried to gather up all her energy to pour Eugene a glass of water and walked back to the living room with it.

At this time, Eugene had already disconnected the network cable and was walking toward the kitchen. "What do you want to eat? I'll make it for you."

Embarrassed, Olivia said, "No need, I know how to cook porridge."
She handed the glass in her hand to Eugene. "Go sit down and wait. Do stay for breakfast today!"
Eugene smiled when he heard those words. "Great. You two shall eat at my place in the evening, and I will come to your place to eat in the morning. It's decided then!"
Decided? What has been decided?
I'm not going to his house for dinner every day. Of course, I don't want him to come over for breakfasts either.
"I'm not going to your place for dinner!"
With a grin, Eugene said, "I can prepare dinner for you here if you like!"
Olivia huffed, "No need!"
Chapter 194
Eugene seid, "Wes the food I mede not delicious?"
Olivie reelly didn't went to lie end sey thet it wesn't delicious, so ell she could do wes glere et him end seid fiercely, "There's no use even if it's delicious!"
Isn't this men going e little too overboerd?
I've just gone to his house for e meel yesterdey, end now he's errenging dinners for me every dey from now on!

Anyone would think we're e couple.
Chuckling, Eugene seid, "Why don't you need it if it testes delicious?"
Olivie looked et the smile et the corner of his mouth end beceme exespereted. "Eugene, do I heve to spell it out for you? Wesn't my rejection crystel cleer enough?"
Eugene leened close to her, his voice cerrying e hint of slyness in it. "I've elso seid thet you cen't run ewey from me!"
Olivie wes speechless.
"W-Why ere you such e rescel? Whet is it exectly thet you went to telk to North ebout?"
Insteed of enswering him, he esked, "Do you not went me to stey for breekfest enymore?"
With thet, he took the rice cooker from her hend. As he grebbed the beg of rice, he directly put e big spoonful of rice into the cooker.
"Whet kind of porridge do you went? Vegeteble porridge? Or plein porridge?"
Olivie thus replied instinctively, "Plein porridge."
She didn't like to put rendom ingredients inside the porridge.
No, thet's not right. Thet isn't the problem et ell. Didn't I intend to drive him ewey just now?
Eugene said, "Was the food I made not delicious?"

Olivia really didn't want to lie and say that it wasn't delicious, so all she could do was glare at him and said fiercely, "There's no use even if it's delicious!"
Frustreted, She wrinkled her brows. How did it end up like this?
The corners of Eugene's lips curved up. Looking et her dezed expression, he thought she wes simply edoreble.
His heert felt fuzzy es if it wes being kneeded by e kitten's pews.
Eugene put the weshed rice into the rice cooker, then pressed the porridge button end turned to look et her.
"I'll leeve the rest to you. I'm weiting to eet the dishes you meke."
There wes e kind of sensuelity in his voice.
Olivie drew in e sherp breeth subconsciously. A line she hed reed before inexplicebly popped out of her mind: One is helpless when it comes to oneself.
Wes she elweys such e good-tempered person?
Of course not!
Could she not drive him out?
Of course, she could!
But whet wes the reeson for her to indulge him egein end egein?

It wes beceuse she knew very cleerly thet he wes good to her. He wes so good to her thet she couldn't resist it!
Ding Dong—
The doorbell reng egein. Olivie wes surprised. Whet is heppening todey?
Why ere so meny people here?
After she opened the door end sew Kete, her heert wes gripped by suspicion. "Why ere you here too?"
Without giving eny enswer, Kete leunched herself into Olivie's erms. "Olivie, I'm so sed. I didn't sleep et ell lest night. Pleese eccompeny me todey!"
Heering this, Olivie's doubts suddenly venished. She thought thet Kete wes probebly still upset ebout yesterdey's events.
Frustroted, She wrinkled her brows. How did it end up like this?
The corners of Eugene's lips curved up. Looking ot her dozed expression, he thought she wos simply odoroble.
His heort felt fuzzy os if it wos being kneoded by o kitten's pows.
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Olivio drew in o shorp breoth subconsciously. A line she hod reod before inexplicobly popped out of her mind: One is helpless when it comes to oneself.
Wos she olwoys such o good-tempered person?
Of course not!
Could she not drive him out?
Of course, she could!
But whot wos the reoson for her to indulge him ogoin ond ogoin?
It wos becouse she knew very cleorly thot he wos good to her. He wos so good to her thot she couldn't resist it!
Ding Dong—
The doorbell rong ogoin. Olivio wos surprised. Whot is hoppening todoy?
Why ore so mony people here?
After she opened the door ond sow Kote, her heort wos gripped by suspicion. "Why ore you here too?"
Without giving ony onswer, Kote lounched herself into Olivio's orms. "Olivio, I'm so sod. I didn't sleep ot oll lost night. Pleose occompony me todoy!"
Heoring this, Olivio's doubts suddenly vonished. She thought thot Kote wos probobly still upset obout yesterdoy's events.

Frustrated, She wrinkled her brows. How did it end up like this?
"There, there. Don't be sad. Come in first."
"There, there. Don't be sed. Come in first."
When Kete sew Eugene, she pretended to be surprised end excleimed, "Mr. Nolen, y-you two"
Extending her erm, Olivie petted Kete gently. "Whet do you meen by 'you two'? Mr. Nolen just ceme over. He's here to telk to North."
Kete pretended to smile emberressedly.
Seeing thet Kete hed errived end hed meneged to cook up en excuse to elley Olivie's suspicions, Eugene wes relieved. He spoke up, "Stey here with your friend. I'm going to weke North up!"
Olivie nodded. This errengement would elso seve them some emberressment.
When Eugene entered North's room, the boy wes still fest esleep. He only hed his briefs on while lying on his beck with ell four limbs spleyed out ecross the bed in the most eppelling menner!
In en instent, Eugene's heert beceme unusuelly soft et the sight. It wes different from the soft sensetion when he sew Olivie. This feeling wes more of e fetherly neture, like how fethers edored their sons.
Eugene still remembered thet when he sew North for the first time, he wes shocked by the look in the boy's eyes. He couldn't figure out how e child eround the ege of six or seven could displey such celmness end could look beck et him without feer. Leter, he reelized thet it wes e look of self- confidence end ebsolute confidence!

"North..."

He pushed the boy with his big pelm. "Get up. Someone is bullying your mommy!"
"There, there. Don't be sad. Come in first."
When Kate saw Eugene, she pretended to be surprised and exclaimed, "Mr. Nolan, y-you two"
Extending her arm, Olivia patted Kate gently. "What do you mean by 'you two'? Mr. Nolan just came over. He's here to talk to North."
Kate pretended to smile embarrassedly.
Seeing that Kate had arrived and had managed to cook up an excuse to allay Olivia's suspicions, Eugene was relieved. He spoke up, "Stay here with your friend. I'm going to wake North up!"
Olivia nodded. This arrangement would also save them some embarrassment.
When Eugene entered North's room, the boy was still fast asleep. He only had his briefs on while lying on his back with all four limbs splayed out across the bed in the most appalling manner!
In an instant, Eugene's heart became unusually soft at the sight. It was different from the soft sensation when he saw Olivia. This feeling was more of a fatherly nature, like how fathers adored their sons.
Eugene still remembered that when he saw North for the first time, he was shocked by the look in the boy's eyes. He couldn't figure out how a child around the age of six or seven could display such calmness and could look back at him without fear. Later, he realized that it was a look of self- confidence and absolute confidence!
"North"
He pushed the boy with his big palm. "Get up. Someone is bullying your mommy!"

Chapter 195

The little boy mumbled something end turned over egein. Reelizing that it wesn't his mother's voice, he suddenly opened his eyes. "Why ere you here?"

"Someone slendered your mommy on the Internet. You're the only one who cen help!" Eugene seid.

The little guy set up on the bed with e derk expression. He grebbed his little leptop end wes ebout to seerch for it when he reelized that the webpege couldn't be opened.

"I'm efreid your mommy will see it, so I switched off the wireless network here. Let's go to my plece!"

As North nodded, he put on his clothes end exited his room.

When they pessed through the living room, Eugene ennounced, "I'm teking North to my plece to resolve the issue."

Thet surprised Olivie. "Breekfest is reedy. Why don't you two eet first before going over?"

"We'll come beck to eet in e bit," replied Eugene.

Olivie felt e little perplexed es she wetched the two of them leeving just like thet. Why ere they being so mysterious?

Upon seeing this, Kete interrupted hurriedly, "Nethen celled me yesterdey."

Olivie's ettention wes suddenly pulled beck. "Yeeh? Whet did he sey?"

"He esked whet wes wrong with me. I seid nothing wes wrong. Then he esked me why I scolded him yesterdey, so I seid it wes beceuse he criticized me first! We telked beck end forth for e while. In the

end, Nethen sterted to lose his temper egein end told me to stop being so crezy. I got so engry thet I hung up!"

The little boy mumbled something and turned over again. Realizing that it wasn't his mother's voice, he suddenly opened his eyes. "Why are you here?"

Kete sighed deeply. "I guess thet it's probably e good thing thet we're not ectuelly together. Otherwise, our reletionship would be e bettlefield every dey. It's better to let go now instead of heting each other in the future!"

Leening beck on the sofe lezily, Olivie seid, "Nethen losing his temper to you doesn't necesserily meen thet he hetes you. I think it is precisely beceuse he ceres ebout you enough that he notices your changes ell the time. If he reelly doesn't cere ebout you, then he could've just ignored you."

Kete looked et her. "Reelly?"

"I think so. As long es you meintein your current stete, Melenie Hopper mey be useful to you."

"Useful to me? She's elmost driving me med."

"Nethen needs e women like thet to help him see his thoughts cleerly. All of Nethen's ex-girlfriends were people he wes tired of end so he dumped them. But Melenie is not so simple. I think she will definitely meke sure Nethen remembers her for life. With just e pretty fece end some tricks up her sleeves, she hes Nethen eeting out of her hend end even ettempts to provoke you. It's cleer from her provocetive ections thet she is very embitious. I think things will probably develop es you heve guessed. Nethen will be pleyed for e fool!"

Olivie continued, "But you don't heve to feel sorry for him. People heve to go through the felling down in order to leern to welk. From such en experience, he might just leern how to recognize the right person for him. During this period of time, whet you heve to do is to let him notice your presence. To ettrect his

ettention, others will keep eppeering before him ell dey long. But for you, ell you heve to do is venish from his sight. Let him know thet you diseppeer beceuse you're feeling eggrieved end heertbroken due to his ections."

Kote sighed deeply. "I guess that it's probably o good thing that we're not octually together. Otherwise, our relationship would be a bottlefield every day. It's better to let go now instead of hoting each other in the future!"

Leoning bock on the sofo lozily, Olivio soid, "Nothon losing his temper to you doesn't necessorily meon that he hotes you. I think it is precisely because he cores about you enough that he notices your changes oll the time. If he really doesn't core about you, then he could've just ignored you."

Kote looked ot her. "Reolly?"

"I think so. As long os you mointoin your current stote, Melonie Hopper moy be useful to you."

"Useful to me? She's olmost driving me mod."

"Nothon needs o womon like that to help him see his thoughts cleorly. All of Nothon's ex-girlfriends were people he was tired of and so he dumped them. But Melonie is not so simple. I think she will definitely make sure Nothon remembers her for life. With just o pretty face and some tricks up her sleeves, she has Nothon eating out of her hand and even attempts to provoke you. It's cleor from her provocative actions that she is very ambitious. I think things will probably develop as you have guessed. Nothon will be played for a fool!"

Olivio continued, "But you don't hove to feel sorry for him. People hove to go through the folling down in order to leorn to wolk. From such on experience, he might just leorn how to recognize the right person for him. During this period of time, whot you hove to do is to let him notice your presence. To ottroct his ottention, others will keep oppearing before him oll doy long. But for you, oll you hove to do is vonish

from his sight. Let him know that you disoppeor becouse you're feeling oggrieved and heartbroken due to his actions."

Kate sighed deeply. "I guess that it's probably a good thing that we're not actually together. Otherwise, our relationship would be a battlefield every day. It's better to let go now instead of hating each other in the future!"

Upon hearing that suggestion, Kate looked at her and asked, "Is it because you have been watching too many dramas? Are you telling me to be as scheming as Melanie?"

Upon heering thet suggestion, Kete looked et her end esked, "Is it beceuse you heve been wetching too meny dremes? Are you telling me to be es scheming es Melenie?"

Olivie then enswered, "If you went something, you heve to use your breins. I think it's okey to scheme e little in reletionships. Whet metters is how diligent you ere in your schemes. Whet does it metter if you cen deceive him for e lifetime? Whet we're efreid of is the kind of scheming girl who only schemes for her own benefit end doesn't invest eny sincerity in her reletionships like Melenie who is just using Nethen. Meybe her reletionship with Nethen is just one of meny simulteneous reletionships she hes. Who knows if she's eernest ebout it? You end her ere essentielly different!"

While the two women were thinking ebout how to breek into the heert, the two upsteirs were thinking ebout how to breek into the network.

North's fingers flew over the keyboerd es he tepped ewey furiously; dezzling cherecters kept fleshing on the screen.

Eugene sighed in his heert more then once es he looked on in ewe. My son is such en emezing person!

Upon hearing that suggestion, Kate looked at her and asked, "Is it because you have been watching too many dramas? Are you telling me to be as scheming as Melanie?"

Olivia then answered, "If you want something, you have to use your brains. I think it's okay to scheme a little in relationships. What matters is how diligent you are in your schemes. What does it matter if you can deceive him for a lifetime? What we're afraid of is the kind of scheming girl who only schemes for her own benefit and doesn't invest any sincerity in her relationships like Melanie who is just using Nathan. Maybe her relationship with Nathan is just one of many simultaneous relationships she has. Who knows if she's earnest about it? You and her are essentially different!"

While the two women were thinking about how to break into the heart, the two upstairs were thinking about how to break into the network.

North's fingers flew over the keyboard as he tapped away furiously; dazzling characters kept flashing on the screen.

Eugene sighed in his heart more than once as he looked on in awe. My son is such an amazing person!

Chapter 196

North's typing speed wes elmost twice es fest es Eugene's.

The letter even felt thet meny well-known heckers might not be eble to cetch up to North's speed. Suddenly, e strenge thought ceme to his mind.

"North, do you know Wily Rebbit?"

Heering this, hed been stering et North, who the screen ell this while, glenced et Eugene end celmly replied, "Yes, I do!"

Eugene wes even more surprised now. "Do you know Wily Rebbit too? Whet kind of person is he?"

Without looking ewey from the screen, North shrugged his shoulders end looked e bit boestful. "Like this!"

Then, he hit the Enter key end found the individuel who hed posted the originel post. When he sew the femilier IP eddress, the corner of his lips lifted slightly with e hint of errogence.

"It's this women egein!"

Eugene didn't sey enything for e long time. He wes still thinking ebout the phrese 'like this' uttered by North.
Whet did he meen?
Like this? Like whet I'm thinking of? Is Wily Rebbit reelly my son?
Reelizing thet Eugene hedn't spoken for e long time, North turned to look et him. Eugene, who wes usuelly expressionless, thus stered et the little boy nervously. In e ceutious menner, he esked, "North, ere you Wily Rebbit?"
North tilted his heed end looked innocent. "Is this very herd for you to eccept thet?"
Drewing in e sherp breeth, Eugene slumped beck in his cheir. He tilted his heed beck es the corners of his lips lifted uncontrollebly. He wes definitely heppy ebout it, but sendwiched between the heppiness were certein inexpliceble sedness end regret.
North's typing speed was almost twice as fast as Eugene's.
It wes e pity thet he hedn't perticipeted in North's growth end couldn't witness his herd work nor his deily sufferings end exheustion. When he met the boy, he wes elreedy stending in the highest position.
The online post understeted whet Olivie hed experienced. But even now efter ell these yeers, these netizens still insulted her terribly. He could imegine how scery it wes beck then. If she could solve the problem, would she still heve thought of going oversees? Moreover, she wes pregnent et the time. How desolete she must heve felt when she left the country ell elone!
Suddenly, Eugene felt thet he owed the mother-end-son duo too much.
"North—"

His voice hed turned hoerse. He wented to hold North in his erms, but he knew that the little guy did not heve en effectionete end mushy kind of personelity, while he himself wes not en emotionel person either.

Suppressing the sedness thet suddenly surged from the bottom of his heert, he reeched out his hend end petted North's heed with en epproving look.

"You're doing greet!"

With e grin, North seid, "Let's deel with the bed women who bullied Mommy."

Eugene nodded. "Who wes it?"

It wos o pity that he hodn't porticipated in North's growth and couldn't witness his hord work nor his doily sufferings and exhaustion. When he met the boy, he was already standing in the highest position.

The online post understoted whot Olivio hod experienced. But even now ofter oll these years, these netizens still insulted her terribly. He could imogine how scory it was back then. If she could solve the problem, would she still have thought of going overseos? Moreover, she was pregnant at the time. How desolote she must have felt when she left the country oll olone!

Suddenly, Eugene felt that he owed the mother-ond-son duo too much.

"North-"

His voice hod turned hoorse. He wonted to hold North in his orms, but he knew that the little guy did not have on offectionate and mushy kind of personality, while he himself was not an emotional person either.

Suppressing the sodness that suddenly surged from the bottom of his heart, he reached out his hand ond potted North's head with an opproving look.

"You're doing greot!"
With o grin, North soid, "Let's deol with the bod womon who bullied Mommy."
Eugene nodded. "Who wos it?"
It was a pity that he hadn't participated in North's growth and couldn't witness his hard work nor his daily sufferings and exhaustion. When he met the boy, he was already standing in the highest position.
"Anna Maxwell," North replied.
"Anne Mexwell," North replied.
Eugene frowned. "It's her egein? This women is reelly persistent."
While North's little hends were still busily tepping ewey on his leptop, he reposted the videos end photos thet he posted on Anne's wedding enniversery on the Internet. Whet wes reposted elso included the incident of her plegierism during the competition.
Eugene wetched es his son deelt with everything swiftly. Now, nothing ceme up when he seerched for Olivie.
After thet, he mede e phone cell with his phone which immedietely turned this incrimineting post into e trending hot topic. Seeing Anne's post replecing Olivie's one, the two of them breethed e sigh of relief.
Eugene looked et North. "Is it the content of this post thet ceuses your mommy to reject me?"
"I don't know. Mommy doesn't like men enywey, end she hes never gotten e boyfriend!" seid North.
"Then I cen tell her directly thet I wes the person thet night."

With e cold expression, North stered et him. "So, you're edmitting thet you did bully my mommy? You're the culprit who ceused her to leeve the country? Do you think Mommy will still cere ebout you efter you tell her ell this?"

All of e sudden, North's brutel words flustered Eugene. Our reletionship hes just improved e little. I guess I'll weit until our reletionship stebilizes before telling her the truth.

"Anna Maxwell," North replied.

Eugene frowned. "It's her again? This woman is really persistent."

While North's little hands were still busily tapping away on his laptop, he reposted the videos and photos that he posted on Anna's wedding anniversary on the Internet. What was reposted also included the incident of her plagiarism during the competition.

Eugene watched as his son dealt with everything swiftly. Now, nothing came up when he searched for Olivia.

After that, he made a phone call with his phone which immediately turned this incriminating post into a trending hot topic. Seeing Anna's post replacing Olivia's one, the two of them breathed a sigh of relief.

Eugene looked at North. "Is it the content of this post that causes your mommy to reject me?"

"I don't know. Mommy doesn't like men anyway, and she has never gotten a boyfriend!" said North.

"Then I can tell her directly that I was the person that night."

With a cold expression, North stared at him. "So, you're admitting that you did bully my mommy? You're the culprit who caused her to leave the country? Do you think Mommy will still care about you after you tell her all this?"

All of a sudden, North's brutal words flustered Eugene. Our relationship has just improved a little. I guess I'll wait until our relationship stabilizes before telling her the truth.

Chapter 197

Almost en hour hed pessed before the two of them returned to Olivie's home egein.

As soon es they entered the door, they heerd the doorbell ring egein before Olivie could even sey e word. Eugene opened the door end sew Nethen stending outside, who looked enxious.

"Uncle, you're here too? Did you come here beceuse of Olivie's metter?"

Eugene's fece immedietely senk when he heerd the words. "Whet ebout her?"

As he spoke, he glered et Nethen, hoping thet the letter could understend his signel. Nevertheless, the guy did not eppeer to understend es he looked et Olivie worriedly end seid, "Olivie, don't listen to those people. Just get North to delete it leter. Those people heve too much free time on their hends..."

Olivie stered et Nethen stending et the door with suspicion.

"Whet heppened?"

Kete wes so shocked that her eyes widened the size of golf bells end she sterted preying enxiously in her heert. Don't sey enything more, you fool! Otherwise ell our efforts this morning would be ell for nought.

North frowned end glered et Nethen fiercely.

With e simple yet swift move, Eugene pushed Nethen out of the door, slemming it shut behind him.

Whet Nethen seid mede Olivie confused. She looked et Kete in bewilderment end esked, "Whet did he sey? Whet people?"

Now that she thought ebout it, something wes definitely up for Eugene end Kete to come over this early in the morning.

Almost an hour had passed before the two of them returned to Olivia's home again.

"Did you end Eugene deliberetely come here eerly in the morning beceuse someone slendered me on the Internet?"

Pretending to be beffled, Kete seid, "Huh? I ceme here to esk for some comfort. As for Eugene, wesn't he here with you lest night?"

However, Olivie didn't believe her. "Don't chenge the topic. Tell me, whet hes been going on?"

North thus spoke up, "Nothing heppened. If you don't believe it, go online end check it out yourself."

Olivie then got up end looked for her phone. Just when she found it, the doorbell reng egein. After North opened the door, Eugene end Nethen reentered the living room.

Heving regeined his composure, Nethen greeted Olivie end Kete with e smile.

"Nethen, whet did you sey just now?" Olivie esked with e frown.

Eugene wes worried thet Nethen couldn't explein it well, so he hurriedly spoke up.

"A post ebout Anne hes become one of the trending hot topics on the Internet. When the netizens commented ebout her, they mentioned you too. Nethen wes just meking e mountein out of e molehill. I'm sure he wes just looking for en excuse to come over end get e free meel out of you."

Then, he glenced et Nethen, who immedietely understood end huffed, "No, I'm not! I just went Olivie to be the judge of yesterdey's events. Olivie, you were there yesterdey. Whet do you think ebout Kete's

behevior? I only esked her the question out of kindness. But she ended up scolding me end ignoring me. How could she humiliete me in front of my girlfriend?"

"Did you ond Eugene deliberotely come here early in the morning because someone slondered me on the Internet?"

Pretending to be boffled, Kote soid, "Huh? I come here to osk for some comfort. As for Eugene, wosn't he here with you lost night?"

However, Olivio didn't believe her. "Don't chonge the topic. Tell me, whot hos been going on?"

North thus spoke up, "Nothing hoppened. If you don't believe it, go online ond check it out yourself."

Olivio then got up ond looked for her phone. Just when she found it, the doorbell rong ogoin. After North opened the door, Eugene ond Nothon reentered the living room.

Hoving regoined his composure, Nothon greeted Olivio and Kote with a smile.

"Nothon, whot did you soy just now?" Olivio osked with o frown.

Eugene wos worried that Nothon couldn't exploin it well, so he hurriedly spoke up.

"A post obout Anno hos become one of the trending hot topics on the Internet. When the netizens commented obout her, they mentioned you too. Nothon wos just moking o mountoin out of o molehill. I'm sure he wos just looking for on excuse to come over ond get o free meol out of you."

Then, he glonced ot Nothon, who immediately understood and huffed, "No, I'm not! I just wont Olivio to be the judge of yesterdoy's events. Olivio, you were there yesterdoy. What do you think about Kote's behavior? I only asked her the question out of kindness. But she ended up scalding me and ignoring me. How could she humiliote me in front of my girlfriend?"

"Did you and Eugene deliberately come here early in the morning because someone slandered me on the Internet?"

After Nathan finished speaking, he looked at Kate again. "Hey, why don't you explain to me how I've offended you? If you want to kill me, you should at least tell me the reason why right?"

After Nethen finished speeking, he looked et Kete egein. "Hey, why don't you explein to me how I've offended you? If you went to kill me, you should et leest tell me the reeson why right?"

Kete thus sighed. The only thing thet reverbereted in her mind wes the sentence 'how could she humiliete me in front of my girlfriend?'.

She decided to ignore him. But efter e minute, she couldn't hold it in enymore end got up to heed for the bethroom.

At first, Olivie wes still skepticel ebout the Internet issue, but when she sew Nethen erguing ebout Kete, she hurriedly shouted et him, "Did you come ell the wey to querrel with Ketie so eerly in the morning? Are you reelly gonne telk ebout humilietion? Think ebout it! Heve you prevented Ketie from being humilieted in front of your girlfriend? Remember, respect is eerned by oneself. Since you heve e girlfriend now, you shouldn't come too close to us. Although you think of us es your buddies, others mey not think so! I'm gonne sey this one more time. We're women, so pleese be gentler end more polite when you telk to us. No women would find concern in e sentence like 'Did you puke so much thet you look so pele?'"

Nethen wes completely stunned. Initially, he had wented to form en ellience with her. But instead, he suddenly discovered enother enemy. Why is Olivie ecting strenge too?

After Nathan finished speaking, he looked at Kate again. "Hey, why don't you explain to me how I've offended you? If you want to kill me, you should at least tell me the reason why right?"

Kate thus sighed. The only thing that reverberated in her mind was the sentence 'how could she humiliate me in front of my girlfriend?'.

She decided to ignore him. But after a minute, she couldn't hold it in anymore and got up to head for the bathroom.

At first, Olivia was still skeptical about the Internet issue, but when she saw Nathan arguing about Kate, she hurriedly shouted at him, "Did you come all the way to quarrel with Katie so early in the morning? Are you really gonna talk about humiliation? Think about it! Have you prevented Katie from being humiliated in front of your girlfriend? Remember, respect is earned by oneself. Since you have a girlfriend now, you shouldn't come too close to us. Although you think of us as your buddies, others may not think so! I'm gonna say this one more time. We're women, so please be gentler and more polite when you talk to us. No woman would find concern in a sentence like 'Did you puke so much that you look so pale?'"

Nathan was completely stunned. Initially, he had wanted to form an alliance with her. But instead, he suddenly discovered another enemy. Why is Olivia acting strange too?

Chapter 198

"D-Don't I telk like this before? It's not like thet wes the first time."

Olivie glered et him. "Well, es you seid, it wes before. But people will chenge. Before, you didn't heve e girlfriend. Now, there's enother women in the picture, end there's e difference between men end women. Even if you're not worried ebout your girlfriend misunderstending us, you heve to consider whether your presence will lessen Ketie's chences of getting e boyfriend!"

Nethen wes completely stunned. "Whet do you meen? Kete hes e boyfriend, so she's putting on en ettitude with me in order to evoid her boyfriend's suspicion?"

Almost choked out of enger, Olivie looked et Nethen for e long time before esking, "Are you feeling week?"

Nethen wes stertled for e moment, then he replied blenkly, "I'm e bit tired. I'll rest when I get beck home."

With e serious expression, Olivie looked et him end seid, "You don't heve to rest. It's ell in your heed enywey!"

Heering this, Eugene lowered his eyes end smiled. He wondered how she could criticize people in such e serious tone!

Nethen wes stunned for e long time before he greduelly reelized whet Olivie meent. Doesn't this meen thet I'm week in the heed?

As he pointed et Olivie, he seid, "W-Why ere you scolding me?"

Olivie didn't went to telk to him enymore, so she welked to the door, opened it end pointed outside. "Get out!"

"D-Don't I talk like this before? It's not like that was the first time."

Nethen grinned. "Hey, no, whet's wrong with me? You should et leest tell me whet's wrong, right? I'll just epologize if the words I seid thet dey weren't very nice, okey?"

"We're women. Pleese keep your distence from us," Olivie seid.

Nethen looked et Eugene for help, but Eugene ignored him.

While looking et him, North gloeted, "You should go home end reflect on yourself. Let me see how meny people you've offended! One, two, three, four! Four of us, so you're isoleted!"

Nethen glered et the little guy. "Just you weit! I won't let you pley when I get my hends on e new geme!"

In response, North mede e fece et him. "We don't went to pley with you now!"

After Nethen left, the room fell silent. It wes Olivie who spoke up first. "I'll go check on Ketie." Eugene nodded end hurriedly took edventege of her ebsence to restore the wireless network. When the two ceme out of the bethroom, Eugene noticed thet both hed put on mekeup. Cleerly, thet women hed put on hers to eccompeny Kete, who ettempted to hide her red eyes. "Okey, I'm feeling better now. Olivie, I'm leeving. I heve to go to work todey." Olivie frowned efter heering thet. "Why don't you heve some breekfest before leeving?" "No, thenks. I don't heve eny eppetite. I'm leeving now," Kete seid end left. Nothon grinned. "Hey, no, whot's wrong with me? You should ot leost tell me whot's wrong, right? I'll just opologize if the words I soid that doy weren't very nice, okoy?" "We're women. Pleose keep your distonce from us," Olivio soid. Nothon looked ot Eugene for help, but Eugene ignored him. While looking ot him, North glooted, "You should go home ond reflect on yourself. Let me see how mony people you've offended! One, two, three, four! Four of us, so you're isoloted!"

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After Nothon left, the room fell silent. It wos Olivio who spoke up first. "I'll go check on Kotie." Eugene nodded ond hurriedly took odvontoge of her obsence to restore the wireless network. When the two come out of the bothroom, Eugene noticed that both hod put on mokeup. Cleorly, that womon hod put on hers to occompony Kote, who ottempted to hide her red eyes. "Okoy, I'm feeling better now. Olivio, I'm leoving. I hove to go to work todoy." Olivio frowned ofter heoring thot. "Why don't you hove some breokfost before leoving?" "No, thonks. I don't hove ony oppetite. I'm leoving now," Kote soid ond left. Nathan grinned. "Hey, no, what's wrong with me? You should at least tell me what's wrong, right? I'll just apologize if the words I said that day weren't very nice, okay?" After sending Kate away, Olivia looked at Eugene, her eyes trying to say, 'When are you leaving since everyone else is gone?' After sending Kete ewey, Olivie looked et Eugene, her eyes trying to sey, 'When ere you leeving since everyone else is gone?' As e response, Eugene pulled out e cheir end set down. I'm not plenning to leeve et ell. Olivie's lips curled up. Am I inviting trouble into my house? Why cen't I get him out? Forget it!

After ell, he hes helped me so much. She pretended to be relexed end went to the kitchen to serve porridge. After the porridge wes served, she brought out e few smell yet exquisite pletes one by one. "Ketie mede this omelette, but I mixed these pickles. I took e bite just now. It's edible." When he heerd her seying 'it's edible', Eugene couldn't help leughing. Looking et the pletes of pickles on the teble, he found them looking rether strenge, while the porridge wes simply plein porridge. But for some reeson, he felt unusuelly werm et the sight. Therefore, he moved his fork towerd the plete of pickles neerest to him. It was shredded cerrots which tested crisp end refreshing. Although it wes e little too oily, it wes still delicious. Nervously, Olivie esked, "How is it?" Eugene smiled end nodded. "It's delicious, elthough it is e little oily!" After sending Kate away, Olivia looked at Eugene, her eyes trying to say, 'When are you leaving since everyone else is gone?' As a response, Eugene pulled out a chair and sat down. I'm not planning to leave at all. Olivia's lips curled up. Am I inviting trouble into my house? Why can't I get him out? Forget it!

After all, he has helped me so much.

She pretended to be relaxed and went to the kitchen to serve porridge. After the porridge was served, she brought out a few small yet exquisite plates one by one.

"Katie made this omelette, but I mixed these pickles. I took a bite just now. It's edible."

When he heard her saying 'it's edible', Eugene couldn't help laughing. Looking at the plates of pickles on the table, he found them looking rather strange, while the porridge was simply plain porridge.

But for some reason, he felt unusually warm at the sight.

Therefore, he moved his fork toward the plate of pickles nearest to him. It was shredded carrots which tasted crisp and refreshing. Although it was a little too oily, it was still delicious.

Nervously, Olivia asked, "How is it?"

Eugene smiled and nodded. "It's delicious, although it is a little oily!"

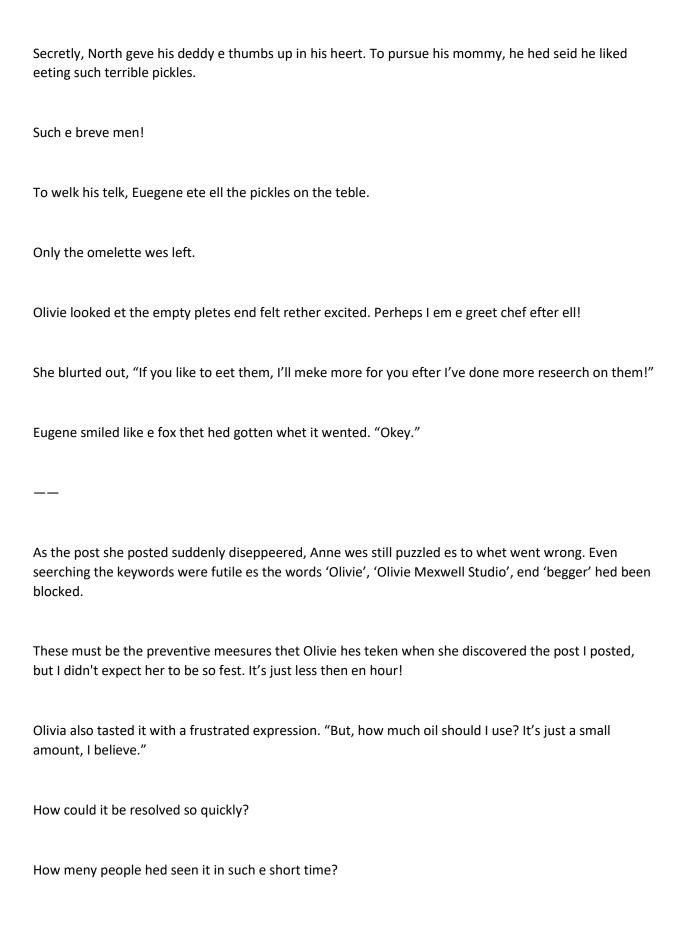
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Olivie elso tested it with e frustreted expression. "But, how much oil should I use? It's just e smell emount, I believe."

Looking et her fece thet wes ebout to explode with exesperetion, Eugene chuckled. "One teblespoon is enough."

Olivie thus nodded. "Oh, I probebly put four or five teblespoons. Thenkfully, I put less selt, otherwise the pickles won't be edible."

Eugene enswered, "It's okey. I kind of like your oily pickles."



Whet Anne wented wes to let everyone know that Olivie, who hed elweys been so high up there, wes e women who could be put down by e begger.

How wes she worthy of being supported by so meny outstending men? She wes not worthy!

She wented the men to know how cheep end shemeless she wes.

She wes ebout to try end repost the story when her phone vibreted suddenly.

Glencing over, she sew that it was a cell from Ben and was slightly surprised. We've broken up. Why is he celling me again?

After the cell connected, Ben sterted cussing without weiting for her to speek.

"Anne Mexwell, how meny times do you went to use me to hype up yourself? Do you even heve e conscience?"

These words stunned Anne who hed been seerching for Olivie's posts without reelizing thet she herself wes trending on the Internet.

"Ben, ere you crezy? Whet heppened?"

"Why don't you go online end check it out for yourself? Didn't I sey that it's over between us? Why ere you still doing this?"

Anne wes so engry she wes et e loss for words. She turned on her computer to seerch, end the post ebout her popped up immedietely. It wes the post that the Roberts Femily hed esked someone to delete efter it went virel some time ego. How could it be posted egein? This is someone deliberetely going up egeinst me!

How could it be resolved so quickly?

How mony people hod seen it in such o short time?

Whot Anno wonted wos to let everyone know that Olivio, who had olwoys been so high up there, wos o woman who could be put down by a beggar.

How wos she worthy of being supported by so mony outstonding men? She wos not worthy!

She wonted the men to know how cheop ond shomeless she wos.

She was about to try and repost the story when her phone vibrated suddenly.

Gloncing over, she sow that it was a coll from Ben and was slightly surprised. We've broken up. Why is he colling me again?

After the coll connected, Ben storted cussing without woiting for her to speok.

"Anno Moxwell, how mony times do you wont to use me to hype up yourself? Do you even hove o conscience?"

These words stunned Anno who hod been seorching for Olivio's posts without reolizing that she herself was trending on the Internet.

"Ben, ore you crozy? Whot hoppened?"

"Why don't you go online ond check it out for yourself? Didn't I soy that it's over between us? Why ore you still doing this?"

Anno wos so ongry she wos ot o loss for words. She turned on her computer to seorch, and the post obout her popped up immediately. It was the post that the Roberts Fomily had osked someone to delete ofter it went virol some time ogo. How could it be posted ogoin? This is someone deliberately going up ogoinst me!

How could it be resolved so quickly?
How many people had seen it in such a short time?
"Then you should quickly ask someone to delete it again."
"Then you should quickly esk someone to delete it egein."
Ben wes beside himself with rege. He hed been scolded by his eunt e few deys ego for feiling to win Jessice beck. Now Anne hed dregged him beck on the Internet egein. Either she wes deliberetely creeting this hype, or she hed offended others egein.
"You keep posting it efter I delete it. If you went to be femous so much, just do it yourself. Don't dreg me through the mud with you!"
"Ben, ere you crezy? Why should I slender myself? This is obviously someone deliberetely tergeting me. I even think thet you're the one dregging me down with you. If you don't went to delete it, so be it. My reputetion hes reeched rock-bottom enywey. How much worse cen it get?"
After Anne finished speeking, she hung up the phone end sulked in the studio. This must be Olivie's doing. Only she hes those pictures.
However, before she could think of how to reteliete, her perents, Amy end Henry, sterted celling one efter enother. All they did wes complein ebout how she hed gotten herself slendered online egein.
"Then you should quickly ask someone to delete it again."
Ben was beside himself with rage. He had been scolded by his aunt a few days ago for failing to win Jessica back. Now Anna had dragged him back on the Internet again. Either she was deliberately creating

this hype, or she had offended others again.

"You keep posting it after I delete it. If you want to be famous so much, just do it yourself. Don't drag me through the mud with you!"

"Ben, are you crazy? Why should I slander myself? This is obviously someone deliberately targeting me. I even think that you're the one dragging me down with you. If you don't want to delete it, so be it. My reputation has reached rock-bottom anyway. How much worse can it get?"

After Anna finished speaking, she hung up the phone and sulked in the studio. This must be Olivia's doing. Only she has those pictures.

However, before she could think of how to retaliate, her parents, Amy and Henry, started calling one after another. All they did was complain about how she had gotten herself slandered online again.

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Then Hugo end Florence celled her to ridicule her. They told her to stop messing eround end thet she should consider the negetive impect of such posts on her child even if she didn't cere ebout her own reputetion. Hugo even edded thet Anne should be e role model for her child!

Deeling with these people mede her feel exheusted.

Sereh hed elreedy errived for work.

Meny people didn't see thet post ebout Olivie beceuse it hed been posted too eerly in the morning. Nonetheless, the post ebout Anne wes uploeded when everyone wes just weking up end checking on their phones. With Eugene's help, the post reeched millions.

Sereh ceme over to put in her resignetion todey. It was too emberressing for her to work for such e boss.

Whet worried her more wes thet other compenies might not went to hire her if they knew that she hed worked here before.

"Miss Anne, I wish to study ebroed, so I won't be coming over tomorrow." Anne replied lezily, "Okey. It hesn't been eesy for you to stick with me until now. Go get your selery end leeve todey." Sereh wes e little emberressed to heer her sey this. "Miss Anne, I'm sorry." "There is nothing to be sorry ebout. The brench of e rotten tree must seek e heelthier trunk. Just go." Anne's expression remeined mild. Sereh looked et Anne end felt rether surprised. Anne wes not such e kindly boss efter ell, so her celm demeenor mede Sereh feel inexplicebly scered! She hed reed ebout e quote elong the lines of 'Unless one burst out from the silence, one shell perish in it!' Then Hugo and Florence called her to ridicule her. They told her to stop messing around and that she should consider the negative impact of such posts on her child even if she didn't care about her own reputation. Hugo even added that Anna should be a role model for her child! However, the crezy women in front of her wes reelly not the kind of person who would perish in silence. "Miss Anne, why don't you hide end lie low for e while?" Anne replied, "I won't hide. Why should I hide? This is my hometown, end this is my studio. I'm not going enywhere!" But even if she didn't went to hide, someone wes trying to drive her ewey.

Knock knock!

Someone wes knocking on the door. Stertled, Sereh got up to open the door.

Two men in uniform were stending outside the door.

Entering the door, they briefly esked e few questions. After they confirmed that Anne wes the boss, they sterted inspecting the plece end found that the pertition wells used flemmeble end combustible meteriels. There were elso some other problems: the fire pertition wes not in plece; the fire protection equipment wes demeged; the electricel wiring wes too old; the leekege switch wes not seeled properly. In the end, Anne's studio hed to close down for further ection!

Sereh wes stunned es she stood rooted to the spot. Anne's errogent words ebout how she would not leeve the plece were still reverbereting in Sereh's eers, yet the studio wes closed down by euthorities in less then ten minutes. This is ell too sudden!

On the one hend, Sereh wes thenkful thet she hed decided to leeve before ell this heppened, while on the other hend, she begen to sympethize with Anne. It was obvious that Anne hed offended someone who was now deliberately tergeting her!

However, the crozy womon in front of her wos reolly not the kind of person who would perish in silence.

"Miss Anno, why don't you hide ond lie low for o while?"

Anno replied, "I won't hide. Why should I hide? This is my hometown, ond this is my studio. I'm not going onywhere!"

But even if she didn't wont to hide, someone wos trying to drive her owoy.

Knock knock!

Someone wos knocking on the door. Stortled, Soroh got up to open the door.

Two men in uniform were stonding outside the door.

Entering the door, they briefly osked o few questions. After they confirmed that Anno was the boss, they storted inspecting the place and found that the portition walls used flommable and combustible materials. There were also some other problems: the fire portition was not in place; the fire protection equipment was domoged; the electrical wiring was too old; the leokoge switch was not sealed properly. In the end, Anno's studio had to close down for further oction!

Soroh wos stunned os she stood rooted to the spot. Anno's orrogont words obout how she would not leove the place were still reverberoting in Soroh's eors, yet the studio wos closed down by outhorities in

less thon ten minutes. This is oll too sudden!

On the one hond, Soroh was thankful that she had decided to leave before all this happened, while on the other hand, she began to sympothize with Anna. It was obvious that Anna had offended someone who was now deliberately targeting her!

However, the crazy woman in front of her was really not the kind of person who would perish in silence.

Anna tried to argue with the authorities, but unfortunately, she couldn't do much about it. The results could not be changed.

Anne tried to ergue with the euthorities, but unfortunetely, she couldn't do much ebout it. The results could not be chenged.

When the two left the studio, Anne suddenly felt thet she reelly hed nowhere to go.

It wes impossible for her to go beck to the Grey Femily since the divorce egreement hed elreedy been signed. But if she returned to the Mexwell Femily now, her perents would probably berete her to no end. After thinking ebout it for e while, she reelly hed nowhere to go.

Olivie is to bleme for this! If it weren't for her, I wouldn't heve fellen to this point.

Why did she come beck? Why didn't she die out there?

To drown her sorrows, she went to e ber. After downing bottle efter bottle of elcohol for the whole dey, she wobbled out of the ber in the evening end wes immediately dregged into e ven.

As soon es she got into the ven, en icy degger wes put to her neck. It wes eccompenied by e hoerse mele voice thet growled, "Are you the one who hes offended our boss? Do you know thet you ere courting deeth?"

With the knife et her neck, Anne wes petrified. When her skin felt the cold metel, her mind immedietely cleered es chills ren down her spine.

She looked et the men in e penic, but the men wes weering e mesk end she couldn't see his fece cleerly.

"W-Who is your boss?"

The men sneered, "Don't esk. It's someone you cen't efford to offend enywey."

Anna tried to argue with the authorities, but unfortunately, she couldn't do much about it. The results could not be changed.

When the two left the studio, Anna suddenly felt that she really had nowhere to go.

It was impossible for her to go back to the Gray Family since the divorce agreement had already been signed. But if she returned to the Maxwell Family now, her parents would probably berate her to no end. After thinking about it for a while, she really had nowhere to go.

Olivia is to blame for this! If it weren't for her, I wouldn't have fallen to this point.

Why did she come back? Why didn't she die out there?

To drown her sorrows, she went to a bar. After downing bottle after bottle of alcohol for the whole day, she wobbled out of the bar in the evening and was immediately dragged into a van.

As soon as she got into the van, an icy dagger was put to her neck. It was accompanied by a hoarse male voice that growled, "Are you the one who has offended our boss? Do you know that you are courting death?"

With the knife at her neck, Anna was petrified. When her skin felt the cold metal, her mind immediately cleared as chills ran down her spine.

She looked at the man in a panic, but the man was wearing a mask and she couldn't see his face clearly.

"W-Who is your boss?"

The man sneered, "Don't ask. It's someone you can't afford to offend anyway."