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Kate was in charge of reading everything to ensure the contract was safe. She had already discussed this with their legal department and had seen the first draft of the contract in the past. When she was certain everything was correct and in order, she gave it a nod, she handed the pen to Irene first to sign and then to Henry. 1

"Huh? You want me to sign the contract?" Henry asked as he was caught off guard.

"Obviously, you're the one who came up with that brilliant idea," Kate replied. "Besides, you're the CEO, you have more right to sign this than I do."

Henry didn't expect that Kate would easily give up the right to sign such an important document to him. After all, he genuinely thought that Kate did not respect him as the CEO and would try to dominate the company. 1

Though Henry questioned Kate's decision, he obediently signed the contract with Irene Banks.



Both parties were relieved that the adaptation could finally start after a long negotiation between the two parties.

Jack Quinn personally escorted the three of them out until they reached the lobby. After a short conversation between them, Jack Quinn excused himself, informing them that he'd be busy with the adaptation from now on.

Kate, Henry, and Irene stood awkwardly in the lobby. Irene knew that Mr. Grant only had his eyes for Kate, so she felt awkward having to be the third wheel between them. 1

"Um, then I will leave first—"

"No, please stay for a moment, I want to have a little chat with you, Ms. Banks," Kate said. She glanced at Henry and said, "You can leave now, Mr. Grant. I can take a taxi."

Henry already guessed what Kate wanted to say, so he teased her and used her own words against her, "How could I let you leave in a taxi when we came here together in my car? Don't worry, Mrs. Woods, I will wait for you in my car. After all, we're going to have a very private meeting, right?"



"You—!" Kate was speechless by Henry's shamelessness, but her being upset only brought joy to Henry. He laughed heartily as he walked out of the lobby first leaving Kate and Irene alone.

Kate could only sigh as Henry was finally out of the picture. She looked at Irene, who looked sweet as always.

Irene Banks was a shy woman. She didn't like meeting with too many people, and she didn't like crowded places.

Kate had picked up on most of Irene's preferences after a year of working with her.

She was a pleasant and kind lady, so Kate didn't want her to get involved with a playboy like Henry with whom she would only probably get hurt. She also didn't want Irene to get her heart broken as that might affect her future work.

In fact, she didn't understand how a shy lady like Irene could become more open and aggressive when facing a frivolous man like Henry. Shouldn't she be repulsed by his superficial charm?

'I have to straighten things up right now,' Kate thought.

"Ms. Banks—No, Irene, I'm here as a friend to talk you, it seems that you are quite attracted to Mr. Grant. Please refrain from being close to him. Mr. Grant is not a good man for you, he will only break your heart," Kate said without hesitation, knowing that nothing would pierce through the thick skull of someone in love other than a cold, harsh truth. "He is a playboy."

"Um, you don't need to tell me not to flirt him anymore, Mrs. Woods, I already guessed that he is not into me," Irene Banks replied. "I know that he is just trying to appease me in his own way." 2

"Oh, you did?" Kate asked, relieved that Irene had figured it out on her own. She was actually surprised because she thought it'd be harder for her to convince Irene, seeing how enamored she was at Henry.

"Yes, I realized it just now when we were in the meeting room," Irene said. She had a bitter smile on her face as she spoke, "I think he is in love with another woman."

"I don't think he's in love with anybody," Kate



sneered. "However, I agree that you should not chase after him. I don't want him to hurt you."

Irene wondered if Kate was just playing dumb or if she was actually that dense. 2

Either way, she knew Henry had no interest in her, so it was best to curb her interest as soon as possible to avoid getting hurt.

"Mrs. Woods, you seem to be quite close with Mr. Grant," Irene commented. "You two bicker a lot. It's so sweet to watch, really."

"We're not bickering, we're simply discussing company matters and we don't always see eye to eye on things," Kate denied. "It's not sweet at all when you have to keep arguing with the same person over and over. It's like I'm talking to a wall. Well, a beautiful wall, but still a wall." 2

Irene giggled, "Oh well, I guess it can't be helped. Don't worry, Mrs. Woods, I won't have any ideas about Mr. Grant anymore. But you two should bicker more, it can be the inspiration for my next novel." 5

Irene excused herself and left Kate alone.



Kate was glad that Irene was still reasonable, but she had to scold Henry.

Irene was only one of many authors under Emperor Publishing. Since most of the books published under the company were romance, there were many female authors, young or old, single or taken, and Kate believed that none could resist Henry's charm.

So she had to stop that man from peacocking around, charming every lady he met. It was too dangerous for the company if he kept acting that way. 1

Kate marched out of the lobby, she couldn't miss that metallic dark green Ferrari in the VIP parking lot. She couldn't wait to have a stern talk with Henry about his behavior when she suddenly heard someone call her name.

"Mrs. Woods! Mrs. Woods, wait up!"

Kate looked over her shoulder and saw Mai rushing towards her.

Kate stopped in her tracks and waited for Mai to finally reach her. Mai caught her breath for a while before asking, "I'm sorry I'm late, Ma'am.



The traffic is really bad. How about the meeting, is it done already?" 3

"It's done, and all went well," Kate replied. "It's fine, Mai. You can return to the office now."

Mai was a bit disappointed that she missed the meeting. But since Mrs. Woods didn't seem angry, she offered, "Then let me find an Uber or taxi for us, Ma'am. Please wait in the lobby first."

"No need, I'm going with Mr. Grant, you can go alone," Kate refused. "I have something to tell him."

"A—Are you sure, Ma'am? I was so shocked when Mr. Grant suddenly slammed the car door. I thought he was mad at us for some reason...."

"He's not mad at us, don't be dramatic," Kate said. She took out her wallet and placed a handful of hundred dollar bills in Mai's hand. "Here's money for lunch and a taxi, go on ahead to the office, Mr. Grant and I have things to discuss." 2

