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At this point, Nicholas didn't continue speaking, and suddenly, Tessa could visualize Gregory's situation. She could even feel the helplessness that Nicholas felt at the same time.

Maybe they really didn't want to disrupt my life on purpose or allow the Sawyers to make life difficult for me, she thought. In addition, Gregory did look like he had lost a lot of weight recently and he seemed so cautious every time he saw her, which was so unlike his bubbly and lively manner from before.

After hearing everything, Timothy also felt his heart wrenching a little and he peered at his own sister; she wasn't so mad anymore and there was a mix of frustration and reproach in her eyes.

Silently, he sighed. *Tessa sincerely loves Gregory,* Timothy thought. Even if she didn't say it now or even said something heartless, she would still be upset and he didn't want to see her sad.

Hence, he interjected, "Tess, it's true that President Sawyer is caught in the middle of this issue, and he's doing it all for Greg's sake without thinking so much. He helped us out a lot, though, didn't he? If it wasn't for him, my company may not have been able to kick off either."

Although Tessa was quiet, her heart was already beginning to sway as she thought that Timothy had a point.

Then, Timothy turned to Nicholas. "President Sawyer, you admit that it's your family who did it. Even though you helped us, you are still the cause of it. Do you agree with this?"

In reply, Nicholas nodded.

"I may be powerless, but if Old Master Sawyer continues to make life difficult for us, we won't care about any affections either," Timothy continued.

Nicholas nodded again.

Meanwhile, Tessa had recollected her composure and said to Timothy, "There's one thing, though. Whatever Silas did has nothing to do with President Sawyer and he has to be responsible for it himself. What did Silas do at your workplace?"

Astonished by her words, Nicholas thought, *Everything she said earlier was out of anger:*

but she's actually very rational. This girl is simply too kind-hearted.

In a few words, Timothy told her the story of what had happened in his company earlier in the day.

When Nicholas heard that Timothy was deliberately buying time for three reasons, so that Henry wouldn't be hurt again, to protect his company's secrets and to allow time for himself to find out the truth, he couldn't help but be impressed with him. Not only did Timothy know how to program and create software, he wasn't a kid who would hide behind his sister's back and was an extremely calm person instead.

On the other hand, Tessa was again triggered by Silas' actions, but she was also worried about Henry at the same time since she had also regarded him as her half brother.

Henry was exceptionally kind to Timothy and took care of him when they were in school. Also, he was of great help the last time Silas caused an issue.

And now, he was again caught up in some trouble because of them both. Feeling guilty, she said, "Even though Silas has abducted Henry, I guess he won't hurt Henry since you promised to give the software."

"No, since it's the software that he's after, he won't do something stupid again. If we call the police, he won't have anything to gain either. However, it's bad for Henry to be in his hands for a long time. President Sawyer, I would like to borrow a few bodyguards from you to get him back from the Reinharts," Timothy said as a menacing look flashed across his face, which was unlike him.

It was nothing if he was hurt, but Silas should have never ever allowed Sophia to hurt Tessa while abducting Timothy's best friend to blackmail him. *He deserves death for this!* Timothy thought.

"There's no need for so much hassle. If you only want to give Silas a warning, just let Edward go with some men and Henry will be back safely," Nicholas said.

If Timothy went personally, he would definitely be in conflict with Silas again despite bringing bodyguards where he couldn't even protect himself, not to mention put up a fight.

However, if it was Edward who went, Silas wouldn't cause any trouble and would even allow Henry to leave without a fight because he recognized Edward. *Everything* else would be fine after Edward merely issued his warning.

While Timothy knew this as well, he still shook his head stubbornly. "I have to settle this matter myself."

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"I would like to make a clean break with him so that he won't have the guts to mess with us again in the future," Timothy said with a stoic face.

"President Sawyer, we won't trouble Mr. Jackson for now," Tessa said. "Tim, I'm coming with you."

At first, Timothy nodded in agreement, but when he heard that she wanted to come along, he was stunned and directly responded, "No, Tess. Just wait at home for my news."

"How can I not make a clean break with him if you're doing it? If you're going, then I'm coming as well. Otherwise, let Mr. Jackson go in our stead. Choose one way out yourself."

Tessa looked at Timothy with strong, determined eyes and she knew that he would choose to settle this personally. So, he had to take her with him as well. In fact, her thoughts were simple; if the only two persons left at the Reinharts were still up to no good and hurt Timothy in front of her, she would definitely not have mercy on them too. Even if she had to burn all bridges, she wouldn't allow the Reinharts to be a threat to them again.

Caught in a dilemma, Timothy was afraid of her behaving like this. If she went with him and was hurt, he would blame himself to death.

Seeing that the siblings were in a stalemate, Nicholas chuckled lightly. "Both of you will go in while Edward and I will wait outside so that Silas won't hurt you."

"Isn't this too much trouble for you, President Sawyer?" Timothy asked hesitantly.

Despite this being a good idea, he felt that it was a little odd, yet he couldn't exactly describe it in words.

"Nope. Let's go." As Nicholas stood up, he went straight for the door.

Tessa and Timothy exchanged glances, but went out with Nicholas in the end. With Nicholas around, it was safe to say that nothing bad would happen again.

At the Reinhart Residence, Silas returned home in high spirits and asked his bodyguards to lock Henry in a dark room while he was having tea in the living room, his mind filled with delightful thoughts.

“Were you successful?” Seeing how happy Silas was, Amber felt so much better as well.

Taking a sip of tea leisurely, he grinned from ear to ear. “Just wait until tomorrow That kid will come to us by himself.”

“Will he really give it to us?” she asked doubtfully.

Silas snorted. “Of course I know what that kid is like. He’s a loyal friend and he’ll definitely hand over the software now that I have his pal in my hands. When that time comes, it’s no longer a dream for us to rise again. Even though he’s not talented, he’s quite gifted when it comes to software. After the Sawyer Group started operations the last time, he managed to make a net profit of several hundred millions. That ungrateful brat, if he had given me the money at that time, I’d consider treating him better, but now, hmph!”

Upon hearing that all those coding which she didn’t understand had made millions, Amber had a sparkle in her eyes. “Can he really make that much money?”

His eyes swelled up with jealousy. “Yes, he’s raking it in. The Sawyer Family really made a steal with the son I brought up.”

“Then, we shouldn’t let him go when he comes tomorrow. I wonder what is happening at Sophia’s side. We’ll ask her to bring that slut back so that we can control Timothy in the future,” she said, her eyes gleaming as a grin slowly appeared on the edges of her lips.

At the same time, Silas happened to have the same idea as her. “Of course.”

Suddenly, the hurried ringing of a phone interrupted their fantasy before a man’s voice sounded over the phone. “Hello, I’m calling from the police station. May I ask if I’m speaking with Sophia Reinhart’s father?”

“Yes, speaking. What happened?” When Silas heard that it was a call from the police, his heart skipped a beat. “What happened to my daughter? Is she alright?”

“She’s fine, but she was involved in a gang fight. Make a trip to the police station now,” the police said and hung up.

Blood drained from Silas’ face. My
precious daughter is arrested? She’s in the detention center now?

Amber had heard the conversation as well and she urged him, "What are you still doing here? Go and quickly bail her out! It doesn't matter if your wife is in jail, but not your daughter who's going to be married into a prestigious family in the future! Anyone but her can be in jail! It will really be the end of us if she ends up imprisoned!"

He rose to his full height in a hurry and planned to make a trip to the police station.

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At this moment, Tessa walked through the door with Timothy, and they stared indifferently at their father and grandmother in name.

When Silas saw that Tessa was fine, but his own daughter was now detained without him knowing anything about the situation, he lashed out at her, "It's you, isn't it, Tessa Reinhart? You're the one who did it, aren't you?"

"What are you speaking about? I don't understand," Tessa replied icily.

"You're a monster! Here you are, all fine and alright while my daughter is locked away. Y-You... You're a rotten person!" Mad with fury, Silas couldn't even swear coherently.

Taking a step forward, Amber directly shoved her useless son aside and pointed a finger at Tessa's nose. "Little slut, you better release Sophia now. What are you doing here?"

Tessa sneered. "Hmph, do you think I can let her out just because you asked me to? She's getting her desserts because she was the one who came to provoke me first, and there's nothing I can do about it now that she's already locked behind bars. The law will serve a fair judgment."

Seeing that Tessa was acting high and mighty as though the situation had nothing to do with her, Amber became even madder, and since she was an experienced shrew at markets, she had never held back or acted cowardly whenever she was in a verbal fight.

With one hand on her hip and another pointing at Tessa, she started cursing angrily, "You shameless, ungrateful thing. How are you repaying us when we're the ones who fed you and brought you up? All you have done is hook up with men and even have the nerves to make a scene here after he has dumped you. Even if you're shameless, we're still embarrassed. Sure enough, you're just like your useless mother. Each of you is cheaper than the other. All of you are just cheap breeds!"

Both Tessa and Timothy were the same; they didn't mind if others vilified them, but they couldn't stand it when their family was affected. They were both furious instantly.

With a solemn face, Tessa warned, "Don't you dare mention my mother."

"I already did, so what? If you don't let Sophia out, not only your mother, but even

her father will get a roast from me. You shameless slut, are you proud that you seduced someone from the Sawyer Family? What do you take the Sawyers for, that you could show off and throw your weight around here without any embarrassment?"

Tessa's face was emotionless, and as Amber continued and even brought up unrelated people, she said, "You better watch your mouth."

This little lass even has the nerves to give me a warning! Amber thought furiously and lunged forward to slap her.

Seeing that the slap was about to strike her, Tessa didn't even dodge or flinch a little this time and grabbed the wrinkled hand in one swift, accurate move.

Even though Amber was fit for her age and her ability to swear was on par with her younger self, her strength was far off from those years, and she was unable to move an inch from Tessa's grip.

"Tessa Reinhart, you slut! Let go of me now!" Despite being caught, she still couldn't stop her abusive mouth.

If it was someone else, she might have been afraid, but if it was Tessa whom she had brought up since young, there was no way that Amber would be afraid at all. Hence, abusive words continued to pour out of her mouth. "You damn thing, I should have just strangled both of you back then!"

However, Tessa ignored her and stared coldly at Silas instead.

"What are you doing? Release your grandmother immediately." Seeing that Amber was still relentlessly going on, he was dismayed and said, "Mom, just hold back your tongue a little."

Ignoring the both of them who were playing the 'good cop, bad cop' act, Tessa said coldly, "I would advise you not to be up to some hanky-panky and start trouble when there is none."

Earlier, she had seen that Silas had pressed a button, and she reckoned that their bodyguards would rush over from their dorms soon.

However, she wasn't afraid at all since Nicholas was outside.

Initially, Silas wanted to play for time, but since her attitude infuriated him, he couldn't help but snapped, "Tessa Reinhart, is this how you should speak with me?"

“Release Henry and I’ll let her go.” Ignoring everything he said, all Tessa wanted was Henry’s release.

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“Who’s that? I don’t know him,” Silas barked.

“He’s my friend whom you took away from my company. Hand him over.” At the same time, Timothy’s blood was starting to boil as well. Clearly, Silas was doing this on purpose and refused to release Henry.

For an evil person like him, he definitely has a plan to deal with us and is just playing for time now, Timothy reckoned, but at the thought that Nicholas and his men were still outside, he somewhat felt a little more confident.

It had previously crossed Timothy’s mind that such a thing would happen. Usually, Silas would just clown around a little and bluff his way through. Even if Silas was up to no good, so what? As long as he hadn’t shown his last card yet, he still had the advantage in the situation.

Stealing a peek at the surveillance in the house, Silas sneered. “You’re just a useless bum who can’t even protect your friend, and that guy named Henry is equally useless as well. He can’t even put up a fight. All of you who can’t do anything useful are called useless bums. So what if you’re just a little smarter? Didn’t you end up in my hands just the same?”

Timothy’s eyes turned bloodshot from anger; he hated it the most when someone called him useless, and he couldn’t take it that his friend was hurt because of him. In one shot, Silas had struck two of his bottom lines, and this made him furious.

Taking a big step forward, he grabbed Silas by the collar and roared at him angrily, “What did you do to Henry? Say it!”

Even when he was being held by his collar, Silas still had a sneer on his face as he cast a nonchalant look at his son. “Go on, Go ahead and hit me, If I’m dead, nobody will be able to find him again.”

A frustrated Timothy raised his fist high and aimed it at Silas’ face. “Hand him over.”

“You’re asking for it. If it’s a dead end you seek, then don’t blame me for being heartless, son,” Silas said and snorted. Then, he shouted at the door, “Come out quickly!”

A group of bodyguards barged into the house and surrounded Timothy and Tessa. While outnumbering them and being stronger, the bodyguards yanked Silas and Amber out of their hands easily.

The tables turned instantly and Silas glanced at Tessa, his own flesh and blood. without any emotions in his eyes. "Give me what I want and let Sophia go. Then I'll consider letting the both of you go. From now on, we'll never interfere with each other ever again," he said indifferently.

Tessa snorted. "Dream on."

"That's fine as well; it's not bad to keep the both of you here. I'll provide you with the daily necessities and keep the both of you in the cellar. If I die of starvation, both of you won't live either," he sniggered.

Not only was Tessa unafraid of what he said, she burst into a chuckle instead. "Silas, you can't bear to die. Even if we give you what you want, you won't let us go, for sure. In fact, you plan to keep us prisoners as well, right?" After pausing for a second, she added, "Are you planning to imprison both of us separately and force Tim to work for you or you'll kill me? Or vice versa? Silas, I didn't think that you remain the same, greedy and disgusting as you've always been."

That was Silas' plan indeed, and he directly stopped his disguise when his plan was exposed, sneering, "Since you don't know what's good for you and want to seek death, then I won't be courteous anymore. The ending will be the same, anyway. Isn't it just a USB flash drive? You think I won't be able to find it? So what if it's encrypted? There will be plenty of people who can decrypt it, but I can't be so sure about the treatment that the both of you will receive."

With a wave of his hand, the bodyguards quickly restrained Tessa and Timothy. After that, Silas raised his hand and wanted to slap Tessa as punishment when a clear but icy voice echoed from the door.

"Stop."

Nicholas walked through the door with a group of bodyguards and stared grimly at the raised hand which had yet to strike Tessa. Walking forward briskly, he served Silas with a kick.

The kick was so strong that it sent Silas to the floor and he rolled over a few times on the floor before coming to a stop while clutching his abdomen, feeling as though all his internal organs were sent flying as well with this kick.

"Silas!" Amber shrieked in shock. She no longer watched the fun and lunged forward to check up on Silas, but the bodyguards held her back firmly and she was unable to move.

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When they witnessed their master being assaulted, Silas' bodyguards hurriedly rushed forward and wanted to surround Nicholas, but were kicked over by the bodyguards from the Sawyer Family.

All of a sudden, the situation was reversed where the men working for the Reinharts were either laying on the floor or kneeling as they cried out in pain.

With a face as solemn as the grim reaper, Nicholas paced to Silas. "Where's Henry Tompkins?"

Even if Silas was an idiot, he could now tell that Tessa didn't have a fall out with Nicholas. Furthermore, Nicholas even came over specially to help her.

Threatening Tessa was a child's play to him, but in front of Nicholas, he didn't dare to throw his weight around as he did not dare say a word.

To Silas, Nicholas was simply too terrifying and he wouldn't mind giving up on the USB flash drive if it meant that his life could be saved. Even if his company went bust, so be it.

However, it was clear that Nicholas didn't want him to have an easy way out. When Silas didn't answer him, he peered at him from above. "Where is he?"

Whether it was from the pain or from the fright, Silas couldn't be sure, but his back was instantly soaked in perspiration. His face was also covered in a layer of cold sweat as he had been fished out of the waters.

Striking back would only mean his own death, and he lost all guts as he hurriedly ordered his injured bodyguard, "T-Take that brat, no. Bring Mr. Tompkins out. Quickly."

After receiving the order, the bodyguard quickly scrambled off to release Henry. Besides Silas, all the other bodyguards were motionless and remained as quiet as mannequins. None of them even dared to help Silas to his feet either while the noisy Amber didn't dare to make a scene.

Soon, that bodyguard returned from the dark room with Henry while shouting, "We're back. I've brought him here!"

At the sight of Henry, Silas felt spiteful and relieved at the same time; spiteful because after going through so much hassle, the hostage he had finally abducted was

released just like that. At most, he had given that brat Timothy a beating, but he also had a taste of his own medicine because that earlier kick from Nicholas had almost sent him on his way.

However, Silas was relieved that he didn't take it out on Henry after bringing him back; otherwise, he reckoned that his ending would be even worse than now.

After his release, Henry was still a little lost, thinking that Timothy had really handed over the software in exchange for his safe release. Hence, when he saw Timothy, he yelled, "Tim, don't give it to him! I'm fine!"

Seeing that Henry didn't sustain any more injuries and was merely locked away without being deeply hurt, Timothy breathed a sigh of relief. "I didn't give it to him. Don't worry," he assured with a chuckle.

It was only then that Henry took a good look around and saw an expressionless Nicholas, after which he whispered to Timothy in surprise, "Isn't President Sawyer... Why is he here?"

"We have misunderstood him. He's innocent and I could only save you without a glitch because he came to help us out this time. Or else, I think I'll really need to use the USB flash drive in exchange for your life," Timothy said, grinning.

Still shocked, Henry said, "Okay, that's good. That's our blood and sweat, and we can't give it away no matter what, not even if it's in exchange for me." Then, he turned to Nicholas. "Thanks for your help, President Sawyer."

In reply, Nicholas nodded slightly in acknowledgement.

"P-President Sawyer, I have already handed him over and didn't harm him further. Will you let me go?" Silas asked, looking at him pleadingly.

Henry spat and looked at Silas, who was still on the floor, with contempt. "You have no shame at all. Earlier, you were not like this when you came to our company to rob. us. Where's your swagger from before?"

"You!" Humiliated publicly, Silas was a little embarrassed and wanted to curse him, but when he spun his head and saw Nicholas' face, he suddenly lost his voice.

For some unknown reason, he felt that it would be even more shameful if he started cursing in front of Nicholas.

This was the attitude of a true elite; even without cursing, he was able to instill fear by just standing.

Ignoring what Silas was thinking in his head, Timothy stepped forward. "I'm warning you for the last time. Don't disturb our lives again."

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"Okay, okay." Bobbing his head eagerly, Silas immediately felt as though a huge stone had been lifted off him. Looks like he's not going after me for responsibility.

While he was still rejoicing, Edward took out some papers. "President Sawyer, I found the agreement which was signed before."

When Silas heard that, his face visibly paled.

"President Sawyer, Silas had obviously violated the agreement by finding fault with them. In addition, he's also involved in kidnapping and abetting injury against others."

A terrified Silas knew that he would definitely end up in jail if this was reported to the police. Scrambling to his feet, he cast Nicholas a pleading look. "President Sawyer, I won't dare to do it again. From now on, I won't cause them any more trouble. I'm a man of my word!"

At the same time, Amber was equally terrified upon hearing that. Her daughter-in law was already behind bars for months and her granddaughter had just been arrested. If her son was also sent to jail, how would she be able to survive by herself?

Losing all her guts from earlier, she pleaded anxiously, "President Sawyer, please have mercy and let my son off. I promise I won't let him cause any more trouble in the future."

"What do you mean?" Nicholas said, looking at Tessa.

All eyes in the room turned to Tessa as well. Some had a pleading gaze, a few were imploring her and there were also some who were determined.

Tessa's crisp, cool voice echoed. "It's pointless to have mercy on them and just let the law deal with them. Also, there's a surveillance camera with a voice recorder next to it. Take all of it as evidence," she pointed out, gesturing to the lens pointed at herself.

Once again, Silas slumped to the floor. Initially, he wanted to use the surveillance to blackmail them, but unexpectedly, Tessa also knew that his voice recorder was there. Earlier, I had said so much about my plans, but now...

Nicholas nodded, gesturing to Edward to collect the evidence.

Even though he didn't say anything, he had another deeper understanding of Tessa's

personality again. In the beginning, he thought that she was quiet and weak, but he later realized that she was also a little tough. And now, she could even stand with reason instead of her blood and kin, was brave with her feelings and also a little sassy.

Her attention to detail kinda drew Nicholas' attention a little.

After leaving the scene to Edward and his bodyguards, Nicholas sent Tessa and the rest home before driving alone to Sawyer Residence.

In the house, Remus was having tea while playing chess by himself, and the butler, Andrew, rushed to him after receiving a call.

"Something happened, Sir."

"Speak." Lifting his eyes, Remus looked at him lazily and continued with his tea and chess, looking so strategized as if everything was within his control.

"It seems like Young Master Nicholas has already noticed that it's us and canceled our instructions using the Sawyer Group's name earlier. He even clarified everything and it looks like everything will proceed normally."

Remus snorted. "So what? What can he do even if he knows about it? It's only a matter of time before this matter is exposed and we didn't plan to hide it from him either."

Of course he knew his grandson like the back of his palm.

"Nicholas would do this simply because he's willful and felt that the Reinhart siblings had suffered this unwarranted trouble because of him. That's why he helped them to solve all those problems. In addition, that little lass, Tessa, will back off after just a small warning. It has always been like this the last few times before, but it's her brother who has been targeted this time. So, she'll probably get mad and sever all contact with him."

Giving it a second thought, Andrew thought that it was true. Moreover, Nicholas had a strong personality and wouldn't do something knowing that it would end up in him being snubbed. Hence, Nicholas definitely wouldn't stand to take this.

Once he cooled down for a couple of days, he would completely ignore Tessa.

So, the old master has already considered everything. Then, there shouldn't be any problem to break these two up, Andrew thought and bowed slightly. "What a wise plan you have, sir."

Continuing with his tea and chess calmly, Remus said, "Come and play with me."

Andrew nodded. "Yes."

Just a while after they started playing, a bodyguard walked in briskly and whispered something into Andrew's ears. Instantly, the expression on his face fell.

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"What happened?" Remus asked, raising his gaze.

Andrew answered truthfully, "Old Master Sawyer, maybe Young Master Nicholas isn't as simple as we think. After canceling the instructions, he followed Timothy home and ran into Tessa being bullied by some people. Then, he took care of the thugs and went upstairs together with the siblings."

Then, he continued, "A short while after, they went to Silas' place in a big group and beat up Silas and his bodyguards, and even dragged him to the police station to settle their family problems for them. I'm afraid that Master Nicholas is serious this time. It's said that Tessa was really so mad that she even said that she wanted to break all ties with Master Nicholas and Gregory, asking him not to disrupt their lives. However, Master Nicholas has somehow managed to turn her mind around."

Upon hearing that, Remus paused mid-air from taking a sip of his tea and slammed the cup hard on the table. The composed look on his face had completely disappeared and he looked a little furious.

"That rascal!"

After all his meticulous calculations, including correctly predicting Tessa's reaction, he didn't expect that it was his own grandson who didn't act according to his expectations. Let Tessa be if she's angry and left in a huff, he thought. Why did he talk her around and explain things to her?

Remus never imagined that the grandson whom he had brought up himself to be so outstanding that no one else in Brentwood could match him, that high and mighty young president of a company, would do all this for Tessa's sake.

It was based on this point alone that the Reinhart siblings had to go.

"That lass has to go," Remus said solemnly.

A concerned Andrew asked, "Sir, we already interfered with these two siblings thrice, and Master Nicholas is well aware of it as well. He's not dumb, and he'll definitely be suspicious. If we continue to make a few more obvious moves, he'll start to investigate and we probably won't be able to hide what happened back then. When that time comes, things may get very complicated."

Remus snorted softly. "I have a way to deal with that. Just do what you are told."

In fact, he knew very well that with Nicholas' intelligence and ability, it definitely wouldn't take him long to find out the truth.

So what even if he finds out, though? He hates the woman who abandoned Greg to the core, and it won't change anything even if that woman is Tessa. The only thing that would change is, the two people who were previously nice to her would hate her and find her disgusting. At that time, she won't even be able to stay in Brentwood without the need for me to chase her away.

There was nothing good about a woman who would give birth to a baby out of wedlock for money and abandon her own child.

Remus' plan had almost never gone wrong, and he was sincerely doing it for the Sawyer Family and Nicholas. Undoubtedly, Andrew knew how much Remus had poured in and wouldn't go against his wishes. "Yes, Sir," he answered with a nod.

Nicholas had been standing outside the door of the main hall for a long time and overheard a big part of their conversation. Since a long time ago, he already knew that Remus had secretly sent someone to follow him, but such a menial thing didn't bother him.

Judging from all the things that recently happened, he vaguely felt that Remus was really hiding something from him, and it was an important thing at that. Unfortunately, these two elders had been in the business world for decades and were very sharp, knowing what should be said and what not. When they were speaking, a lot of important information was directly skipped over.

Years of working together had created a strong rapport between them, and some things were understood without even the need to say it out loud.

Therefore, Nicholas didn't hear anything useful, but a seed of doubt had been planted in his heart, and he marched in with big strides.

"You're here?" Enjoying a sip of tea from his cup, Remus returned to his usual leisure self and greeted his eldest grandson with a smile. "You've been making frequent visits here recently, rascal. Are you here to have a game of chess with me?"

Knowing that Remus was avoiding the topic with him, Nicholas didn't fall for it and asked straightforwardly, "Just what are you hiding from me?"

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The smile on Remus' face fell a little. "There's a lot of that. Which one are you asking about?"

"Grandpa, you know what I'm asking about, and this will be the last time I'm asking you. Why exactly are you picking on the Reinhart siblings so much?" an emotionless Nicholas asked.

After Remus snorted, he answered, "Picking on them? I've told you the reason very clearly the last time. That girl is not good enough for you, and you should stay away from her while it's not too late. If you keep being so close with them, don't blame me for being ruthless."

"Grandpa!" Nicholas exclaimed angrily.

"What? You have the guts to raise your voice at me and challenge me because of that woman? Nicholas Sawyer, there's a limit to my patience as well, and you keep trying it time after time. Do you really think that I'll just let you do as you wish?" he snapped.

As he stood motionlessly, Nicholas' sculptured face was incredibly grim. Even though Remus had always been a man of his words, Nicholas wasn't a person who couldn't scheme either. If both of them really went head to head against each other, nobody could predict who the winner would be in the end.

And just like that, they were in a silent stalemate for a few minutes.

Finally, Remus sighed, as though he was defeated by Nicholas' stubbornness.

He said, "I am the one who brought you up, Nicholas, so I won't ever harm you. All you have to know is that no matter what I do, I do it for your own good. It's undeniable that you're running the company well, but relationships are complicated. When you were schooling and in the military, you didn't have much contact with girls, and I'm worried that you'll be misled. If you really want someone like Tessa Reinhart, there are plenty of girls like her on the streets outside. She's nothing special and you can just forget about her after having a fling with her. However, if you're really looking for a wife, you have to search for one from a prestigious family because that's the correct choice. If you really think that you're having too much free time despite the work in the company, then you can look for Hayley who's missing you very much."

A solemn Nicholas said immediately, "I don't like Hayley. Don't bother to match us up."

Once again, Remus' anger sparked. "Who do you like if not her? That Reinhart girl? Don't even think about it because it's impossible. As long as I'm still around, she can forget about stepping into the Sawyer Family."

Nicholas' voice turned a few notches colder. "You should enjoy your retirement in peace, Grandpa. Take care of your health, and if you're bored, just do some gardening

while cultivating your health and well-being. Don't interfere with my affairs again. Also, don't make any decisions for me and hurt innocent people in the name of 'for my own good.'

While Remus took it that Nicholas had indirectly admitted his liking for Tessa, he was furious when he heard all the sarcastic and hostile things that his grandson had just said. "Nicholas Sawyer, if you really want the best for her, tell her to obediently leave Brentwood. Otherwise, don't blame me for being ruthless."

"If that's the case, then there's nothing to discuss between us. You can give it a try," Nicholas threatened in a low growl and left the place directly in big strides.

After he left, all the peace and leisure which were previously on Remus' face were gone. In its place was menacing fury. "Damn it!"

Meanwhile, Nicholas was looking glum after leaving the mansion. Although Remus refused to tell him the reason he was picking on Tessa, he was already sure that Remus had a great deal of malice for her.

What would the exact reason be to make a weak girl like Tessa the target of Remus' attack to the point where Remus would do all that he could to match Nicholas with another?

Could it be... Tessa is Greg's birth mother? Nicholas wondered.

It seemed that there were a lot of similarities between Tessa and Gregory's biological mother-seafood allergy and musically gifted. In addition, Tessa even had the same scar and tattoo which that woman had. All these were simply too much of a coincidence.

The woman from before was arranged by Remus, so he definitely knew who she was. However, if Tessa was that woman, why didn't she recognize Remus, and why did she get close to Gregory? Wasn't she the one who abandoned him?

Everything was just so odd.

Seeing that Nicholas didn't look good after leaving the Sawyers, Edward could guess that Nicholas didn't manage to get the answers which he wanted from Remus.

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Chapter 265

"What are we going to do now, President Sawyer?" he asked tentatively.

With a stoic face, Nicholas answered, "We're going back first."

Things had been happening one after another recently, and he needed to gather his thoughts properly. Turning to Edward, he asked, "Do you think that Greg and Tessa resemble each other a little bit?"

When he heard Nicholas' question, Edward's heart skipped a beat. Did President Sawyer guess it as well? Previously, Edward and Kieran were merely suspicious, but they lacked the guts to conduct a DNA test on their own, so Edward was so shocked at the sudden question that he broke out in cold sweat.

Turning his head stiffly, he turned to Nicholas. "You mean a biological relationship? Do you want me to have a test done?"

"No," Nicholas rejected him decisively.

"But, President Sawyer—"

"Let me think about this matter. Start the car," he instructed in his husky voice.

It was true that he had his own considerations; if he impulsively ordered for the test and it turned out to be her, what would he do? However, if it wasn't her, what would happen instead? For all these reasons, he hadn't thought over it carefully yet.

It wasn't a good time to conduct the DNA test now because he still needed to observe the situation for a little more.

Lifting his gaze at the rearview mirror, Nicholas caught sight of a black sedan car behind him, which was maintaining almost the same speed as his car, and his eyes narrowed dangerously.

Now that Remus had openly ordered people to monitor him and if this was how he wanted to play, then he shouldn't blame Nicholas for using the same method against him.

"Send someone of our own to closely monitor everything that Old Master Sawyer is doing and inform me immediately once there's anything," Nicholas instructed coldly.

"Yes, President Sawyer." Again, Edward's heart skipped a beat. Looks like these two are really going to confront each other.

Although Edward was working for Sawyer Group, he was firstly Nicholas' man, so he would definitely do as instructed by his boss. Therefore, he acknowledged the instruction and made the arrangements.

At the Sawyer Residence, the atmosphere in the mansion had a weird aura after Nicholas stormed out. It was so quiet, and nobody dared to make the slightest sound..

The look on Remus' face was incredibly unpleasant and he reckoned that Nicholas was determined to go against him this time. The heir whom he had nurtured with his own hands was now willing to confront him because of a woman.

Even if it happened to someone else, they wouldn't be able to accept it either.

Andrew refilled Remus' cup of tea. "Sir, don't be mad. Master Nicholas hasn't experienced such a relationship in his youth whereby it's his first time encountering a person like this. So, it's unavoidable that he's smitten with her. In the future, he'll definitely understand all your efforts for him."

"Hmph, it will be too late by that time." After Remus snorted, he slammed the table with force again. "I can't allow him to destroy himself because a woman."

"So, what should we do now, Sir?" Andrew asked with a bow.

"Not only are we targeting the Reinhart siblings, we are also after everyone around them. Investigate all of them carefully and don't miss out on anyone. There's no need to do a clean job," Remus answered emotionlessly.

Andrew nodded. "Yes, Sir."

Remus clearly wanted to make it obvious that he was targeting Tessa and Timothy to the point where they would be left alone and helpless, thereby pushing them into a dead end

However, this was the result of their own doings. In the beginning, he had given them the chance, but they didn't cherish it and continued to do as they wished instead.

On this day, Timothy went to university since he had some things to get done there. Right after he walked through the main entrance, a group of people had blocked his path.

Lifting his head, he took a glance at them and saw that it was Bruce with his annoying friends. Recalling what happened at the bar, Timothy wanted nothing to do with them at all and moved to the other side.

Despite that, Timothy was still surrounded by them before they started to snigger.

Without saying or doing anything, Bruce and his friends merely gathered around Timothy as though they were watching a show.

An annoyed Timothy lifted his eyes and stared right at Bruce. "What's the meaning of this, Bruce?"

"I don't mean anything, but what about you? Why are you blocking my path for no reason?" Shoving Timothy's shoulder strongly, Bruce then took a step back and sneered. "Reinhart, have you heard that a good dog will move out of the way? You're still in my path now, though. Looks like you're not a good dog. Get out of the way!"

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Timothy's face instantly became glum after hearing that, but he was different from Bruce; he had always been polite to others and almost never said anything menacing or sarcastic.

Now that he was hearing all this, he didn't know how to react all of a sudden while the sniggering around him became louder.

"Bruce, the bookworm from your class is nothing. Can he even speak?"

"That's right, how can you expect a dog to say anything? It would be terrifying if he really did."

One of them roared out in laughter and said, "What a joke! Someone like him have the guts to throw his weight around in front of you? It can't be true that the two masters from the Sawyer Family are helping him."

Holding his fists tightly, Timothy hissed, "Don't go overboard. You guys are the ones standing in my way."

"Oh, he really spoke! Master Liston, he's speaking about you. What should we do now?" another of his sidekicks asked with a sneer.

"He's just a cripple who looks cute enough to charm others. The masters from the Sawyer Family took a liking to him simply because... But his sister has good looks, too. Maybe this is what these siblings have relied on to get into their good books. Forget it, I'm not saying anymore. You guys know what I mean," Bruce said, thoughtfully giving Timothy a once-over.

Laughter echoed from around Timothy and showered him with it as he understood what Bruce meant behind his words as well.

Everything he had now was acquired through his own efforts and it was fine if he was insulted, but not his sister. Lunging forward, he then landed a punch on Bruce's face.

Immediately, blood trickled from the corners of his lips.

“What are you boys doing?” At this moment, the principal, Julius, suddenly came out and looked at Timothy sternly. “All of you, to my office!”

After casting a glare at Timothy, Bruce followed behind Julius as a gleeful smirk appeared on his face. You’re done for, Reinhart.

In Julius’ office, Bruce started first by saying, “Mr. Chance, look what happened. I don’t know what has gotten over him, but he punched me straight in the face. Look at my face now that he has hit me. How am I supposed to go out looking like this?”

Furthermore, I have witnesses. So many people around had seen his actions.”

Julius turned to Timothy. “What else can you say? You even dare to start a fight at the university gates, which is something that had never happened here before! Can you take the responsibility if something like this affects the university?”

“Mr. Chance, it’s true that I won’t be able to shoulder this responsibility, but I wasn’t the one who started it. Bruce was the one who insulted me first,” Timothy said with a solemn face.

“He insulted you? What did he say?” Julius asked.

At the thought of those insulting sneers, Timothy helplessly pursed his lips. It didn’t matter what happened to him, but his sister’s reputation had to be protected.

“You can’t answer him, can you? Mr. Chance, he was the one standing in my way and I said something to get him out of the way, but I didn’t know why he turned violent and came straight at me with a punch. If my father knows about this, he’ll think that the university is mismanaged.”

Then, he cast a delighted look at Timothy.

Hearing that, Julius’ face instantly became stoic; the Liston Family had some shares in the university, and his higher-ups had also told him to find a reason to evict Timothy, no matter what. So, now was a good time to do it.

“The university won’t tolerate a student who starts a fight. Timothy Reinhart, you’ll go through the withdrawal procedures now. I’ll inform your sister for you.”

After Tessa received the call, she immediately took the day off from the orchestra and rushed to Timothy’s university.

The second she went into Julius’ office, she hurriedly turned to her own brother. “Tim, are you alright?”

Timothy nodded his head. "I'm fine, Tess."

"Of course he's alright, Miss Reinhart. Why don't you take a look at me and ask me if I'm alright? The one who got punched is me, and all you care about is your brother the minute you came here? Hmph, both of you sure are birds of a feather and exactly the same," Bruce sneered in annoyance.

"I dare you to say one more thing!" Taking a step forward, Timothy looked like he was going to hit him again.

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Hurriedly, Tessa stood in front of her brother and stared at Bruce. "Excuse me, if you didn't do well in your literature classes when you were young, I would suggest you retake the subject, and I'll pay for all your medical bills and other fees."

Stumped for words, Bruce glared at Julius and hinted that he should say something.

Julius cleared his throat. "Miss Reinhart, I didn't ask you here to educate my pupil but rather to settle the case of your brother hitting someone else. The university has decided to expel him. Follow me to complete the procedure."

"What's the reason?" she questioned coldly. "The reason as to why my brother hit someone and also, what about the evidence?"

"So many people in the school saw it and they're all my witnesses. Furthermore, there's also surveillance at the university entrance. You can check it out yourself" Bruce couldn't help but interject.

Convinced that Timothy wouldn't start a fight without a reason, Tessa was still worried that she wouldn't be able to view the surveillance, so when she heard that, she nodded cheerfully. "Sure, let's check the surveillance then."

In the end, the surveillance showed that it was Bruce jostling around, and the people around him were sneering inaudibly, but this was enough.

"The one who blocked Timothy's path first was him, and was the person who pushed him first. Also, he was the person who was speaking the whole time. So, I don't understand why the university is only taking actions against my brother," Tessa said indifferently.

"This.." Julius muttered in embarrassment.

Timothy was a good student, starting a company even before graduation, and this was very helpful for the university's publicity. However, Julius couldn't defy the instructions from the higher-ups at the same time.

Between the fate of a student and the survival of a university, Julius was still able to tell which was more important.

Then, Tessa added, "If the university insists on expelling Timothy, then Bruce and the group of students in the surveillance have to receive equally severe punishments."

While he couldn't offend the Liston Family, he was also unable to refute Tessa's reasoning. And so, all of them entered a stalemate just like that.

After a long while, Julius said, "Timothy's actions have affected the university in the end. I can revoke the decision to expel him but he has to have a huge demerit. He won't be able to study abroad and has to stay home to repent for a period of time."

Upon hearing that, Timothy didn't say anything else anymore. As he had already started his own company and it was now taking off, he didn't plan to study abroad either. However, he was still upset that he was almost expelled and had a huge demerit because of something like this.

However, the university had already made it clear that they wanted to punish him, and he had a hunch that even if he didn't have a demerit this time, they would still find another excuse to pass judgment on him. When that time came, they would probably expel him for real.

After coming out of Julius' office, Tessa was a little baffled. "Tim, what happened? What did he say that made you hit him?"

Shaking his head, Timothy didn't want his sister to hear those nasty comments.

On the other hand, Tessa didn't want to force him if he didn't want to tell, but she thought that the university's attitude was a little odd. "Why do I have a feeling that your university is picking on you and completely silent about the other student named Bruce Liston?"

This was the same question on Timothy's mind, but judging from everything that happened recently, it was only possible that Bruce was the one who set up the trap today.

"His family is a shareholder of the university and he has been doing mean things in the school. I went to him for help the last time but he turned me down. After that, Master Kieran helped me out, and I offended him because of that. Maybe it was since that time

that he held a grudge against me and used this opportunity to get back at me when he heard the rumors that we've fallen out with the Sawyer Family."

Thinking about it, Tessa thought that it made sense as anger sparked within her. "These people are just bullying others because of their background. This is too much!"

Tim, don't brood over it. You're an outstanding person, and you'll only be staying home for a short period. There are so many people with demerits and you can come back in the future." In a second, she gazed at her brother with concern.

Shaking his head, Timothy responded, "I'm fine. In fact, I will have more time to spend on my work and you now. Didn't you say that I lost some weight? I'll use this opportunity to rest well."