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“Did you believe her?”

Kendra sneered, pointing at Briana angrily, “The consequence of your trust in her is that your grandmother might not be able to return, the consequence of your trust in her is that the assets of the Yoder Group will be transferred by Isaac. What about the employees of the Yoder Group?! Do you want the Yoder Group to go bankrupt?!”

Maxim’s expression was indifferent, with not a hint of wavering in his eyes.

“If the Yoder Group really went bankrupt, it was due to my lack of ability, and she had absolutely nothing to do with it.”

Kendra was so angry that her hands were shaking. She sneered, “Fine! Since you said so, I won’t interfere with your affairs anymore!”

After speaking, Kendra stormed off.

Maxim turned to look at Briana, “Are you okay?”

Briana shook her head, thought for a moment, and then explained, “Norma’s body is severely depleted. Even if she wakes up, it will take a month to recuperate. Otherwise, she will be left with lingering health issues.”

“Um, I believe you, Grandma’s health is more important than anything else.”

After a two-second silence, Briana pursed her lips and said, “I only found out today at work that the Yoder Group was taken over by Isaac. I still have the 10% share of the Yoder Group that my grandmother

gave me. If you need it, I can transfer it to you at any time.”

“No need, since grandma gave it to you, it’s yours. If you don’t want it, you can sell it to me.”

Briana frowned, about to speak, when Maxim’s phone suddenly rang.

Not long after the call was connected, his face turned extremely ugly.

“There was something going on at the company, I had to go there first. You should head back early.”

Seeing him hurriedly turn and leave. Briana subconsciously followed.

“I went with you.”

Maxim’s steps faltered for a moment. Before he could utter a word of refusal, Briana added, “Don’t forget, I am now a shareholder of the Yoder Group. I have the right to enter the Yoder Group’s board of directors.”

Hearing this, Maxim didn't say anything more. The two of them went to the Yoder Group together.

Just arrived at the entrance of the Yoder Group, saw several people walking out of the Yoder Group with a cardboard box in their hands, everyone's eyes were filled with anger.

These individuals were all managers of various departments within the Yoder Group. Since they were personally trained by Maxim and were quite capable, they strongly resisted implementing some of Isaac's unreasonable decisions.

Isaac had originally planned to fire Maxim's people, so these managers were just walking into the line of fire. He had the HR department issue termination letters directly, requiring them to complete their resignation and leave the Yoder Group within the day.

Upon seeing Maxim, a glint flashed in their eyes, which quickly dimmed again. They guiltily avoided making eye contact with Maxim.

When Maxim left, his last order was for them not to confront Isaac directly. However, seeing Isaac messing around, they still couldn't help themselves.

The manager of the technical department walked up to Maxim, opening his mouth guiltily, "Mr. Yoder, I'm sorry..."

Maxim's expression was icy, but he didn't blame them. He said in a deep voice, "Don't leave yet. The Yoder Group has a rule that the dismissal of managers and above requires a board vote. Isaac dismissed you privately, which violated the company's regulations."

A glimmer of hope flashed in their eyes, but they couldn't help shaking their heads immediately.

"It's useless. The board is basically all Isaac's people now. Even if it comes to a vote, just by yourself, you can't make us stay."

No sooner had the words fallen than Briana stepped forward and said, "And me. Besides, the vote is not based on the number of people, but on the shares in hand. I am also a shareholder of the Yoder Group."

The manager of the technical department frowned, "But even if you add up the shares you hold, it's still less than Isaac and those shareholders."

Briana chuckled, "You always have to try. Without trying, you'll never succeed."

Seeing the confidence on her face, a glimmer of hope was reignited in the hearts of the few who were originally in despair.

"Alright, then we'll wait for you guys here!"

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"Briana, thank you."

Briana's expression was indifferent, "I'm not doing this for you, don't forget, I'm also a shareholder of the Yoder Group, so I don't want the Yoder Group to lose these talents."

As her voice trailed off, the elevator doors opened.

She walked in first, saw Maxim still standing outside, couldn't help but frown, "Why aren't you coming in?"

Maxim's eyes deepened a bit as he stepped into the elevator and stood next to her, remaining silent without saying anything further.

The elevator quickly reached the top floor. When Isaac's secretary saw Briana and Maxim stepping out of the elevator, she looked as if she had seen a ghost and hurriedly stepped forward to stop them.

"Ms. Schneider, the president is currently busy. I'm afraid it's not convenient for him to meet you."

Briana remained calm, speaking deliberately, "I came here as a shareholder of the Yoder Group. I need an explanation for Isaac's unexplained dismissal of several managers from the Yoder Group.

The secretary paused for a moment, then frowned and said, "Ms. Schneider, please wait a moment."

After speaking, he quickly walked into the office.

The secretary came out quickly, "Ms. Schneider, Mr. Yoder, the president asked you to come in."

Briana walked up to the office door and pushed it open, only to find that the interior had completely changed in style. Unlike the previous understated style, it was now filled with exquisite collectibles and furniture everywhere, which made her frown involuntarily.

Isaac sat behind the desk, a smile tugging at the corner of his mouth as he saw Briana and Maxim.

"Was it heard that Ms. Schneider was a shareholder of the company, was there a share certificate?"

Briana remained calm, "My secretary is already on the way with the photocopies. In the meantime, let's discuss the matter of you dismissing several experienced managers without reason."

Isaac raised an eyebrow, looking at Maxim who stood behind Briana with a cold face and hadn't spoken. He said in a half-mocking tone, "Maxim, have you become so useless that you need a woman to stand in front of you now?"

Maxim looked at him expressionlessly, "Don't change the subject. According to the regulations of the Yoder Group, the dismissal of managers and above requires a board decision."

Isaac sneered, "You only hold 10% of the shares in the Yoder Group, and those shareholders of the Yoder Group won't stand by you either. Even if a board meeting is held, the result will be the same. Why bother?"

"Whether it's superfluous or not, it's not for you to decide."

Isaac's eyes gradually grew cold, and he spoke with a mocking expression, "Fine, then I'll let you see for yourself, who exactly calls the shots in the Yoder Group now!"

He dialed the internal line, asking his secretary to notify all directors that a meeting would be held half an hour later.

Soon, William had delivered Briana's share certificate.

Seeing that Briana owned 10% of the Yoder Group's shares, and that they were given by Norma, a surge of resentment unconsciously welled up in Isaac's eyes.

He was the descendant of the Yoder family, yet that old woman refused to give him even a fraction of the shares she held, instead giving so much to a stranger. It was truly outrageous!

However, even if they both had a 20% share, as long as the majority of the board of directors stood by him, there was no chance for Maxim and Briana to win!

Isaac threw the share certificate on the table with a cold laugh, saying indifferently. "It's just 10% of the shares, I don't even care about it."

Briana let William take away the equity certificate, looking at Isaac with a faint expression, "Mr. Yoder, don't overstate your case."

Isaac had an air of arrogance about him, "Some people just won't take a hint until they face the harsh reality!"

Half an hour later, the largest conference room of the Yoder Group.

Isaac sat at the head of the table, smiling, "It seems that the former president has some objections to my dismissal of several managers who did not follow the company's arrangements. So, I called everyone here today to vote on whether these managers should be dismissed. Let's start the voting now."

"Each shareholder had an electronic voting screen in front of them. They were to vote anonymously. If they agreed to the dismissal, they would press the green button. If they disagreed, they would press the red button."

In less than three minutes, the voting results were out.

Seeing the results displayed on the big screen, a smug smile curled up at the corner of Isaac's mouth.

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Including him, there were eighteen shareholders, holding 45% of the shares, who voted in favor of firing those managers. Those who

disagreed with the dismissal, including Briana and Maxim, were only four, holding 25% of the shares.

He looked at Briana and Maxim with a mocking expression, "Now that the results are out, do you have any objections?"

Briana's expression was indifferent as she dialed a number and said, "Mr. Yoder, don't forget, there's still one shareholder who hasn't voted."

A sudden sense of foreboding rose in Isaac's heart, he said coldly, "Since grandma is not present now, she is considered to have automatically forfeited her vote."

Briana chuckled, "I remember we could vote by proxy, couldn't we?"

The smile on her face was piercingly bright, Isaac's anger was almost unbearable. He stared at her intently, his eyes filled with coldness.

Soon, the call was connected.

“Is Norma awake? I have something to tell her, could you please have her take the phone?”

“Good.”

Wyatt quickly handed the phone to Norma, and upon hearing that it was Briana calling, anticipation filled Norma’s face.

“Briana, I originally wanted to call you as soon as I woke up, but I couldn’t speak before. My throat just got better these past two days.”

“Um, Grandma, there was something I wanted to tell you.”

Briana briefly explained to Norma about how Isaac had fired several managers from the Yoder Group. Upon hearing this, Norma immediately felt a surge of anger and asked Briana to cast a vote against him on her behalf.

Only after soothing Norma did Briana hang up the phone.

“I believe everyone present heard what Norma just said. Adding the shares that Norma holds, the percentage of shares that now disagree with the dismissal should be 55%, I didn’t miscalculate, did I?”

Isaac sneered, standing up with a cold expression.

“Maxim, Briana, don’t think that just because you won this time, you can have any impact on me. I will definitely make you pay!”

After speaking, Isaac stormed off in anger.

Back in his office, he dialed a number and said coldly, “Was the poison you gave me fake?! Why is that old woman still alive?!”

When the other party gave him the poison, they said that as long as the dose of the poison reached a certain level, Norma would die within a week.

When he found out that Briana had returned to Bridenville alone, he also thought that Norma was already dead. It was only that Briana and Maxim had deliberately concealed this matter in order to snatch the Yoder Group from his hands.

Unexpectedly, Norma was not only alive, but her body seemed to have recovered as well!

“There was absolutely nothing wrong with my poison, you must have used a light dose.”

After speaking, the person on the other end immediately hung up the phone, and didn’t answer when Isaac called back.

Isaac was so angry that he threw his phone, but that didn’t calm him down. He swept all the documents on the table onto the floor, his eyes filled with coldness.

After Briana and Maxim went downstairs and told them the news that a few managers could stay, the excitement was hard to hide on their faces.

Although they could find jobs elsewhere with their abilities, the salaries would definitely not be higher than at the Yoder Group. Moreover, they were all veterans who had been with the Yoder Group for over five years. They had feelings for the Yoder Group and did not want to leave.

“Mr. Yoder, Ms. Schneider, thank you!”

Maxim’s expression remained indifferent as he said in a deep voice, “Go back to work.”

The HR arrived quickly, taking a few people to handle the onboarding procedures.

After only Briana and Maxim were left, she lowered her eyes and said, “Mr. Yoder, there’s nothing else, I’ll go back first.”

As soon as she turned around, Maxim had grabbed her wrist.

“Briana, I’m sorry. I thought about it all night and finally understood why you were so determined to break up this time. I’m sorry for all the grievances you’ve had to endure during this period.”

Briana’s body stiffened for a moment, and it took her a while to speak: “It’s okay, it’s all in the past.”

Maxim’s eyes dimmed slightly, he said word by word, “I will not give up on this relationship.”

Briana broke free from his grip, leaving without a word or a backward glance.

On the way back to the villa, Briana received a call from Madeline, inviting her to have dinner together.

When Briana arrived at the restaurant, it was already past seven in the evening.

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Madeline saw her and waved first.

Briana walked over and sat down across from her, “Why did you suddenly invite me to eat today?”

Madeline glanced at her irritably, “You disappeared for so many days without a trace, without seeing you once, how could I be at ease.”

Briana chuckled, picking up the menu casually as she asked, “You don’t have to take care of Brycen now?”

Because she was looking down, she didn’t notice the momentary awkwardness on Madeline’s face.

“He had already been discharged from the hospital, I wouldn’t meet him again in the future.”

Briana finally sensed something was off, she looked up at Madeline, “Why did you suddenly make this decision?”

“We were never from the same world to begin with, it’s better to set boundaries earlier.”

Seeing the loneliness in Madeline’s eyes, Briana didn’t know how to comfort her. After all, her own emotions were a mess, she had no right to judge others’ feelings.

“You just had to make the decision yourself.”

Madeline nodded, “Hmm, how were you and Maxim?”

“We broke up.”

Madeline frowned, “Why so sudden? When you were missing before, he even came to me asking if I could contact you.”

“Later, when he was falsely accused by Isaac and detained at the police station, he also asked Brycen and Tyrone to help investigate your whereabouts. I think he really loved you.”

In the end, Madeline couldn’t help but sigh.

Briana’s hand, clutching the cup, turned slightly white, and she lowered her gaze without speaking.

Seeing that she seemed unwilling to discuss the topic further, Madeline quickly said, “Let’s not talk about this anymore. I’m joining a crew tomorrow. I’m going to shoot a TV series, and I expect to stay with the crew for about half a year.”

Surprise flashed in Briana’s eyes, “What show is so long?”

“Director Wang’s new film, he is famously strict in the industry, so the filming of this movie will also take a bit longer.”

Briana nodded, “That’s true, the best way to forget a relationship is to work.”

Madeline couldn’t help but laugh, “The best way to forget a relationship is clearly to start a new one.”

“But this was unfair to the other person.”

“That’s true, so I didn’t plan on causing trouble for others either.”

When the two had finished eating and were leaving the restaurant, Briana, with her sharp eyes, spotted Brycen standing not far from the entrance, his gaze directed towards her and Madeline.

To be precise, he was staring at Madeline.

“Madeline, he seemed to have something to say to you.”

Madeline glanced indifferently in Brycen’s direction, her face expressionless as she said, “I have nothing to say to him.”

The nanny car pulled up to the door, and just as Madeline was about to get in, her wrist was suddenly grabbed by someone.

“Madeline, let’s talk,” I said.

Madeline frowned and shook off his hand, saying coldly, “Mr. Carney, we’re not familiar, please don’t touch me.”

The disgust in her eyes pierced his heart, and his face turned extremely unsightly.

“The things that happened in the ward that day, I...”

Before she could finish her sentence, Madeline turned directly to Briana and said, “Briana, you go ahead, I still have some things to clear up with him.”

“Alright, if there’s anything you need help with, feel free to call me anytime.”

Seeing Briana’s guarded expression, Brycen couldn’t help but give a bitter smile, “Sis... don’t worry, I won’t do anything to her.”

“Hoped that Mr. Carney would walk the talk.”

After Briana left, Madeline coldly looked at Brycen, “Let’s talk somewhere quieter.”

After speaking, she turned around and got into the car directly, without even glancing at Brycen.

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Sensing her icy demeanor, Brycen gave a bitter smile, realizing he had brought this upon himself.

Half an hour later, the two entered a more private club in Bridenville.

After sitting down, Madeline looked at Brycen with a blank expression.

“Mr. Carney, what did you want to talk to me about?”

Brycen looked at her, his expression serious. “Madeline, I’m sorry,” he said. “The things I said in the hospital room that day hurt you. I admit, at first, I pursued you with a casual attitude. But as I spent time with you, I found myself hopelessly in love with you. You...”

Madeline cut him off directly, “Mr. Carney, if you’re here to say these things, I don’t think I need to listen any further.”

Seeing Madeline about to leave, a flash of panic crossed Brycen’s eyes. He quickly said, “Madeline, I hope you can give me a chance, I promise I won’t hurt you again!”

However, after hearing his words, there was no change in Madeline’s expression. She still looked at him with a cold indifference.

“Mr. Carney, we were never from the same world to begin with. If we ever meet again, I just want to be a stranger to you.”

After speaking, Madeline turned around and left directly.

Brycen watched her retreating figure, didn’t chase after her, but his gaze was firmly fixed on the direction she left in, and he didn’t snap

out of it for a long time.

Back at the villa, Briana sat on the sofa in a daze, the words Madeline had said at the restaurant earlier replaying in her mind.

Did Maxim really care about her that much?

Soon, she suppressed the chaotic thoughts in her mind, got up, turned off the light, and went upstairs.

Having decided to break up, she shouldn’t have continued thinking about him.

For the next few days, Briana was busy dealing with the backlog of files and didn't have time to deal with the Yoder Group.

She hadn't been in Bridenville for half a month, and Owen started scheming again, planning to make money using MY Corporation.

Since he refused to change his ways, there was no need for her to keep him in the company anymore!

Briana called Melody over and handed her a document, saying, "Give this to Legal, let them do what they need to do."

Melody flipped open the file, only to find that it was full of evidence of Owen exploiting loopholes to secretly divert MY Corporation's advertising funds. She was instantly so furious that her face turned red.

"He was so outrageous!"

No wonder those larger advertisers recently refused to cooperate with MY Corporation, it turns out Owen was sabotaging behind the scenes!

Even if he was her uncle, she wouldn't cover for him this time!

Briana was about to speak when the cellphone on the table suddenly started to vibrate.

Seeing it was Rayan, surprise flashed in her eyes.

As soon as it connected, Rayan's anxious voice came through.

"Ms. Schneider, could you please come to the Yoder Group and persuade Mr. Yoder now? He has been standing in the rain at the entrance of the Yoder Group for a whole day and night. If this continues, his health will definitely not hold up!"

Briana's face changed color as she stood up and walked out, asking, "What's going on?!"

"Isaac held a grudge against you for forcing him to hold a meeting with Mr. Yoder to vote on whether to fire those managers. This time, he directly fired over a thousand grassroots employees from the Yoder Group. Most of these employees were from struggling families and relied on their jobs at the Yoder Group to make ends meet. By doing this, Isaac essentially pushed these people to a dead end!"

"After learning about this, Mr. Yoder came to him and he said that as long as Mr. Yoder could stand at the entrance of the Yoder Group for three days and three nights, he would let those employees return to the Yoder Group."

After hearing this, a wave of anger surged in Briana's heart. Isaac took over the Yoder Group, not with the intention of managing it well, but to use the Yoder Group to humiliate Maxim. As for the fate of the Yoder Group and its employees, he didn't care at all!

Her lips were tightly pressed together as she said coldly, "I understand, I'll be right there."

Briana arrived at the door of the Yoder Group, an hour later.

Before even getting off the car, I saw that upright figure in the rain.

He was soaked to the skin, his short hair still dripping water continuously, yet he remained motionless, like a statue.

In recent days, it had been raining continuously in Bridenville, and there was already water accumulated on the roads. Coupled with the fact that it was already late autumn, the cool wind carried the cold rainwater and hit her face. Even with an umbrella, Briana could feel the chill.

Standing next to Maxim, Rayan saw Briana, a flash of joy in his eyes.

“Ms. Schneider, you finally arrived! Please persuade Mr. Yoder!”

However, Briana didn’t even glance at Maxim, she just walked towards the Yoder Group with her umbrella.

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A flash of shock passed through Rayan’s eyes, leaving him standing still, somewhat at a loss.

What did it mean when Ms. Schneider didn’t persuade Mr. Yoder and went straight to the Yoder Group?!

Seeing Briana’s retreating figure, Maxim’s eyes flickered, he frowned and said, “I will handle the matters of the Yoder Group myself. If anyone calls you again in the future, you can just ignore it.”

Briana’s steps didn’t falter at all, she walked straight into the Yoder Group and, led by the receptionist, went to the top floor to find Isaac

Isaac was in a good mood today. He had casually mentioned something yesterday, and to his surprise, Maxim had actually spent the night standing outside the Yoder Group and hadn’t left yet.

Now everyone could see Maxim in his most embarrassing state. No one would ever regard him as an untouchable god again, but rather a pathetic worm begging for mercy!

Just as I was feeling triumphant, there was a knock on the office door.

“Mr. Yoder, Ms. Schneider was looking for you.”

Seeing Briana behind his secretary, Isaac’s eyes turned slightly cold, “Ms. Schneider, are you also here to plead with me?”

With a smile playing at the corners of her mouth, Briana slowly said, “Mr. Yoder is overthinking. I came today to make a deal with Mr. Yoder.”

Half an hour later, Briana left Isaac’s office and went straight to Maxim after going downstairs.

“Those employees won’t be fired, you don’t have to keep standing in the rain here.”

After speaking, Briana left directly.

I had just taken two steps forward when the panicked voice of Rayan rang out behind me.

“Mr. Yoder! Mr. Yoder, wake up!”

Briana turned around and saw Maxim with his eyes tightly shut, his face pale. His thin lips tightly pursed. He was in a terrible state, and if it weren't for Rayan supporting him, he would probably have fainted on the ground by now.

She stood still for a few seconds, then walked towards Maxim with a cold face, gritting her teeth.

I must have owed him in my past life!

Rayan saw Briana returning to help Maxim, a flash of joy in his eyes. He was about to help Briana get Maxim into the car when she shoved her umbrella into his hands.

"You came to hold the umbrella!"

Before he had a chance to refuse, Rayan stared in disbelief.

Briana actually picked up Maxim directly!

She took a few steps forward, only to realize that Rayan hadn't followed. Briana turned around, frowning at him, "Aren't you coming?"

"...Coming right away!"

It's not that he hadn't seen strong girls before, but a girl who could easily lift a grown man, other than Briana, he hadn't seen a second one to this day.

After getting in the car, it took a long time for Rayan's mood to settle down.

Realizing they were not on the way to the hospital, he turned to Briana and said, "Ms. Schneider, when the president fainted just now, I noticed he had a fever. Let's take Mr. Yoder to the hospital for a check-up first."

Briana raised the back of her hand to touch Maxim's forehead, her expression indifferent as she said, "No need, I'll buy some medicine at the pharmacy later, and some fever patches will do."

It was just a bit of a cold, taking some medicine and resting for a couple of days would have been enough. There was no need to go through all the trouble of going to the hospital.

"Oh..."

After sending Maxim back to Emerald Villa, Briana arranged for Rayan to buy medicine, while she herself changed Maxim's clothes.

After taking off the soaked suit, Briana found that Maxim was burning all over, she couldn't help but frown. She casually found a set of pajamas for him to put on. Just as she laid him down on the bed, Rayan came back.

"Ms. Schneider, the medicine was purchased."

"Give it to me."

After writing down the time intervals and dosage for the medication on

the box, Briana stood up and said to Rayan, "You give him the medicine, it would be best if you stayed here with him tonight."

Upon hearing this, Rayan immediately looked troubled.

"Ms. Schneider, tonight is the third anniversary of my girlfriend and I being together. If I don't go, I won't have a girlfriend tomorrow. I'll have to trouble you with Mr. Yoder's matters!"

Briana: "....."

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The two stared at each other for a while, and finally, it was Briana who broke the silence: "How about you get a temporary nanny?"

Rayan looked sympathetically at Maxim, who was lying unconscious on the bed. He was so badly burned, yet Ms. Schneider still refused to stay and take care of him. It seemed that this time, Mr. Yoder had truly angered Ms. Schneider.

"Ms. Schneider, Mr. Yoder was a clean freak and didn't like strangers touching him."

Briana frowned, "I've already broken up with him. Now, to him, I'm also a stranger."

"But Mr. Yoder must not have thought so in his heart, he wouldn't dislike anyone, let alone you! I'm in a hurry, so I'll leave Mr. Yoder to you!"

After speaking, Rayan ran off like a shot, fearing that Briana would reject him again.

Briana looked at his retreating figure with a speechless expression, why did she have a feeling of being schemed against?

Took Maxim's temperature, it was up to 39.3 degrees Celsius.

She went to the living room to pour a glass of water for him to take his medicine, then put a fever patch on his forehead. Afterwards, she pulled up a chair to sit by the bed, making it convenient to check his temperature every two hours.

Realizing that the fever patch was a bit crooked, Briana got up

intending to peel it off and reapply it.

As soon as I touched Maxim's forehead, he suddenly opened his eyes.

Briana was taken aback, still not reacting, when Maxim suddenly grabbed her wrist and flipped her underneath him.

"Briana....."

With a whisper, his lips fell.

Due to his fever, his lips were incredibly hot, as if a fire was burning from his lips straight into Briana's heart, like a wildfire. Her previously quiet heart started to beat wildly once again.

"Um... let... go..."

She wanted to push Maxim away, but Maxim was so strong that she couldn't push him away at all!

She gritted her teeth in anger, wanting to knock him out with a single slap, yet she was afraid that his current illness might cause some problems if she did.

Forget it, just consider it as being bitten by a dog.

Before long, Maxim had released her lips.

Briana let out a sigh, about to push him away, but the next second, she froze abruptly.

Maxim was actually kissing her neck!

Moreover, there was also a gradually declining trend.

Briana, unable to bear it any longer, finally pushed him away and swiftly stood up beside the bed, coldly watching him.

If it weren't for the sickly flush on his face, Briana would have doubted whether he was pretending to be ill to take advantage of her.

It seemed that due to the fever, Maxim's thinking ability had also declined.

After being pushed away by Briana, he remained sitting on the bed in a daze for a while before looking at Briana with a face full of grievance.

"Briana, did you... really not want me anymore?"

Briana had never seen Maxim like this before, devoid of his usual cold and domineering demeanor. His eyes were filled with a fragility that seemed ready to shatter at the slightest touch, making him look somewhat pitiful.

She furrowed her brows, wanting to say yes, but looking at his current state, she just couldn't bring herself to speak.

Forget it, why bother arguing with a sick person? He must be delirious. otherwise how could he possibly speak to her in such a tone and manner.

"You were sick, lie down and rest first."

However, Maxim paid no attention to her words, but continued to look at her pitifully, stubbornly demanding an answer.

"Did you really not want me anymore?"

Briana took a deep breath and slowly said, "I didn't, you lie down and rest first."

"I wanted to sleep with you."

Having said that, he didn't care whether Briana agreed or not. With a stretch of his long arm, he directly grabbed her waist and carried her to

the bed, forcing her to lie down with him.

Briana frowned, gritting her teeth, "I don't want to sleep, and later I need to check if you still have a fever. Let go of me first."

"No, if I let you go, you'll run away."

"I couldn't run."

"Enough talking, sleep!"

He held her waist tightly, not giving her any chance to escape at all.

Briana struggled for a while but failed to escape, so she simply gave up, closed her eyes and rested.

I originally thought I would suffer from insomnia, but unexpectedly, I fell asleep not long after.

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There were no dreams that night.

Waking up the next morning, Briana was taken aback by the magnified handsome face in front of her, only then did she remember what had happened the night before.

She shifted, intending to pull away from Maxim's embrace, but as soon as she removed his hand from her waist, he opened his eyes.

Their eyes met, and for a moment, the atmosphere was somewhat awkward.

Briana pursed her lips, about to speak, when Maxim closed his eyes and pulled her into his arms.

"Sleep a bit longer."

His voice was somewhat hoarse, yet it carried an inexplicable allure.

"Since you were awake, please let go of me, I needed to get up and wash up."

After two seconds of silence, Maxim opened his eyes to look at Briana, his gaze clear and lucid.

"Briana, I still remember what happened last night, you didn't say you didn't want me."

Briana frowned, her voice dropping a few degrees colder, "That's because you had a fever last night. I didn't want to argue with a sick person. You don't need to take those words to heart."

She pushed Maxim away, got out of bed, tidied up her somewhat disheveled clothes, and planned to leave.

"But I took it to heart, Briana, can't you really give me another chance?"

Briana turned to look at him, her expression indifferent as she said, "The medicine is on the table, the dosage and the number of times to take it each day are all written down."

Watching her turn to leave, Maxim's eyes hardened, and he quickly got out of bed to follow her.

Hearing the chaotic footsteps behind her, Briana was about to turn around when she was embraced from behind. The scent of pine from the other person instantly enveloped her.

“Briana, you still have feelings for me, don’t you?”

Briana lowered her gaze, “Even if I still have feelings for you, I don’t want to be with you anymore.”

Maxim unconsciously tightened his grip on her hand, whispering, “I can assure you, once Isaac’s matter is over, I will cut ties with Kiley and never associate with her again. The day she came to me, she intended to exchange some videos of Isaac she had secretly filmed for 1% of the shares in the Yoder Group.”

“It was indeed my mistake to forget my phone at that time. I will definitely keep my phone within my sight in the future, okay?”

His voice was deep, and he spoke each word with utmost seriousness.

A thought crossed Briana’s mind. In fact, after knowing what had happened during her absence, she no longer held any resentment towards Maxim.

She was disappointed in him for not answering her call, but she also realized that it must have been the toughest time for him, and she wasn’t there for him either.

Thinking of this, Briana pursed her lips, and after a good while, she whispered, “Okay.”

Just give them another chance to each other, this time she would choose to trust him, she wouldn’t be suspicious anymore.

“But if you betrayed me, I would completely disappear from your world.”

For some unknown reason, upon hearing these words, a sudden wave of panic surged within Maxim, and his grip around her slowly tightened.

“Alright, I definitely won’t let you down again this time.”

“You could let go of me now, right?”

“Could you stay with me today? I haven’t recovered from my illness yet.”

Briana frowned, “I’m going to freshen up, I’ll make you some porridge later.”

The look of loss on Maxim’s face instantly vanished, a rare smile appearing at the corner of his mouth.

“Good.”

After Briana left the bedroom, Maxim also went to the bathroom to freshen up.

When I walked out of the bedroom, the porridge was already cooking, and Briana was chopping vegetables.

Seeing her busy figure, Maxim leaned against the kitchen door, his eyes full of tenderness.

“Let me help you.”

Upon hearing this, Briana looked up at Maxim, noticing that his face was still somewhat red, she couldn't help but frown.

“No need, I'll be fine soon. You go take your medicine and measure your own temperature.”

“Good.”

After they finished breakfast, Briana asked Maxim to go back to bed and continue resting.

Maxim's temperature was not as high as yesterday, and his thoughts were much clearer.

“Right, what method did you use to make Isaac give up firing those workers yesterday?”

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Briana was calm, “I gave him 10% of the shares in the Yoder Group.”

Upon hearing this, Maxim frowned, “Trading 10% of the Yoder

Group's shares to prevent those employees from being fired, Isaac must be laughing in his dreams.”

Briana gave a slight smile, calmly saying, “You must have also thought about the reason why Isaac wanted to transfer the assets of the Yoder Group.”

“What does this have to do with you giving him the shares?”

“He only held 20% of the shares in the Yoder Group. Once grandma returned, he basically had no chance of winning the next presidential election, because our three shares accounted for 50% of the Yoder Group's shares. As long as any shareholder voted for you, he would undoubtedly lose. But now that he has my 10% of shares, his chances of winning have greatly increased.”

Maxim's pupils contracted, a flash of disbelief flickering in his eyes.

“Do you think he would stay with the Yoder Group with this 10% stake?!”

Briana nodded, “Transferring assets out does carry certain risks. If he could control the Yoder Group and keep you under his foot, it should be quite tempting for him. But I'm just taking a gamble.”

And Isaac staying at the Yoder Group was exactly what they wanted to see.

After all, if he had transferred all the assets of the Yoder Group and successfully fled, it would have been difficult to catch him again.

Maxim's eyes were icy cold as he said, word by word, “You must win the bet.”

After all, Isaac had always resented him, believing that he had stolen the position of President of the Yoder Group.

If he could have stayed at the Yoder Group, firstly, he could have enjoyed the sense of achievement of stepping on him, and secondly, his father Jayden had also managed the Yoder Group. Without reaching the final step, he certainly wouldn't have wanted to destroy the Yoder Group with his own hands.

"As long as evidence of Isaac's crimes could be collected during this period, he could be pulled down from his position as the president of the Yoder Group."

Maxim nodded, "I understand, Briana, thank you."

The admiration in his eyes was undisguised, looking at Briana as if she were a rare treasure. Thankfully, he hadn't missed her, otherwise he would have regretted it for the rest of his life.

After finishing lunch, seeing that Maxim's fever had subsided, Briana planned to return to Elm Bay.

Maxim frowned, "When did you move back in?"

"Depends on my mood. Even though I forgave you, it doesn't mean I have to come back to you right away."

Maxim's eyes deepened, turning to grab the car keys.

"Then I'll take you back."

"No need, you're still sick now, I can drive myself home."

Returning to Elm Bay, Briana had barely gotten out of the car when she saw a nanny van parked in front of the neighboring villa.

Briana raised an eyebrow, Hector had returned?

In the midst of confusion, the villa's door opened, and Hector's agent walked out from inside.

Seeing Briana, he was also somewhat surprised.

"Ms. Schneider, have you moved back here?"

Briana nodded, "Hmm, has Hector finished filming?"

The agent's face looked a bit unnatural, "Well, he might have been feeling unwell recently, but he didn't want me to take care of him here. If Ms. Schneider is available, could you please help to take care of him..."

Before he could finish speaking, the villa door was suddenly opened.

"Keith, you forgot this script..."

Upon seeing Briana, Hector's expression suddenly froze on his face, and it took him a while to muster a forced smile.

"Briana, long time no see."

Briana's gaze fell on the crutch by his side and the cast on his foot, frowning, she asked, "Did you get these injuries from filming?"

Hector's eyes dimmed slightly, he nodded and said, "Hmm... why did you suddenly come here?"

"I've moved back now, is it inconvenient for you to live like this? Maybe it's better to hire a caregiver."

Hector shook his head, "No need, I'm used to it anyway."

Seeing the situation, Briana didn't know what else to say, "If you need any help, feel free to message me. I have something to do, so I'll go first."

"Good."

It wasn't until Briana returned to the villa that the agent beside her glared at him and said irritably, "You were clearly injured trying to save her, and because of this, you missed several good scripts and lost more than a dozen notices, yet you refuse to say anything. At this rate, you won't catch up even in a hundred years!"