

Ex Convict 2831

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"Okay," replied Valda Tholler as she walked into the changing room. With the staff's help, she changed into the gown.

The gown fit her well, making her look classy and elegant.

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The makeup artist started to apply Valda Theller's makeup. While they chatted, Valda Theller learned that the gown and jewelry were made by the same famous foreign designer. Besides that, it was the only set.

"This gown and jewelry got quite a few compliments when they were shown at the fashion show. Many people wanted to buy the set. Who knew Young Master Hart bought it and gave it to you, Miss Theller? Young Master Hart really cares about you," the makeup artist smiled and said. Their words were somewhat obsequious.

Valda Theller smiled politely. She and Brian were not what others thought they were.

However, she had to admit that Brian had given her enough face as his girlfriend even though he did not love her. At least outsiders thought he doted on her.

When her makeup and hair were done, Valda Theller looked at herself in the mirror. She looked like a new person. Although she

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was still the same person, her temperament had changed, and her facial features were improved. She looked like the socialites she

saw on the news.

"Let me help you put on the jewelry," the makeup artist said.

"Sure," replied Valda Theller.

The makeup artist was about to pick up the sapphire necklace in the box when the dressing room door was suddenly pushed open. Several people entered.

"So it really is you, Valda Theller." A voice rang out.

Valda Theller recognized the person as Phoebe Cross, the heiress of Song Yuan Group and Brian's childhood friend.

Valda Theller had met Phoebe Cross at a party before.

"Miss Song, what do you need?" Valda Theller asked.

"I don't need anything. I just heard that Brian had arranged people to serve you here, so I came over to have a look." Phoebe Cross sized up the gown Valda Theller was wearing and saw the sapphire jewelry on the dressing table out of the corners of her eyes. Envy instantly flickered in her eyes.

She had had her eye on that gown and jewelry and wanted to buy them, but someone else had already bought them.

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Who knew Valda Theller had them?

...Did Brian give them to Valda Theller?' "

"You're not attending the charity gala tonight too, are you?"

Phoebe Cross asked.

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"Yes, I'm attending it," said Valda Theller.

"I'm sure someone from a regular family like you don't often attend such parties. You won't be the only one embarrassed if you make a mistake. You'll also affect Brian. You shouldn't bother attending such galas," said Phoebe Cross.

Valda Theller smiled. "I've promised Brian to attend the gala with him tonight. Brian will remind me if I make a mistake, so you have nothing to worry about, Miss Song."

Phoebe Cross's face darkened as she was tactfully rebuked.

The people beside Phoebe Cross said, "Is this Brian's girlfriend?"

"Yeah, she's a comic artist." Phoebe Cross introduced dismissively.

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"I was wondering who became Young Master Hart's girlfriend. I didn't expect it to be a comic artist. She's probably not popular. I've never heard of her."

"A woman like her probably just wants to find a rich husband."

They talked as if no one was there, and their tone was full of contempt for Valda Theller.

Some even looked at Valda Theller with disdain and said, "Why don't you tell us how you fooled Young Master Hart into becoming your boyfriend?"

Valda Theller looked at the people in front of her. Judging from their outfits, they were probably socialites of Emerald City like

Phoebe Cross.

They were looking at her maliciously.

"Do you think the 'Young Master Hart' you speak of is a person who gets fool easily?" Valda Theller asked in reply. She knew she

could not show weakness. Showing weakness would only make these people push their luck as well as embarrass Brian.

"You..." The expression of the woman who asked the question turned ghastly. "What a smart mouth! I've met a lot of women like

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you. Do you really think-"

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"Do you really think you're Young Master Hart's true love and you can change your fate after marrying into a rich family? I'm afraid you'll get dumped before long. Is that what you want to say?" Valda Theller interrupted and finished what the woman wanted to say in one breath.

The woman felt like something was stuck in her throat. She could not spit it out nor swallow it. She subconsciously raised her hand to swing it toward Valda Theller.

Valda Theller warned, "I'm Brian's girlfriend. Forget about the future. At least he loves me very much right now. What do you think he'll do to you if you lay your hands on me?"

The woman instantly turned pale. Cold sweat broke out on her forehead as she thought of what Brian would do. She could not swing the hand she had raised.

The makeup room became silent.

Displeased, Phoebe Cross said to Valda Theller, "You seem so full of yourself. Brian has had many girlfriends. Brian changed girlfriends every once in a while a few years back. We're only reminding you out of kindness, lest you get dumped and want to attempt suicide!"

With that said, Phoebe Cross's gaze fell on Valda Theller's blue gown. "Is this gown from Brian? You can say Brian loves you when

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you get Brian to give you a purple gown. I think Brian is just after the novelty."

Valda Theller's heart sank. 'Purple gown... Purple again. I know it's Grace's favorite color.'

"Whether it's love or novelty is between Brian and me. You have nothing to worry about, Miss Song."

Phoebe Cross's face darkened. "Valda Theller, who do you think you are?"

Before Valda Theller could speak, a graceful male voice rang out. "Phoebe Cross, you can't speak to my girlfriend like that."

There was a sudden silence, and all eyes looked toward the door.

A tall figure walked over slowly, his handsome face full of indifference.

Phoebe Cross was shocked. 'How much did Brian hear?'

Brian walked to Valda Theller's side. "It seems I should've come earlier."

"You're not too late," said Valda Theller, relieved by his appearance. Even though she seemed undaunted by Phoebe Cross, only she knew her palms were full of cold sweat when she dissed them.

"Do you like the gown and jewelry I chose?" Brian bent over and asked in a mutter. His tone sounded doting.

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"I like it. It's beautiful," said Valda Theller.

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"Let me help you with the jewelry," he said, taking the sapphire necklace and helping her put it on.

The rich and delicate necklace added a touch of classiness to her when she wore it around her smooth neck.

"Why aren't you apologizing?" Just then, Brian's voice rang out again, but he was now talking to Phoebe Cross and the rest.

They instantly looked at each other. Phoebe Cross even looked shocked. "You... You want me to apologize?"

"Shouldn't you? Since you know Valda is my girlfriend, you should know what to say and what not to say." His indifferent voice gave people a faint sense of danger.

Brian leaned over, picked up the sapphire earrings, and carefully helped Valda Theller put them on. This gentle gesture was in sharp contrast to the indifferent tone he had just used to speak to Phoebe Cross.

Phoebe Cross clenched her teeth. She had admired him since she was a child, but he had never considered having her as his girlfriend.

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He constantly looked for the little girl who saved him during his

273 childhood, so every girlfriend before this was just a substitute for that little girl.

He finally stopped looking for a substitute and was single for years, but he found such an unclassy girlfriend.

‘What does Valda Theller have that I don’t?’

“Brian, do you really want me to apologize to this woman?” Phoebe Cross asked, staring at Brian.

“Not only you but everyone here!” Brian said indifferently. He had no intention of sparing any woman who had criticized Valda Theller.

The atmosphere was suffocating.

However, Brian just calmly helped Valda Theller put on the earrings. “I don’t have time to wait around. Get out if you won’t apologize.”

However, no one dared guess what the cost of leaving would be.

After all, the crown prince had never been someone who played by the rules.

Therefore, the others rushed to apologize to Valda Theller.

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“Miss Theller, I’m sorry. It was our fault just now. We apologize.”

“Yeah, be the bigger person. Forgive us!”

Valda Theller politely responded, while Brian glanced at Phoebe Cross and snorted indifferently. “Hmm?”

Phoebe Cross shivered and finally lowered her head before saying to Valda Theller, “I’m sorry I said something I shouldn’t have.”

“Then please don’t say anything you shouldn’t say in the future, Miss Song,” answered Valda Theller.

Phoebe Cross’s expression changed slightly as she glared at Valda Theller and turned to leave.

Several other women followed Phoebe Cross, leaving Brian, Valda Theller, the makeup artist, and the makeup artist’s assistant in the makeup room.

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Brian finished putting on the earrings for Valda Theller. The person in front of him was ordinary at first, but she became more beautiful the longer he looked at her.

"Are her makeup and hair done?" he asked.

"She hasn't put on her shoes," the makeup artist said, and their assistant quickly took the shoes that had been prepared for Valda Theller.

"I'll do it," Brian said as he took the shoes from the assistant and crouched in front of Valda Theller.

"Hey, I... I can wear them myself," Valda Theller said quickly.

He raised his chin slightly and looked at her. "Let me put them on for you. It's easier."

She was sitting in the chair, and he crouched in front of her. When he lowered his head to help her put on the shoes, it made her feel as if she was Cinderella and he was Prince Charming putting the glass slippers on her.

'That's right. Other people think I'm Cinderella and am lucky to have caught the crown prince's eye.

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When he finished putting on the shoes for Valda Theller, Brian said, "Take a couple of steps to see if they're tight."

Valda Theller got up and walked for two steps before saying.

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"They're fine, but the heels are a little high. I'm afraid I'll fall if I lose my footing."

"Grab my arm so you won't fall," said Brian.

She bit her lip slightly and muttered, "Okay."

"Well, it's almost time. Let's go." He reached out his hand and took hers.

Valda Theller followed Brian into the car, and Brian said, "Why are your palms so sweaty? Is it hot?"

"No, it's not hot. Miss Song and her friends came in just now, and I... I was kind of scared. So..." With that said, she lowered her

head in embarrassment.

Brian pondered for a moment before saying, "I'm sorry I scared you."

He said as he pulled out his handkerchief, took her hand, and gently wiped the sweat from it.

He was so gentle.

Valda Theller hesitated and said, "Will you think I'm useless?"

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"No, I think you're much braver and stronger than I thought. You managed to intimidate those people even when I wasn't around. The next time someone says something that upsets you or tries to do anything to you, mention my name," said Brian.

"You... You heard that?" She felt even more awkward now. He knew how she tried to intimidate them with him.

"Yes, I heard you tell them I love you very much," he said.

"I... I made that up. I hope you don't mind." She lowered her head more.

He said, "Why would I mind? I hope I can fall for you sooner. Next time, you can also tell them I'll be distressed if anyone hurts you, and I'll make them pay back a hundred or a thousand times over."

Valda Theller froze before suddenly looking up blankly at Brian.

"If you say that, then I think few people in Emerald City will dare to lay a hand on you," he continued.

She felt as if her heart was weighed down by something. She knew he said it for her own good, but... it also meant that she would further expand the lie in front of people to protect herself.

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He probably considered it a white lie to protect her.

"Thank you," she said, slowly pulling her hand away from his.

A strange feeling of emptiness swept over him as he looked at his empty hand.

The car stopped at the entrance of the charity gala. After Valda Theller and Brian got out of the car, there were flashing lights.

Valda Theller tried to avoid them.

"Don't be afraid." Brian's voice rang in her ears. "These are just some routine shots. But don't worry, your photos won't appear online."

She was reassured as she knew he was capable of doing just that.

“You don’t have to look into the cameras. If you don’t know where to look, just look at me.” His voice continued to ring in her ears.

She calmed down slightly.

“Okay... I... I understand,” replied Valda Theller as she looked at the Brian standing beside her. Her tense mood seemed to calm

down too.

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Holding Brian’s arm, Valda Theller followed Brian’s stepa and slowly walked into the gala venue.

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Although some reporters and cameras could be seen inside the venue, they were not as many as the ones outside. Besides, as Brian said before, the reporters did not come forward to interview them.

Valda Theller looked around. Tonight was indeed a night full of stars. The stars who attended the gala were big shots in the industry. She saw A-listers everywhere. There were few B-listers, let alone C-listers.

She could feel the celebrities looking at her as if they were examining something. Their gazes were envious, mocking, or expectant of drama.

Just then, she caught sight of Phoebe Cross in a gown out of the corners of her eyes. She froze instantly.

After all, the two of them had met not that long ago.

Phoebe Cross saw her as well. With a disdainful yet calculating look on her face, she turned and walked the other way.

“What’s the matter?” Brian, who was standing beside her, asked as he seemed to notice something wrong with her.

"It's nothing." Valda Theller said with a smile.

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"What a surprise. Didn't you say you weren't interested in charity galas? I thought you weren't coming." A voice rang out, and Valda Theller looked in the direction of the voice to see a familiar figure approaching.

It was... Patrick!

Valda Theller recognized him immediately. Brian had introduced him to her. He was Brian's friend since childhood.

Valda Theller looked at Brian in surprise. "You didn't want to attend the gala?"

Brian smiled faintly. "I didn't plan to attend, but I came with you since you wanted to attend it."

Valda Theller paused slightly. It turned out... he came specially to accompany her.

Patrick walked up to the two of them and greeted Valda Theller,

"Hi, Valda. You've changed a lot during the short time we didn't meet. You look beautiful today."

"Thank you," Valda Theller replied politely with a slightly red face.

"I'm afraid you'll be someone everyone in the entertainment industry wants to suck up to after attending the gala today,"

Patrick said with a smile.

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"No way..." said Valda Theller.

"Why not? Many people want to suck up to Brian, so they'll also

want to suck up to you," Patrick said and patted Brian on the shoulder before saying to Valda Theller,

"Speaking of which, my buddy is serious about you. He's attending a gala he refused to attend for you. What about you? How are you going to repay

him?"

Valda Theller did not know what to say when she met the playful look in Patrick's eyes.

Brian defused her embarrassment by saying to Patrick, "Alright,

why are you talking so much? What about you? What are you doing here?"

"I'm here to see if there are any suitable women! I'm still single, after all." Patrick smiled. "Alright, I'll leave you two alone."

With that said, Patrick walked to a group of acquaintances on the other side. Valda Theller turned to look at Brian. "Sorry, I didn't know you weren't planning to attend this gala."

"I didn't want to attend because I thought it'd be boring to attend such galas alone. It's not boring when I have you with me. There'll be an auction later, and the money will be donated to charity. If

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there's anything you like, just bid for it. I'll pay," said Brian.

"No... No thanks, it'll be a waste of money," Valda Theller said quickly.

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"Consider it as doing charity for Hart Group. Even if you don't bid for anything, I'll end up bidding on useless things for charity," said Brian.

"I... I see..." Valda Theller said lamely.

"So wouldn't it be better to bid for something you like?" he asked.

On the other side, Patrick walked over to Phoebe Cross after chatting with a few other people. "Your eyes are almost popping out of your head from staring at Brian and Valda. Is it so hard to accept?"

Phoebe Cross looked displeased as she said, "Valda? You're calling that woman intimately. What's the matter? Do you think of her as a friend?"

"She's the woman Brian has fallen in love with, after all," said Patrick.

"Fallen in love?" Phoebe Cross snorted dismissively. "Brian would never fall in love with such a common woman. He's only temporarily interested in her."

"Common?" Patrick chuckled. "Don't you know beauty is in the

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eye of the beholder? It's just like Grace, who's probably common to you too. But Jason loves her deeply. What do you have to say about that?"

Phoebe Cross froze as she clenched her teeth in hatred. Today, she would show Valda Theller how big the gap between an ordinary person and a privileged person was!

Valda Theller accompanied Brian to socialize. Although no reporter dared to interview them, it did not mean that no one came

to chat with them.

Waves of people came over to greet Brian, including some celebrities Valda Theller often saw on TV.

Valda Theller was also surprised to see so many celebrities up close that she found it refreshing.

Suddenly, her eyes caught a glimpse of a figure not far away. She froze slightly.

It was... Kyla!

The man she had seen on the news next to Kyla was Kyla's husband, Martin Weiss.

The two stood very close to each other. They looked loving, and reporters were interviewing them.

"What are you looking at?" Brian's voice rang in her ear.

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Valda Theller said, "I saw Kyla and her husband. I didn't expect them to attend this charity gala today"

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"Kyla and Martin Weiss?" Brian followed Valda Theller's gaze and said, "Do you want to say hello?"

Valda Theller said, "Yeah, but I'd better wait for the reporters to leave first."

Moments later, the reporters seemed to have finished conducting interviews and walked away from Kyla and Martin Weiss. Then, Valda Theller and Brian walked over.

"Kyla," Valda Theller said hello.

Kyla was slightly surprised after seeing Valda Theller. "Valda,

you're here too."

"Yeah," said Valda Theller.

Kyla greeted Brian again before saying to Valda Theller, "This is my husband, Martin Weiss." Then, she turned to Martin Weiss and said, "Martin, this is Mr. Hart's girlfriend, Valda Theller."

"Hello, Mr. Weiss." Valda Theller offered her hand.

"Hello." Martin Weiss politely shook her hand and sized up Brian and Valda Theller.

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After the four exchanged pleasantries, Valda Theller turned to Kyla and said, "Kyla, would you mind joining me over there for a minute? We haven't seen each other for a long time. I'd like to talk to you alone."

"Okay." Kyla smiled.

Valda Theller looked at Brian again.

"Go on. Mr. Weiss and I will look for you two later," said Brian.

Valda Theller and Kyla then headed toward the lounge on the other side.

Martin Weiss looked at the two women's leaving figures and said suddenly to Brian, "I didn't think you'd have a girlfriend."

Brian replied, "Why wouldn't I?"

"So, have you fallen out of love with Grace?" Martin Weiss asked.

Speaking of which, the two of them were not that familiar with each other. They knew each other because of Grace's relationship with Kyla.

Brian's face darkened slightly. "Since when did you like to speculate about other people's relationships?"

"I'm just a little curious how someone who has loved deeply can love another person?" Martin Weiss muttered as if asking Brian as well as himself.

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Brian looked down gently. "Many people in this world fall in love more than once. Don't you think it's ridiculous to say that?"

Martin Weiss pondered for a moment before chuckling suddenly. "Yeah, it's ridiculous. Maybe few people only love once. Most people can love a second, third, and even a fourth time..."

"I thought you and Kyla were back together and doing well, but that doesn't seem to be the case," mused Brian.

"There'll always be a lot of things in this world that are out of your control," said Martin Weiss.

It was just like how he still fell for Kyla after being hypnotized. He could not let go of his feelings for her.

Maybe... everything was meant to be.

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Brian smiled faintly, and a touch of pain flickered in his eyes. 'Yeah, even though you have power and everything else, there are

always things out of your control as long as you're human.'

He agreed with it.

On the other side, Valda Theller and Kyla reached the lounge.

Valda Theller asked, "Kyla, I'd like to know how Grace is doing. Is she okay?"

"She's doing alright. She has to stay home and stay in bed all day.

She and her baby are stable. If everything goes well, she should be able to deliver the baby at 37 weeks," said Kyla.

"That's good." Valda Theller was relieved.

Kyla sized up Valda Theller's outfit today. She looked classy and luxurious. The things she was wearing were obviously prepared by Brian. Besides, he had put in the effort as the gown and jewelry were not ordinary haute couture.

Kyla said, "Speaking of which, you look so pretty today. I almost didn't recognize you. You and Mr. Hart must be on good terms."

Valda Theller said, "We're alright. Brian is a nice person."

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It was why she wanted to treat him better.

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"Yeah, he's a nice guy and serious about relationships. Grace also said..." Kyla suddenly paused, noticing she had a slip of the tongue. She instantly looked a little embarrassed.

Valda Theller casually said, "What did Grace say?"

"You..." Kyla looked at her with some hesitation.

Valda Theller seemed to figure out her confusion. "Kyla, I know Brian once loved Grace." He still did, but she could not say that in front of Kyla. "Everyone has a past, but I can't get involved in his past. He used to love someone so seriously, and it makes me think

he's very different from the stereotype of a wealthy heir."

After a pause, she said, "Maybe I was initially attracted to him because he's serious about relationships."

"Doesn't it bother you?" Kyla asked.

Valda Theller confessed, "It does. It bothers me because I love him, but that's how he is. It's part of him. Since I love him, I should accept him for who he is!"

Kyla smiled. "Valda, you're just like Grace said. You're nice."

Valda Theller said, "Thank you. By the way, Kyla, I'm relieved to see how close you and your husband are today. I was worried when I saw the press conference you held earlier."

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'Close?' Kyla's heart was full of bitterness, but she smiled. "Yeah, we're doing okay." However, everything was fake.

Just then, the lights dimmed suddenly, and the lights of the stage at the front lit up. The emcee on the stage said, "This is a special part of our evening today. We'll randomly pick several attendees using the spotlight. We hope you can donate some small items to participate in the auction and contribute to charity."

When the emcee finished speaking, bursts of applause immediately rang.

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Then, the beam of light began to glide over the attendees and finally stopped on one woman. She smiled and donated her earrings.

Then, another beam of light stopped on a man, who also smiled and graciously took off the watch from his wrist.

Several people donated their small belongings. Of course, those items cost a fortune even though they were small.

Suddenly, the spotlight landed on Valda Theller, and the audience's eyes instantly fell on her.

The emcee on the stage said, "Oh, I wonder what this beautiful lady is going to donate."

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Not far away, Phoebe Cross weed at Valda Thetler's

awkwardness Although this sergent had always been a part of this gala, she had paid the igniting engineer to shine the light on

Valda Thelier

She wanted to show Vaida Theler how adiculous it was to be an

ugly duckling among swans!

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My Gorgeous Wife is an Ex-Convict!

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Valda Theller hesitated. Although she had jewelry on her, it belonged to Brian and was not at her disposal. Besides, she did

not bring anything else with her today. She was flustered for a moment.

Noticing Valda Theller's silence, the emcee joked, "Is the beautiful lady having trouble deciding what to donate? Any small thing will do..."

Valda Theller remained silent. As her silence grew longer, many other voices appeared around her.

"Is she trying to get out of donating?"

"Some people are dressed to the nines but stingy."

"If you're so stingy, why attend a charity gala?"

Not far away, Phoebe Cross sneered at Valda Theller's awkwardness. Although this segment had always been a part of this gala, she had paid the lighting engineer to shine the light on Valda Theller.

She wanted to show Valda Theller how ridiculous it was to be an ugly duckling among swans!

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Kyla tried to help Valda Theller out when Valda Theller said suddenly, "I'd like to donate a portrait. I'm just looking for someone to be a model."

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The emcee froze when he heard this answer. "Portrait? Are... Are you going to draw on the spot?"

"Yes, just give me a pen and a piece of paper. I'm a comic artist, so I'd like to draw a portrait on the spot and donate it," said Valda Theller.

The surrounding voices increased instantly.

"What kind of valuable portrait can a cartoonist draw?"

"She's not a popular artist either. How dare she donate a portrait she drew?"

"Who on earth is she?"

Valda Theller kept her back straight even though she heard the comments. She told herself that she could not chicken out.

Her drawing skills were the only thing she could show.

“Can you get me a pen and paper?” she asked.

The emcee said, “Yeah... Of course... You can. I wonder what you’re going to draw?”

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“I want to draw-”

“She’s going to draw me.” A voice Interrupted Valda Theller, and she saw a tall figure.

Valda Theller looked blankly at Brian. ‘What is he saying? Does he want me to draw him?’

The emcee on the stage also froze and looked at Brian in shock. They knew Brian. “Mr. Hart, are you going to let this lady... draw you?”

“She’s my girlfriend, so let me be her model,” said Brian.

Everyone was instantly in an uproar, and the staff brought over the paper and pen.

Valda Theller took the pen and paper and looked at Brian

hesitantly. She was nervous.

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“Alright, just do it like usual. I’ll take care of everything.” He comforted her softly in a voice that only they could hear.

‘I’ll take care of everything...’ That sentence instantly calmed the tension in her heart.

Valda Theller took a deep breath, laid the drawing paper flat on the table in front of her, and began to draw with a pen.

She forgot where she was and was solely focused on Brian. She

looked at him while she drew him with her pen. Her concentration also gradually made everyone silent.

Everyone looked at Valda Theller and Brian in the light.

The two looked like a ‘good match’ to many people.

After some time, Valda Theller finally finished the last stroke. She

let out a long breath and said, “All done.”

The staff member then walked forward. They put away the portrait and pen.

The emcee on stage said, "Alright, let's thank Mr. Hart and his girlfriend. I hope this portrait will be bid with a good price later."

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The lights went back on.

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The expression of Phoebe Cross, who originally wanted to watch the show unfold, contorted from resentment. She intended to humiliate Valda Theller but seemed to have helped her instead.

"Was the spotlight earlier a coincidence?" A voice suddenly rang out beside her.

Phoebe Cross turned around to see that Patrick had walked up to her at some point.

"I don't know what you mean by that," Phoebe Cross said coldly.

"You don't know? I can tell it's no accident. Do you think Brian can't tell that?" Patrick said with a chuckle.

"What the hell are you talking about?" Phoebe Cross asked with a guilty look in her eyes.

Patrick said knowingly, "You might want to stop playing tricks like that. Brian hasn't gone after you because we grew up together. Otherwise, you can only cry when he does go after you."

"What's the matter? Are you on Valda Theller's side now? What did the woman offer you?" Phoebe Cross snapped.

"She didn't give me anything. I only want Brian to be happy," muttered Patrick.

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"Are you so sure I'm not the right one for him?" Phoebe Cross asked, unconvinced.

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Patrick sighed and looked at her with a sympathetic gaze. "You have too many dirty tricks up your sleeve. Brian has been through a lot. Maybe all he needs is a simple woman."

After a pause, he said, "I'm warning you for your own good. Don't come to me if you don't listen and get into trouble!"

"That'll never happen," Phoebe Cross said confidently.

When Kyla returned to Martin Weiss's side, she lamented, "I didn't expect Brian to be so protective of Valda. It seems their relationship is going strong."

“Do you think their relationship is strong?” Martin Weiss asked.

“Isn’t it?” Kyla asked in reply.

Martin Weiss muttered, “Maybe. Maybe some feelings can be replaced, while some can’t. I envy him.”

Kyla felt a slight pang in her heart. Then, she comforted herself, ‘Don’t let it bother me. Didn’t I say I’ll move on?’