

**In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter
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“Isn’t love about making compromises?”

“I used to think so too. But I ended up with nothing.”

The last conversation she had with Claudia kept replaying in Skylar’s head on her way back

as she stared out from the car window.

Back at Claudia’s residence, Winnie was helping out at the dining table. “Just leave this job

to the maid,” said Claudia.

“That’s alright, Mrs. Ford. I’m used to doing this back home anyway. My parents are in poor

health, so I’ll try to help them out as much as I can. I’m not sure if I can say the same about

Skylar though, since she just excused herself right after dinner,” Winnie remarked casually

while wiping the same area on the dining table.

Upon hearing that, Claudia got one of her maids to fetch a mop for Winnie. “In that case,

please also mop the floor after you’re done with the dishes. It’s getting late, I’m going to rest

now.”

Despite feeling wildly insulted, Winnie forced a broad grin on her face. “Sure, Mrs. Ford.

Good night.”

Having seen through Winnie’s deception, Claudia’s attitude toward her had taken a sharp

turn from being warm and cozy to aloof and dismissive.

Even though Skylar had kept quiet about it, Claudia could easily taste the difference between restaurant-bought and a home-cooked grilled salmon.

She must take me for a fool!

“Sheldon, make sure you send Ms. Moore back after she’s done mopping the floor. It’s bad

for a girl’s reputation to stay overnight here.”

“But Mom, it’s quite late now,” Sheldon protested.

Claudia shot her son a look before she replied coldly, “Just do as I say.”

As soon as Claudia was out of sight, Winnie pushed the mop into Sheldon’s hand and flew

into a rage. “Sheldon Ford, you are unbelievable! Didn’t you see how Skylar humiliated me in

front of everyone just now? Your brother was so protective of her, but you just sat there and

let them walk all over me?”

Equally annoyed, Sheldon tossed the mop aside and raised his voice, "Well, whose fault is that? Instead of having a peaceful dinner like everyone else, you had to keep boasting about your non-existent cooking skill. I couldn't stop you from shooting yourself in the foot, could I?"

Tears started to roll down from Winnie's cheeks as she was hurt by Sheldon's tone of voice.

"I don't care. You promised that you'll move in with me. Tobias is basically living with Skylar anyway. If he can do that, why can't you?"

"They are not living together. Tobias spends most of his time at home and only stays over at Skylar's every now and then. For God's sake, I don't understand why are you so jealous of that!" cried Sheldon.

While Winnie tried to lower her voice, fearing that someone else might hear them, Sheldon was talking at the top of his lungs.

Upstairs, Claudia's expression increasingly darkened as she listened to the couple's heated exchanges.

So, she's trying to take my son away from me. I've underestimated this manipulative woman. It seems like I have to re-evaluate my way of reading people.

Claudia was not against the idea of cohabitating. The reason she had kept Sheldon close to her was because she could not trust him to be independent as well as making responsible life decisions.

Meanwhile, Tobias' car pulled up outside Skylar's house. But he made no movement to get out of the car.

"Goodnight. Off you go if you're busy," Skylar said thoughtfully.

As she reached for the car door handle, Tobias held onto her hand and said, "Don't you want me to come in? After all, we didn't get to do anything last night."

Skylar gave him an innocent look.

"Well, I don't remember rejecting you last night. So you can't blame me for that."

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A glint of delight flashed across Tobias' eyes. "You were so wasted and reeked of alcohol. I couldn't do it."

Pfft! Skylar rolled her eyes and flung his hand away.

Just as she stepped out of the car, she heard a beeping sound of the car being locked, followed by Tobias' footsteps behind her. Skylar was exhausted from their dalliance well into the night, hence she was reluctant to get out of the bed the next morning when she was woken up by a crying Penelope's call. This relationship of hers has taken a heavy toll on my well-being as well. Luckily I don't have that many close friends. In fact, Penelope is the only one.

With one hand holding the phone, Skylar struggled to put on some clothes with the other. Having slept naked for the whole night, Skylar feared she might have caught a cold. She blamed Tobias for not waking her up and reminding her to put on a sleeping robe. Still lying next to Skylar, Tobias was also awakened by the call. "Just hang up already. It's so annoying," he complained in a slumber. Skylar could not make out what Penelope was trying to say in between her sobs, so she told Penelope she would meet her in an hour's time. Tobias pulled Skylar back into his arms. His thin lips were now inches away from her neck as he breathed into her ear, causing her heart to race uncontrollably. Being a lady-killer, seducing women was second nature to Tobias. Skylar had seen some of Tobias' high school photos and felt a twinge of envy. Some people are just blessed with good looks their whole lives. Skylar turned over so that she was facing him and rested her hand on his chest. Tobias had been a punctual person. Since Skylar had promised to meet Penelope in an hour's time, he was willing to tweak his working schedule in order to spend more time with her. After skipping breakfast, Skylar wore a mask and a cap before hopping into Tobias' car. Tobias took a side glance at her but could not bring himself to comment that her current popularity did not warrant such extremity in masking herself. Even inside the car, Skylar also covered herself up from top to toe. Before long, the pair arrived at Penelope's rental apartment. Her door was left ajar and they could clearly hear noises of an argument coming from the inside.

When they pushed open the door, they saw Brayden sitting on the sofa. The air in the apartment was filled with thick smog.

Brayden still had a cigarette in his hand while sitting with his legs crossed next to a pregnant Penelope.

"She's pregnant with your child. Can't you be a little more considerate?" Tobias reminded.

Upon hearing that, Brayden threw the cigarette butt into a half-full water bottle.

Brayden scoffed. "So, you called for backup," his tone full of condemnation.

This woman will run and complain to Skylar about every little thing like a big baby. Just my

luck that Skylar is involved with Tobias.

"Come now, stop crying. I'm here," Skylar comforted a puffy-eyed Penelope.

Agitated, Penelope pointed at Brayden and cried, "He has changed his mind and doesn't

want the baby now. He's leaving me and our baby to our own devices after today! What do I

do, Skylar? The baby is due soon!"

"Pay up," Skylar enunciated each word slowly.