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Seeing that Tobias was reluctant to speak for a long while, Skylar nudged herself gently in his embrace like a kitten. "Are you mad at me? I only did so because I had no choice."

As she spoke, she lifted her head and started kissing his jaw affectionately. Even though Tobias was reluctant to kiss her back, the anger within his eyes started to fade.

Tobias sullenly sent Skylar back home after the incident was settled.

People always said that absence made the heart grow fonder. If it were before, whenever

Tobias met her, he would stare at her like a hungry beast, eager to take her to bed. With that, his current indifference really concerned Skylar a lot.

The man wanted to leave soon after Skylar got out of the car. When the woman asked if he would come over again, he only gave a short response. "We'll see when the time comes."

Skylar did not hold much expectation anymore, as she figured that concluded their meeting for the day.

The moment she entered her house, she was startled to see Miranda sitting on the couch

waiting for her. Only then did she remember that Miranda knew her password.

Spotting Miranda's decadent expression, Skylar asked casually, "Did you quarrel with your husband again? Please don't whine in front of me. I couldn't care less about your marriage problem."

Upon hearing that, the other woman choked on her words and started complaining in a low

voice, "Could you please care more for me? After all, I'm still your mother. Even if I didn't raise you, I was the one who gave birth to you."

Skylar shot her a self-deprecating smile. "If I knew my parents would be you, I would not have come to this world."

As expected, Miranda could not suppress the troubles in her heart. "Your dad's company got

into trouble, and Tobias refused to lay a hand. Your father had no choice but to beg Irene for help. I'm afraid they won't be able to get a divorce if so."

Feeling utterly annoyed, Skylar uttered, "They haven't divorced, yet you've moved in with him.

Isn't this considered illegal cohabitation? You're not a young teenager anymore.

Could you

please be wiser with your life decisions?"

Not to be outdone, Miranda shot back at Skylar. "You're also living with Tobias without any

clear commitment. Why don't you school yourself?"

Skylar was lost for words. Nobody can wake someone who's pretending to sleep.

Her head was still spinning from the incident at the parking lot. She was dying for some rest

to clear her head from the conflict with that b*tch.

Just then, Miranda opened her mouth again. "Since Tobias is not helping, you're the only

one I have left. How much money do you have right now? Could you please help Dad to

overcome this crisis?"

Skylar's lips curled into an unnatural smile, for the money she possessed would only be a

drop in the bucket for Quest Group.

Even if she had enough money, she would never help Thomas.

With a cold tone, she rejected, "I can't help you. Please find someone else."

Upon hearing that, Miranda bawled her eyes out in front of Skylar. "The only reason that got

me through those years in prison was the hope to see your dad getting back together with

me. You won't want me to grow old and die alone, will you?"

Skylar's eyes furrowed. "You went into the prison as a scapegoat, didn't you? You and

Thomas knew who was the one that murdered Irene's sister. I bet he would not leave you if

you use that as your bargaining chip."

Miranda stopped crying instantly, as she had expected Skylar to figure out the whole case.

Nevertheless, the former refused to admit the truth. "What nonsense are you talking about?

Do you think you're an actress inside a crime film?"

Skylar shrugged. "No crime film would want me as their actress."

Miranda had made a wrong move. Even if she threatened Thomas with the murder, it would

be meaningless if the man failed to solve the crisis of Quest Group. He would end up in jail

too.

Thomas was, without a doubt, a mean man. As he was confident Miranda would never let

him face the sentence of the law, he requested her to solve the current problem in Quest Group as a condition to resume their relationship. With that, the woman was left with no choice but to approach Skylar. Miranda had been pushed to the edge of the cliff. "I don't care. You've got to help me with this. If not, I will die in front of you."

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Upon saying that, Miranda left the house abruptly. However, Skylar did not take her mother's threat seriously. What a joke. Who would dare to end their own life so quickly? Skylar was still in the middle of her diet plan to lose weight within half a month. Thus she did not eat anything after six in the afternoon. She could not forget how Amelia looked down on her weight. Who says I can't control my weight? I'll prove that I'm qualified for this entertainment industry. She took a short nap and got ready to head down to the living room for her daily exercise routine. Just then, she noticed Tobias was sitting in the living room, busy replying to messages on his phone. The man had no idea that Skylar had woken up and was standing right behind him. She peeped from behind Tobias's phone screen without making a sound, spotting that he was messaging with a woman. The woman from the other end kept sending lengthy messages, while Tobias merely sent back brief responses. After sending the last message, only then did Tobias realize Skylar's existence.

"Online dating?" Skylar joked purposely. Compared to the morning, Tobias' expression had become more relaxed. "It's just work. Plus, do I look like I need online dating?" Skylar rolled her eyes internally. Yeah. You don't need it. You only need to say a word. Many women will offer themselves to you. "I thought you weren't coming over tonight, so I didn't prepare your dinner." Skylar leaned

forward as she spoke. As she was not wearing any bra, the upper half of her body could be seen by Tobias.

She knew how to seduce Tobias perfectly these days.

The man patted his thigh, and she automatically sat on it, with her arms wrapping gently around his neck.

Even though she did not know how to act coquettishly, she had mastered the art of seduction.

"I don't need dinner. I just need to eat you," Tobias teased with an utterly composed tone.

Skylar could not wrap her head around it, seeing Tobias acting unusually calm. If it were last

time, they would be entangling in the bed by now.

Trying to clear her thoughts, she got down from his thigh, wanting to prepare something for

him. There should be some frozen meatloaf in the fridge.

Before she could walk away, however, Tobias grabbed her hand and pulled her into his

embrace. "Stay away from Harry in the future, regardless of what reason you have. I didn't

want to stick my nose into your work, but it doesn't want I can tolerate you being close with

another man. Meeting at the workplace is fine, but you even went for a drink with him alone."

Skylar was momentarily stunned when Tobias finally mentioned that topic. She was secretly

elated for at least now she knew the man still cared for her.

"It was only a working relationship. I didn't expect that it would cause Ingrid to misunderstand. Maybe you should explain to her if you have the chance so that it won't be awkward in the future."

Tobias' eyes filled with disdain. "Why should I explain anything to her? We're not very close.

Plus, a human like her should never exist in this world. Before she fell in love with Harry, he

had a girlfriend and a child. But Ingrid forcefully made Harry leave his girlfriend. And I have

no idea what she has done to the girlfriend's child."

Skylar's heart skipped a beat upon hearing that. What kind of human would harm an innocent child?

The situation was more complicated than she expected.

She recoiled in fear. "I wonder if she will do anything to me too?"

Out of a sudden, Tobias cast a deep kiss upon her lips. "As long as you listen to me, no one

will be able to do anything to you. But if you meet with Harry again, it'll be over between us.
I've been indulging you too much."

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It was the first time Tobias threatened to break up with Skylar, making the latter hit rock

bottom.

In the world of love, whoever took it seriously would be the loser. When Skylar first started

dating Tobias, she had always wanted to escape from him.

Never had she thought that one day she could not bear to lose him.

Even though they did not see each other daily or even through video calls, she would feel

uneasy if she did not meet him for a few days.

For the next half month, Skylar's schedule was fully packed. She flew almost every day,

diligently promoting her latest film.

Whenever the journalists asked about Harry, initially, she would still try to answer.

But

eventually, she gave up on responding and left it entirely to her agent.

Needless to say, she was scared to accidentally step on Ingrid's tail.

No one would want to fool around with Ingrid's arrogance.

On the other hand, Harry got entirely under the radar recently – his latest Instagram post

was still the poster of Unrequited Love.

On the day the film was released, Skylar arrived at the premiere in an elegant white dress.

Her long hair relaxingly covered her bare shoulder while her ears were decorated with two,

heavy, white pearls.

Recently, she tended to attend such occasions with only light makeup, which was in line

with the recent public's aesthetics towards female stars.

It was a complete contrast to her previous appearance with heavy makeup, which gave

people an impression of offensive arrogance.

At that moment, Kai was engaging in a conversation with Katrina. But as soon as he spotted

Skylar, he immediately got up and took the seat beside her.

He was secretly elated as the premiere turned out to be a precious opportunity to watch a

movie with Skylar.

Honestly, if Skylar were to rate her performance, she would not give herself more than five out of ten. Even though she had tried her best, the outcome did not reach her expectations.

On the other hand, Kai's performance was relatively impressive.

Nevertheless, Kai still could not get his head over the fact that many predicted him to have a failed acting career. He had been predicted to go back to live on his father's tremendous heritage.

However, the more sarcastic those comments might be, they were more flattering in some ways.

At this thought, Skylar started to imagine her option if her acting career were to fail. She

would become a housewife doing household daily while waiting to be pampered by Tobias occasionally.

What a pathetic life it would be.

She got on the last flight heading towards Mojo as soon as the premiere ended. Kai was

coincidentally on the same flight.

By the time the plane arrived at the destination, it was already eleven in the evening.

Kai

courteously offered, "Let me send you home..."

Skylar would not have accepted the offer since her driver was already waiting for her at the parking area.

Whenever she walked past a parking area, she could feel a chill from her back, as Ingrid's incident had left a massive trauma inside her.

The story of Ingrid and Harry had made her lose her trust totally in humans.

Just then, she thought she heard someone calling her name. She turned around and spotted

Kai running towards her with heavy luggage on his back.

"Looks like I need a ride. My MPV has a flat tire."

Upon hearing that, Skylar tried hard to disguise her reluctance. But indeed, Kai had helped

her numerous times. It would seem highly petty for her to refuse to give him an easy ride.

As Skylar did not know where he lived, she asked him on behalf of her driver.

The address sounded extraordinarily familiar. "Hold on a second. Are you living with Tobias' mother?"

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Kai let out a smile. "It's just a temporary fix. It's normal for my aunt to take me in, isn't it?"

If that was the case, Skylar could only send him until one kilometer within the area.

He

would have to walk the remaining distance by foot.

After all, she did all this to prevent unnecessary trouble.

Skylar stared outside her car window, looking at the busy street and endless vehicles on the

road. She was especially fond of the freezing night wind as it helped her clear her mind

effectively.

She was not joking about the one-kilometer distance when she asked the driver to stop by a

convenience store located exactly one kilometer away from Claudia's house.

Kai started walking relaxingly after getting dropped off, while Skylar left without any hesitation.

It was past midnight when she arrived home, but her sleepiness disappeared when she

spotted a blue Porsche parked outside the house.

She hurriedly keyed in the door's password and entered the house, tingling with anticipation,

but to her dismay, she was welcomed with deserted quietness.

Tobias was not there. He had only parked the car outside.

Not long after Skylar sat down, she received a call from Tobias asking her to get to the top

floor of Tower 132 in Zachary Lane.

Before Skylar could ask why, Tobias had ended the call.

Recently, she had watched many videos on TikTok about how a man would surprise his

woman. There were all sorts of creative acts, ranging from a gift planted in the car's trunk to

a candlelit dinner on the balcony.

On her way there, she kept on imagining what sort of surprise Tobias had prepared for her.

Since when did he know to express romance? He's changed.

Little did she know that what was awaiting her was not a surprise but a bombshell.

The moment Skylar saw some police cars parked in front of the building, she sensed that

something terrible had happened. When she arrived at the top floor, she saw barricade

tapes cordoning the whole floor.

Skylar could see Miranda standing at the edge of the balcony. A few cops were nervously persuading her to stop moving. Tobias was there too. "I won't come down unless the problem's solved. I want to see my daughter." Miranda's emotion was volatile, and she would fall off from the twenty-third floor if her hand got off the handrail. Skylar had never expected that what her mother said to her earlier was not a joke; Miranda she actually meant to end her own life. The woman was willing to bet on her life for the sake of Thomas and Quest Group. "What do you want me to do? Come down now. Let's talk properly." Skylar paled in fright, trembling incessantly, Seeing Skylar arrive at the scene, only then was Miranda willing to step behind the railing. "Why didn't you answer any of my calls? And your dad is also the same. Why are you all forcing my hand?" She sounded as though she was the only victim. Tobias recalled what Claudia said to him, that he was stepping into a messy family.

At that moment, a feeling of despise rose within his heart. Skylar responded helplessly, "How do you want me to help you? I can't do what you're asking for." Looking that her daughter was still unwilling to help, Miranda yelled in despair. "Fine! Just let me die then. Skylar, you're the one who will make me die! Remember that!" Skylar fell into deep despair upon hearing that, but all the threats looked like a joke in Tobias' eyes. He could no longer endure this ridiculousness, so he finally opened his mouth. "Stop all this nonsense. I will help you. But if you jump down now, I won't even let Skylar handle your funeral. Make your choice." Finally, Miranda decided to come down from the balcony. Fortunately, there were not many residents in that building, so it did not cause much fuss. Skylar was also relieved that it did not attract any press, as this kind of headline would be a giant stain in her life.

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It would be great if money could buy out the family relationship. After Miranda caused such a mess one after another, Skylar got utterly disappointed in her. Tobias sent someone to comfort Miranda and promised he would help Quest Group. However, the woman was still skeptical and insisted he leave a written pledge. Tobias could not have felt more offended by her gesture. "If you don't trust me, then go ahead and continue with your act of committing suicide." Miranda was left speechless, while her heart was bewildered by how disrespectful Tobias treated her. After all, there was a chance for her to become his mother-in-law in the future. With that thought in mind, she suddenly felt unsatisfied with her daughter. This problem can be easily solved if Skylar is willing to beg Tobias. She's the only reason I have to go this far. Meanwhile, Skylar was standing by the pond in the garden with Tobias opposite of her. "I think you should not help her. It would be an endless entanglement. Let me figure this out myself," she spoke after pondering over the situation for a long while. Her voice sounded extremely tired. Tobias let out a long sigh. "If money can solve the situation, even if temporarily, it would be considered a win for me."

Skylar wanted to suggest that she would pay back the amount Tobias gave, but she knew there was no way she could afford it. Initially, Tobias had gone to Skylar's place purposely to wait for her, but after Miranda's unexpected episode, all his mood for intimacy had vanished. Both of them slept on the same bed that night, but nothing happened between them. The man woke up early the next morning. His mind was occupied with the plan to rebuild Quest Group. In fact, he had long expected that he eventually would need to take over the mess. On the other hand, Skylar had woken up early too and was busy preparing breakfast in the kitchen. At that moment, she was determined to try everything she could think of to make

up for Tobias.

She was making meatloaf from the beef and other ingredients that she had bought at the

market that she went to before sunrise.

By then, Tobias had finished taking a shower. He walked into the kitchen in the new grey

pajamas Skylar bought for him.

Skylar had just finished preparing the meatloaf and was washing her hands at the basin

when he entered the kitchen area.

Tobias greeted her casually and grabbed her hand, pulling her into the bedroom.

The second they entered the bedroom, he pushed her down on the bed and started kissing

her with tongue forcefully like a beast.

She immediately responded to his touch with passion, and the two of them clung to each

other intimately. Skylar was satisfied with Tobias' zeal. He must have gotten a good rest last

night.

The kiss lasted for around half an hour before Tobias was finally willing to let go of her lips.

Looking at her radiant eyes, he let out a satisfied smile. "Seems like you owe me a big debt

now. How do you plan to pay it?"

Skylar hesitated to say she would pay him back with her body. She felt that her body was

worthless when compared with the debt from the Quest Group.

"I will try my best to pay back as much as I can."

Tobias shifted his gaze away from her and said, "Then I'm afraid I will become your debtor

this whole life. Are you free now? I feel like going to play sports."

Skylar propped herself upright with her arms, her expression somewhat puzzled.

Tobias had

even unzipped her pants but did not proceed to the next step.

She looked at him and joked, "Is your kidney failing?"

He chuckled before teasing, "You want to have sex, right?"

Skylar's face instantly blushed red.

"It's unlike your usual style," she defended.

Tobias smiled. "Maybe I'm too tired from work recently. Just need to have a rest."