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Upon hearing what Estelle said, Shawn instantly lost his cool and his face darkened. After giving Tony a look, the latter soon stopped the car by the road. Shawn got out of the car immediately to open the door on Myra's side. With a gentle tone, he made a request. "Miss Stark, I would like to speak to Estelle for a bit, so can you perhaps sit beside Tony for a while?"

Stifling a laugh, Myra got out of the car while ignoring Estelle's glare. After that, Estelle remained obedient throughout the rest of their journey home without giving them trouble. The peaceful time was short-lived though, for it ended as soon as they arrived at Hart Residence.

Sebastian sulked when he saw Estelle coming home alongside Myra. In a deliberately snarky tone, he questioned pointedly, "Why are you here? Didn't you say that you hate this place?"

"I didn't come here of my own volition! I wouldn't have come here if it weren't to make sure that you aren't bullying Myra!" Estelle retorted.

Sebastian's face flushed as he was fuming. He was worried that Myra would be hungry because she didn't get enough to eat during dinner, so he already had the maid prepare some supper for her. As soon as he heard the sounds of the car, he hurried toward the door, only to witness Estelle—the ill-tempered girl in his eyes—getting out of the car.

"Me, bullying Myra? Haha, I will never do that!" Sebastian yelled with all his might.

In resignation, Shawn looked toward Myra for help. They sure blew up as soon as they saw each other. Myra, you're the only one who can help me.

After getting his signal, Myra let out a chuckle before reaching out to hold Estelle's hand. "Old Master Hart, Estelle is my best friend. Can she spend the night here in my room, please?"

"No!" Two people made that exclamation simultaneously, with Sebastian being the first and Tony being the second one to oppose the idea.

In fact, Tony had a morose look on his face after hearing what Myra suggested. Pulling his lips into a thin line, he looped an arm around her waist. "Myra, you're pregnant, so you need to be more careful. What if Miss Langley presses her weight on you at night because of her bad posture?"

"Yeah, with her wild streak, she can't possibly find our beds comfortable!" Sebastian chimed in.

"Grandpa." Shawn sighed. "Estelle will be staying with me. She will get used to it, so don't worry."

Sebastian choked on his own words upon being cut short by Shawn. After grunting in anger, he growled, "Although I brought you kids up, you don't even listen to me! Just when I thought I will have an obedient granddaughter-in-law, it turns out that she isn't going to listen to me either! I don't care anymore. You can do whatever you like!"

Sebastian whipped around before leaving the scene. Although he was angry, Myra noticed that he had essentially made a compromise. On the other hand, Estelle stared at Sebastian's retreating figure without a word. "He was the one who picked a fight with me! I didn't want to bicker with him."

"I know. You've already sacrificed enough for my sake as things are." Shawn kissed Estelle on the forehead.

Upon hearing his comment, Estelle was feeling embarrassed instead. She fidgeted for a bit before mumbling in a soft voice, "I shouldn't have lashed out at him like that. Despite his fierce appearance, he is actually a softie on the inside. I should have shown some restraint and let his words roll off my back."

With a smile, Shawn praised her by saying, "Yeah. My girl has grown up now."

His praise only made her even more embarrassed. However, she couldn't bring herself to accept the compliment. Thus, she simply let out a snort too before stepping into the house. "Since I have come, don't expect me to leave tonight."

With a faint smile, Shawn followed her into the house. Meanwhile, Myra shook her head before turning to check on Tony, who was standing beside her. Upon noticing that Myra had turned her attention to him, he quickly explained, "I only said that because I was concerned about our baby."

Not believing a word he said, Myra glared at him as soon as she heard that. He would have stopped harassing me at night if he was worried about the baby! Besides, my baby isn't so fragile!

After a while, Tony arched his brow before planting a kiss on Myra's lips. "If you're going to stare, I don't mind continuing to kiss you here."

"Tony Hart, you rascal!" Myra was blushing due to embarrassment. After giving him a shove, she entered the house too.

Because the four of them only had some cake during the banquet, they were soon gathered around the dining table to have dinner. Despite Sebastian's general dislike toward Estelle, he insisted on staying in the living room to throw her snide comments from time to time.

This time though, something seemed to have gotten into Estelle, as she remained silent no matter what Sebastian said. After some time, Sebastian got bored himself, so he returned to his wife upstairs.

"Estelle, what have you actually done? Old Master Hart seems to be holding some sort of grudge against you." Myra couldn't help but ask the woman opposite her that question.

Nonchalantly, Estelle replied, "God knows what I have done. Perhaps anything I do will just be in conflict with his traditional values." She was already used to his treatment of her anyway. Then, she reached out to take the poached egg on Shawn's plate before putting it into her own plate. "You have nothing to worry about. Old Master Hart just likes to nag. If it turns out that I won't marry Shawn, he might be the first to start panicking. Isn't that right?"

Her final question was directed at Shawn, to which he responded by nodding his head in resignation. "Yeah, yeah, Miss Langley."

"Of course I am right! You told me I will be your one and only woman, so breaking that promise means that you won't be getting an heir. Putting that into consideration, of course he would panic." Estelle sounded nonchalant as she said so, which rendered both Shawn and Myra speechless.

They spent some time talking about the incident with Kris. As the night gradually passed, both Myra and Estelle came to know about everything that led up to the incident just now, as well as what happened to Kris afterward.

Kris' plans to secure the Walton Family's assistance to help the Starks overcome their problems had virtually failed. Myra had a feeling that it wasn't the only thing that Tony and the rest had in mind. However, the group of men were all quite secretive about their objectives, so she didn't bother asking; she would get to know the full story later on anyway.

After dinner, they spent some time strolling in the garden before each couple returned to their respective rooms. That night, Tony was especially rough when they had sex.

Word about what happened during the banquet spread like wildfire. After Cameron and Rachel heard about it, they nearly fainted on the spot. Not too long ago, they were waiting at home for Kris to deliver them news of her success, but none of them expected Kris to bring about such a scandal for the Waltons instead.

With everything that had transpired, Cameron didn't think the Waltons would want to help the Starks anymore. When they finally arrived at the hospital, they found out that except for Hayden's lone figure by the bed, Kris' ward was basically empty. Meanwhile, Kris seemed to be in a rather poor condition.

"Kris! My dear daughter!" When Rachel saw Kris lying in bed as still as a corpse, she ran toward the bed before collapsing on it as she wailed out loud. She knew Kris no longer had a chance to earn Cameron's goodwill.

After all, Kris ruined the only chance for the Starks to ascend their ranks in society. Cameron was surely feeling extremely disappointed in her, so Rachel figured the only way to placate his anger was to emphasize on Kris' miserable condition. By now, Kris was already awake, or rather, she already regained consciousness during the banquet.

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Everything happened so suddenly that Kris wasn't sure how to react. She was carrying Hayden's child, but she didn't expect her pregnancy to be revealed during the banquet at

Walton Residence. Not only was it revealed, but the Waltons also uncovered the fact that the baby didn't belong to the Waltons.

At that time, she didn't want to remain conscious, so she pretended that she had fainted. She was also scared of waking up, as she couldn't face Gideon and Shelly's wrath. It wasn't until Hayden rushed her to the hospital that she acted as if she had just regained consciousness.

Miraculously, the baby she carried was still intact. However, she would prefer that she had a miscarriage, for nobody would be able to prove who the father was in that case. Without proof, she could easily insist that the baby belonged to the Waltons, which meant she could still salvage her relationship with Gideon, as well as help advance the Starks' Green Palms Project.

And now, the doctor informed her that the baby she carried was a little more than two months old, which was what she had expected, but still, she felt as if it was the end of the world. "Mom..." She couldn't move her body, as her lower body hurt whenever she did. Soon, tears stained her cheeks.

"Did this man bully you? Tell me! Did he force himself on you? I will make sure justice is served! I will go explain things to the Waltons!" Rachel kept on giving Kris a look. For now, they had to blame everything on Hayden, because the most important thing to do was to protect Kris' dignity.

Upon hearing what Rachel said, Hayden wore a grim look on his face. "Mrs. Stark, you're being a little too mean. The love between Kris and I is true. She told me she is only faking an engagement with Gideon, so it will only be temporary. Now, she will no longer need to be tied down to that fake relationship. She already has my baby, so I will take care of her. In a few days, I will propose a marriage with your family."

"A marriage proposal? You?! Don't you even think about it! You're the one who got my daughter into this mess! You rapist! The baby she carries doesn't belong to you! It belongs to Gideon! I will never allow my daughter to marry you! I will sue you!" Rachel's whole body was trembling with rage.

"Sue me? Haha..." Hayden assumed that it was because of Rachel and Cameron that Kris had to get engaged with Gideon. As soon as he heard Rachel was going to sue him, his face contorted slightly with anger. "Kris and I have feelings for each other! On the contrary, how dare you, as her parents, use her as a chess piece to help solve Stark Group's financial deficit? She will be under my care from now on, so you can leave now! I can also guarantee

that the baby she carries is mine! I've already replaced those contraceptive pills with vitamins, so we never took any contraceptive measures to begin with!"

Hayden didn't think Kris would lie to him about her relationship with Gideon. On the other hand, because he was the one who replaced the contraceptive pills with vitamins, he knew she would get pregnant, and that the baby must be his.

"You—" This time, not only Rachel, but even Kris, was staring at Hayden in disbelief. Kris never expected that the most loving man she ever knew—the man who bought her contraceptives—was the most conniving of all. He didn't even give her any contraceptives. Instead, he was deceiving her so that she would be pregnant with his baby!

"Hayden, you—" Kris was feeling both frustrated and anxious. So he is the culprit! If it weren't for him, my pregnancy wouldn't have been discovered by the Waltons!

"Kris, don't worry. I will marry you after you cut all ties with the Waltons. From now on, we will be together..." When Hayden looked at her, his gaze was as gentle as could be. However, she could detect a hint of obsession and madness in his gaze.

All of a sudden, she got an odd feeling about everything. Throughout their relationship, Hayden had allowed her to do anything she pleased, and he unconditionally bought into all of her crappy lies. In fact, she could almost get away with anything. But then, he was even more possessive than most other men. Whenever he couldn't find her in the Stark Group, he would give her a call to find out her whereabouts.

There was once when she switched her phone into silent mode during a meeting in another company, and he ended up giving her almost a hundred calls within the span of three hours. Her initial reaction was to feel touched by his actions, but she was frightened now when she noticed the crazed look in his eye. She hesitated for a moment, but in the end, she still couldn't say anything.

When Rachel observed the two of them, her heart was heavy with disappointment. Kris didn't listen when I told her to cut ties with Hayden. Look at the mess she made now! "Hayden, you might have your plans, but don't you forget that we are Kris' parents." It wasn't until then that Rachel recalled that Cameron hadn't spoken at all, so she moved behind him to tug on his arm. "Cameron, say something!"

The look on Cameron's face couldn't get any darker. Before that, he would turn a blind eye to whatever it was that Kris did. This time though, she had crossed a line. Now that Stark

Group was still going through a crisis, he didn't have any more energy to expend to deal with the mess Kris made. In fact, the only reason he didn't slap her in the face right away was because he didn't want to bring even more shame to the family name.

With a chilly look and a stiff voice, he told Hayden, "Mr. Fuller, as Kris' father, I would like you to inform your father of your intentions if you want Kris' hand in marriage. After all, my daughter isn't someone I can give away to just anybody."

Hayden's eyes lit up upon hearing what he said. "I will give my father a call right away!"

"Do whatever you want. For now, please give my family some space and time for a private conversation," Cameron stated coldly.

Despite Hayden's hesitation, he decided to save Cameron some dignity. After tucking Kris properly under the blanket and telling her that he would soon be back, he left the ward. As soon as the door closed behind Hayden and the ward was once again blanketed in silence, Cameron slapped Kris on the face mercilessly while she was still lying on the bed. As a result, Kris' head turned to the side, and her lips were tinged with blood.

"Ah, Cameron! What the hell? Why did you slap her? You—" There was another loud slap, but this time, it landed on Rachel's face. Soon enough, her face became swollen as well.

The atmosphere tensed up as Rachel stared at the man before her in disbelief. With a gloomy look on his face, he snapped, "Just look at what you have done! Your daughter cheated in her relationship and got pregnant with the Fuller Family's baby! Not only did she not abort the baby, but she even failed to conceal the truth, and now everybody in Bradford City knows that my daughter is a shameless b*tch who cheated in her relationship! Don't you know that my company is in a predicament? What have you contributed to the family other than trying to get my shares in the company?" Cameron was furious.

He was already running out of time to resolve the crisis that Stark Group was facing, but Kris had ruined his only opportunity to do that. According to what Hayden said, he had always planned on getting Kris pregnant. After that, he even eagerly leaked the news, which ruined Kris' life, as nobody other than Hayden would want to marry her after everything that had happened. Most importantly, Cameron had no idea what he could do anymore to solve the crisis that Stark Group was in.

Meanwhile, Kris felt her face had gone numb because of the slap. When she regained her senses, she stared at her father with a pitiful look on her face. "Dad, am I only a tool to you,

just like what Hayden said? I am in so much pain now, so how could you slap me and my innocent mother?"

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"Innocent?" Cameron turned around to face Rachel, who was sobbing nonstop. For the first time ever, he was revolted by her presence. Compared to her, Myra's mother would never do something as foolish. She taught Myra well, to the point that even he had to be wary of her. In the least, Myra's mother would never raise such a piece of incompetent trash who ended up being a liability to the company.

"Your mother isn't innocent at all! She must have known early on that you had a fling with Hayden, but she never informed me about it! Did you two think you are able to toy with everybody around you?" Cameron had a chilly gaze in his eye.

As Kris kept her arms resting on the bed limply, she clenched her fists as she inhaled sharply; all she could feel was a sense of despondency. Meanwhile, Rachel was also extremely disappointed in what happened.

Throughout her marriage with Cameron, he would always order her around. Despite her title of Mrs. Stark, she had no claim to power. Even after all those years, Cameron never gave her any of the company's shares, nor was he willing to offer any to his daughter. Other than that, Kris and her had to help him fight Myra's mother, and then Myra, but in the end, they could only suffer humiliation by his hands.

"Why does it matter?" Clenching her teeth, Rachel wore a look of despair, yet she was fierce and resilient all the same when she glared at the man that she had spent her entire life serving. "Cameron, Kris and I don't owe you sh*t! We have always been obedient to you! For the sake of your career, Kris forced herself to be with the man she hates, so why does it matter now that she failed, and the Waltons won't invest in the Green Palms Project? Have you forgotten that your eldest daughter didn't even want to help you? Don't you feel guilty at all for treating Kris and I like this?"

"Guilty? How dare you even mention that to me?" As if having heard a joke, Cameron began mocking her mercilessly. "Don't you know how the public will judge me and Stark Group from now on? Who do you think you are? If I so wish to, I can sleep with any other woman I

want, and get them to give birth to my baby! I'm sure I won't even get such an incompetent daughter like her!"

Rachel staggered backward subconsciously as soon as she heard that. Just now, she was enraged, which was why she talked back to Cameron, but she never expected to hear such despairing words from him. If I so wish to, I can sleep with any woman I want, and get them to give birth to my baby. I'm sure I won't even get such an incompetent daughter like her! What he said pierced her heart like daggers.

She felt suffocated when she clenched her fists. Seeing red, she launched forward to slap Cameron. "You are inhumane, Cameron! You vile cockroach! How could you treat Kris and I like this?"

She reached out to slap him, but he caught her hands and then shoved her backward, which caused her to fall onto Kris' bed. Panicking, Kris tried to stop her parents' fight. "Mom, Dad, stop it! Don't fight—"

"Rachel Parker, have you ever thought about why you could stick with me throughout all these years? Let me tell you; you are nothing compared to Jenny Eckhart. Your only merit is that you're obedient. Now that you have even lost that, the Starks no longer need you and your daughter!" With that, Cameron let out an angry huff before opening the door of the ward to leave.

Standing there in the ward, Rachel could feel her whole body trembling as what just happened was beginning to sink in. After some time, she finally started to weep, and Kris was also sobbing in a hushed voice. In the end, both of them were wailing in each other's embrace.

"Kris, did you hear what he said? He's not your father, but a demon! I shouldn't have been so naive! Why did I assume that I could get everything that I want by relying on him? H-He never forgot about that b*tch!"

The mention of Jenny's name gave Rachel a heartache. If it weren't for Rachel's help, Cameron would never have been able to seize everything from Jenny and claim Stark Group for himself. Now, he was obviously being ungrateful by trying to cut ties with Rachel.

In addition to the pain in her belly and on her face, Kris was overwhelmed by the heartache she felt. Reaching out to hold her mother's hand in a tight grip, she consoled the latter. "Mom, you have nothing to worry about. I won't let things get even worse."

However, she couldn't help but feel a sense of bitterness. After the incident, the Waltons wouldn't let things slide that easily. In fact, she was certain that the contracts that Stark Group and Walton Group signed would most definitely be cancelled. "Mom, I still have some loyal subordinates in Stark Group. Don't panic. Let us take this one step at a time," Kris said with grim determination.

Meanwhile, in Walton Residence, Shelly had been fretting for almost an hour, which was starting to get on Edward's nerves. Therefore, he chided, "We have something important to talk about, so you'd better go watch over Gemma at the hospital in case she gets into more trouble when she is alone!"

Before Shelly left, she made sure to give Gideon a reminder. "Gideon, I will never allow Kris to marry into our family! I don't care if you have business dealings with that b*tch's company. All you have to do is to cut all ties with her! Our family have a reputation to uphold in Bradford City!"

"Leave, now! Why are you still blabbering?" Edward knocked his walking stick on the floor heavily as he issued an order. Upon hearing that, Shelly bit on her lip before leaving the place. As soon as she was away, Edward cast his stick on the floor.

At the same time, Samuel was also sulking. Nonetheless, he poured a cup of tea before serving it to Edward politely. "Dad, calm down."

"Calm down? If I calm down, isn't this matter going to be swept under the rug?" Edward glanced at Gideon with piercing eyes. "My granddaughter couldn't get her hands on a man, nor could my grandson keep his woman in line! After everything that happened, those b*stards in Bradford City will be talking behind my back!"

"Grandpa..." Gideon clenched his fists. The incident with Kris was a grave insult to him. I will take care of that b*tch later. I have more pressing matters to deal with at this point in time. There was a chilliness in his eyes as he thought so. "Grandpa, we can't drag this on. We need to somehow spend the money that we were planning to invest into the Green Palms Project."

The money was a huge sum that they planned to launder bit-by-bit, and the Green Palms Project offered them the perfect and legal opportunity to do so, but they didn't expect such a conundrum. They had to get rid of the money as soon as possible, or else the Waltons would be doomed. However, investing into the Starks' project was no longer an option, as the public would perceive the Waltons as spineless cowards. The mere thought of it brought a livid expression to Edward's face.

"We can no longer rely on the Starks." Frowning, Edward wore a solemn look on his face. "No matter what we do, we are bound to get the attention of somebody. We'll be done for if anybody finds out what we're up to."

"Why don't we invest the money in Central Square? Aren't there a few foreign companies that were registered recently? We can start from them, just like what we did a few years ago, and we need to make sure that we leave no trail." Samuel made that suggestion after mulling over the situation. "Central Square is a government project, so we have a lower chance of being suspected. Besides, they are still in the fundraising stage."

"I suppose that's our only option for now." Edward pulled his lips into a thin line. "Remember to leave no evidence, and make no mistakes. We can't afford to be careless anymore. Find a few small companies in Bradford City that we can lure into investing in Central Square alongside us by stating a high profit margin. We need them to cover up for us."

"Understood, Grandpa." Gideon nodded in all seriousness.

After that, Edward turned to look at him with a deep frown on his face. "By the way, annul your engagement with Kris Stark. Issue a statement that reveals her debauchery. We won't take in someone like her!"

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"Sure." A fierce look flitted across Gideon's eyes. Even if Edward and Shelly said nothing, he wouldn't want to have anything to do with Kris. She doesn't know her place, so she will get a taste of my wrath!

It was a long night. While some people were fretting over their problems, some had a good night's sleep. The next morning, Myra needed to go to the hospital for her prenatal checkup. Tony would be keeping her company, as he needed to check on his fractured arm and his other injuries.

That morning, the Hart Family had breakfast together. It had been a long time since they last had such a jolly breakfast together. Sebastian couldn't help but lament, "It would be perfect if Damian and Katie are here."

Smiling, Serena said, "You can always summon him if you want him back home."

"He's in the military, so he can't just up and leave! Since he has chosen to become a soldier, he will have to obey their rules all the time!" Sebastian glared at Serena.

With a smile, she commented, "But I suppose he should come home during festive occasions. The Lantern Festival will be happening soon, so it will be nice if Damian gets to come home, even if only for a day."

Upon hearing that, Sebastian got all excited. "I suppose I can start preparing for the family dinner now! Instead of inviting any outsiders, let's have dinner among ourselves. And you, ahem. Uhm... Estelle, you can invite your brother," Sebastian said rather awkwardly.

"What did you say? I didn't hear you." Estelle pretended that she didn't hear him.

Furious, he retorted, "Just forget about it if you missed it!"

"Grandpa said you can bring your brother along to celebrate the festival with us, Miss Langley. After all, Grandpa will be personally involved in the preparations for the banquet!" Serena repeated Sebastian's message in his stead.

While glaring at Serena, Sebastian chided, "You sure blabber a lot!"

"You're the one who passed this trait down to me." Ever since Serena got together with her new boyfriend, she had transformed drastically for the better, so Sebastian was actually feeling happy for her.

"Old Master Sebastian, I won't be having lunch at home today, since I will be going to the company with Tony after my prenatal checkup." Myra informed Sebastian of her plans after some thought.

Sebastian was most loving when he was talking to Myra. "Go on ahead. You can order your lunch with the servant. I will have the driver deliver your lunch to you by noon when they're ready."

"You're being partial! I only got to have canteen meals while working in City Hall!" Shawn interjected while arching his brow.

Upon hearing that, Sebastian rolled his eyes at him and Estelle. "I will treat you two like royalty when you produce an heir to the family like them!"

Shawn scratched his nose sheepishly when he heard that statement. Since Estelle didn't want kids yet, he supposed he wouldn't be getting such treatment anytime soon. When breakfast was over, everybody left for school, work, or to the hospital respectively.

While Tony and Myra were on their way to the hospital, Tony had gotten a few calls. Judging from his conversation with the caller, Myra surmised that it had to do with Stark Group. After he hung up, she leaned in closer to ask, "Will the Waltons no longer invest in the Green Palms Project?"

"Yeah. The Waltons issued a statement, and Gideon and Kris' engagement was also annulled." Tony grabbed Myra's hand with his free hand before scratching her palm. "Would you like me to intervene? I can still save Stark Group if I do it now."

Back in the days, Stark Group was but a small company with a dozen or so employees, including Cameron. Jenny Eckhart invested in the company using her family's money, and she led the company in completing a few major projects. That was why the company was able to expand into a medium-sized business in Bradfort City within the short span of three years.

However, Cameron was ambitious. Although he might have loved Jenny back then, it couldn't compare to his ambition. After witnessing the company expand and flourish under Jenny's management, he was worried that she might take over his position, so he began stripping her of her power. Later on, he even cheated on Jenny with Rachel, which led to the subsequent deterioration of Jenny's mental state, as well as her untimely demise.

Jenny was a prodigy in business, which was hard to come by in the Eckhart Family. Unfortunately, her life was ruined because she married the wrong man. Myra only cared about Stark Group because it was her mother's handiwork, but just like her mother, she was aiming for neither power nor riches.

As soon as she realized that the company would still be in the hands of the man who made her mother suffer instead of herself, even if the company managed to recover from the crisis, she suddenly no longer felt like helping them.

"You don't have to save them." There was a fleeting sense of melancholy in Myra's eyes when she stared at the road ahead. "Tony, my mother was the one who built up the

company, so it was her life's work. I don't want to watch as Cameron, Rachel, and Kris suck it dry."

Since she didn't want the company anyway, and the company going up in flames would make those people suffer, she would rather see it in ruins. "The Stark Group as it is now is what used to make my mother suffer, so you don't have to salvage it. More than twenty years ago, it used to be an insignificant company, so the incident might just put it back in its place." Myra smiled self-deprecatingly.

Sensing her emotional turmoil, Tony reached out to hold her hand before asking in a soft voice, "Won't you regret this?"

"I won't." She turned her palm to hold his hand. Suddenly, she let out a naughty chuckle. "I still have twenty-five percent of Hart Group's shares anyway. Is this not better than Stark Group?"

Hearing that prompted Tony to hold her hand even tighter. "As long as you're happy." After a pause, he suggested, "Since that is the case, I can make Cameron suffer a bit more in the meantime. One day, you will get the company back." It was a promise that Tony made to Conan; he would give Stark Group back to Myra as a betrothal gift.

Soon, they arrived at the hospital. During Myra's prenatal checkup, the doctor went through all of the necessary steps as Tony observed from the side. He was also listening intently, and made notes when the doctor gave his instructions. Even the doctor commented on how fortunate Myra was to have such a loving husband, which made her blush intensely.

The checkup indicated that everything was normal. After that, it was Myra's turn to accompany Tony to the surgical department. When the doctor received news of his arrival, he quickly prepared for the checkup. Luckily, Tony seemed to be making good progress in his recovery.

Just when the two of them were about to leave after thanking the doctor, the door of the office flung open abruptly. A nurse was standing by the door, panting for breath, looking as if she feared she might have missed out on something. As soon as she saw Myra, who was beside Tony, her pupils shrunk.

"What's the matter, Miss Boulanger?" The doctor could hear her labored breathing, so he assumed that there was an emergency.

However, Hayley shook her head. "It's nothing, Doctor Randall. I merely came in search of someone." Then, she bit on her lip while staring at Tony.

She didn't expect Tony to be discharged so quickly, and she didn't expect her name to be excluded from the list of doctors and nurses who would be conducting scheduled checkups for Tony at his house either. When she asked the lead nurse for a reason, she was told in a roundabout manner that it was the Hart Family's decision, so it had to be obeyed.

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Instead of saying that the Hart Family arranged it, I would guess it was Tony's fiancée, Myra, who arranged it. Hayley wasn't willing to give up, but at the same time, she knew she had no way of getting closer to Tony.

A while ago, she heard another nurse mention that Tony would be coming for a checkup. Although she was also aware that he only came because Myra needed to do a prenatal checkup, Hayley came regardless without even coming up with a reason.

"Are you looking for someone?" The doctor, Alvin Randall, was startled by her presence. When he noticed how Hayley was staring at Tony, he assumed he was looking for the man sitting across from him. With a smile, he replied, "Miss Boulanger, are you here for Mr. Hart? You're just in time. He just finished his checkup. It seems that he is making good progress in his recovery."

"Yeah." Hayley gave a faint nod, her face visibly turning a shade of red.

Meanwhile, Myra also glanced in the direction of the woman who was standing at the door after noticing the slight commotion. She knew the woman as the nurse who was responsible for taking care of Tony when he was hospitalized some time ago. For a few times everyday, she would drop by his ward to check on his injuries. However, she never saw Hayley around the house during subsequent checkups after Tony was discharged.

Among them, Tony reacted most calmly to what was going on. At the same time, he was also the only one who totally ignored Hayley. When he stood from his seat, Myra leaned closer subconsciously, which allowed him to loop an arm around her waist. After that, they moved toward the entrance while maintaining that intimate posture.

All the while, Tony wore a blank expression without even sparing Hayley a glance. Feeling slightly awkward, Myra greeted Hayley instead. "Hello, Miss Boulanger."

But then, Hayley didn't seem to notice her at all as she continued to stare at Tony. Just when they were about to pass her by, she bit on her lip before speaking. "Mr. Hart, I would like to speak to you alone."

As if he didn't hear Hayley at all, Tony walked on without stopping. Feeling surprised, Myra turned to check the gaze that Hayley held while staring at Tony, which triggered an odd feeling within her. "Tony, the nurse is talking to you." Myra nudged Tony using her elbow.

Lowering his head, Tony kissed her on the forehead. "Come on. We can ignore inconsequential people." Although he had such a gentle expression when he was looking at Myra, he kept an expressionless face when he glanced at Hayley.

When Hayley noticed that, her face darkened, and she clenched her fists tightly. "Mr. Hart, is there some sort of misunderstanding between us?" She sounded bitter as she spoke, but her gaze was resolute. "Mr. Hart, if that is the case, I can give you an explanation."

Myra would be an idiot if she wasn't able to decipher what Hayley had in mind by that point. Having arrived at the hospital as an intern not long ago, Hayley was beautiful, had a great physique, and was also a top student. Most women who met Tony were hardly immune to his charms, so Myra was certain Hayley had fallen for him when she looked into Hayley's eyes.

So she is after my man... Myra squinted, but she heaved a sigh after that. Fine. She's just a university student who hasn't even graduated. I don't need to get all worked up because of this. Therefore, she held back Tony before lifting her head to smile at him. "Let her talk since there is a misunderstanding. Don't just walk away with such a stone-cold expression. She had taken care of you for such a long time after all."

Despite the fact that Tony was wearing a frown while being held back by Myra, he finally stopped in his tracks before turning around to face Hayley, who didn't take Myra's actions kindly. She perceived it as a slight, and that Myra was just showing off the fact that nobody other than her was able to influence Tony.

Such thoughts soured Hayley's mood, but she didn't want to lose the opportunity to talk to Tony. Ignoring the awkward look on Alvin's face, she bit her lip while walking toward Tony and Myra. Then, she tucked a strand of hair behind her ear to reveal her delicate ear. Feeling

slightly uneasy, she said, "Mr. Hart, although I am a fresh intern, the lead nurse is appreciative of my skills and abilities. I am as good as other nurses. Besides, I have a letter of recommendation from my lecturer, which is proof that I worked my way up to the position. Thus, it is advisable that you secure my help in your recovery process, as I will be able to perform better than other nurses."

Her face was flushed due to embarrassment, which coupled with those clear eyes of hers, she was practically shining. However, Tony merely observed her with a look of indifference. "Are you done?"

Hayley froze before she glanced at Myra and nodded slowly. Upon seeing that, Tony returned a curt nod before turning around with Myra in his arms as they left together. To him, what Hayley said was pointless, as he didn't usually waste time on inconsequential people.

By then, Myra smiled as she mused, Tony must have recognized Hayley's intentions early on, which is why he treated her so indifferently. It seems like this is also the reason that this beautiful nurse isn't included in the list of medical personnel in charge of the checkups conducted in his house.

All of a sudden, she recalled the situation back when she was still with Sean. He had a lot of women around him, to the point that rumors among his employees indicated that he would never turn down a woman as long as she was beautiful enough. Back then, she was constantly exhausted from trying to chase those women away. On the contrary, she never had to worry about that when she was with Tony.

At that thought, she grasped onto Tony's hand tightly without paying attention to the upset-looking Hayley behind them. Then, she suddenly stopped in her tracks to stand on her toes before giving Tony a kiss on the cheek. After that, she leaned in closer to whisper into his ear, "This is your reward." With that, she dragged him along to leave the hospital. She wouldn't give Hayley a chance, more so when Tony didn't even fancy her.

Behind them, Alvin stared at their retreating figures before heaving a sigh. He walked out of his office to give Hayley, who was frozen on the spot, a pat on her shoulder. "Cheer up, Miss Boulanger. Everybody has someone who is fated for them. You can't have something that isn't meant for you."

Upon hearing that, Hayley hung her head low to cover up the look of dejection in her eyes.

On the other hand, Myra sighed as she got into the car outside the hospital. "You sure are lucky to constantly have beautiful women coming after you. I feel like I am such a bother. If it weren't for me, you could have had so many women."

With a half smirk on his face, Tony glanced at her. She was about to buckle up her seat belt, so he leaned in to take it from her. When he buckled it up for her, he gave her a peck on the lips. "Do you want me to go after all those women?"

Rolling her eyes, she replied, "You can if you wish to. I won't hinder you in your pursuit."

"You cheeky brat! Say what you mean!" He pinched her cheek. It felt nice to the touch, so he went on to rub them, which earned him her glare. She had gained some weight as of late, so her face had gotten chubbier as a result. Tony seemed to like to pinch and rub her cheeks—a gesture that was seemingly reminding her that she had gained weight.

"I'm going to skip lunch!" She pulled her lips into a thin line.

"You have to eat. I will be extremely sorry if a diet affects your health even if you don't feel sorry for yourself." Tony didn't even flinch when he said such icky words.

For a moment, Myra was rendered speechless by his words, but she told him the truth afterward. "Well... I felt happy just now." She couldn't help but reach out to grab his hand. "You are mine, so you will have to keep your eyes on me even when other women give you their attention, just like what you did just now. Do you hear me?"