

The Day I Kissed An Older Man By Cher the Cherished

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A frown appeared on Lucas's face; he was not happy at all.

"How could this be? Lucas, don't you find it weird that the only memory card that's missing is the one in Bamboo Forest?" asked Anya with exaggerated surprise.

Lucas thought so too. The surveillance system was fixed but there was no memory card in just one of the security cameras. It would be hard-pressed for anyone to see this as a coincidence.

Suddenly, he turned around and looked suspiciously at Corinne.

Anya finally saw what she was hoping to see in Lucas' eyes. She, too, followed Lucas' gaze to look at Corinne. Then she pretended a thought just come to her and said, "Corinne, I remember you were the last one to leave the room after Jeremy and I rushed Joey to the hospital Did you perhaps stay to steal the memory card so there'll be no evidence of what you did?"

Lucas became even more suspicious of Corinne after hearing what Anya said. "Corinne, how do you explain this?"

"I didn't steal any memory card," Corinne said, though it would be hard to convince anyone. since she did not have any proof.

Anya shook her head and said in disbelief, "I get it now! Corinne, you must've stolen the memory card before we even got into the room. That's why you so confidently asked us to come here to check the surveillance footage to prove your innocence! All this is a ruse to trick us into believing that you're not guilty. Am I right?"

As soon as she entered the restaurant, Corinne did nothing but wait quietly by the side to see how things would develop. From the moment Anya suddenly had a change in the attitude of wanting to come to the restaurant to check the surveillance camera, Corinne knew the truth. would not come out that easily. Thus, she was not surprised that Lucas and Anya would be pointing their fingers at her once they discovered someone stole the memory card from Bamboo Forest.

However, the fact that the memory card was stolen meant that the security camera indeed recorded what happened in Bamboo Forest at the time they were in it. Meaning to say, Anya's lies would be exposed and that was why it had to be taken away.

'Anya has something to do with the missing memory card. I don't doubt that she's afraid to let anyone see what happened. But how did she do it when she was with us this whole time? There are only two possibilities. One, she sent someone to steal the memory card and two, she has bribed someone in this restaurant to clean up her mess!' thought Corinne.

Seeing Corinne saying nothing, Anya came to interrogate her, "Corinne, why aren't you saying anything? Are you finally willing to admit your wrongdoing? I would have forgiven you

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if you just admitted what you did at the beginning but you insisted on dragging everyone here and look what happened? I'm afraid even if I'm willing to forgive you now, my brother will not be as merciful as me."

Corinne continued to ignore Anya. She knew without a doubt that Anya was the culprit behind all of this. Instead, she turned around and asked the lady owner, "Excuse me, but can you tell me if any customers used that room after us?"

The lady owner shook her head. "No. It was past lunchtime by the time you all left so no customers came in after that."

'If no customers came in after us then it must be one of the staff here who took the

card.'

"Ma'am, do you know where is the waiter that brought the soup for us this afternoon?" Corinne asked again.

memory

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The lady owner became a little defensive. “That waiter should be in the staff dorm right now. He asked for a half-day leave 'cause he wasn't feeling too well. Why are you looking for him. anyway?”

“I have some questions I want to ask him about what happened in Bamboo Forest today,” Corinne replied.

“But I've already asked him what happened in Bamboo Forest. He said he had nothing to do with the kid getting burned. Forgive me for saying this, but you all shouldn't involve my staff in whatever grievances you have with each other. He's just a young kid who has no choice but to come out and work to support his family.”

Corinne nodded and smiled to show she empathized with the lady owner's concern. “Don't worry. I just want to ask him some questions. I promise I won't make his life any more difficult than it already is.”

On one hand, the lady owner wanted to protect her staff, and on the other, she did not want to offend her customers so after thinking it through, she called out to one of the waiters who was cleaning up a table and said, “Go to the staff dorm and tell Oliver to come to see me.”

Very soon after, Oliver came walking into the restaurant with his head drooping.

“Ma'am, you've asked to see me?”

“The customers who dined in Bamboo Forest this afternoon want to ask you some questions. but there's no need to worry 'cause you only need to tell them what you've told me,” said the

lady owner.

Oliver raised his head and looked toward where the lady owner was pointing. His face immediately tensed up when he saw Corinne and the others standing there. However, the next moment, he pointed at Corinne and shouted, “Ma'am, that's her! She was the one who snatched the bowl of soup away from me. I was carrying the soup over to her friend over there when she snatched the bowl of soup away from me and threw it all over the kid who came with them!”

Everyone immediately turned to look at Corinne with judgment and anger in their eyes.

Corinne was sure that Oliver was the waiter who brought in the bowl of soup to them. However, it was weird how his story perfectly matched up with Anya's. Her expression gradually became complicated, not because everyone was looking at her with accusing eyes, but because she knew she did not hurt Joey and yet she could not explain why Anya and Oliver, who did not seem like they knew each other, could come up with the same lie!

From this, Corinne could confirm that Anya and Oliver had some secret way of contacting each other to make sure both of their stories synced up. She initially thought what happened to

Joey was pure accident, that Oliver ran away because he was afraid of the consequences, and that Anya thought she might as well use this opportunity to frame Corinne, but now she knew things were not as simple as they seemed.

The truth was even more abominable.

If her conjecture was true, it would mean Anya told Oliver beforehand what he should say to the others and it would also mean, Oliver did not accidentally trip and caused the bowl of soup to fall onto Joey but he did it intentionally and under Anya's order!

'It was not an accident at all. Anya planned this all along just so she could make me look bad. What kind of mother would do this to her child? She's a monster!' thought Corinne. She was shocked at the discovery and also shocked at what a person would be willing to do to achieve.

their aim.

"Corinne, the witness already came out with the truth so what do you have to say for yourself?"

asked Lucas angrily. His patience was at its limits and he wished for nothing more than to lock Corinne up in jail and throw away the key.

"Corinne, why don't you just come clean already? If you do, I promise I'll ask my brother to go easy on you," said Anya tearfully.

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Corinne slowly came back to her senses. She looked at the furious Lucas and then at the two-faced Anya.

Suddenly, she laughed. "Mister Lucas, you can't call this Oliver a witness."

Lucas glared at her. "Why not? He and Anya don't know each other and yet their testimonies are the same! Isn't that enough?"

"They don't know each other? Ha! Looks like Mister Lucas still doesn't know how devious his little sister is. Well, let me enlighten him today!" thought Corinne.

"Mister Lucas, please give me ten minutes and I'll prove why Oliver cannot be a witness and why we shouldn't take his testimony seriously."

Corinne was not in a hurry to refute Lucas's words but instead asked him for ten minutes.

Lucas agreed to give her ten minutes since it would make a difference to the outcome. He wanted to see her suffer through the realization that there was nothing she could do to turn the tables.

Anya, too, was confident that she would come out the winner in this case. After all, she already told Oliver to take out the memory card and destroy it earlier in the day. There was no way Corinne could get out of this, no matter how hard she tried.

"You said I was the one who snatched the bowl of soup away from you and poured it all over the kid. Then, answer me this, which hand did I use to snatch the bowl of soup away from you?" Corinne asked Oliver calmly.

Hesitation immediately flashed across Oliver's eyes. He instinctively sneaked a peek at Anya. but she refused to look at him.

"Everything happened so suddenly that I don't remember some of the details."

Corinne was not in a rush. “Okay, it’s fine if you don’t remember. I’m going to ask

more questions and I hope you’ll answer them honestly.”

Oliver frowned. “Ask whatever you want. I have nothing to hide!”

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Corinne looked into Oliver’s wavering eyes and asked, “Did you ever go into Bamboo Forest again after the five of us left the restaurant?”

Oliver immediately shook his head and answered, “No!”

Corinne narrowed her eyes. “Are you sure about that?”

“Yes, I’m a hundred percent sure about that!” Oliver replied resolutely.

Corinne nodded. “Great. I need you to remember what you said just now.”

She then turned around, looked at the software engineer Lucas brought to the restaurant, and asked him politely, “Excuse me, Mister Software Engineer, you said just now it’s impossible to get the surveillance footage of Bamboo Forest since the memory card is missing but could you perhaps show us the surveillance footage from other places?”

“Yes, of course.”

Corinne smirked. “Then can you please show us the surveillance footage of the corridor in front of Bamboo Forest? I want to see if Oliver went into the room again after we have left the

restaurant.”

All the colors immediately drained out of Oliver’s face when he heard what Corinne said. He started to panic and looked helplessly at Anya.

‘Sh*t! I never thought Corinne would want to check the surveillance footage in the corridor!’ thought Anya.

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“Sure thing.” The software engineer immediately sat back down in front of the computer to get the surveillance footage Corinne asked for.

Doing that required some time and Corinne was a little tired of standing so she looked around the restaurant for an empty chair she could pull over and sit. However, while she was doing that, she happened to meet Jeremy’s deep, dark eyes.

Jeremy followed them to the restaurant because the matter involved his son but he did not insert himself in their investigation. Instead, he situated himself at a round table not far from where they were and lit up a cigarette languidly as though the whole thing had nothing to do with him and he was only there to watch the show.

The cigarette smoke obscured Jeremy from Corinne so it was hard for her to tell what he was

thinking. She was starting to wonder whether he cared about Anya and Joey at all.

Suddenly, someone passed her a bottle of mineral water. This pulled her out of her thoughts; she looked down at the bottle of mineral water and then up at Jason’s alluring and gentle smiling face.

“Thank you,” she said as she accepted the bottle of mineral water. She was indeed thirsty.

Corinne twisted open the cap and took a sip of the water while sneaking a peek at Anya. ‘She still looks calm. I have to admit her acting skill is top-notch. That Oliver, however, looks like he’s about to have a nervous breakdown. Look at his shifty eyes and flicking fingers.’

After a few minutes, the software engineer stood up and reported, “Mister Lucas, Oliver did go into Bamboo Forest once after Miss Anya and her friends left the restaurant. He came out after a minute or so. I’ve already cut out the said footage for you to take a look at.”

Lucas walked over and watched the surveillance footage. Oliver indeed did go into Bamboo Forest 20 minutes before the group arrived at the restaurant for

the second time. He then glared at Corinne and asked, "So what if Oliver went into Bamboo Forest again? That doesn't prove anything."

"Mister Lucas, isn't this proof enough that he was the one who took the memory card out of the security camera?" asked Corinne.

Lucas did a double-take of Oliver up and down. "Are you the one who took away the memory

card?"

Oliver immediately shook his head so hard that his eyeballs nearly fell from their socket. "No! It wasn't me! I don't know what you're talking about!"

Corinne slowly twisted the cap of the mineral water bottle open while she languidly said, "Oliver, you're already caught by the security camera to have gone into Bamboo Forest after we left and you're still trying to worm your way out of this?"

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"I went in to clean the place up!"

"Oh, really? only needed one minute to do that? I must applaud you for your efficiency but why did you lie just now? Why did you say you didn't go in after we left when you did? What are you trying to hide?"

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"I just forgot about it, that's all! Do you know how many rooms I have to clean up every day? It stands to reason I'll forget which is which," said Oliver stubbornly.

Corinne smiled. "Oh my, your memory isn't that great huh? Now I'm worried whether you've ever mixed up the orders you're in charge of. Though I must wonder why the owner of this restaurant would keep you on the job if your memory is as bad as you've implied."

Oliver guiltily shifted his eyes away from her. "No! It's only today my memory isn't that great cause, 'cause I'm not feeling well. Miss, why do you insist on

pushing the blame on me when you're the one who snatched the bowl of soup away from me and poured it all over the kid?"

"Did I say you have anything to do with that? I'm just asking you where the memory card is." Corinne suddenly smiled but only for a second before her face became serious again. "Oliver, it's still not too late for you to hand over the memory card now. Otherwise, I'll call the police and they have ways of finding out who took the memory card.

"I do believe that you were cautious enough to wipe away the fingerprints on the security camera but what you might know is, the police became more advanced in recent years so even if you've wiped away the fingerprints, you'll still leave behind some of your skin cells and those can stay in the air for up to 24 hours.

"The police would only need to collect some of the skin cells and compare it to the suspect's DNA to determine whether he's the perpetrator. This is what they called the Touch DNA method. The police might even suspect you had the intention to hurt the kid if they found out. you were trying to hide the fact that you were the one who took the memory card."

Corinne explained everything so confidently that Jeremy, Jason, and Lucas – who were all highly educated – became slightly mystified. They exchanged glances with each other, thinking they must have been living under the rock up till now to have never heard of this method called Touch DNA.

However, what they did not know was Corinne made everything up. There was no such thing as Touch DNA. She only came up with all that to scare Oliver into confessing.

Oliver who was not that highly educated did not understand the words that came out of Corinne's mouth. He could, however, tell she was highly educated so he believed her. Thus, he started panicking, thinking the police had the way to put him at the crime scene using his DNA.

"No! That's not it! Why would I want to hurt an innocent kid when I have no grievances toward any of you?"

"Then tell me, did you or did you not take the memory card out of the security camera and if you did, whose order did you do it under?" asked Corinne, giving him the final blow.

Oliver was sweating profusely. He instinctively glanced at Anya and said, "She, she was the

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one who-"

The truth was about to come out.

Corinne narrowed her eyes. "Who is she?"

Oliver looked helplessly at Anya. He was about to break. "She's, she's "

Suddenly, Anya started coughing vehemently as though something was stuck in her throat.

Cough! Cough! Cough!

"What's the matter, Anya?" Lucas held her and patted her on the back worriedly.

After a while, she finally stopped coughing. Pale in the face, she said weakly, "I'm fine, Lucas.

I just suddenly smelled the grease and smoke coming from the back kitchen, that's all."

Relieved, Lucas said, "I'm just glad you're okay."

However, at the time that Anya was coughing, she secretly gave Oliver a warning look.

Oliver was shocked. The sudden threat made him change his mind. Thus, he pointed at Corinne and said, "It's you! You were the one who ordered me to take out the memory card from the security camera! You said you didn't want to go to jail for hurting the kid so you paid me a lump sum of money to help you destroy the evidence! And now you're trying to pin the blame on me! How could you do something like this?"

Corinne frowned. 'Looks like Anya manages to save herself again.'

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“When did I order you to take out and destroy the memory card? What communication method did I use to do that? Which bank did I use to wire you the money? And just how much did I wire you?”

Corinne shot out question after question at Oliver to confuse him. She was certain Oliver was lying. ‘Anya must have somehow threatened him when she was coughing. If not, he wouldn’t have changed his mind. What does Anya have to make him so scared of her?’

However, a last-minute fib would not be perfect. Meaning to say, it would be easy for Corinne to prove that he was lying.

Oliver started panicking again and stammered, “You contacted me 30 minutes ago using a social media app, then you wired me 15,000 dollars!”

Corinne raised her eyebrow. “Oh? Social media app, you say? Surely you must have our chat history then? Why don’t you show it to everyone here.”

Oliver took a gulp and said, “As if I would still keep the chat history. You’ve ordered me to

delete all of our conversations after that.”

“Is that so? I seem to remember this is our first time meeting so how could you possibly know my social media account?”

“You! You came to find me before you left the restaurant and asked for my social media account. Why are you pretending like that didn’t happen?”

Corinne snorted coldly. “How could I ask you for your social media account when you’re already gone by the time I left the restaurant? And even if what you said is true, I asked you for your social media account and wired you some money in return for destroying the evidence. Then why, when you first saw me, did you accuse me of snatching the bowl of soup from you and throwing it all over the kid?”

“I mean, wouldn’t it make more sense to help me hide the truth since you’ve already accepted the money from me? Oliver, don’t you think all the things you’ve said so far are very contradictory and illogical?”

Oliver's forehead became completely slicked with sweat by then. Corinne's reasoning skill was at a level way beyond his, and he was about to lose his ground.

"You're the one who asked me to accuse you since you said that it'll make it look more believable!"

Corinne let out a chuckle. "More believable? Why would I want it to look more believable? It's more believable that you took my money and sold me out after that."

Anya started to curse Oliver in her heart. 'Just how useless can he be? He can't even come up

with a good lie! I guess I have no choice but to step up now.'

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After putting on an expression of pity, as though she could not bear Corinne bullying the underdog, she pulled Lucas's arms and said with red eyes, "Lucas, look at how Corinne is trying to force the waiter into making a false confession. How can she do that to an innocent person? I think, I think she has gone overboard this time!"

Lucas looked down on Anya

who looked like she was about to cry

and frowned, then he

turned to look at Corinne impatiently.

At that moment, Edmund reported what he found to Lucas.

"Mister Lucas, I've already checked Oliver's bank account and confirmed he received a wire

transfer of 15,000 dollars around 30 minutes ago."

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That seemed to have sealed Corinne's fate because, in Lucas's eyes, there was no more doubt. as to whether she was the real mastermind behind all of this.

"That's enough, Corinne! You can stop trying to worm your way out of this since no one here. will ever believe you again."

Still, with the same relaxed expression on her face, Corinne looked at him and said, "Mister Lucas, don't you think none of the accusations the waiter threw at me make any sense?"

Lucas' face darkened. "Then tell me, why would a waiter who you have never met in your life suddenly frame you like this?"

Corinne was disgusted by how Lucas would lose his reasoning whenever the matter involved Anya. She smiled mockingly and said, "Mister Lucas, is there a possibility that the waiter is trying to pass the blame to me because he's afraid of facing the consequence of hurting your nephew?"

"And also is there a possibility that he took away the memory card in the security camera because he was trying to destroy any evidence that would point to his crime? And if I guessed correctly, the money was wired into his account anonymously. Meaning to say, anyone could have wired him that money to make his story seem more believable."

She then looked pointedly at Anya. It was obvious what she was trying to get at.

Anya acted like she was affronted. She leaned anxiously against Lucas and said, "Lucas, why is Corinne looking at me like that? I didn't do anything to her!"

Lucas was worried Anya would be frightened by Corinne's threatening appearance, so he put his arm protectively around her and patted her on the shoulder to calm her down. Then, his face darkened as he glared at Corinne.

"Corinne, it's a shame as you would have done well for yourself if you've just used your brain for something other than this. But now, you only have two options – you either turn yourself in at the police station or I can report you to the police."

Corinne rolled her eyes at him. She was visibly annoyed by Lucas' blindness to Anya's antics. ' Huh! It's hopeless for me to think you'll see the truth for what it is and you're wrong, there is a third option and that is me proving my innocence!'

She took a few steps forward and rudely pushed away Lucas and Anya before making her way to the payment counter. Then she said to the software engineer still seated inside, "Excuse

but can you please get up? I want to check something."

me,

For some reason, the software engineer was cowed by the fuming Corinne. However, he did not dare to let her check the surveillance footage without Lucas' permission so he threw a questioning look at his boss.

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Lucas was unhappy at being pushed by Corinne. Frowning, he gave the software engineer's silent question some thought before finally giving him a nod. 'Let's see what she'll try to do this time. She's a stubborn one, alright.'

After getting Lucas' permission, the software engineer stood up to make way for Corinne, who immediately sat down and toggled around with the buttons on the surveillance system

software.

'Only the memory card inside Bamboo Forest has been taken out so that means I can use the surveillance footage from the other cameras to prove my innocence. Since Anya's and Oliver's stories matched up perfectly! The two of them must have met up with each other before this and the most plausible time for them to do that was when Anya left the restroom as long as I can find that footage, I can prove the mastermind to be Anya and not me!' thought Corinne.

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Anya was not worried at all when she saw Corinne busying herself at the computer. She found the whole thing laughable.

“The memory card in Bamboo Forest has already been destroyed so there’s no way she could find anything even if she spent the whole day in front of that computer. And up till now, instead of speaking up for her, Jeremy has only been quietly sitting by the side. Seems like he’s disappointed in her which is a good thing for me. All my efforts would have been well worth it as long as he believes Corinne to be the type of evil woman who would hurt an innocent child,” thought Anya.

She was secretly jumping for joy but on the surface, she let out a helpless sigh before innocently walking up to the counter and said softly, “Corinne, why don’t you just give up your act and come clean with your crime? As I said, I’m willing to ask Lucas to show you mercy

you just admit what you’ve done!”

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Corinne completely ignored Anya. She did not even raise any of her eyebrows. Instead, she kept her attention focused on the computer and after hitting the enter key twice, she said, “All done!”

She then raised her hand and waved Lucas over. “Mister Lucas, please take a look at this.”

Lucas frowned and impatiently walked over to the computer. “What is it?”

Corinne cut out two surveillance footage. She stood up and respectfully gestured for Lucas to sit down. “Mister Lucas, please have a seat first and I’ll show you the footage soon enough.

Lucas’s patience was at its limit by then. He sat down with a frown and looked at the video file. displayed on the computer screen, waiting to hear just how Corinne was going to get herself

out of this.

Corinne stood beside him and leaned over to use the mouse. She clicked on one of the video files and said, “Mister Lucas, this video is around an hour long and it’s from the time I, Mister Jason, Mister Jeremy, and Miss Anya

enter and leave the restaurant. It's compiled from all the security cameras situated around the restaurant.

"I'm playing the video for you at high speed now, and you can see that I had not communication whatsoever with Oliver from the beginning to the end. We did not meet before he entered the room with the bowl of soup and nor did I ask him for his contact details before I left the restaurant."

Frowning, Lucas watched the video being played at high speed. He narrowed his eyes, obviously still a little suspicious of Corinne.

Corinne noticed this so she added, "Don't worry, Mister Lucas. The video might be playing at high speed but I can promise you I didn't edit it beforehand. You can ask the software engineer

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you brought with you to confirm this later."

Lucas scoffed. "This doesn't prove anything! You might have met up with the waiter at one of the security camera's blindspots!"

Corinne smirked. "I know this is quite a stretch. That's why I've prepared another 10-minute footage for you to watch."

She then clicked on the other video file.

"Mister Lucas, this footage is from the security camera positioned at the entrance of the restroom, and as you can see, after she came out of the restroom, Anya called Oliver over and the two of them talked for almost five minutes. Do you want to guess as to what they might be talking about?"

Lucas's face immediately darkened when he saw the second footage. He then fixed his gaze on Anya, who witnessed everything that happened from the side.

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At that moment, Anya's expression stiffened and her eyes were wavering with guilt. It never crossed her mind that Corinne would be able to find footage of her and Oliver talking with

each other.

"Mister Lucas, please take a closer look. Miss Anya's hand came in contact with Oliver's hand while they were talking."

Corinne rewound the video by around 10 seconds or so and put it in slow-motion.

"Look, their hand movements are very obvious. You can see Miss Anya taking something out of her pocket and stuffing it into Oliver's hand. Mister Lucas, would two people who don't know each other need to sneak around and pass things to each other while talking?"

At that moment, Corinne's tone was filled with sarcasm, but it was not too much. She was just giving Lucas a taste of his own medicine.

Lucas did not say anything. Instead, he just watched the two footage quietly while the expression on his face became colder and colder. After that, he stood up and looked deeply

into Anya's eyes.

"Anya, do you know this waiter?" he asked, choking with mixed emotions.

Even though Anya felt guilty, she still remembered to keep up her innocent act. She looked back at Lucas with her big sad puppy dog eyes and shook her head like a little girl. "No! I don't know him at all!"

"Then what were the two of you talking about and what did you pass him? Explain all this now!" Lucas said sternly.

Lucas never spoke so sternly to Anya before so it stood to reason she would be frightened. She started to panic, thinking that she might lose Lucas's trust in her. She knew there was nothing Lucas hated more than being lied to.

She quickly put on a pitiful expression and said tearfully, "Lucas, I told the waiter I wanted to add some things to our order! I swear I didn't say anything else to him!"

Lucas did not say anything but it was obvious he did not buy Anya's explanation.

Corinne smiled. "What a weird kink you have, Miss Anya, to order food in front of a restroom

and for five minutes at that. I wonder what you ordered?"

The expression on Anya's face became unnatural but still, she did not break. She quickly thought of an explanation and tearfully said, "Corinne, can you not mock me? I saw you throwing up in the restroom so I thought I'll ask the waiter whether the restaurant serves anything easier on the stomach. I remembered you said your stomach isn't feeling that well so I wanted to order something lighter for

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Score 9.9

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Chapter 550 Corinne raised her eyebrow and smiled. "And so, what did you order for me? How come I never saw any of that on the table just now?"

"I didn't order anything 'cause the waiter said we've already ordered too much. It won't be good to waste food. So, I decided to take his advice and not order anything in the end."

"So what you're saying is you've talked to the waiter for five minutes and came away not ordering anything? Mister Lucas, do you have anything to say about that?"

Amongst all the other complicated emotions, one stood out above the rest and that was the disappointment in Lucas's eyes. He did not answer Corinne. Instead, he sternly asked Anya. another question, "Anya, what did you give the waiter just now?!"

Anya looked tearfully at Lucas. "I was just giving him some tips. Is that so wrong?"

Lucas frowned. "Just some tips?"

Anya nodded innocently. “Yes! I thought I should give him some tip because he spent all that time patiently recommending food for me but I didn’t order anything in the end.”

Corinne smirked. “Didn’t you say that the waiter advised you against ordering more food since we’ve already ordered so much? And now you’re saying he spent all that time recommending what to order? Besides, it’s normal to give tips so why do you act like you’re doing something illegal?”

Anya knew every word of Corinne’s was aimed to unravel her lies so she ignored her and focused all of her theatrics on her brother. “Lucas, you know I have a habit of giving the wait staff tips, right? I did it secretly because I wanted to make sure his colleague didn’t see it; that way he can have the tip all to himself.”

Lucas narrowed his eyes and looked at Anya’s innocent face. He could not do it. He could never think of his precious little sister as a scheming, manipulative b*tch.

“Hmph! Mister Lucas, if you believe her half-*ss explanation then I have nothing else to say. You might as well call the police now,” said Corinne.

Lucas frowned and then turned around to look at the dazed and panicking Oliver.

“You. Tell me what did the two of you talk about and what did she stuff into your hand!”

Oliver was about to repeat what Anya told him when Corinne cocked her head, smiled, and said, “Oliver, might I remind you that this is your last chance, to tell the truth. Mister Lucas here will call the police if you dare to trick or lie to us again. He won’t stop until he gets to the bottom of the truth of who hurt his nephew.”

Oliver’s heart started pounding in his chest. He never expected things would become so complicated and was frightened by then. ‘I shouldn’t have been blinded by all that money. How am I going to get myself out of this?’

The pressure from both sides caused him to hesitate. However, thinking he would get leniency if he came out with the truth, he finally decided to come clean. "Miss Anya called me over because-"

Lucas' face tensed up. "Because of what?"

Here, Oliver nervously stole a glance at Anya and saw her glaring at him as if warning him not to say anything that would put them both in trouble.

'What should I do? She's got something over me!' thought Oliver.

Chapter 550

Previously, Anya came to this very restaurant with her friends and witnessed him stealing a customer's phone and putting it in his pocket. The security camera did not pick up anything because it happened in one of its blindspots but Anya recorded the whole thing on her phone.

This incident, coupled with the temptation of money, gave him the impetus to work together with Anya to frame Corinne. At first, he refused because he did not want to hurt an innocent child but Anya threatened to report him to the lady owner with the video as evidence, which he knew would result in him losing the job.