

Ex Convict 361

Chapter 361

After a long while, she heard him sigh. Then, he straightened his back. His mesmerizing eyes looked at her helplessly. "It's

only you."

Only her. She was the only one he longed to have. Just her. She was the only one who could make him helpless after being rejected. It was as if he was becoming less and less like himself in front of her.

"Help me dry my hair," he said. Then, he handed the towel that he planned to dry his wet hair with to her.

She looked at him in shock as he lowered his head before her.

"What's wrong? Didn't you always dry my hair for me when we were in the rented house?" he asked while lifting his eyebrow.

Things were way different back then! Grace pressed her lips together. Eventually, she started drying his hair for him.

Since the towel covered his face, it made her slightly more relaxed.

He was like an obedient puppy that was allowing her to dry his hair. At this moment, Grace had a weird feeling. It was as if

she was his ruler and he was bowing down to her.

She could not control the laughter in her heart. Gosh, why did she have this thought? She might just be an ant in front of Jason. She would not be able to fight back if he decided to crush her.

Did she only have this illusion because he was being docile and tame?

After a long while, she removed the towel after she felt that it was almost done. "I'm done."

At this moment, his hair was messy. His bangs were covering his forehead and half of his eyes. Grace felt like she was seeing Jason from back then.

Those black eyes hid behind his bangs and were staring at her intensely. It was as if he was trying to absorb everyone's soul undetected. One would want to take a look at his true face.

Grace could not help but reach out her hand to push away his bangs so that she could see the eyes behind his bangs clearer. They were cold, flirtatious, and there was also a hint of unforgettable pureness and beauty.

At this moment, there was a rare gentleness in the eyes that were staring at her. It was as if she was the most important person to him.

Grace quivered and came back to her senses. When she was about to retract her hand, Jason grabbed it and placed her

hand on his cheek.

“What’s wrong? Do you not like my face? Didn’t you say that look very handsome and you won’t be able to get sick of looking at me every day?” he said in a low voice. His voice was hoarse, and he was rubbing against her hand with his face. It was as if he was yearning for her.

Grace wanted so badly to take back what she said before.

Her face was red. She turned her head away to stop looking at him. She would feel more uneasy if she kept looking at him.

Suddenly, her gaze landed on a bowl that was on his desk. To be exact, the bowl was already empty. However, she could still

see the black and brown residue in the bowl.

“You took Chinese medicine?” Grace asked subconsciously and looked at Jason weirdly.

“Yeah,” he replied briefly.

“Are you sick?” she asked.

“It’s to nurse my stomach. Didn’t you say I have to nurse myself back to health, Sis? I listened to what you said,” he

replied with a smile on his face. He looked like he was asking for praises.

Grace did not know what to do. Should she pat him on his head to praise him?

“Um... That’s good,” she said that after pondering for a long while.

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“I’ll listen to you. So, are you willing to like me?” When he said that, she started to feel slightly hesitant. If... If he was not Jason, perhaps... she might like him.

However, he was Jason. During the three years in prison, his existence was like a nightmare to her. He was someone she feared from the bottom of her heart.

Grace felt that she did not even know what was going on. between her and Jason anymore. She was scared of him. She was terrified of him, but sometimes, she could not control herself from worrying about him.

When he looked at her with such a serious expression on his face and said those touching words, she would once again be

at a loss.

Was he really treating her as a game or was he being serious? What about her? Did she feel anything for him?

She could only let this progress slowly. It was as if she had sunk into a swamp. She wanted to get out of there, but she

was sinking deeper and deeper instead.

She finished delivering all of the takeouts. Grace went back to the restaurant and was stunned. Someone was sitting in the restaurant. According to reason, this person-Brian-would never appear in such a small restaurant.

He was wearing a fitting suit. His handsome face looked elegant, but he still looked as unapproachable as ever. This man could appear at a luxurious party or a budget cafe with a nice atmosphere. He could appear at the balcony of a presidential suite, but he would never appear in a small and cheap restaurant.

This time, Grace did not see Kyla anywhere. However, Mrs. Corbyn was at the counter.

At this moment, Brian saw Grace. He stood up and walked to her. "I didn't think that you'd actually be working here."

"How did you know?" she asked curiously.

"I saw you on your battery-powered bike yesterday. I saw the words 'Yan Yan Restaurant' on the delivery bag behind your

bike, so I came here," Brian said. There was a hint of kindness

on his indifferent face that even he did not even notice.

"Grace, there are three more orders. Please deliver them," Mrs. Corbyn called out to her.

"Okay." Grace walked to the counter and took the takeouts that were placed on the counter.

Mrs. Corbyn asked Grace in a small voice, "Is that your friend?"

Grace shook her head and said, "Just an acquaintance." She did not say he was her friend because she did not think she was able to claim connections with him.

However, she felt strange. Even if he saw the restaurant's name on her delivery box, he did not need to come and eat

here.

Was he... waiting for her? This thought appeared in her brain briefly, but she shut it down quickly.

When she was about to exit the shop with her takeouts, Brian

asked suddenly, "Are you going to deliver those?"

"Yeah, my main job here is to deliver takeouts," Grace answered.

"Did Jason ask you to do a job like this?"

"I don't think there's anything wrong with this job," Grace said nonchalantly. "I like being able to earn my own money. I think that's great."

As she said that, she walked toward her battery-powered bike

and put the food on the bike.

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"Wait." He grabbed her instantly. "Are you mad? I didn't mean to look down on your job with what I said just now."

She looked at him weirdly. "I'm not mad." If she were to be mad about this, she would have died from anger a long time

ago.

"If you want to, I can find a better job for you," Brian said.

"Mr. Hart, I don't think we're that close. You don't need to help me find another job. I'm perfectly happy with what I'm doing. now," Grace said and glanced at his hand that was holding hers. "Can you let go? I need to deliver these."

The dark pair of eyes stared at her. After a while, he finally let go of his hand. Not close? However, he knew her better than

she knew herself,

He knew about her past from his conversation with Evelyn. He knew everything about her, from her youth to her adulthood...

"You're happy with what you're doing now?" He chuckled softly. "A former lawyer is happy with being a delivery

person?"

Grace's eyes became dim. Lawyer... It sounded so far away

from her now.

After getting on her battery-powered bike, she heard Brian's voice again. "It seems like there's something I don't know

between you and Jason. If you can't stay with him anymore, you're more than welcome to come to me."

Her body tensed up. Then, she drove her bike away.

Even if she left Jason, she would not go and look for the young master of the entertainment industry.

A man like him would be crueler than Jason. It was not like she had never met his ex-girlfriends. He spoiled them rotten when they were his girlfriends, but when they broke up, he was so cold that it was horrifying.

Brian had a lot of ex-girlfriends too.

As for his current girlfriend, Evelyn... Grace read about her current news in the newspaper and magazines. It seemed like she had some amazing resources. Some media even predicted that Brian might try to support Evelyn as the best actress.

She was interested in Evelyn's future with Brian. She just did not want to get involved in the rumors.

If possible, she just wanted to live her life peacefully and ordinarily. That would be her biggest dream.

At this moment, Brian was watching Grace's figure disappearing from his vision. He eventually unclenched his fists. He looked at his palm. He was reluctant to let go just now when he needed to.

When he specially came to this restaurant to look for her, he cared about whether she would be mad at him for doing so.

She was just a woman. He was only concerned about her because she looked like the little girl in his memory.

Brian's eyes went back to their usual coldness. He walked back to the restaurant to pay for his bill. He asked Mrs. Corbyn at the counter nonchalantly, "Where's the cashier lady who was here earlier?"

"She... She's in the kitchen," Mrs. Corbyn answered after stammering

Brian did not say anything more. Before he left, he looked at the kitchen as if he was in deep thought.

After Brian left, Mrs. Corbyn walked into the kitchen and said.

to her daughter, "He's gone."

Kyla Corbyn was not relieved. On the other hand, she said,

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"Did he say anything when he left?"

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"He just asked me where you are and I said you're in the kitchen, so he just glanced at the kitchen." Mrs. Corbyn asked

curiously, "Who is that person? Do you know him?"

After all, when her daughter saw him, she immediately ran away.

There was a complex look on Kyla Corbyn's face. "That's Brian. He's the young master of the entertainment industry. When I was... with that person, I saw him a few times."

"Will he recognize you?" Mrs. Corbyn asked anxiously.

Kyla Corbyn sighed. "I'm afraid... he did." Even though she looked completely different than how she looked before, if Brian had not recognized her, he would not have asked that before he left.

Mrs. Corbyn's face fell. "Then... What should we do? Will he tell that person about this? I think he knows Grace. Why don't we ask Grace to help talk to him for us?"

Kyla Corbyn bit her lip. She was also puzzled right now. She thought Brian had wandered into her shop unintentionally, but now, it seemed like he was waiting for Grace.

However... a young master from the entertainment industry and a delivery person from a little restaurant... The difference was too big.

When Grace returned, Kyla Corbyn asked, "Grace, do you know Brian?"

"Kyla, you know him?" Grace was stunned.

Kyla Corbyn smiled forcefully. "Didn't that young master have some scandals? A few of his girlfriends are actresses in the entertainment industry. His pictures are all over the internet."

"I guess I know him. I've met him a few times," Grace said.

"Then you and him..."

"There's nothing between us," she said. Then, when she saw that Kyla Corbyn was still shocked, she said, "Kyla, if there's nothing else, I'll go deliver my things."

"Alright." Kyla Corbyn pressed her lips together. It seemed like she had to go and look for Brian herself.

Terrence watched as his boss drank the Chinese medicine. He had a few questions in his heart. Usually, Young Master Reed

would not even eat Western medicine. Now, he was drinking Chinese medicine.

Terrence figured this sudden change in his boss must have something to do with Grace.

After all, his boss had been trying a lot of things for the first time because of Grace.

After Jason finished his medicine, he frowned. Then, he drank a glass of water to wash away the taste of Chinese medicine in his mouth.

Even though he did not like taking medicine, if she wanted him to nurse his body, he would listen to her.

“Do you know what I should do to make a woman like me?”

Jason asked suddenly.

Terrence was shocked. Was this... Young Master Reed’s

question? How to make a woman like him? Um... If it was Young Master Reed, women would flock to him even if he did not do anything.

Terrence pondered for a while before asking carefully, “Young Master Reed, do you mean... Miss Cummins?”

Jason looked at Terrence indifferently but did not deny it.

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Does it mean that Young Master Reed wanted to be liked by Miss Cummins? Terrence knew the answer, but he still could not hide his surprise. Since when did Young Master Reed care about whether a woman liked him or not?

“Miss Cummins... suffered quite a lot before. I’m afraid she can see things clearer than anyone. Plus, if you go hard on a woman like her, maybe she’ll listen to you on the surface, but she might distance herself from you.” Terrence analyzed the situation for Jason. “From what I can see, Miss Cummins is the kind that prefers the soft approach. Why don’t you try to humble yourself in front of her? Maybe it’ll make her put down her walls.”

“So, she’ll only like me if I fawn over her?” Jason muttered.

Terrence blinked, looking shocked. He... He just suggested that his boss should be humble. he did not say to fawn over her.

Um... If Young Master Reed wanted to fawn over this woman, then what kind of woman...

“How should I fawn over her then?” Jason said.

Terrence felt like there was something stuck in his throat. From his tone, did he really want to fawn over Grace?

Terrence's phone rang all of a sudden. After seeing the caller ID, he picked up the phone instantly. When he got off the phone, Terrence said to Jason, "Young Master Reed, someone's investigating Miss Jennifer Atkinson's case from back then."

Jason's eyes darkened. "Who?"

"We don't know yet, but all we know is that there are different people collecting information from that year and searching for the witnesses. Plus, one of the witnesses in S City is being followed in secret," said Terrence.

"Is it Mr. You?" Jason frowned.

"Yes, but the person investigating him right now is not the private investigator hired by Lina Sweeney," Terrence said.

He already knew what was going on when Lina Sweeney hired the private investigator to investigate the witness.

Everything was fine. The evidence Lina Sweeney found had been given to her by him. However, Terrence did not expect there to be some unknown people investigating this as well. They had not even found out who was the one investigating that case from back then.

Jason lowered his eyelids slightly and curled his fingers. His pointer finger tapped on the surface of his desk like he was

thinking about something. After a while, he said three words, "Hadwin Stephenson."

"What?" Terrence was shocked.

"Go investigate Hadwin Stephenson. He might be the one investigating this."

"Hadwin Stephenson? Hadwin Stephenson from Stephenson Group?" Terrence said. He did not know how his boss

connected Hadwin Stephenson to this.

"Yeah, it's him," Jason said. If there were people who were skilled enough to prevent Terrence from tracking them, then

Hadwin Stephenson must be one of them.

If Hadwin Stephenson was really investigating this, then it might be because of Lina Sweeney.

Lina Sweeney... Jason rubbed his temple. He underestimated her. If Hadwin Stephenson found something one day, then he might need to fight him.

Lina Sweeney looked at Hadwin Stephenson helplessly. "Your really want to meet my parents?"

"Didn't you say your parents want to meet me?" Hadwin

Stephenson asked lazily.

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The man was wearing a suit, accentuating his perfect features. He looked like a prince from a manga. People might not believe that her boyfriend was someone like this.

Lina Sweeney wanted to sigh into the heavens. She recalled what had happened these few days and thought that she was extremely miserable.

Everything started from that blind date. She thought that since everything had already gone to sh*t, that would be the

end of it.

To her surprise, she was scolded furiously by her mother the moment she got home after the blind date. Her mother questioned her about why she did not tell them that she had a boyfriend. The person who introduced her to the blind date even called her parents and scolded them. They said she embarrassed the entire family.

Then, her parents started to ask her who her boyfriend was.

When this happened, Lina Sweeney denied it, of course. She said he was just a friend who passed by. He knew she did not want to go on the blind date, so he tried to help her.

In the end, her parents asked her which friend it was, so she said the name of a guy who was quite close to her. She decided to plan out their statements after this.

In the end, before they could do that, Hadwin Stephenson called her. Before she could answer, her mother snatched her phone away from her hand and started chatting with him.

Naturally, when her mother asked him what was his relationship with her, he answered, "Aunty, I am her boyfriend."

Great. That statement was like a bomb. The entire Sweeney family was in chaos. Mrs. Sweeney invited Hadwin Stephenson to their house over the phone. Lina Sweeney wanted to snatch back her phone a few times but was stopped by her father's

stern gaze every time.

Eventually, when this call ended, Lina Sweeney was scolded by her parents for two hours.

“You little rascal, what’s so shameful about having a boyfriend? Even if your boyfriend is hideous and even if he has a horrible job, the least you can do is tell your family about this. How long were you planning to hide this from us? Did you only plan to tell us if you get pregnant?”

“...” Lina Sweeney swore she had never thought about this before.

However, she could not tell her parents that she was only dating Hadwin Stephenson just for show and that they would break up after he got his revenge.

If she said this, the thing about her exploiting someone before leaving would get dug out once again.

Hence, she could only accept her faith. Then, she found an appropriate time and invited him back home according to her parents’ orders.

She had mentally prepared herself. However, when she walked into her residential area, she started to question herself again.

Just look at Hadwin Stephenson and look at his family background. Even though he was an illegitimate child, he

was the person in charge of the Stephenson family now. He controlled the entire Stephenson family.

Perhaps a lot of mothers-in-law would fight for a man like him.

“Why are you looking at me like that? Are you scared that your parents won’t like me?” Hadwin Stephenson asked.

“..” Lina Sweeney rolled her eyes. She was scared that her parents would like him. When they broke up eventually, her

parents might fall into depression while she felt nothing at all.

She took in a deep breath like she was accepting her fate.

“Let’s go.” She was going to die either way, so since her parents already knew of his existence, they would definitely want to meet him.

Lina Sweeney led Hadwin Stephenson into her residential area. When they got to her block, she pressed the elevator.

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The elevator got here after a short while. However, the people who got out were Lina Sweeney's neighbors. When they saw Lina Sweeney, they started greeting her. "Lina, you're back. This must be your boyfriend."

Her neighbor said and kept looking at Hadwin Stephenson.

Lina Sweeney hesitated. Before she could get back to her senses, Hadwin Stephenson opened his mouth and replied, "Yeah, I'm Lina's boyfriend."

"Hehe, I think I'll be able to attend your wedding party soon." The neighbor laughed before saying urgently, "Lina, your mother has been nagging the entire day. She's waiting to meet your boyfriend."

Lina Sweeney was feeling awkward. She finally knew why her neighbor knew that Hadwin Stephenson was her boyfriend.

It seemed that her mother had already announced this to everyone.

They walked into the elevator. Lina Sweeney looked at Hadwin Stephenson. The other party was looking at her with a half-smile on his face.

She blushed uncontrollably. She hesitated for a while and reminded him. "Um... My parents might be a little worried since I've never had a boyfriend before. Just deal with them the best you can later, okay? I'll find an excuse to bring you out."

"What? You've never had a boyfriend before?" He lifted his eyebrows and bent down. He stared at her with his deep, black eyes.

Lina Sweeney's heart sped up. As someone who was obsessed with looks, it was easy to make her heart speed up. She just

had to look at a beautiful face like his.

"Haha... I'm busy with work, so I never had one," she answered awkwardly.

“Really? I thought you’d say that you still can’t forget about me. It would’ve made me happier,” he said.

She almost choked on her saliva.

Could not forget about him? Really?

Alright, she would recall everything back then and treat it as a dream.

Ding dong!

The elevator got to their floor and both of them walked out

of the elevator. Lina Sweeney walked to her house, taking out her keys to open the door.

When she pushed open the door and saw her parents, she almost got blinded by them. Her father was wearing a suit that he only wore when he was taking pictures while her mother was wearing the new clothes she bought not long ago. She even did her makeup and tied her hair.

Judging by the hairstyle, she knew it was by the boss lady of the salon in their residential area.

Lina Sweeney had a feeling that every middle-aged woman in her residential area knew that she was bringing her boyfriend

home today.

After all, the boss lady of the salon was famous for being a blabbermouth. Whenever she got wind of someone else’s business, it would mean that the entire residential area would

know about it too.

Lina Sweeney looked at her parents awkwardly. She noticed her parents were looking at Hadwin Stephenson weirdly. On the other hand, Hadwin Stephenson looked unperturbed like he was not affected at all.

“Dad, Mom, this is Hadwin Stephenson, my... um, boyfriend.” It was as if she wasted a lot of effort just to say that word.

“Uncle, Aunt, hello, I am Hadwin Stephenson.” Hadwin Stephenson greeted Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney respectfully.

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“H-hello,” Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney quickly responded.

Mr. Sweeney invited Hadwin Stephenson to take a seat while Mrs. Sweeney pulled her daughter to the side. “This is your

boyfriend? He’s not someone you hired to put up an act?”

Lina Sweeney rolled her eyes. “You can just think of him as an

actor I hired, then.”

Mrs. Sweeney was exasperated. “What a child! How can you speak that way! Alright, go serve tea.” With that said, Mrs. Sweeney then plastered a friendly face and walked over to Hadwin Stephenson.

Since Lina Sweeney was the designated waitress, she headed to the kitchen to prepare some tea. When she stepped into the living room with a tray of tea, she saw the three people chatting joyfully with each other.

“Tingxin, you said that you got to know Lina while abroad, so have the both of you been keeping in touch all these years?”

“We didn’t. It’s after I returned to the country recently and bumped into Lina on the streets that we kept in contact. To be honest, I’ve been searching for Lina all these years.

Fortunately, I’ve found her.” Hadwin Stephenson smiled.

He shot a look at Lina Sweeney as he said that. From Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney’s view, that was a look filled with love. However, for Lina Sweeney, it was a look filled with threats.

Mr. Sweeney smiled. “Both of you are truly fated. However, since you guys first saw each other overseas, that would mean it was only within a span of a few days. How did you develop feelings for Lina?”

Mr. Sweeney was curious to know. After all, his daughter only went abroad for a few days. How did she manage to make a man unable to forget about her for over three years within such a short time? Furthermore, that man was an attractive-looking man who could make girls swoon. It was not a problem for him to look for a girlfriend, yet he had been looking for his daughter for the past three years. This made

Mr. Sweeney’s impression of Hadwin Stephenson increase exponentially.

“Lina is a straightforward girl. I feel comfortable interacting with her. There was once when I was drunk...” Hadwin

Stephenson said without any reservations. Lina Sweeney suddenly shuddered, and the cup of tea in her hand spilled by half.

“Ouch!” She growled softly and immediately put the cup down. The back of her hand began to turn red from being

scalded by the hot tea.

Hadwin Stephenson frowned, speedily pulled Lina Sweeney up, made a dash for the kitchen, and turned on the cold water tap to allow the cold water to wash over her scalded hand.

“Why can’t you even hold a teacup properly?” he said sulkily.

“Hey, don’t mention that I’ve spent the night with you in the hotel back then. My parents are conservative people. If they find out about this, they’ll break my canine legs,” Lina Sweeney urgently said.

“Canine legs?” He side-eyed her. “This is the first time I’m hearing someone describe themselves as a canine.”

Lina Sweeney felt deflated. She admitted that she kind of used the wrong description.

“Whatever it is, just don’t breathe a word about it.” There was begging in her eyes.

He sealed his thin lips tightly, not saying a word.

“As long as you don’t mention it, I can...” She abruptly paused mid-sentence.

‘What can I do? Buy him a meal? He doesn’t seem like someone who will be interested in a meal that I can afford.

Shall I give him a gift as a reward? I don’t have the cheek to

say that out when the person I’m speaking to is richer than me by more than a thousand folds.

Whichever idea that came to her mind did not seem

appropriate at all. Thus, Lina Sweeney’s sentence was paused

for a long time. There was no sign of continuation.

“What can you do?” Hadwin Stephenson bent forward slightly to look at her.

She looked at that handsome face that was merely inches away from her and her heart could not stop beating rapidly. Lina Sweeney could not help but complain inwardly. ‘Why does a man need such a good-looking face? Especially his skin... It’s way better than mine. His skin was so good that she had the urge to ask him what skincare products he used.

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“Then you can make any request you want,” she replied. After all, she only had a limited amount of money and only one life

to give.

“Okay,” he responded.

She was taken aback for a moment. ‘Did he just... agree to my request? He’s being rather easy-going.’

“How’s your hand? Is it still burning?” He shifted his gaze back to her hand that was still under the running cold water.

“It doesn’t hurt as much now. Since it has been under the water for some time, I think it should be fine,” she replied.

He then turned off the tap and took out his handkerchief that he always carried with him to wipe her hand dry.

“Do you have any ointment at home? It still looks quite swollen. It’s better if you apply some ointment.”

“Oh, we do.”

“Bring it here now.”

Lina Sweeney ran to her room to fetch the ointment for burned skin. When she got hold of the ointment, she suddenly

realized. ‘Why am I so obedient?’

However, that remained as a thought. She still took the ointment and came out of her room. When she stepped out, she saw Hadwin Stephenson in the living room chatting with her parents.

When she came nearer, she heard her mother say, “Oh, so that’s it. Lina sent you back to your hotel room after you got drunk and took care of you the whole night. Lina is a kind-hearted girl. We always teach her that it is a joyful thing to be able to extend help to those in need.”

When Lina Sweeney heard those words, she nearly slumped on the floor from having weakened knees. ‘Kind-hearted? A joy to extend help?

‘If Mom knew what ‘good deeds’ I’ve done, she won’t be saying those words at all.’

“Indeed. If not for her meticulous care, I might have been in a worse condition. Sometimes after getting drunk, there is a risk of asphyxiation when the vomit gets into the airway,” Hadwin Stephenson said and looked over at Lina Sweeney. “I’m truly grateful for Lina.”

That sentence made Lina Sweeney extremely guilty!

Her parents then added, “Oh please. That was something she needed to do. We’re all fellow countrymen, so of course we need to help each other when we’re abroad.”

Lina Sweeney wanted to dig a hole to bury herself in.

At that moment, Hadwin Stephenson waved a hand at her.

"Come, come. Sit here."

She obediently followed his instructions and sat next to

him. Once she sat down, she realized that she had been too obedient and felt like a pet dog listening to the command of her owner.

'Eeks! Yucks! I'm not some pet dog!' She immediately comforted herself inwardly.

Hadwin Stephenson took the ointment from her hand, lowered his head, and applied the ointment on the burnt area of her hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney looked at each other when they saw what he did. Subsequently, Mrs. Sweeney asked in a friendly tone, "Tingxin, what other family members do you have? Have your parents retired?"

"My late father has passed away. My mother has been living abroad all this while and has no plans of returning," Hadwin

Stephenson replied.

"Do you have any siblings?" Mrs. Sweeney continued to probe.

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"I do have some half-siblings that share the same father. My father has quite a few women, therefore he had more children."

Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney had not expected such an answer, so the atmosphere became rather awkward. They did not know how to continue the conversation.

Lina Sweeney immediately said without further thoughts, "Mom, Dad, these are the affairs of the previous generation. His parents are his parents, he is himself!"

Hadwin Stephenson was rather surprised by Lina Sweeney as he looked at her with a hint of warmth that even he did not realize.

Mr. Sweeney reacted first and conceded. "Indeed. Those were the affairs of past generations. So... Tingxin, what are you working as?"

"I mainly manage a company," Hadwin Stephenson replied.

"Manage... a company?" Mr. Sweeney looked at him in disbelief. He thought perhaps he had misheard him. "What

company do you manage? You're only 29 years old."

For Mr. Sweeney, it was good enough if a 29-year-old young man could get a regular managerial position.

As for managing a company, he still found it rather implausible.

"I'm not sure if you've heard of Stephenson Group."

Mr. Sweeney was a man from a small suburb. He was not familiar with any famous shipping companies. However, he could tell the brand of cars from the logo within his suburb.

Mr. Sweeney smiled awkwardly. "Um... I haven't heard of it before. Is it a new company?" After all, young people nowadays liked being entrepreneurs. It was not uncommon for them to build a new company.

Lina Sweeney felt more awkward than her dad.

Hadwin Stephenson said nothing but merely smiled.

After chatting a while more, Lina Sweeney wanted to find an excuse to send Hadwin Stephenson off, but her parents asked him to stay for a meal.

"Didn't you say that you have some things to settle in the office?" Lina Sweeney kept signaling him with her eyes.

"This meal won't take much of my time."

Lina Sweeney was rendered speechless.

'Is he saying that he wants to stay for a meal?'

After the meal ended, Lina Sweeney noticed that her parents wanted to chat further with Hadwin Stephenson to get to know him further. Thus, she quickly said, "Let me take him out for a stroll to digest our food." She did not waste any second in pulling Hadwin Stephenson out.

Lina Sweeney finally heaved in relief once they reached the elevator. The meet-the-parents-day finally ended.

Lina Sweeney could not help from exclaiming, "If I didn't bring you out just now, my parents would probably ask about your ancestral tree as well. Earlier when my parents asked you those questions, you didn't need to answer with much detail. You could have just brushed them off with a simple answer."

He suddenly said, "I think you wish that your parents aren't pleased with me. If that's the case, why did you say something like 'my parents are my parents, I am me' kind of thing?"

Lina Sweeney was taken aback for a moment. She had said

that out of the spur of the moment.

“So... you don’t wish that your parents dislike me?” he asked.

His gaze seemed to make her inexplicably flustered. “I just felt that the deeds of the past generation should not be equated

to you as a person. Don’t overanalyze the meaning of what I said.”

She turned her head away to avoid his gaze.