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"And now, I am disappointed in you as well. So don't you ever come to my office asking for help, Emperor Publishing will cross you out of our roster of authors. Goodbye, Bonnie." 1

Henry watched as Kate opened the door. She held it, waiting for Henry to go with her.

"Mr. Grant?" She asked since Henry simply stood there, watching her indescribable gaze full of meaning. "We're leaving now."

Henry snapped out of his daze and nodded. He followed Kate as they left the cafe and went straight to Henry's car.

Both of them said nothing as Henry drove the car back to their office. Henry tried to keep his mouth shut, but the restlessness in his heart made him uncomfortable, so he asked, "Kate, about the thing you told Bonnie Harper just now, are you sure that you don't believe in second chances?"

"No," Kate replied curtly without giving it a second thought. "I don't believe in second chances. Everyone whom I've given a second chance to has been nothing but a

disappointment."

"I gave so many people in my life a second chance, but all I got was pain in the end. They hurt me in so many ways," Kate added. "That's why I don't want to give Matt a second chance even if he begs me for another chance."

"But what if someone hurt you because of the situation he is in?" Henry asked. "Don't misunderstand, Kate. This is just a what-if scenario."

She glanced at Henry, whose eyes were still on the road. Her heart ached as she imagined Henry hurting her as well.

She didn't know why, but she had a feeling that Henry was doing something that would only harm her in the end.

'I don't want to get hurt anymore, Henry...' Kate said in her heart. 'Please don't hurt me. I'm not that tough.'

"I don't care even if he is forced. There is always an option, I don't believe that he doesn't have another option, yet he will still decide to hurt me instead," Kate said. "If that situation ever happens, then I will cut all contact with that man. My heart has been broken too many times, I

can't handle another heartbreak."

Henry clenched the steering wheel but tried his best to keep a straight face despite the chaos in his heart. He had been hesitating for a while now because he thought he could use their baby as a bargaining chip to proceed with the mission, and after that, he'd try to beg Kate for her forgiveness. 4

He would try to compensate her in any way possible. He would even marry her if that would quench her rage, even have another child with her if that's what she needed. 4

But now he realized.

Kate wasn't the type of woman who would forgive so easily. She had been hurt so many times by many people in her life, of course she would develop a steel heart, or else she would not be able to survive.

'Who am I kidding anyway?' Henry ridiculed himself. 'If Kate is the type who'd forgive so easily she would still be with that useless ex-husband of hers. She'd forgive Matt's cheating and give him a second chance.'

'Then what should I do now?' Henry thought. 'Should I just take the baby and ignore her

completely? Or should I abandon the mission that I've worked so long, just because I don't want to lose her?" 3

Henry found himself stuck between a rock and a hard place. He didn't want to lose Kate, yet he also didn't want to abandon the mission because he wanted justice for everyone hurt by his parents, including him and his late brother. 1

As he kept thinking and thinking without finding an answer, he suddenly realized that they had arrived at their office.

Henry parked the car in front of the lobby, as always. He wanted to talk more with Kate, but she wasn't in the mood.

Instead, she said thanks to him and exited the car immediately.

Henry was sitting in his car, unsure of what to do next.

"What should I do? I can't lose you," Henry murmured. "But I can't abandon this mission either. This mission is for me, my late brother, and everyone that my parents have wronged." 2

Henry felt his stress level rise as he kept thinking about what he could do to solve this

dilemma. He also didn't want to go back to the office because Kate would only remind him of the horrible things he already planned for Kate for the sake of his mission. It gave him a sickening feeling in his gut and only made him feel even guiltier than before.

Thus, Henry decided to step on the gas and left the office with the Bentley that Michael brought today. He drove around Los Angeles, thinking of what he should do to stop himself from hurting Kate while progressing with the plan, he didn't want to lose either of those.

"I don't want to hurt her...." Henry murmured as he drove slowly and aimlessly around the bustling city. He realized that he was driving around the area where Kate met with her sister, Erin, in a restaurant not far from his location.

His mind then recalled the moment when he made Kate cry.

He was trying to protect Kate by showing up in front of Erin so that bitch knew that Kate had a man who was strong enough to protect her from any harm, including Erin.

But he didn't know what kind of deranged human Erin was.

Thus, instead of helping Kate, he only made things worse for her, forcing the situation until they were stuck with Erin for a while, catering to her stupid and perverted demands just to keep her satisfied, so she wouldn't do something foolish and inevitably kill Kate's mother.

Back then, Henry felt that his world had crumbled around him when he saw Kate cry, and even worse, when he realized that he was the one who made her cry. It didn't matter whether he did it on purpose. He was still the one who made her cry, which made him feel horrible.

Henry felt that he was the worst human on earth. He was thinking hard about how to pacify Kate so she'd stop shedding her tears, and he was so glad when Kate began to smile at him again.

"Seeing you cry was the most horrible experience I ever had with a woman, Kate," Henry murmured. "I felt like a monster."

He remembered his initial plan to take the baby and kick her out of his life. 2

He then ridiculed himself for thinking that way, "How stupid, can I even do that? I already felt so horrible when I accidentally made tears fall from



her beautiful eyes because of Erin. I can't imagine seeing her wailing in tears, begging in front of me because I took our baby." 1

Henry bit his lower lip. The image was so horrifying in his head that he quickly stopped at a nearby cafe to avoid getting in an accident because of that disturbing picture in his mind.

Henry exited the car and entered the cafe. He sat at the corner of the cafe and ordered a cold drink just to calm himself down.

'Fuck, the image is still in my head,' Henry cursed himself. 'No, I should stop thinking about it. I'll get nightmares if I keep thinking about what Kate would do if I take our baby.'

He sipped his drink from the straw as he stared at the beach in front of him.

He remembered the sunset he watched with Kate before.

The sunset was a beautiful sight, but there was someone even more beautiful than the sunset that day, which was a rare occurrence for Henry, because he enjoyed watching the sunset whenever he needed to calm his raging heart.

But now, as he recalled the golden sunset that he



liked, the only thing in his mind was the side profile of the beauty who watched the sea and stood before him. She had eyes that were more brilliant than the sunset and long, wavy red hair that swayed as the wind gently caressed it.

She was exceptionally beautiful, and at that time, Henry wanted nothing but to have her by his side. In fact, as stupid as it sounded, he already had their whole life planned in his head, from the day they got married, had kids, and even after they retired, living together as one of old couples that made you smile. 1

Henry always thought he was a cold-hearted bastard, and he already proved himself to be one for a long time.

He never spared any pity to anyone, be it, a man or a woman. He had naturally been trained to be ruthless and unforgiving by the situation surrounding his birth.

'Yet, I see the flash of a beautiful life when I'm with you, Kate,' Henry thought. 'You changed something in me, and I don't know if I want that.'