

# A Lifetime With You Chapter 31

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## Chapter 31

As if he was afraid of touching the wound on her wrist, he raised her hands above her head. He then held the back of her head with his other hand so that she couldn't turn away or resist. Ava wanted to bite his tongue forcefully, but Damien saw it coming and moved his tongue away agilely, prying her teeth open while he was at it. Damien's mouth tasted faintly like mint. Ava was wondering why he ate a mint candy, but soon, she became out of breath from the kiss. Her mind stopped working, and she subconsciously wrapped her hands around his neck so that she wouldn't fall to the floor when she stepped backwards. He chuckled and pressed her against the wall. The kiss was long and passionate. When he let her go, she took deep breaths after deep breaths, and she was blushing profusely. Damien seemed to be in a good mood. He didn't ask her anything else about Selden. Instead, he flashed a half-smile and asked, "Ava, do you want to sleep?" "I...Of course I want to sleep!" Now that Damien was no longer holding her, she hurried up the stairs to her room on the first floor. Afraid that he would do something to her, she added, "I want to sleep alone!" She entered the room and closed the door. Damien didn't follow her to the room. Ava leaned against the door and panted loudly. Why was her heart beating so rapidly? Her hormones must have been messed up due to the pregnancy

The next day, Ava went to the hospital for a prenatal checkup as planned. Damien did not go with her. He told her early in the morning that he had to catch a plane for a business trip in another city. At the hospital. Accompanied by a servant from the Radbury family's residence, she completed her blood test. They then walked towards the gynecology department for the prenatal checkup. Ava recovered pretty well, but as she was badly injured in the early stages of her pregnancy, she was a little weaker compared to other pregnant women. There were many drugs that she couldn't take, which meant that she had to endure many pregnancy side effects. "Look, it's Kelly Hensley!" When they were about to leave the hospital, Ava saw a commotion in the crowd. She looked in the direction everyone was staring and saw a woman clad in luxury brands from head to toe entering the door. She was wearing a pair of sunglasses. With her pair of stilettos, she had a stylish way of walking. She emanated a powerful aura indeed. "It's really Kelly Hensley! Why is she at the hospital?" The crowd whispered among themselves. Ava thought about it for a while before finally remembering who this woman was Kelly was a well-known actress, and she had been in the industry since she was a child Even though she was only a little over twenty years old, she had been famous for more than ten years. She had won awards ranging from the best rookie award to the best actress award. She could be said to be one of the top stars in the entertainment industry Kelly was originally walking in a straight line, but when she passed by Ava, she stopped in her tracks for a moment. She even took off her sunglasses Ava didn't know why Kelly was looking at her as they didn't know each other at all. Only after a while did she realize that they were carrying the same handbag.

It was a limited edition bag from a top luxury brand, and there were less than twenty of it

worldwide

Of course Ava wouldn't spend so much money on such a thing. Her mother, Jessica was the one who tried all means and methods to get enough money to buy it for her. Her mother said at the time, "You are the young missus of the Radburry family! How could you not use something branded that fits your status? Don't let the members of the Radburry family look down upon you!" When she found out that her mother actually used all the alimony from her father to buy her a handbag, her heart ached.

At that time, her mother also said that it was not a mere luxury handbag, and that a female celebrity was using it too. Ava didn't expect that to be true. Kelly's face twitched a little before she put on her sunglasses again. She then continued walking. Ava didn't think much about it and was about to leave when Selden's voice rang out. "You're here." Ava turned and saw that Kelly was no longer wearing an arrogant expression. She took off her sunglasses, rushed over to Selden, and wrapped her arms around his waist.

"Selden, are you serious?" "Yeah, of course I am. Look at my sincere eyes. Do I seem like I'm lying?" Kelly was so happy that she tightened her grip on Selden and refused to let go. She didn't care that she was in public at all. Meanwhile, Selden saw Ava and called out to her. "Ava, come over!" Ava didn't want to go, but since Selden had already called her, she couldn't just ignore him. The three of them sat down in Selden's office. At first, Ava and Kelly put their handbags beside their bodies. But then, Kelly snorted softly and hid her handbag behind herself. "Ava, let me introduce my girlfriend to you. This is Kelly Hensley. Kelly, this is my best friend, Ava Nagel."

Selden smiled and introduced the two of them to each other. He deliberately emphasized the word "friend".

"Best friend..." Kelly pouted. "Why is your best friend a woman?" "Of course it's because I'm handsome, and all women like me." Seeing that Selden didn't even bother being serious in front of his own girlfriend, Ava quickly explained, "Miss Hensley, please don't misunderstand things. I'm already married."

Selden's expression darkened a little, and he said sarcastically, "Yeah. Not only is she married, but she's about to have a baby." Kelly didn't sense the sarcasm in her boyfriend's voice at all. She had chased after Selden for two months, and today, Selden had finally agreed to be her boyfriend. Her heart was filled with joy. Of course, she didn't suspect anything.

Meanwhile, Selden's smile was as dandy as ever, as though he had forgotten all about what happened with Ava the day before. "This is great. It seems that he was just joking as usual yesterday." Ava breathed a sigh of relief. Although Kelly had been in the entertainment industry since she was young, she was an optimistic and innocent woman. Aside from the fact that she was a little haughty, she was actually a good choice for a girlfriend. Selden had good taste indeed. He actually managed to woo a renowned celebrity. "Selden, I'm done with my prenatal checkup, so I have to leave now. Have a great time with Miss Hensley." Ava stood up. She didn't want to disturb Selden and Kelly. "Wait." Selden stopped her. "Ava, although I made a lot of jokes yesterday, there's one thing I wasn't joking about, and had never joked about." "What?" Selden's gaze was profound as he looked at her. There seemed

to be a thousand words that he wanted to say, and this made Ava's heart skip a beat. His girlfriend was sitting right beside him. What if he said something she shouldn't? "Selden, I think we should talk about this alone," Ava quickly said. "What right do you have to talk to me alone? Ava, you promised to treat me to a meal. Don't tell me that you refuse to pay for the booking of the restaurant yesterday." Selden raised his voice. Ava panicked. "You... What did you say?"

"Anyway, I emailed the bill to you. I've paid it on your behalf. If you can't afford it at the moment, you can pay in installments. You don't have to pay me any interest." Selden flashed a cunning smile.

"Selden, you rascal!"

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The relationship photos of Kelly and Selden, which were captured secretly in the hospital, were shared on social media rapidly.

After all, she was a popular star with huge fan bases. Her scandals could really create much chaotic havoc than Damien did within the corporate world at any second. The news could really paralyze the whole network

Besides, the netizens also got Selden's background sorted out thoroughly

Anyway, he was a rich, hardworking, and good-looking lad with an impressive educational background. So, lots of netizens felt that it was such a waste as he had fallen in love at an early age. When Ava scrolled through the news on her phone, she came across lots of comments from the netizens. She thought, "That's because they've never met Damien as he's the one who married young."

However, her heart trembled a little when that thought flashed across her mind.

All the while, she had always been so proud of him. She even adored him as his loyal follower at times. However, the marriage life of the two years was accumulating disappointment slowly. So, she subconsciously entered Damien Radbury's name into the search box to see what she could get.

The news about Damien could always be found on the first page, latest news. She was kind of shocked after going through several pages of news from her searching result. Before that, the news about Kelly's love affair scandals got the greatest hits every week. However, no one realized that Damien's news had gotten into these hits after Kelly's.

"The secret lover of the Radbury Group's president" was the heading of the scandal.

As for the picture attached beside, it came with Damien and Selina hung out at the hotel. She remembered clearly it was the exact clothes that Damien had on the morning before he left for work.

Wasn't that he was out for a business trip?

Her heart sank like a stone. And, all of a sudden, Ava came to realize that her love for

Damien was solely her wishful thinking. Selina and he...

After all, Ava had been just an outsider. The phone rang and it was a call from her mother. Jessica was a bit upset in her tone, "Ava, have you read the news? What's going on? How can Damien come out with a fiancée out of nowhere?"

Ava knew that her marriage with Damien had never been made public.

Although Damien was known for his marital status as married, he had never introduced his wife to the public before. What was more, the tidbits about him were getting worst! "Mum, chill, perhaps that person... that girl was just his business partner."

"How can you prevaricate me with such an excuse, are you convinced with this explanation?"

Jessica was getting a bit angry

"Isn't it the same whether I'm convinced with it or not? Ava muttered

How could Jessica reprimand her daughter for not able to win her husband's heart, but she did not blame Damien for flirting around?

However, how could she fight for something that didn't belong to her at all? "Ava, I have got you the flight ticket, so get your things ready and we are going to City B now!" Jessica said suddenly "What?"

Ava was a bit lost with her mum's order.

Damien was on a business trip in City B and he would be back in around four days, why would she be there too?

Did she want to catch the adultery affair?

Yes, this was Jessica's purpose.

Ava refused to do so, but she couldn't help as her mum insisted it and she was sent to the airport soon. B

"Mum, please don't be like that. You know Damien used to be always surrounded by lots of girls, isn't it?" Ava muttered.

"It is fine if it happens in the past, now it's different as you are carrying his child and we shouldn't allow him to continue flirting around!" Ava sighed. Ava knew that her mum was one with a determined character and no one could stop her after she had made up her mind on a decision. And, if Ava didn't follow her mum to City B, there would definitely be big chaos there soon. But it wouldn't help much if they went there, wasn't it? Or did her mum expect her to yank at Selina out from the hotel after they were there? For the time being, she just wanted to deliver her baby peacefully without thinking of any other matter.

"Mum, my life in the Radbury family will be even more miserable if he gets annoyed later."

"If you don't give them a hard time now, you will have a hard time for the rest of your life in Radbury family!"

It only took an hour to reach City B from City A. After landing, Jessica took Ava along and they headed to the hotel immediately. "How can you get to know which hotel he stays in City B?" Ava asked in surprise. "I thought it is pretty clear from the photo taken in the news. And, I have checked all of the five-stars hotels in City B, this one looks the most similar as in the photo!! Ava commended her mum for her perseverance. She should have applied to be a detective with her investigative nature.

When they had finally arrived at the hotel, the receptionist refused to disclose Damien's

room number. So, Jessica started to make a big fuss and Ava could do nothing to stop her. Suddenly, the receptionist said, "Mr. Radbury, there are two guests here who claim to be your family and insist to know your room number." Ava turned around and saw Damien was standing there with a gloomy face. "...I was here only because..." It didn't help to relieve the awkward moment no matter how hard she tried to explain it. However, Damien didn't question her, but he grabbed her hands and walked to the elevator. Ava looked back at her mother and noticed that she was a little frightened that her snarling momentum had disappeared. "Damien, I didn't mean to come to you. It's just my mum... Actually, she just wants to know more about the photograph on the news... It's kind of a bit complicated. Okay, let me explain to you but please let go of my hand first."

Soon, the elevator was here and Damien pushed her into the lift before he loosened his grip. "There's only one presidential suite on the 18th floor, remember that." He said and pressed the lift button.

Ava nodded, since there was only one presidential suite here, did that mean Selina was also sharing the same suite here?

It seemed that the number 18 played a significant meaning to him as every of his stay, ranging from his business trip accommodation to his office was arranged with this number. "Which photo did you just say?" He asked suddenly. "Of course it's the photo of you and Selina." As soon as she finished, she continued, "I didn't mean to come here after seeing those photos, it's because of my mum..." It didn't seem to be appropriate to talk bad about her mum in front of him, so she kept quiet. "So you are here to catch us in the act." "No! I'm not!"

Damien chuckled. The elevator stopped on the eighteenth floor, and she followed him into the suite. It was a spacious room. Ava took a glance at the surroundings and she didn't see Selina there. "Alright, then please check carefully and see whether you can get anything here," Damien said.

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Ava became more embarrassed and she dared not to look around "I think I have to get down to my mum if you have nothing else. She lowered her head and wanted to sneak away.

It was kind of embarrassed to meet him midway. What was more, she got to spend time with him alone

However, Damien did not let her go by blocking her at the door.

He picked up his cell phone and informed the front desk, "Mrs. Fuller who is at the lobby is one of my guests, please get her a room."

After that, he threw his phone on the sofa and smiled, "So you can stay now right?" "What do you want to do?" Damien raised his hand and started to take off his shirt. She was

startled and quickly turned away. He chuckled again and wondered why she kept acting innocent as if it was her first time to see him naked

Then, he took another dark shirt from the closet and wore it before he called her, "Come here."

She couldn't say no to his order but approach him. Then, he said, "Tie it up for me." Wearing a tie was a very common task and every wife should be able to complete it easily. Except for Ava. After two years of marriage, even the number of times they slept together was little. So, what could one expect for her to get the opportunity to wear a tie for him? After trying a few times clumsily, she finally tied a knot to him and that tie looked messy and ugly. "That... Let me try again."

That moment, she raised her hand and wanted to untie it.

But he refused it, "Just let it be, I shouldn't have asked you to do it." As Damien looked into his reflection from the mirror, he was speechless as she was the only woman who could make a simple tie as clumsy as this. However, he did not untie it, but chose a dark suit and got ready to go out. "Where are you going?" she asked quickly. "I have a business gathering with Selina tonight. Just wait for me patiently here and don't go anywhere."

The moment when she heard the name "Selina", she felt a bit left out.

Meanwhile, Damien didn't intend to further explain anything to her but left directly.

It seemed that the news was true, Selina and him were having a secret date...

On the other hand, Selina had been waiting for him for almost half an hour outside the hotel. The moment when they were leaving, he seemed to find out something, so he got back to the hotel lobby alone.

When he came out again, his clothes had been different "What's the matter? Why are you back just to change your suit?" Selina asked "Of course I need to change it because they are dirty Now, let's go Selina saw his weird tie and wanted to remind him of that, but she was afraid that it might be tied that way on purpose, so she didn't say anything

This time, they were here for a project discussion

There was a project between the Radbury Group and the Newton family. Therefore, Selina had requested from her dad to be the person in charge of this specific project And, this had got her the opportunity to spend some quality time with Damien

However, Damien was a workaholic and he was too occupied with his schedule due to his heavy workload.

"What about a drink after the business entertainment?" Selina suggested proactively

"If you really want to have a drink, you can get Mr. Bradley from Techsun Technology to accompany you later." Damien was busy flipping and reading through a document handed over by his secretary without even looked up at Selina.

Meanwhile, Ava was extremely bored in the hotel.

Ava contacted her mum, but her mum wanted her to have a good talk with Damien by herself as she didn't intend to meddle in their relationships matter. In fact, Ava was informed that her mum was going to the local scenic spot for a stroll later. 2 She was quite startled by her mum's word since it was her mum who insisted to bring her here initially, but now she was left alone to deal with this issue herself. Ava was speechless.

However, she was not interested in visiting the tourist spots and she would rather sleep in the hotel. After sleeping for a few hours, the doorbell rang. She thought Damien had back and she hurried to open the door, but it turned out to be a waiter who delivered the meal. "Mr. Radburry ordered us to bring you dinner on time." She was a little surprised as she didn't expect that he would do this.

She called him.

Damien was chatting with the customer when she called and his phone was placed on the table, so he didn't realize the incoming call at all.

However, Selina saw it.

She picked up his phone surreptitiously without Damien's realization and left the room.

"When will you be back?" Ava asked directly when the phone was answered. "Miss Nagel, it's me." When she heard the female voice on the other end, Ava got a little miffed and she clenched her fist subconsciously.

She had never expected that Damien would allow Selina to touch his phone though both of them were together now. It disappointed her so much "Where is Damien?"

"Damien is not free to pick up his phone now do you want me to pass him the message "Oh It's okay then

Ava hung up the call without much said

She didn't dare to ask nor imagine more about it

Ava's heart got shattered a little more each time when she thought of their intimacy

She should have got herself used to it when Damien brought Selina to her for the very first time. The pain had become a norm to her. In fact, Selina got a slight privilege due to her family background. Besides, the Radbury family also treated her as Damien's official fiancée. That night, when Damien was back at the hotel, Ava was no longer there.

When he checked his phone, there was no record of a call from Ava as it had been deleted by Selina,

He thought she left on purpose without informing him.

So he called Ava again, but he couldn't reach her.

"Has she back?"

Damien got a little irritated.

Why was this woman coming to her from another city suddenly and now she left without informing? He was really puzzled by her inexplicable mind. Damien put down his phone and went into the bathroom for a shower.

When he was done with his shower, he noticed that there were several missed calls on his phone.

It was an unknown number which puzzled him, so he called back. "Hello, are you the owner of this number?" It was the voice of a middle-aged man. "Yes, may I know who is this?" "This is the police station in city B. Your wife is with us here so please come over now." Damien got a bit shocked with his eyelids twitched, were they referring to Ava? How could this lady end up at the police station? Damien dashed out with his clothes before drying up his hair.

When he arrived at the police station, he saw Ava was crouching on the bench with her frightened

expression. Her rising fear had overwhelmed her completely. "Ava, what's the matter?" "I'm sorry, I can't reach my mum and my phone is broken. And, I can only remember your number." Damien looked around and two young men were sitting on the chair with their bruised faces. Their hands were handcuffed and they looked angry.

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Damien got a better picture of what had happened after he listened to the police's explanation. It turned out that Ava left the hotel for unknown reasons. Since she was unfamiliar with the locals, she was lost at midnight. She had caught the attention of the two scoundrels and she was almost harassed by them. If it wasn't due to the on-duty police that saved her, she might have already in big trouble. "Anyway, your wife is a brave one. When we arrived, we saw her hitting them with her phone, that two b\*stards might have disfigured if we are late!" The police sighed with emotion.

Damien looked down at Ava as she hadn't said anything after his arrival. Meanwhile, she was still trembling with fear after that incident happened. After all, she was just a physically weak woman in comparison with the two men who were much more sturdy than her. And, if the policemen were a little late, the consequence could be ghastly unimaginable.

He took off his coat and draped it over her head. Then, he walked towards the two rascals. Obviously, they had been the regulars at the police station. They were not scared at all because criminals would only get detained for at most ten days for the unsuccessful crime. Damien glanced at them and caught a glimpse of two criminal evidence bags on the table next to him, one of which contained an army knife. "Is this yours?" he asked coldly. "Ha! We don't need a knife to deal with a little lady, so it's for defense purpose." One of them sneered.

Without hesitation, Damien picked up the knife from the evidence bag and pierced it straight into his crotch! It startled everyone and the policemen didn't have time to stop him! The army knife stabbed right into the man's crotch and it was nailed on the wooden chair. There were only a few millimeters away from the knife to break the scoundrel's g\*nital. Damien's act had scared the daylight out of the two rascals and one of them even wetted his crotch on the spot. He kicked the other man down and caught the collar of the other man. "You may not know who I am now, but it doesn't matter, you will know that soon." All of a sudden, the two men were no longer with their cocky faces. Instead, they knelt and kept begging for mercy. Damien glanced at them in disgust and talked to the policeman. Meanwhile, the policemen kept nodding and agreed to his words as they were so panicked. The police had come across lots of bullies but this was their first time to see someone who got so bold to take revenge at the police station. They didn't dare to utter a single word after they saw Damien's name who was from the Radbury Group, and the contact number left by him. Then, Damien walked towards Ava and wanted to hold her up. Before that, he turned around and



said, "There will be a lawyer here tomorrow and the case won't end with a simple lock-up. His words implied that those rascals were bound to heavy sentences soon. After leaving the police station, he let go of Ava's hand.

"I told you just wait for me in the hotel, isn't it?"

She didn't reply but started to weep instead.

Damien was a bit lost with her reaction.

This was the first time he saw her crying.

The tears flooded uncontrollably from her eyes. "Isn't it solved now? Why are you still crying?" She turned away from him and covered herself with his coat subconsciously, it was because she was trying to hide her inferior side. Anyway, shouldn't he be with Selina now?

"I'm sorry to disturb your date with Miss Newton because of this incident." She took a deep breath and tried to hold her tears when she looked up.

"Let's go." He suddenly grabbed her wrist and dragged her forward.

"Where are we going?"

"Of course we are going back to the hotel." She attempted to follow his pace since he didn't walk fast as he was waiting for her deliberately. After walking for a distance, Ava noticed that Damien was walking with the hotel slippers. Could it be that after receiving a call from the police station, he left the hotel without even putting on his shoes? It was impossible that he would be so worried for her safety... Her thought disappeared as soon as Damien called for a cab and pushed her into it. The taxi was a bit packed. So, Ava sat close to him and clutched his sleeve while glancing at his expression quietly.

He was still as cold as usual. Ava couldn't believe that a man with such an icy expression could be raged for the sake of her safety at the police station just now.

"Are you feeling ashamed and angry because I mentioned your name to the police just now?" she asked.

"Are you injured?"

"Huh?"

Ava was a little shocked and she lowered her eyes, "No, I didn't hurt, I was just...somewhat a bit scared."

He did not question further.

The car stopped in front of the hotel. When she opened the door and wanted to get down, he got out of the car one step ahead and wanted to carry her. "... I was not hurt, I can walk by myself though."

She struggled a little, then she gave up as she knew that she was not as strong as him. So she

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decided to curl herself up in his arms obediently. Afterward, they met Jessica on the midway in the hotel lobby. Jessica was excited when she saw Ava was carried by Damien. Perhaps it wasn't a waste for both of them to come all the way from their city after she saw their relationship got closer. "Damien, Ava..." Jessica walked towards them and wanted to greet them, but Damien didn't even bother her and he walked straight into the VIP elevator with

Ava in his hands. Ava felt so embarrassed. She was surmising that her mum must have used some tricks on Damien to make their marriage a success back then. And, now he must be very disgusted with her mother.

Maybe he should be more disgusted with himself. Perhaps he wouldn't even bother her at all if it wasn't for the fact that Ava was pregnant with his baby.

Meanwhile, she was sent straight into the bathroom by Damien after they reached their room. "What...what are you doing?" "Take a bath," Damien twitched his lips, "and clean up yourself." She didn't budge, so he continued, "Which parts of you have been harassed?" So, he was minding this actually. Suddenly, Ava had caught his drift and it turned out that Damien was unhappy as she had been touched by other guys. Her heart that was moved and being grateful was immediately blighted and replaced by disappointment. Soon, Damien tore his coat off from her shoulder and turned on the shower. The water splashed out from the shower and wetted her body. Although the water temperature was warm, she was still shivering. "Hey! Damien Radbury, what are you doing?" She stood up and slipped accidentally because the floor was very slippery after it got wet. He wanted to catch her instantly, however, both of them fell into the bathtub. "Urgh..are you crazy!" Ava tried to stand up with her painful elbow, but she couldn't move as she was held tight by his hand. The water vapor became warmed as well as the intimate atmosphere. Soon, the two of them began to breathe heavily.

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Suddenly, he pressed her down and wanted to kiss her lips

The water in the shower gradually filled the bathtub As she struggled, her whole body was immersed in the water, which was somewhat hot His gaze was getting more intense and aroused

"Damien Don't do that please Ava was somewhat uncomfortable by Damien's stare that scanned through her body lustfully

He lowered down his gaze and clung it to Ava's curve after her shirt got wetted and stuck close on her body

"Hey...you..you let me go!"

He sneered, "You don't have to pretend to be innocent, it's not our first time doing that though."

Soon, his gentleness disappeared in a swift moment. Damien ignored Ava's pleading and he continued to tear her shirt off.

Even though he had watched this scene a few times, he still got loss of control whenever he encountered it.

Ava struggled hard and pummeled him with her nails poked into his back. But that didn't stop him from continuing to push her down.

So, she got no choice and whispered, "Damien, beware... of the baby." He stopped his act

immediately when he heard that.

The baby...

Then, he looked at her lower abdomen and let go of her after a few seconds.

He stepped out from the bathtub wetly and left the bathroom without looking back at her.

When Ava had done sprucing up her grueling body and came out from the bathroom, Damien was already lying on the bed. His eyes were closed and she was uncertain whether he had slept.

Although the suite was large, there was only a bed. So Ava was plumping for a resting place, whether to have it on the bed or in the living room.

However, Damien did not intend to give her any choice. He woke up and dragged her abruptly onto the bed.

"Damien, you..." Before she finished, he had already thrown a quilt on her. It seemed that he wanted her to stay in the bedroom tonight.

"Don't worry, I won't touch you." Then, he turned sideways and closed his eyes to rest. Ava hesitated for a while and decided not to agitate him. So, she covered the quilt carefully on herself and slept on the other side of the bed. It was a big bed with a huge boundary in between them as they were sleeping far away from each other.

Later, there was some audible gasp from Damien's side

"Damien, are you asleep?" she asked cautiously

He didn't answer nor make any move, perhaps he had fallen asleep.

He kept his words on that night, and hence, he didn't touch her at all

Although they were sleeping on the opposite side from each other as well as using a different blanket, she could feel that their relationship was getting closer inexplicably. Moreover, Ava had a sweet dream that night.

Anyway, it was nothing much but just a dream, and she was about to wake up

When she was awake and rolled over, she could only feel the empty blanket beside her.

Damien woke up much earlier on and he had left the bedroom.

The watch on her hand read ten o'clock in the morning, and she actually had slept for so long.

She quickly got up and went into the bathroom to clean herself.

While brushing her teeth, she heard some chatting voice outside, so she opened the door to check

on it.

It was Selina, who was standing outside the door and talking with Damien

Selina got a bit stunned when she saw Ava came out from the bedroom.

"Miss Nagel, you are here too."

Selina was indeed a graceful lady. She instantly changed her expression when she saw Ava, and quickly greeted her with a polite smile. In

Meanwhile, Ava was kind of feeling very awkward.

What was the matter now?

Selina was in her exquisite professional dress with immaculate makeup while Damien was wearing his suit elegantly too.

Except for Ava, who was still in her pajamas and wearing the hotel's slippers. Besides, her hair was unkempt and her mouth was full of toothpaste foam, perhaps her eyedrops had also yet to be cleaned up. Without hesitation, she turned around and hid in the toilet after slumping the door. Damien smiled when he saw her reaction while Selina was a bit surprised by his response. "Wait for me for a moment," He told Selina. Then, he walked to the bedroom and told Ava, "I'm going out now. Get your things ready and packed, Secretary Bradley will be here in a half an hour time to send both you and your mum back to City A." Upon hearing this, she spat out the toothpaste foam and opened the door, "Damien, I'm not going back!" If she went back now, her mum might start to nag again and she didn't want that to happen. Moreover, Selina had been utilizing the excuse of working to stay around with Damien every single day during their business trip. That had made Ava feeling really disgruntled.

Her courage appeared out of nowhere and it emboldened her to refuse his words, "No, I'm not going back!"

Suddenly, Damien stretched out his fingers to wipe off the residual toothpaste foam from her mouth

and dab on her pajamas. "What are you going to do if you are not going back?" "1... Neither my mum nor I have been to City B. So, we are here to travel! We will be going to the scenic spot this afternoon though." She replied immediately. "Fine then," Damien replied. Then he walked to Selina and said, "Let's go." "Sure." Selina grinned and held his hand. The moment when both of them walked hand in hand, Ava began to reflect on her current outlook that she was still in her pajamas and slippers. Suddenly, she felt so inferior. After Damien had left the suite, he quietly took away his hand from Selina's arm. Then, he ordered his secretary outside the room, "Arrange someone to follow behind Ava wherever she goes." "Noted." Although Dempsey was a bit shocked by his request, she still obeyed him.

After washing up, Ava hurried to go to her mother. She got to buy herself a new phone soon as the old one was broken by the two cads yesterday. However, she didn't tell her mother about the incident that happened yesterday as she didn't want her to worry much. "Ava, who is that?" A young man was standing outside the mobile shop. Soon, Jessica started to aware of his presence as he was following them after they left the hotel. Ava surmised that he was probably someone that sent by Damien. Was he intending to spy on herself and her mother to see if they were really going to have fun at the scenic spot or do something else? She murmured and replied Jessica, "Damien sent him to guard us along with our travel." "Oh really? Since when he becomes so caring and thoughtful?" Ava smiled awkwardly. Jessica began to feel a little proud, "Previously, you refuse to come over isn't it? See, not only that you can stop him from messing around, but you can also improve your relationship with him. Isn't that killing two birds with one stone?"

Ava seemingly chimed in with her mother's words, but deep inside she was imagining Damien and Selina were dating secretly.

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## Chapter 36

She tried her best to shield her mind off from pondering on Selina's affairs. It was better for her to spend this quality time with her mother. After they finished strolling around, they headed for their lunch.

Ava was thinking to settle their meal in the mall, however, Jessica wanted to have it at the famous Michelin restaurant nearby.

"Mum, it's too expensive here. We can change to a cheaper one if you want to have steaks."

, Ava quietly searched online for this restaurant. She found that the price of a meal per person here could be worth half a month of her salary, which was too expensive.

But Jessica insisted to eat at that restaurant. "it's not like we can't afford it! Do bear in mind that you are the missus of the Radbury family and you can always book the whole restaurant if you want to. Stop scrimping and saving like a cheapskate." "Indeed, I am a cheapskate who cannot understand why people threw money to a meal. It's just food, mum." Ava was a little displeased as her mother was so arrogant even though she was actually not well born. Until Ava became an adult, Jessica squandered the alimony that she received from the Nagel family. Since Ava married into the Radbury family, Jessica had been asking for pocket money in every way possible. However, her life in the Radbury family wasn't as good as she expected and it was unlikely to keep taking money from Damien. Every single penny that she gave to her mother came from her hard work and savings.

Jessica didn't care about Ava and she walked directly into the restaurant. Ava had no choice but got to follow her mother. 2 "Mum, maybe you can order a little lesser here and we can have some fast food after this." Ava worried that she might not afford to pay the bill after looking at the menu price. "If you are short of money, then you should ask for a credit card from Damien! Don't always feel sorry for that, anyway that is your intention of marrying him, you get me?"

Jessica started to lecture Ava.

Ava listened without talking back to her mother. Whatever she said would be just like added fuel to the fire.

"You should be proud as a missus in the Radbury family and not always be so timid. If you keep on being so soft, the Radbury family will look down on you, including the outsiders!"

"Mom, watch your words, walls have ears, though." "What's wrong with that? You are Damien's wife, so nothing to be afraid of!" Suddenly, Ava caught a glimpse of Damien and Selina at the entrance. They were walking towards the same restaurant together.

She startled for a while and immediately picked up the menu book to cover her face. The world was so unexpectedly small!

But, why would Damien be here? Shouldn't he be meeting his clients now? As Jessica realized Ava's abnormal behavior, she instantly looked in her direction and saw Damien and Selina were coming into the private room of the restaurant. They were sitting at the corner in which their angle happened to be blocked by green plants, so Damien didn't see them.

"What's going on? Why is there a woman beside him?" Jessica stood up immediately and wanted to investigate what happened. Ava quickly stopped her. "Mum, what are you

doing?"

Ava tried to lower her voice as much as possible as she was scared that her voice might catch both of their attention.

"Why are you hiding? Hello, you are his wife and you should let the girl beside him know about your

status! Please be bold and don't let others trample you."

Jessica was a person of hot temper and of course, she couldn't accept her daughter being humiliated that way. So, she got rid of Ava's hand and rushed forward.

It was too late when Ava stopped her mum.

Jessica had rushed to the room that Damien and Selina entered, and she was about to push the door and enter it.

Ava rushed forward and wanted to stop her mother, but she accidentally bashed the door!

The door was left ajar when she rushed inside.

There were two other middle-aged men in suits in addition to Damien and Selina.

And, there were two documents on the table in front of them. At this point, the four people subconsciously cast their glance at this gatecrasher. Damien was obviously aggravated,

"What are you doing here?"

So, it was pretty clear now that Damien and Selina were here for business purposes, but not for a tryst.

Ava quickly turned around to look for her mother while she was hiding outside. Her mother dared not to utter a single word after realizing the trouble that she caused.

It was impossible to tell them that she was pushed inside by her mother. And, it wasn't even less likely to tell them that she was here to catch the adultery affair. So, what could she say?

Ava gritted her teeth and looked at Damien as if she was seeking help from him. "Miss, may I know you are?" one of the clients asked.

"I am..."

Again, she glanced at Damien because she didn't know how to answer.

There were not many people who knew about the official missus of Damien, and perhaps he wouldn't want to acknowledge it on this occasion too. "Mr. Radburry, do you know this young lady?"

Damien retracted his gaze, and replied lightly, "No, I don't know her." Anyway, it was the expected response from him.

Ava sneered with a little sadness.

"I'm sorry, I guess I have got in the wrong direction." She bowed and apologized before she turned to

leave.

Selina was a bit smug with Damien's answer and she whispered to him, "Should we catch up with

"We will carry on with discussion just now." His expression was still the same and he didn't respond to Selina's question, but he continued with his discussion instead. Meanwhile, Ava was listening to their discussion outside while staring at her mother in chagrin. Jessica

grinned with a sorry look, "Oh, you can't blame me on that, you don't expect me to know

their activity behind when they enter the room together, don't you?" "Mum, please don't be so aggressive next time." Ava continued, "Also, I can't control if they meant to do something behind the closed door." "What nonsense is that? You mean you allow him to flirt with others blatantly?" She was too lazy to argue with her mother. Later, she started to feel nausea again and she quickly ran to the bathroom with her mouth covered.

It was a nasty one to get pregnant. She held on to the edge of the sink as she had no more energy after a continuous vomit.

She had no idea when would the symptoms of morning sickness be ended. If it wasn't for this child... Ava subconsciously stroked her lower abdomen. If it wasn't for this child, maybe Damien had abandoned her a long time ago. Absolutely, Damien must have hated her a lot as he couldn't confirm his relationship with Selina due to his status as Ava's husband.

As she recalled the moment when he didn't acknowledge her and also his heartless look in the private room just now, her heart got wrecked.

When Ava walked out of the bathroom, there was someone who handed her a tissue. When she looked up, it was Selina. "I'm sorry as Damien has no choice to say so in front of his clients just now. Please don't take it into your heart." Selina smiled.

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She didn't pick it up from Selina's hand, instead she took out her own tissues from her bag. "Damien and I are having a project discussion with our customers, so it's kind of a bit reckless that you came in just now. If they get to know your relationship with Damien, they would have a bad impression on him inevitably. So, he has no choice but to pretend that he doesn't know you. Please don't take it personally." "I don't think you're the right person for this clarification, isn't it?" Ava said coldly. "Damien is drinking with his client, so he asked me specifically to explain this to you." Ava was getting more disgusted by her cordial way of addressing Damien. For a certain reason, even her stomach was feeling the same too. b Anyway, she didn't bother to ask for any explanation. "Miss. Newton, I think I have to move because my mother is still waiting for me outside." Ava scurried away quickly. She wished to be as demure as Selina to smile gracefully and maintain her decency, which she could not do it. She really couldn't keep her eyes off of anything that had to do with the women around Damien. Perhaps she had made a big mistake from the beginning. "Ava, why are you looking so pale?" Jessica was shocked when she saw Ava's tiring face. "I'm fine... mum, let's go."

Jessica knew that she had brought trouble to Ava, so she didn't dare to nag like before. She then held Ava's hand and left that restaurant. The disappointment was accruing slowly within Ava. Initially, she was given a little hope, but soon she was forced to accept the cruel reality. When she reached the door which looked so bright under the sunlight, she passed out.

Ava was lying on the hospital bed when she woke up and her mother was elsewhere. It was

Damien's secretary, Dempsey, who accompanied her.

"What's wrong with me?"

She forced herself to get up, but soon she came to realize that she was so frail. Plus, there was an

Dempsey instantly helped her up and told her, "You fainted. It is the president who sends you here. And, your body is slightly weak as per the doctor's examination." "What about with my child?" "Don't worry, the doctor has given you an injection which will strengthen your body immune system, so don't worry much about the baby."

Ava was very relieved when she heard that. "Where is my mum then?" "Mrs. Fuller has taken care of you for quite long just now, so she has back to the hotel to rest." She nodded and laid down again. She actually wanted to ask about Damien's whereabouts, but she thought it would sound a bit redundant and it was less likely for him to keep her accompanied during this period. When Jessica came over in the evening, it was dawned on Ava that Damien and Selina had finished their work and gone back to City A.

However, Ava had to stay another night in the hospital for inspection due to her health condition. So, Damien instructed his secretary to stay with her instead.

Ava felt much better the next morning, so she requested Dempsey to complete the discharge at the airport.

She was back at Radbury family's house in the afternoon. Damien was sitting on the sofa when she arrived. He craned up and looked at her when she opened the door.

"You are back?"

"Yea..."

His tone was so cold as if she just went out for a stroll.

She carried her suitcase into the house by herself while bearing the physical discomfort. The good thing was that the stuff in the luggage was not too much and not heavy, so it wasn't difficult for her to carry it up to her room on the second floor. Suddenly, Damien stood up and grabbed the luggage from her hand before he walked upstairs. She got no choice but to follow behind him "Since you are not urging back to the office, why don't you wait for me to be back together?" She knew the answer long ago. Of course, Damien wanted to spend some time with Selina without any disturbance. Ava asked as she couldn't stand for her mother, that chanted at her for an hour on the plane over this. "I am not as free as you," he replied. After dropping the luggage in the bedroom, he turned and said to her, "Let's go." "Where are we going?" "To the hospital." The top three hospitals in City B were no worse than those in City A. However, Damien was still not at ease and he worried that her health might be somewhat unstable. Thus, he insisted on taking her to the hospital for another review. Luckily, the results were pretty good. She fainted at that time was entirely due to emotional upheavals, and there was nothing wrong with the fetus. However, the doctor also advised, "You have to pay attention to your emotions in early pregnancy, the mother's psychological state will also affect the fetal development, and the family members have to pay a little more attention."



She sighed when she saw Damien was listening to the doctor's words attentively. It would be great for Damien to be as concerned about Ava as he did for the child in her belly. Perhaps it was impossible in this life, right? "Mr. Radbury?" There was a sweet female voice that popped out when they were about to leave. Kelly and Selden walked out with their arms held together just in time to see them. After all, Kelly was a star and she was afraid that the pedestrians might recognize her. So, her face was veiled with sunglasses and a mask. Ava would hardly spot her if she wasn't standing beside Selden. A nuance of an imperceptible embarrassment flashed across Selden's face when Kelly walked towards Damien and Ava. So, Selden had no choice but to follow behind her. "What a coincidence, Mr. Radbury, it's been ages since we last met though," Kelly greeted. "Not really, we just met last week anyway," Damien said with slyness. "Mr. Radbury, is this your missus?" Kelly walked near to Ava and managed to identify her. She was a bit surprised as she met Ava at the hospital last time too. Damien was noncommittal on their conversation as he was looking at Selden. Selden smiled and extended his hand to him, "Wow, it turns out that you and my girlfriend know each other too, that's quite a coincidence!" Damien snubbed without bothering to shake his hand. "Miss. Nagel, you are still looking good. It really surprises me when I get to know you and Selden know each other. But, it startles me even more with your current status as the missus of the Radbury family. I guess we will be seeing each other more frequently in the future!" "It is indeed a coincidence to meet you at the hospital every time." Ava smiled decently, "Since Miss Hensley and Selden have a date, I won't bother you guys anymore." They dismissed after exchanging a few pleasantries. Obviously, Damien was displeased. "Change to another hospital for your maternity examination start from tomorrow onwards," he said to Ava. "Huh? Are you afraid of seeing Kelly again?" Ava sneered as she wondered if he could accompany her for every maternity check-up. How could there be still such a coincidental chance of bumping into each other? "Uh, is it because Kelly was also one of your ex-girlfriends?" she asked half-jokingly. Ever since their two years of marriage, Damien had always been surrounded by lots of ladies, which included stars and models, and they were simply too many.

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Damien turned his head and gave her a rather odd look before answering, "She is the ambassador of our group's subsidiary brands." "Hmm...I can see that her character is a bit arrogant as Selden's girlfriend, I think she must be unwilling to degrade herself to get together with a married man like you." As soon as she finished her words, she realized that she had said something wrong and she quickly covered her mouth. However, Damien didn't get angry, but he said in a sultry tone, "Ava, you are getting braver lately." She grimaced and didn't talk back anymore.

Two days later, Damien received a call from his family that asked Ava and him to go back for

a family dinner. The Radbury family used to have a family dinner once a month. However, they were asked to be back not even month end this time since Enrico Radbury had returned home. Enrico, Damien's brother, who was younger than him by five years had been studying abroad previously and rarely came home. However, Enrico who did not inherit Damien's genetic predisposition in education took two years to get a master's degree in finance, causing him to remain a non-graduate. Anyway, he was almost as capable as Damien in dealing with certain issues. Perhaps this was the cause that their relationship wasn't that good. "Enrico, stop going to campus after you have returned home. It's such a waste for you to continue your study. You might as well join the company for some exposure." Karen Adaly said to her younger son.

"I really want to be back, but brother, what position will you offer me if I'm back?" Enrico asked Damien with a smile.

"It's up to you," Damien replied coldly. "If that's the case, I have always wanted to be in the position with the leather swivel chair in your office for a long time." "Enrico, what nonsense are you talking about?" Daryl Radbury immediately stopped him. Both Daryl and Karen, who had always favored their youngest son, used to show their affection for Enrico in their family.

However, Daryl understood well that most of the reputation and fame, which Radbury Group achieved today was credited to Damien. Ever since Damien took over the company, the revenue kept increasing and it had become the largest real estate industry in Asia. Therefore, Enrico didn't stand any chance to covet the position of president. "Oh, dad, why are you being so serious? I don't have the ability even if I intend to usurp that position. Sister-in-law, do you agree?" Enrico grinned and cast a wink at Ava.

Ava smiled awkwardly and took a sip of tea. She was just a small fry in this family anyway. Karen and Damien had only been a little kinder to herself recently only because she was pregnant. Except for Enrico. He was always very kind to her and always addressed her cordially.

Damien's face had turned stern at this moment.

"We're leaving if there is nothing else," he said to his parents. "Why are you in a rush while your brother has just been back?" Karen asked. Enrico smiled, "Ha! I guess they are eager to have their romantic getaway, and they would have no time for me though." His sentence made Ava feel a little embarrassed. Damien stood up and asked coldly, "When will you go back to campus?" "The day after tomorrow. You are feeling sad, huh?" Karen exclaimed in dissatisfaction, "You are just back and now you are leaving soon? You should stay for a few more days since you only come back twice a semester."

"I still have to attend class..."

Damien didn't continue with the conversation anymore and he left directly.

Ava quickly put down the cup and followed him.

As soon as he opened the car door and sat in, he ordered the driver to drive instantly after Ava got in.

He seemed to get upset each time after seeing Enrico. But Ava didn't know the reason behind it.

They were biological brothers and not half-siblings like her and Beth, so why were they being so hostile to each other?

On the other hand, Enrico, who was always smiling and so optimistic, had tolerated Damien on every account. "What is going on between...you two?" She couldn't help asking. "Ava, don't think that you are one of us because you have eaten a few family dinners at our house." Damien sounded unfriendly and cold. In fact, his attitude towards her had been much better in the past few days. However, it had back to his usual coldness again now. His erratic behavior was really confusing Ava. She used to think that Enrico was a person of foppish character, but in fact, he was a kind man. At least, he was the only one that didn't look down on her based on her family background. That night, Damien didn't sleep in his bedroom, and Ava only realized the next morning that he slept in his study room. The following morning, he did not wait for her to have breakfast together and he headed straight to the office.

Obviously, his nerves were frayed because of the question asked by Ava regarding Enrico yesterday. "Ava, I'm coming!" As soon as she finished her breakfast alone, Enrico, Damien's brother, came in casually. "Uh, how did you get in?" Enrico was holding a big gift box in his hand and put it onto the table. "After you guys left yesterday, my mum told me that you got pregnant. So of course, I have to buy a present for my future little niece!" Enrico unboxed the present from the gift box in front of her excitedly. There was a complete set of Barbie doll products with its various skirts, cosmetics, and even a villa. Clearly, these were the toys for a girl. "Are you so sure that it is going to be a girl?" She smiled. Everyone in the Radbury family was hoping that she could give birth to a baby boy. "I like girls, of course, I hope it will be a niece!" "Then if I do have a baby girl later, I should thank you for this gift in advance." Ava smiled and accepted the big gift. "So, you ain't going to thank me if it is a boy? I can also get you a gift for the baby boy later!" Enrico was chatting happily with Ava, and this caused the butler on the side to break out in a cold sweat. If Damien was back now and got to know that the butler allowed Enrico to come in... The consequences would be ghastly to contemplate. Luckily, Damien wasn't back when Enrico left. "Butler, please keep this Barbie doll in the storeroom for me." Ava told the butler quickly as soon as Enrico walked away. Although she didn't know the reason behind Damien hated his brother so much, she knew pretty well that Damien would get upset if she received the gift from Enrico. After the gift had been kept in the storeroom, Ava asked the butler eagerly, "You are the elder in Radbury family, do you know why the two brothers have such a bad relationship?"

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The butler was a bit disconcerted, "Hmm... I think it will be better for you to ask the master yourself."

"I won't ask you if he is willing to tell me." The butler had no choice and said, "It happened when the young master was eight years old..." The conversation was only halfway up when a

car sounded in the yard outside the door. The housekeeper shut his mouth up quickly and didn't continue. Soon, Damien had only walked into the house and stayed in the living room for a while before he immediately asked the housekeeper with an unhappy face, "Did Enrico come by?" "Yes... Master Enrico just came over and lingered here for a while before he left." "Clean it up." He instructed coldly. Ava was originally curious about how Damien knew that Enrico had been here. So, she walked towards the sofa and discovered that there was a giant smiley face that had actually been drawn with a finger dipped in coffee on the armrest. It seemed to be like Enrico's masterpiece. "I'm sorry, he broke in the house all of a sudden, and the servants have failed to stop him even they have tried their best to do so. Please don't blame them." She was afraid that these servants would be punished by him, so she quickly defended them. "Why is he here?" "He wants to give a gift for my baby, but don't worry, I have asked the housekeeper to keep it in the storeroom. I won't allow the baby to touch it in the future." Ava didn't dare to lie and she answered him honestly. "Throw it all away."

Ava had requested many days of leave from her company because of her pregnancy and some trivial matters.

Considering that her savings was still little, so she didn't dare to take leave anymore. Therefore, she rushed back to the company to work. However, she did not tell her colleagues about her pregnancy. However, a colleague from the Design Department caught her having morning sickness in the bathroom at noon. "Miss Nagel, are you alright?" "I'm fine... it's just that my stomach is feeling some uneasiness." "You have taken so many days off before this, and now that you are still feeling sick. Miss Nagel, are you pregnant?" Her colleague asked humorously but it made her feel slightly uncomfortable.

After all, she didn't even inform the company about her marriage. Perhaps it was inappropriate to disclose her pregnancy now, wasn't it? So, she replied, "Probably it is because I have too much stress lately, and it should be fine after resting a while." "Indeed, we have been assigned with lots of tasks from other big company and our department is really tied up with that. I guess it will be even worse for you guys as Administration Department due to short of manpower, isn't it?" "Big company?" Ava was taken aback. Their advertising company, which was indeed a small workshop generally did not receive a lot of work, so the work was considered pretty idle.

This time, Ava took a lot of days off before returning to work, and she hadn't had time to go through all the documents. "Our company is assigned for an advertising project by the Radbury Group, don't you know that? Hehe, it will be the most lucrative business of the year." "What? The Radbury Group?" Ava hurriedly got back to her desk and riffled all the emails on the computer. Indeed, there was a project which was just assigned by the Radbury Group three days ago. "For such an advertising project, the Radbury Group should have their own department to complete the task. Why should they outsource it to another company like us? We have no such precedent before." Ava was feeling strange. "Miss Nagel, how do you even know so well what goes on in a big company like Radbury Group?" "...I'm just making a blind guess, isn't it the usual practice for all the big companies?" Ava was fear of saying something wrong, so she quickly withheld her words. Damien had never

mentioned this to her before actually. Probably he was not even interested in knowing which company and what job was she doing, so it was kind of meaningless to tell her about the project. Because of the advertising project, almost all of the staff needed to work overtime to get the job done.

She went home very late after knocking off from the work that night.

The house was so quiet and no one there including Damien.

It seemed that he didn't intend to come home tonight.

"Fine then," she murmured.

After she got pregnant, he was back almost every day and that made Ava wonder if he had changed. But, it was impossible anyway. After all, he always gave her a cold-shoulder even they had married for two years.

Ava was in a state of stupefaction that she didn't bother much to clean herself up, and she fell asleep on the bed instantly.

At the Radbury Group.

On this silent night, the only light that was still being switched on was the one in the president's office within the entire building.

He stood in front of the windows and the view of the entire city came into his sight.

Hmm... That woman...

Soon, he started to think of something else.

Maybe he had gone back too frequently recently. "I can't go on like this," Damien thought.

"What have you got on the things that I asked you to investigate last time?" he asked after the line was connected.

The person on the other end of the phone was sleeping when he answered the phone. But, he was awakened and sobered up by Damien's voice.

"Don't worry, president. I have my men keep tracking his whereabouts. Master Enrico didn't do other things except for hanging out in the nightclubs and gaming." "Keep tracking. Get me updated on anything suspicious besides whoever he has met and wherever he has gone when he returns there." "Okay."

Damien frowned a little.

Hanging out at the nightclubs and playing games were the typical activities that every silver But he knew his brother very well that he was definitely not an ignorant fool.

Something was going wrong when he acted normal. "President, there is one thing which worth paying attention to," that person said suddenly.

"What's that?"

"The thesis of Master Enrico seems to have done a long time ago, but he has not submitted it yet. He seemed to do so intentionally to delay his graduation. I suspect him not returning to the mainland on the pretext of not having graduated."

"Okay, noted." Damien hung up the phone. Did he refuse to return home deliberately? Was it because he didn't want to compete with him or he was plotting something else and fight for other things? D\*mn... Enrico Radbury... He clenched his fist tightly.

Enrico had only stayed on the mainland for three days and he took a flight to go abroad on the third day morning

Karen couldn't hold her sadness and she cried since she was reluctant to part with her youngest son.

"Mum, I will be back in two months later anyway, so what is there to be sad for? It's shameful, man..."

"Heck you, how can you tease your mum that way?" However, Enrico replied to his mum with a broad grin, "Mum, I'm boarding soon, I guess brother is not coming to send me off. Please ask him not to miss me after I have left." Karen nodded. Indeed, she had always aware that the strained relationship between her two sons. However, all these were the past. She couldn't really help much since Damien was a person with monosyllabic nature. After bidding farewell to Karen, Enrico walked to the boarding gate alone. Damien appeared in front of him after he took a couple of steps towards the gate.

"Enrico, give me that."

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Damien obviously had an enraged expression, and if it wasn't because they were in public, he might've already punched Enrico right in his face. But Enrico still showed a cheeky smile, "Brother, are you here to send me off? Uhm...are you feeling sad to see me go?" "Stop talking nonsense and give me that thing." Enrico was still playing dumb, so Damien snatched the bag in his hand and opened it without wasting any more time. He rummaged through Enrico's bag rudely, and all his stuff, such as earphones and watch, was scattered on the floor. Everyone started to look at this them, and Enrico's smile gradually faded due to this predicament. "Damien, what are you doing?" Damien found a small black satin box among Enrico's stuff. When he picked it up and opened it, indeed, it was the seal he was searching for. "This is something that father gave to me. You ain't taking back, are you?" Enrico asked coldly. "Hmm? Are you sure?" Enrico conceded defeat silently under Damien's cold and piercing gaze. He stole it secretly from his father, but how could Damien find out even though his father was still unaware of this? Enrico stifled his anger and forced a fake smile instantly. "I'm just joking with you. Well, this thing is quite exquisite and interesting, so I took it to have a close look. I forgot to return it after I accidentally placed it in my pocket." Damien was not fooled by his words. Instead, he asked with an unfriendly tone, "Do you know the impact it might cause if the power of this seal is abused after you stole it?" "I... I don't know."

He was still playing dumb with Damien. "Fine, I will just return it if you want it so badly. You are still as stoic and boring as when we were kids, and you can't even take a joke," said Enrico. Actually, Enrico knew very well that it would be useless even if he had this seal because the company's current president was Damien. Therefore, it wouldn't be that simple if he intended to use the power of the seal.

Anyway, Enrico enjoyed Damien's irritated expression. However, it was more entertaining to

see that Damien still couldn't do anything to him even though he was furious. "You can snitch on me to mum and dad if you are angry because of this. Worse comes to worst, they'll just nag me after I've landed since I am boarding soon."

Enrico stared at the seal and let out a whistle. Then, he bent down and kept all his things before he headed to the boarding gate. He was humming casually as if nothing happened. Damien's face now was way grimmer than before.

Meanwhile, at the advertising company. Ava received a call from Selden when she was working. "Are you out for dinner?" he asked.

"No, I have to work."

"Then I'll wait for you to finish."

Ava still refused Selden's invitation as she felt uncomfortable spending time with him after he confessed to her. Plus, shouldn't he be more mindful since he had a girlfriend now?

However, Selden continued, "I'm inviting you on Kelly's behalf as she wanted to meet you and treat you to a meal."

Ava was taken aback.

Kelly? Why would she want to do that for no reason at all? However, Ava couldn't refuse even though she was still puzzled. After Ava got off work, Selden and Kelly came to her company to pick her up.

"Ava, come on!" Kelly was very enthusiastic upon seeing Ava coming out of her office. She quickly approached and greeted Kelly warmly before she held Ava's arm affectionately. Ava was a little shocked by Kelly's friendliness. Although they have met each other several times before, they would be considered total strangers if it wasn't for their mutual friendship with Selden. Were all the actresses always so friendly? Kelly held Ava's hand and got into the car. Soon after that, Selden turned around from the driver's seat and greeted her. "Ava, I haven't gotten the chance to have a proper chat with you recently. What do you want to have for dinner later? It's my treat!"

Before Ava could respond, Kelly said the name of a restaurant and asked Selden to send them there quickly.

After all, Kelly was a famous star and she would always attract attention wherever she went. Hence, she would always book a private room whenever she went out for a meal. After three of them had taken their own seats, Kelly took a big paper box from her bag beside her and passed it to Ava. "This is..." "Ava, it's really fated that we could bump into each other. I saw this beautiful bag when I went shopping last time, so I bought it for you!"

When Ava opened the paper box and saw a designer bag inside, she immediately knew that it obviously something incredibly pricey. She quickly declined it, "I'm sorry but I can't accept such a valuable gift." "This is just a small token of my appreciation. Ava, are you rejecting it because you dislike it?" "Of course not..."

Ava couldn't refuse anymore, so she had no choice but to bite the bullet and accept it.

Meanwhile, Selden was drinking while he listened to their conversation casually. Ava glared at Selden secretly as she couldn't picture the reason why they suddenly asked her out for this dinner. During the dinner, Kelly trying to bring up the fact that she was one of the spokespeople of a certain brand under the Radbury Group. Moreover, she kept highlighting

that she was very close to that company. Ava still didn't catch her drift and she only smiled in response to Kelly. Selden picked up a sushi roll and stuffed it into Kelly's mouth, and said, "Stop talking when your mouth is full, and don't choke yourself." "You have always wanted me to be cheerful, aren't you? I just want to chat a little more with Ava because we're so compatible with each other." Ava smiled awkwardly and continued to finish her salad. When Kelly almost finished her food, she got up and went to the washroom to fix her makeup. Soon, Ava and Selden were left alone at the table. Selden said apologetically to Ava, "She's this friendly with everyone. Since she got to know that you are Damien's wife, she wanted to build a better relationship with the Radbury Group to renew her contract in the next quarter. That's why she wanted me to ask you out for a dinner, I hope you don't mind."

"Oh, I see..."

Ava nodded when she understood their motives. No wonder Kelly kept mentioning the Radbury Group just now.

It seemed that Kelly had assumed that Ava could help her because she was married to the president of Radbury Group. Too bad, she didn't have much final authority in front of Damien. "I'm sorry, does that bother you?" Selden asked. "Miss Hensley seems to have a very good personality, and she really suits you." He looked down and grinned. Had she mistakenly thought that Selden had spoken lesser than usual, and even his smile looked somewhat fake? She took a sip of the juice, but she spilled it on the table accidentally when she wanted to put it back. "Gosh!" It was too late when she wanted to avoid it and the edge of her skirt ended up getting stained with some juice.