

## **A Lifetime With You –**

### **Chapter 161 - 192**

#### **Chapter 161 - Hazel Was Showing Off -**

Alex He's name echoed from the entrance through the playground area shortly after his mother showed up at the entrance. A while later, the little boy appeared and a little girl trailed closely behind him.

"Mommy!" Alex ran over to his mother and hug her thigh as he would usually react whenever his mother showed up to pick him up.

This time, instead of waiting for his mother to return his embrace, Alex immediately moved away. He turned around and suddenly his face turned red upon realizing that Hazel had seen that scene.

He had always reminded his mother not to show too much affection in front of his friends as he was now a big boy. But whenever he saw his mother, Alex could not stop himself from going straight to his mother.

A look of relief flashed on his face when Alex realized that Hazel was not going to mock him for the way he had reacted. Instead, the little girl walked over to their teacher and leaned her head on their teacher's body.

Alex did not know what happened, but recently, he had this feeling as if Hazel was looking at him strangely. This was not the first time that he had seen how his friend would walk over to their teacher and flashed him this strange look. But after looking at the same expression for weeks, Alex still could not figure out what was wrong.

Alex stared at the girl in front of him and wondered if he had done anything to offend her.

Of course, Alex was unaware that Hazel was showing off her close relationship with their teacher. Now that their teacher was seeing her uncle, Hazel had become closer to her than Alex. Sooner or later, when their teacher married her uncle, then they will definitely be a family. The wife of her biological uncle should be closer than a mother's friend.

"Hazel, are you tired?" Edith patted at the little girl's hair when the little girl suddenly leaned onto her. "Do you want to go inside and wait? Driver Tang should arrive soon to pick you up."

Hazel shook her head. "No. It's fine. I will accompany you here for a while longer."

"Alex, go and pick up your bag," Lily said. "I'll wait for you here."

Alex nodded obediently before he turned around to pick up his belongings.

As the boy disappeared into the building, Lily turned to the little girl beside her friend and smiled.

Ever since Edith started dating the little girl's uncle, Lily began to notice that Hazel has been really sticky to her friend. She would either follow Edith behind or stick herself close to her as if she was afraid that Edith was going to disappear soon.

Looking at how the little girl acted, Lily thought that Hazel was such an adorable girl. Suddenly, she wanted to have a daughter that would stick to her as well.

"Little Hazel, will you come over to my place with Teacher Qian this weekend?" Lily asked.

The little girl tilted her head sideways as she watched Alex's mother lowered to get to her height level.

"It will be Alex's birthday this weekend," Lily whispered. He said he is too big to have a birthday party and therefore he did not want me to invite the others. I thought that it would be sad if he had no one coming to celebrate his birthday with him. So, I'm inviting you to come over."

Hazel turned to Edith as if asking for her opinion.

"Teacher Qian will definitely come, so you should come over too, alright?"

Hazel thought over it for a while and nodded. Since Teacher Qian was going, of course, she has to show up.

Driver Tang showed up to pick up Hazel ten minutes after Alex and Lily left the kindergarten. Seeing that the student from her class were all picked up by their parents, Edith went back to her classroom, took out her phone, and texted Neil that she will be heading home after she had tidied up the classroom.

Back in MH Group headquarters, Neil Mo was having a discussion with one of the managers when the phone on his desk vibrated. Noticing the time, Neil raised a hand and asked the manager to pause while he returned the text message.

At the thought that his boss had received an important message, Manager Yan stood still and waited. However, a few seconds later, his eyes caught the sight of his boss's rare smile. His breath stuck in his throat. Manager Yan rubbed at his eyes and found that the smile was no longer there.

A helpless sigh escaped him as Manager Yan thought that perhaps he was too old that his eyes started to play tricks on him.

Neil placed the phone back on his desk and continued to discuss his work with Manager Yan with his usual cold countenance.

Meanwhile, Edith stared at the message from Neil and hesitated.

It was rare that she got to leave the kindergarten early. Edith was planning to head home early and spend her time with Hazel, but her darling wanted her to come over to pick him up at work and head back home together.

After considering this matter for a few minutes, Edith gave a call to Nanny Ann and informed her that she will come back later with Neil. Then, Edith left the kindergarten and grabbed a cab to the company. She stopped over at a cafe across the street and bought some pastries.

Once she arrived at the lobby, Edith registered her name with the receptionist before she headed over to the elevator.

The last time she had come, Assistant Shawn had helped her to make an access card that will allow her to use the elevator that will lead her to Neil's floor. Therefore, this time, Assistant Shawn doesn't have to come down and receive her.

Edith pressed the button and waited for the elevator to come down. Since this elevator only stopped by a few floors, Edith did not have to wait for too long for the elevator to arrive.

Just as Edith was about to enter the elevator, a voice called her out and suddenly, someone grabbed at her shoulder.

With her agile reflex, Edith quickly grabbed that person's wrist, pulled and twisted the arms, and turned around. Edith pulled the person's arms behind, causing the person to yelp in pain. Seeing that the person was dressed smartly in a suit and pants, Edith quickly let her go.

Autumn Feng massaged her painful shoulder and shot a dagger look at the person in front of her. "What did you do that for?"

"Sorry," Edith apologized. "I thought you had a bad intention towards me. Miss, it's not a wise decision to suddenly grab someone else's shoulder." After she finished her words, Edith realized that she had seen this woman before.

Wasn't this was the person that tried to talk to Hazel previously?

The frown on Autumn's face gradually disappeared when she saw Edith. "It's you. You're Hazel's nanny. Are you here to see President Mo? You need to have an access card or else, the elevator will not move."

"I know. I have them."

At this time, the guard who was sitting at the reception area walked over. "Manager Feng, this is President Mo's guest. She has her own access card to head over to President Mo's floor."

Autumn's expression changed when she finally noticed the card in Edith's hand.

Her father was one of the directors in MH Group, but even someone like her could not get access to the president's floor. How can a mere nanny have them?

"Miss Qian, the elevator is here. Earlier, Assistant Shawn had reminded us to let you go upstairs quickly as soon as you arrived." The guard smiled apologetically at Edith. "I have already informed Assistant Shawn that you are here.. He should be waiting for you upstairs."

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When Edith arrived at Neil's floor, Assistant Shawn was already waiting for her outside the elevator. The assistant looked at her with a slightly embarrassed expression and greeted, "Miss Qian."

Edith was slightly startled by the way this man addressed her. Previously, Assistant Shawn would always address her as 'Teacher Qian', but now that she was dating Neil, Assistant Shawn had started to address her as 'Miss Qian'.

As she recalled how Assistant Shawn had seen her sharing an intimate moment with his boss during her last visit, Edith's face turned slightly red.

"The guard notified me the moment you arrived," Assistant Shawn said. "Did you run into trouble?"

By his calculation, Edith should have reached the floor five minutes ago, seeing that she was a little later, Assistant Shawn was worried. It was then that the guard informed him of the situation just outside the elevator.

"No." Edith shook her head and hesitated.

Seeing that the woman had something to say, but was reluctant to say it, Assistant Shawn flashed her a comforting smile. "Miss Qian, if you have something to say or ask, then go ahead. If it was something that I can tell you, then I will."

Edith thought of the assistant's words and decided to speak, "I run into that same woman from my last visit. The one who had her hair in a high ponytail."

"That was Manager Autumn Feng." His expression when he thought of that persistent manager. "Did she made trouble for you again? Miss Qian, the next time you saw her, you can just ignore her."

Assistant Shawn had heard of what happened between the manager and Edith from the guard. Although he knew that the incident was resolved without much trouble, it would not be a good thing if Edith was unhappy.

"It's not about that." Edith flashed a smile. "The last time I came here with Hazel, she had shown a strong dislike towards Manager Feng. Hazel mentioned that her mother did allow her to get close or talk to Manager Feng. Do you know why?"

Assistant Shawn was startled, but a few seconds later, an awkward smile appeared on his lips. "This was something that happened in the past." He let out a dry cough and looked away in embarrassment. "But the late missus found that Manager Feng was trying to get close to her husband."

Edith froze at the answer. Then, she forced a smile. "I see." She had thought of countless reasons why Hazel's mother might not like that pretty woman, but she was certainly not expecting the answer. Since Manager Feng posed no threat to Hazel, Edith decided to guard up against the woman.

However, Assistant Shawn had a different thought about it. He saw the relieved expression on Edith's face and decided to tell her another secret.

"After her attempts failed, Manager Feng has switched her target." Assistant Shawn flashed a smile that did not reach his eyes. "Recently, she was trying to approach President Mo through Little Miss Hazel."

Edith stared back at Assistant Shawn.

She definitely could not let her guard down against that woman, after all!

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Neil was sitting behind his desk and his fingers glided swiftly on the keyboard. Hearing a knock on the door, he gave his permission for that person to enter and finally looked up from his computer upon finding that the footsteps do not belong to Assistant Shawn. The corner of his lips tilted up when his gaze met with Edith.

"You're here." He stood up and met her in the middle of the room. "I thought that you were not going to come." He bent down to kiss her lips and frowned as he noticed that her expression does not seem right. "What's wrong."

Edith narrowed her eyes. "President Mo, it seemed that you have quite a few admirers in your company."

Though this man often had a cold look on his face and was well known as Iceblock Mo in the company, he would still have admirers. There are still people who wanted the chance to get close to him.

He shifted his gaze towards the door and his frown deepened. "What did Assistant Shawn tell you?"

"Nothing." Edith shook her head. "I ran into that pretty lady with high ponytail hair. Then, I overheard that she was chasing you."

Neil heaved a sigh. "Well, I am not interested in her at all. I'm only interested in you." He wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her closer. "Edith Qian, can you trust me more?"

"It's not that I did not trust you." Her mouth pouted a little bit. "It's just that, whenever I thought that there was someone else going after my darling, I feel a little uncomfortable. Moreover, she will have a lot of opportunities to see you."

Neil stared at the woman in his embrace and laughed, causing a secretary who happens to walk past his office to startle.

Edith punched at his chest lightly. "Don't laugh."

The laugh died instantly, but the smile on his face remained. He was slightly happy that his silly woman showed her jealous side.

"You silly woman. Do you think it would be easy for someone like Manager Feng to see me? Other than in meetings, we rarely have the chance to run into each other."

Of course, Neil did not mention that Autumn Feng would sometimes use her father who was one of the directors in MH Group to try and approach him.

"You have to have an access card to get to this floor. Other than a few trusted people, only you have the access to come and go to this floor as you pleased. Even the secretaries and the others will have to register and let the guard send them up here."

Edith thought about the strange look on Manager Feng's face when she saw her holding the access card just now. Another thought came to her mind and Edith struggled out of Neil's embrace and pulled out the access card from her bag.

Seeing that Edith had shoved the access card into his hand, a deep frown appeared on his face and his eyes darkened. "What are you doing?"

Edith did not notice the unhappy look on his face as she was still looking at the access card. "There should be a lot of company secrets stored on this floor. What if I accidentally lose this access card and someone, or your business competitors found this card and get the access to find out your secret. Then, that would bring you a lot of trouble."

If the company's secret was accidentally leaked out, wouldn't she turn to be one of the suspects?

Though they were in a relationship, Edith did not want Neil to be troubled if something like that happened.

Neil's expression softened at her words. "The security at this company was not that weak." He pulled her close again and chuckled. "I gave it to you so that you can come and find me whenever you want." He saw that she was about to argue and speak again, "Next time, I hope that I don't have to lure you to come here and instead, come at your own will and give me a surprise visit. Therefore, you have to keep it with you."

Seeing the hesitant look on her expression, Neil bent down slightly to her height and looked straight into her eyes. He blinked a few times, imitating Hazel's adorable look as he tried to convince her that keeping the card with her would never be a problem for him or the company.

A helpless smile finally appeared on her lips and Edith nodded.. "Alright."

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Edith sat on the sofa as she waited for Neil to handle a few more documents before they can head back together.

A knock came at the door and a female in suit and skirt walked in after Neil permitted to enter. Her short hair was styled neatly and she was wearing purple rimmed glasses. In her hand was a small tray with a small teapot and teacups arranged nicely. The woman took a glance at Edith and stood straight beside the door.

"President Mo, the tea you asked."

Neil looked up and gestured towards the sofa set. "Just place them on the table."

The woman walked over to the table and cast another glance at Edith as she placed the tray down. When she stood up again, President Mo was already standing beside the sofa.

"Edith, this is Secretary An Daisy. If you need anything and cannot find me or Assistant Shawn, you can look for Secretary An," Neil said. "Secretary An, this is Edith Qian, my girlfriend."

Secretary An was surprised at the introduction, but after recovering in a few seconds, she turned at Edith and nodded. "Miss Qian."

The secretary left after that brief introduction and Neil walked over to sit down beside Edith. He poured some tea into the cup and opened up the box of pastries that Edith had bought from across the street.

Edith propped her elbows on her thigh as she stared at the man who was drinking his tea in an elegant move. "Is it alright to tell your secretary about our relationship like that?"

"Why wouldn't it be alright?" Neil turned to the woman beside him. "We are dating. It was not like it is something shameful."

In fact, Neil would not mind if the people in the office knew that he was currently in a relationship. It would help him get rid of some trouble as well. But if rumors started to spread to his mother, then he would be in trouble. Neil was afraid that his mother would get a little too excited upon hearing this news and started to plan their wedding.

But he was not in a rush.

Marriage was an important matter for a woman, and Neil did not want his mother to scare Edith with her enthusiasm. Their relationship had just begun, but they have started living together. The least he could do was to court her properly and let her experience the sweetness of dating.

Edith heaved a sigh. "It's not that. I just thought that it would be troublesome for me if your admirers knew that you are taken. What if they come over and attack me?"

Neil thought about it for a while. "If anyone comes and bullies you, you can just come to me." He stretched his hand to pinch her cheek and said, "Don't worry. Secretary An will not gossip about us. Other than Assistant Shawn, Secretary An has been working for me for years. We can trust her."

Edith leaned her head on his shoulder and sat up again.

"What's wrong?" Neil, who had wanted to put his arms around her was startled by her sudden movement.



"President Mo, aren't you supposed to working?" Her lips stretched up into a mischievous smile. "If my presence is distracting you, then I can leave first."

Neil wrapped his arms around her shoulder and buried his head in her neck. "I'm tired after looking at those documents. Let me stay here for a while and recharge my energy."

"Then what about Hazel?"

"Nanny Ann will look over her."

"Darling, if Hazel heard your words, she would be upset."

Neil smiled but did not say anything. In fact, Hazel had once expressed her displeasure at him for stealing her time with her teacher. The little girl wanted to play around with Edith, but her uncle had taken her teacher out for a date.

In the end, Neil can only convince her that these were important steps if she wanted her teacher to turn into her auntie. Though Hazel was not happy, she can only let the matter go. She would rather have her teacher stay with her for a long time.

Edith let out a chuckle when the man stayed quiet.

Recently, this man loved to hug her and told her that he was recharging his energy. Seeing how he would sometimes act spoiled and sticky reminded her of Hazel.

The uncle and niece were definitely related.

After staying in the same position for a while, her neck was starting to itch as his breathing tickled her. Edith bit at her lips and bear with that feeling a while longer. She raised her hand and started to move on his back, gently patting him.

Suddenly, he felt as if his tiredness had slowly disappeared.

Feeling her gentle touch, Neil started to close his eyes for a little bit. Although her action was like comforting a child, Neil found that having someone stroking and patting his back like this was quite comfortable. Perhaps it was this feeling that made a child stop crying after they were comforted this way.

Just as he was enjoying this special treatment, Neil felt the way Edith turned her face towards him before she planted a kiss on his temple. He froze for a few seconds and lifted his head off her shoulder.

"What?" Edith blinked when she noticed that Neil has been staring at her for a while.

"I can charge up faster if you give me a kiss."

Edith watched as Neil raised a brow and slapped him on his chest. "Shameless!" Seeing the way he continued to stare at her, Edith leaned forward to give a peck at his lips. "Is that enough?"

His lips stretched up into a playful smile. "Of course, it's not enough."

Before Edith could come up with a clever remark, the man had already closed the gap between them, pressing his lips against hers. His lips gently messaging against hers. His kisses were unhurried as if he wanted to properly savor her taste.

At first, Neil merely wanted to tease her. The kiss was supposed to be a short one. But, once Edith started to reciprocate his kisses, tasting her lips for mere seconds was no longer enough. He wanted to taste more and feel more.

His right hand moved to clasp at the back of her head, keeping her in place, while his left hand pressed on the sofa so that he would not crush his body against hers.

But her one move was slowly destroying his self-control. Edith placed both hands on his cheek and nibbled at his lower lips. Because she was tugging him closer, the softness of her chest was pressing against his. His throat rolled and Neil was slowly losing his mind.

None of them noticed when did Edith start to lean down on the sofa...

Sensing that Edith was starting to get breathless, Neil moved her lips to her cheek, then to her ears and then he moved lower to her neck.

A low whimper escaped her and they both froze. The sound startled them. Suddenly, they realized that their position was a little bit... wrong.

Edith bit at her lower lips as she could not believe that she was able to make such a coquettish sound. She tried to catch up her breath and watched as Neil raised his head to look at her. Edith was stunned as she stared into his dark eyes. Her body froze realizing that she might be in deep trouble if she moved around.

After a while, Neil rested his forehead against hers and closed his eyes. He took a few deep breaths to calm down and whispered.. "Let me stay like this for a while."

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As the weekend arrived, Edith took Hazel to Lily's place to celebrate Alex's birthday. When they arrived, the spacious backyard was well decorated with balloons and colorful

banners. Just like Lily had said, only a small number of guests were invited to Alex's birthday. Other than Alex's best friend, Tyler Lu, none of his kindergarten friends were invited to come.

Alex was a quiet boy and preferred to play by himself. Since he was not close to the others, Alex did not think that it would matter if he did not invite the others to come.

Lily Zhao was arranging some treats on the dessert table when both Edith and Hazel walked over. She greeted her friend and turned to the little girl. At this time, Hazel was wearing a pastel pink dress with small flowers stitched up to her skirt.

"Oh my god! Hazel, you are so adorable!" Lily gushed as soon as she saw that little girl. "This is such a cute dress."

"Thank you." Hazel smiled shyly. "My uncle bought it for me the last time we went shopping together."

Lily heaved a sigh as she turned to her friend. "I didn't think that Iceblock Mo would have such good taste."

"Of course he had a good taste." Edith flashed a smile at her friend. "Didn't he choose to date me?"

Lily felt the corner of her lips twitch. "Get lost." She watched as Edith laughed and shifted her gaze back to Hazel. "I really want to have a daughter so I can play dress-up with her."

"Then you will have to work hard."

"How about lending Hazel to me for a day?" Lily whispered.

"Then, you have to ask President Mo if he would allow you to borrow his niece for a day."

Lily gasped as she thought of that cold and aloof man. Though she really wanted to play dress-up with Hazel, it would be impossible for her to ask President Mo about this. She might die before she could even ask.

Forget it. Seducing her husband into giving her a daughter was much easier than talking to President Iceblock.

"Where is the birthday boy?" Edith asked as she swept her gaze around.

"He should be inside," Lily said. She turned towards the house and shouted, "Alex He, Auntie Edith, and Hazel are here. Come over and say hi."

A few seconds later, the little boy ran over. His eyes brightened when he saw Edith. "Auntie Edith! You're here!"

Edith bent to pat his hair. "Happy birthday, Alex."

"Auntie Edith, thank you." His voice was soft and polite. Alex shifted his gaze and stared at the girl with twin tail hair beside the teacher with a startling expression.

Although Hazel had visited his house a few times with their teacher, this was the first time that she had shown up in front of him looking like a fairy. For a few seconds, Alex thought that perhaps his eyes were playing tricks at him. It was not until Hazel had spoken that he snapped out of his thought.

"Alex He, happy birthday," Hazel said as she stretched up her hand to give him his birthday present. "This is something that Auntie Edith and I choose for you."

Seeing how her son had turned into a statue, Lily poked at her little boy and smiled. "Hazel is giving you a birthday present. What should you say at this time?"

Alex snapped out of his trance and took the paper bag. "Thank you." He raised his head to look at his mother as if asking her what he should do next.

"Go and take Hazel to play," Lily said. "I will call you when your father comes back with your birthday cake, alright?"

"Oh." Alex nodded. He turned to Hazel and said, "Let's go." Habitually, he stretched out his hand to hold Hazel's wrist before he dragged her inside the house to play.

Lily tapped her fingers on her chin as she watched her son's retreating. "This boy is someone who did not have many friends and I was worried that he would have a problem chasing girls when he reached that age. But maybe I've been worried too much. " Her eyes brightened up when she turned to Edith. "Do you think Alex will have a chance with Hazel? Hazel is a good girl and I wouldn't mind having her as my daughter-in-law."

Edith stared at her friend speechlessly. "They are still kids. Stop thinking too much. Besides, any boys who wanted to chase Hazel will have to go through her uncle first. Are you sure Alex can do that?"

Lily thought about it and sighed in disappointment. "My son is too timid. It was good enough that he was making more friends now. Forget it. Let's not pressure him to go against President Mo." Then she turned to Edith with a curious gaze. "That's right. When did Hazel start to call you Auntie Edith?"

"Wasn't it you who told Hazel that she could call me Auntie Edith if I married her uncle?" Edith narrowed her eyes at her friend. "You don't know how embarrassing it was for me when Hazel suddenly mentioned that."

Lily laughed happily before she escaped to the side and turned to the auntie with a few instructions.

Edith stayed around to help with the arrangement and once everything was done, Lily pulled her over to sit down as they waited for Lily's husband to return with Alex's cake.

"Tell me." Lily propped her elbow on the chair and looked at her friend with a teasing smile. "Is it hard for you to live together with President Mo? You have been in a relationship for more than a month now. Tell me, how was your progress? Have you been naughty with President Mo yet?"

Edith coughed dryly. She had always known that Lily can be shameless in this matter, but she was not expecting to get such questions!

Lily leaned forward and studied her friend's expression closely. "Your face is red. You're embarrassed, but what does it mean? Have you done the deed or not?"

"A kid is living with us. What do you want me to do?"

"Just wait for Hazel to sleep and close the door. What's so difficult about it?"

Edith stared at her friend and suppressed the urge to choke her best friend.

"President Mo can still restrain himself even though he was living with a beauty? I must really respect his self-control." Lily muttered. Suddenly, Lily felt a tug at her sleeve. Looking up, Edith was staring back at her with a hesitant look. "What?"

"Lily," Edith dragged her tone. She hesitated for a few seconds and told her best friend what happened in Neil's office a few days ago. "If something like this happened again, what should I do? I really liked him, but when I think about that, I am suddenly afraid." Edith inched closer and whispered a few words to her friend.

Lily Zhao stared at her friend in disbelief. It just occurred to her that although Edith had dated before, she had never reached that stage.

Edith's mother passed away early and she spent most of her time with her grandfather and his colleague. Growing up, Edith was bullied by the girls at her school and did not make a lot of girlfriends. Although she can act like a hooligan, she had never had this kind of talk to anyone.

To think that President Mo was really good at kissing that he had made her friend grow this restless...

Lily thought of what she should say and slowly, her lips curved into a wide smile.

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"Honey, we have a guest."

Lily was still speaking to Edith about matters that would make one blush when she heard her husband's voice. Turning around, her eyes widened as she saw that Neil Mo was walking in right after her husband. Instantly, Lily released her grip on Edith's arms and stood up straight.

"President Mo!"

Neil nodded before he shifted his gaze to his girlfriend. He thought about the scene that he saw when he walked in where his girlfriend was being hugged by another woman, and his face turned slightly dark.

"I heard that your son is a good friend of my niece. Since today is your son's birthday, I decided to come over as well." Neil lifted the paper bag in his hand and handed it over to Lily.

"Then, President Mo, why don't you take a seat first. I will go and find Hazel," Lily said. She took the cake from her husband and placed it on the table. Then, she grabbed her husband and dragged him inside.

Lily was not sure whether it was just her imagination or not, but she had this feeling as if she should run and hide when President Mo turned to look at her.

"Honey, so it's true that Edith brought over President Mo's niece here?" Ethan asked as they entered the kitchen. He had met that little girl a few times and had a good impression of Hazel Mo.

"Yes," Lily nodded. "You remember that your son had been building some models with her friend, right? That friend is President Mo's niece."

Ethan muttered a cursing word. "I was so scared when I saw him walking back and forth in front of our door. I thought that I have seen things wrongly. I almost dropped Alex's cake."

Though they were in two different business circles, Ethan had admired Neil for a long time. They were around the same age and Ethan had heard how Neil Mo and his brother had brought up MH Group when it was on the brink of bankruptcy.

"But that's not right." Ethan frowned. "Even if Alex and President Mo's niece are close, why would he appear at our door with a birthday present? Don't parents normally drop their child and leave?"

After all, his son's best friend, Tyler Lu was dropped by his parents to attend Alex's birthday party and they will pick up their son when the party ended later.

"There is something else that I haven't tell you," Lily spoke after pondering about it for a while.

"What is it?"

"That... Edith is currently dating President Mo." Lily smiled innocently when she saw the shocked look on her husband's face.

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Meanwhile, Edith looked at the man in front of her and smiled. "Why are you here?"

"Aren't you and Hazel here as well?"

Edith laughed. "President Mo, I did not think that you would be willing to free your time to attend a child's birthday."

Neil frowned at how she addressed him. "That's where you are wrong." He watched as she raised her brow in a puzzled look and chuckled. "I am here to spend my time with you and Hazel."

Her heart skipped a beat at his words and a pretty smile bloomed on her lips. Her darling was really good at saying things that would make her heart flutter. At the thought that this cold man would only spare his energy to say those sweet words to her, Edith felt as if her heart was about to burst.

Neil closed the gap between them. His hand moved to trail his fingers along her arms. "Are you scared?"

Edith looked at him, knowing that he was asking about the matter in his office.

Slowly, she lowered her gaze. They were so close and her head rested on his chest.

After kissing each other passionately in Neil's office the other day, Edith sat up with her hair messed up and her clothes were slightly disorganized. The man above her was staring back at her with his eyes darkened with lust, tempting her and she was unable to look away.

They have kissed each other many times once they started dating, but that was the first time that it has gone that intense and feverish. His kisses turned her on and Edith was suddenly afraid of how he had made her feel.

She liked his kisses and touch and wonder if it was normal to feel that way.

At the thought that what could have happened, Edith suddenly grew frightened.

She liked Neil very much but was not sure if she was ready for the next stage. She had imagined throwing him on the sofa and have her way. But, she had no experience in that area and did not know what she should do.

Thus, Edith has been minimizing her interaction with Neil to calm down.

But the angel and devil on her shoulder have been arguing for days... But, she still could not figure out what she wanted to do.

It was then that she decided to talk to Lily about this matter.

"I won't do anything you don't want," Neil whispered. "Therefore, don't try to avoid me."

Edith chuckled. "It's not what you think." She lifted her head and suddenly thought that his worried expression was a little cute. "Well, I will tell you something, but you... don't laugh."

He nodded.

"You... are good looking and so good at kissing." She lowered her head again. The redness on her cheek spread to her neck. "I was afraid that if I spend my time alone with you, I would not be able to hold myself."

For a few seconds, Neil thought that he had misheard things. This... seemed like the wrong script.

"What?"

"I wanted you to kiss me and then... I started to think about 'that'. Then, I grew afraid and I did not know what to do." She looked at him and swallowed. "It's that feeling of wanting something, but knowing that I am not fully ready for it. Do you understand?"

Neil nodded although he did not know whether he could follow her words.

"I was not trying to avoid you. Just that... I need some time to calm down and straightened up my thoughts."



Neil was in disbelief as he continued to listen to her words. His heart lightened knowing that he did not make a mistake. But knowing that she wanted him as much as he does turn his body a little bit hot.

"Then, have you calm down?" His voice was hoarse.

"Un." Edith nodded. "But you're here. My thoughts are running wild again."

Neil was speechless. Why is his girlfriend so weird? Why didn't he knew that his girlfriend can be this shameless?

His throat rolled when Edith traced her fingers up to his chest. Before he could grab her restless hand, Edith had taken a step back.

"I really shouldn't."

This silly woman was really testing him!

Neil took a deep breath to calm down. "I really wanted to know what was going on inside your head."

Edith blinked.. "Don't you know? Right now, it is filled with you."

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Ethan froze as he walked into the backyard. The couple who stood under the tree was very close as they whispered something he could not hear. From his position, Ethan could see their silhouette was as if they were hugging.

Although his wife had told him the news that their friend Edith was seeing President Mo, Ethan was still at a stage of disbelief. Neil Mo was famous for his cold and aloof attitude. While after being acquainted with Edith for years, Ethan thought that she was a cheery girl. Seeing that the two of them with different personalities get together seemed a little strange for him.

Ethan stared at the cake knife in his hand and let out a dry cough. Soon, the couple in front of him parted and Edith flashed an embarrassed smile.

"Well, Lily told me to bring out the cake knife," Ethan said. His gaze met with Neil and he slowly nodded. "Please, sit down. Lily went in to call the kids. We can eat soon."

Neil took a seat at the garden chair and lowered his gaze. He had wanted to continue his talk with Edith, but the timing and place were not very suitable.

Various thoughts went into his head when he realized that his girlfriend was acting strangely around him. He had thought that his enthusiasm last time had scared her and thus, Edith was trying to stay away.

He did not think that the reason would be... different.

At this moment, Neil did not know whether he wanted to laugh or cry. Should he be lucky to have this hooligan girlfriend?

Just as he was pondering how he was going to continue his talk with Edith later, his ears caught the sounds of footsteps. He looked up and saw three children running over towards them. His gaze softened when he saw Hazel in her pink dress. However, that calm gaze turned cloudy when he realized that a boy was holding his niece's hand.

"Uncle!" Hazel released her hands from Alex's and ran over to her uncle. Her bright eyes were staring at him curiously. "Why are you here?"

The frown on his face disappeared when Hazel reached to his side. "Of course I'm here to accompany you. Don't you like me here?"

"I like it." Hazel nodded. She hugged her uncle's arms and said. "I just did not think that you would be here. Right. Let me introduce you to my classmate."

"Wait a second." Neil grabbed at the little girl's wrist and stopped her from turning away.

"What's wrong?" Hazel looked back at him with a questioning gaze.

Neil did not answer and instead turned Edith. "Do you carry wet wipes with you?"

Edith reached into her bag pulled out a packet of wet tissue. As someone who would often be around with small children, Edith had made it a habit to carry wet tissues and sanitizers.

The corner of her lips twitched as she watched as Neil pulled out a few wet wipes and helped Hazel to wipe both her hands.

"We're going to eat later. Let's wipe your hands clean first," Neil explained to his niece with a straight face.

President Mo, are you sure it was not because you were upset that some boy was holding on to Hazel's hands just now?

Once Neil was sure that Hazel's hands were now clean, Hazel ran towards the table and to both Alex and Tyler.

"Hazel seemed close to that boy, Alex," Neil commented. He seemed to recall that this was not the first time that he had seen his niece and that boy together.

"Hmm..." Edith nodded. "After Hazel returned to the kindergarten, she had been isolating herself from her friends. I did not know why she had become closer to Alex later. Perhaps, because Alex was a quiet child, Hazel felt comfortable around him."

Initially, Neil did not like Alex, but once he heard from Edith how Alex had helped his niece, he could not bring himself from disliking that boy.

"Are you worried about Hazel and Alex?" Edith laughed. "Don't worry. Next year, Alex and the others would start primary school and will have no chance to see Hazel."

"Weren't they classmates?"

Hazel will not enter the primary school for another year, but the boy will start going to school earlier. Therefore Neil thought that this was very strange.

Edith smiled when she saw the puzzled look on his face. "When Hazel registered at the kindergarten, we found that her comprehension on some subjects higher than those who were around her age. Therefore, Headmistress Fu decided to put her in my class."

Neil was shocked at this new information. He turned his head to look at Hazel and a proud look appeared on his face. "Hazel is a smart child. It must be in our genes."

Edith glanced at the narcissistic person beside her and pulled him up to join the others at the table.

A birthday song was sung and Alex blew the candle on the cake. Though there were not many guests coming over, the atmosphere was as lively.

For Alex, who was not a fan of a big crowd, as long as he was surrounded by his favorite people, it was more than enough.

After a while, Lily helped her son to cut his birthday cake. Alex was obsessed with the Gundam model due to his father's encouragement and therefore, his parents had ordered a chocolate cake with a miniature Gundam model fondant on top.

The birthday boy cut his cake excitedly and passed it around. Then, he brought his two friends to eat and play together with the new toys he got.

The atmosphere surrounding the children was very lively, but with Neil's presence in the backyard, the atmosphere between the grownups became somewhat awkward.

In the end, Ethan took his role as the host and chatted with him about business.

Seeing that the men's conversation had gone deeper, Lily pulled her friend to a side and raised a brow. "How was it?"

"I told him."

Lily's eyes brightened. "Was he happy?"

"Rather than saying that he's happy, I think he's... shocked." Edith lowered her gaze and rubbed at the back of her neck. "He thinks I was avoiding him for days because I got scared of us being intimate."

Lily stared at her friend with a blank expression before she burst into a laugh.

"It was not my intention to avoid him."

A thought crossed her mind and Lily narrowed her eyes. "Is this why President Mo appeared at my son's birthday party today? He was worried that you have been avoiding him since that day?"

Edith nodded weakly. She noticed the strange way Lily was looking at her and raised a brow. "What?"

Lily caressed her non-existence beard.. "Perhaps President Mo liked you more than I thought."

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The three of them went back home after staying with He's family for hours.

As they arrived, Hazel stared at the Gundam model in her hand with excitement written on her face. After attending Alex's birthday, Ethan had given both Hazel and Tyler a box of those models as a gift for participating in Alex's birthday party.

Because she has been helping Alex with those models for years, Edith was aware of the price and the one that Ethan had given away was not cheap at all. Fortunately, there was only Hazel and Tyler at the birthday party.

Hazel was too excited to have her own Gundam model for the first time. She pulled Edith into her room and the two spend their time together building them.

Hazel was reminded that Alex had once told her how Edith had helped him with constructing the model. Now that she got to build them with Edith, Hazel was naturally happy. Once she returned to kindergarten, she was planning to show-off to Alex that she too had built a model with their teacher.

Neil, who knew nothing about building this model could only look at the two girls discussing the model with envy.

Seeing that the two girls were having fun for hours without him, Neil finally walked over to Hazel and reminded her that she needed to go to bed.

After accompanying Hazel to take her bath and sleep, Edith walked out and closed the door slowly. Habitually, she went downstairs to drink some water before she was going back to her room.

When she walked into the kitchen, Neil was sitting at the bar area. There was a mug on the bar counter and Neil was playing with his phone. His pose was as if he was waiting for her.

Ever since she moved in, the two of them would often meet in the kitchen around this time. Most of the time, she would be having her midnight snack and Neil would accompany her and they would talk about Hazel.

It seemed that meetings like this have become a habit and their topic of conversation had moved into different things as well.

Edith crossed her arms on her chest and stood silently as she admired the man's broad shoulder. Then, she walked over with a playful smile on her face. "Handsome, what would you like to drink."

Hearing her voice, Neil looked up from his phone and smiled. "Is Hazel asleep?"

Edith turned around to grab a glass of water and nodded. "Hmm... she fell asleep a while ago." She started to talk about how excited Hazel was with her new model and noticed that the man has not responded to her.

Turning around, Edith caught the way Neil was staring at her. His eyes were hooded and he was unblinking. Suddenly, Edith was uneasy.

Neil stood up and walked over to her with his gaze never left her for a second. His lips tilted up slightly as Edith took a step back.

She put the glass on the counter and chuckled. "What is it?"

"We haven't finished our talk."

Edith recalled their conversation at Alex's birthday party and suddenly felt embarrassed. Now that she thought back about what she had said to him, Edith realized that she was indeed shameless.

"What talk?" Edith decided that in this situation, it was best to pretend that she knew nothing.

Neil put his hands on the kitchen counter, entrapping Edith between his arms. Then, he bent slightly to get to her height. Soon, the two of them were looking eye to eye.

"What are you doing?" Edith asked.

"Now that I am in front of you, are you able to hold yourself?" He tilted his head sideways and the smile on his face turned playful. "Your thoughts are not running wild again?"

Edith stared at the handsome man in front of her and swallowed. His dark eyes were staring into hers and she was unable to look away. Under the dim light, his face seemed more attractive.

Was her darling trying to seduce her?

Suddenly, Edith could see that the angel and devil on her shoulders appeared again. One of them was giving her suggestions and urging her to make her move, while the other was advising her not to do something that she would regret.

Neil leaned closer to her and whispered in her ear. "Why don't you tell me what you want to do to me?"

His deep, hoarse voice was tickling her ears. Edith thought that the devil on her shoulder was almost winning.

The man was smiling seductively and her composure was wavering. Edith thought that she was unable to look away from his thin lips.

"Or else, you can tell me what you want me to do to you?"

Edith was suddenly reminded of what happened in his office and the way he has been kissing her. A strange sensation spread throughout her body and her cheek blushed as Edith tried to dispel her perverted thoughts.

The smile on his face widened and Neil ran his finger on her cheek. He glanced at her lips and snapped back to look into her eyes. "What were you thinking about?"

Instinctively, Edith leaned forward to kiss him, but Neil backed away slightly and stopped her.

"Tell me."

Edith bit at her lips and stared at him in aggrieved. This man was bullying her, right? She had told him how his presence could affect her, but now that he had this information, he was using this to bully her!

His expression grew softer when he thought that the silly woman might cry if he continued to tease her.

Neil thought that his silly woman looked adorable with her misty eyes. Knowing what was playing in her when he was near her made him excited. However, he had to restrain himself for her.

He has been thinking about her words and finally understood that this woman wanted him as much as he does. However, at this moment, she was not ready to move into that phase.

They both understood that their relationship would change once they slept with each other. Until she was ready for it, he can only wait and help her to be ready.

Neil hold her gaze and spoke, "As a man, it would be impossible to say that I didn't want to do more than a kiss. But, Edith, we still have a long time together and I can wait. I will not do anything you are not ready for. Therefore, you have to speak to me, alright?" He stretched his hand and played with a few strands of her hair. "What can I do and what I shouldn't do, you have to tell me everything. If you don't say it, then I wouldn't know anything. Do you understand?"

Edith nodded once and swallowed. She stared at his lips again and debated with herself for a long time before she spoke, "Kiss me. I just want you to kiss me."

"Alright." His fingers stopped playing with her hair and moved to cup her face.. Then, slowly, he moved closer and placed his lips on hers.

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Edith stretched up her body and sighed as she woke up. She rolled over on her bed and noticed that something was not right. She could still remember that battle that started in the kitchen and soon moved on to the sofa.

Then how did she ended up waking in her room?

The two of them kissed for a long time until she was breathless. She remembered resting her head on his chest to rest for a while. She probably fell asleep around that time.

Then, the person who carried her back into the room should be her darling.

Edith reached for her phone to look at the time and noticed that it was still early. Thinking that there was still an hour left until her alarm would set off and she would have to prepare to go to work, Edith laid on the bed and stared at the ceiling.

Her thought went back to what happened last night and suddenly, her lips curled into a wide smile. Grabbing at the pillow on the side, Edith pressed her face on it to hide her reddened cheek.

She had told Neil that she wanted him to kiss her and then, last night, they spent their time kissing and not doing anything other than that.

A low hum escaped her as she recalled the way his lips were slowly kissing her slow and patiently.

Edith thought that his patience would soon drive her crazy. Then, she wrapped her arms around his neck, pulling him closer to her before she pried into to get into his mouth.

Feeling her enthusiasm, Neil wrapped his arms around her waist. Then, his hand slid down lower.

Before Edith could say a word, Neil had lifted her off the ground. He gave her a peck on the cheek and carried her into the living room. His dark eyes were looking straight into hers as he placed her gently on the sofa.

Meeting his gaze and noticing the way he was looking at him made her blush. Edith had this sensation as if her head was blown and she could not think straight. She was lost in his gaze and could not look away. Her lips trembled as if she wanted to speak, but found that she could not find her voice.

Frustrated with her situation, Edith laid her hands on his stomach. Slowly, her hands moved further up to touch the contours of his abs under the shirt. She had seen his body previously at the beach and thought that his body looked really good. Edith did not think that touching them would feel better.

His body trembled under her touch and Edith snapped to look at his face again. Her breathing quickened when she noticed his gaze turned a few shades darker.

She was very aware that she was playing with fire and it was starting to burn her as well. Soon, she tugged at the front of his shirt, bringing their face closer before she moved to kiss his lips again.



As they stayed in each other's embrace, Neil began to move away from her lips and started to rain his kisses everywhere on her face and down to her neck.

Realizing that her thought has gone astray, Edith pressed the pillow to her face harder. Once she was able to calm down, Edith walked into the bathroom to wash her face. Since she could no longer fall asleep, Edith went downstairs to find something to eat.

Auntie Emma was in the kitchen preparing breakfast for Hazel when she entered.

Sensing someone entering the kitchen, Auntie Emma lifted her head and greeted Edith. However, her movement suddenly halted and Auntie Emma looked away to continue her cooking.

Unaware of the strange look that Auntie Emma was shooting at her, Edith peeked into the refrigerator and took out a few ingredients to make herself a sandwich. She poured herself a cup of coffee and finally noticed Auntie Emma's sneaking glance.

Before she got the chance to ask, Auntie Emma looked away and busied herself to check on the porridge.

At this time, Edith heard a sound coming from the entrance door. She put the bag of bread on the kitchen counter and walked out and found that Neil was dressed in a midnight blue hooded jacket and long pants. His chest heaved up and down as sweat trickled down his face.

Their gaze met and Edith looked at him with a smile.

"Did you go out for a morning run?"

"Hmm."

Edith reached to grab the towel from Neil and helped to wipe the sweat on his face. Once there was no longer visible sweat on his face, Edith glanced around the room like a thief and tiptoed to give him a peck. "Good morning, darling."

Neil chuckled at her sneaky move. He stretched his hand to push away her hair that was resting on her left shoulder and hooked his hand behind her neck. His movement halted just as he was about to lean in and kiss her. He studied the reddish mark on her neck and smiled.

"What?"

Neil leaned forward and whispered. "Teacher Qian, I think you should wear something to cover your neck today."

Edith stared at him in a puzzle and winced when his finger pressed at a spot. A thought came to her mind and Edith ran into the bathroom to check at her neck. A gasp escaped when she noticed the marking on her neck.

Although it was inconspicuous, if one stood closely, they would be able to see this mark. None of the teachers knew that she was dating. Once they saw the mark on her neck, Edith was sure that she would be bombarded with questions that she did not want to answer.

As she recalled the way Auntie Emma was staring at her, Edith felt her face turned redder. At this time, she wanted to keep herself locked in the bathroom and waited for everyone to leave.

The door swung open and the culprit appeared at the door. "What's wrong?"

Edith thought that she was too frustrated to talk to this culprit at this moment. She wanted him to kiss her, and not leave a mark on her body.

Neil laughed when he saw the way her cheek was puffing slightly. "It will disappear after a few days. The marking was not visible unless if you look closely. Just wear something to cover them. The temperature outside is getting colder. No one will mind if you wear something extra."

"What if Hazel saw this mark and ask?"

Neil pondered over that question seriously and answered. "You can tell her that you were bitten by a bug."

Edith looked at him angrily. "You are that bug."

"Yes. Yes. I am that bug." He reached to take her hand and planted a kiss on her palm. "Don't be mad. How about I take you and Hazel to play at the theme park this weekend?"

Seeing the petting gaze on his expression, Edith felt her anger began to subside.

"Or else, you can always return the favor. How about leaving a mark on my neck as well?"

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In the end, Edith decided to wear a teal turtleneck and jeans. Though that mark on her neck was hidden under her clothes, Edith styled her hair to a side low ponytail in hope that her hair would provide extra coverage. The end of her hair was curly, giving her a cute and playful look.

When she walked down the stairs again, the person who made her wear a turtleneck could not take his eyes off her. Seeing the way he was looking at her, Edith tilted her head sideways and smiled. "How do I look? Cute?"

A chuckle escaped him. Neil walked over to her and twirled his finger into her curls.

Previously, his girlfriend would always style her hair into a high ponytail or simply pulled her hair into a bun. As a kindergarten teacher, those hairstyles were very convenient for her as she will be dealing with children every day.

This was the first time Neil had seen her with this hairstyle and naturally he was enchanted.

"Un. Cute." He nodded. He continued to twirl his finger and inched closer to whisper. "Teacher Qian, I wonder if there is a spot for me to attend your class?"

Edith chuckled. "I cannot accept you as my student. You're too old." The smile on her face widened when she saw him frown.

Even though he realized that he was indeed too old to join the kindergartners, Neil found it very unpleasant to hear his girlfriend mentioned his age. After all, between him and Edith, he was indeed slightly older than her. He was five years older than his girlfriend.

"Alright, I need to head over to the kindergarten now," Edith said. She tiptoed to kiss the tip of his nose. "I will see you later at home."

Neil heaved a long sigh. He dropped her curls and watched them fall softly on her chest. His eyes darkened when he noticed that the knitted turtleneck was showing off her figure. Her chest area especially appeared bigger.

His throat felt dry and suddenly, Neil wished that his girlfriend was dressed in her usual oversized shirt. The thought that there were a few male teachers at the kindergarten made Neil unhappy. He did not want to let others see his girlfriend's figure and had some ideas about her.

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"Teacher Qian, you look different today," Teacher Guo, who was receiving the students with her at the door commented. "This hairstyle looks pretty on you."

"You think so?" Edith subconsciously touched her neck where Neil had left a mark last night. A breath of relief escaped her, knowing that her colleagues would not be able to see that mark under her clothing.

"Un." Teacher Guo nodded. She gave Edith a look over and tapped a finger at her chin. "Your dressing is slightly different than usual as well. What's with the change?"

Edith blew a sigh. "No reason. I just thought that I should try something different once in a while."

"Really?" Teacher Guo flashed her a teasing smile. "And here I thought that you are probably in a relationship." Her eyes widened when she noticed the fluctuation in Edith's expression. "It seemed that I've guessed correctly. Teacher Qian, you're in a relationship? Who is it? Was it someone we know?"

Edith placed her finger on her lips, signaling Teacher Guo not to say anything. "Teacher Guo, I hope that you won't mention this to anyone. My boyfriend and I have just started dating. When the time comes, I will introduce you to him."

Seeing the shy look on Edith's face, Teacher Guo decided not to say anything.

At this time, a student ran over to them and announced that two boys were fighting in the classroom. Because the fight happened in her classroom, Edith soon left the receiving to Teacher Guo and went to look at the situation.

When she arrived, the two boys were wrestling on the ground. Edith pulled the two boys apart and brought them over to Headmistress Fu's office. After some questioning, the boys admitted that they were fighting because they both fancied the same girl. After informing their parents of the situation, Edith went back to her classroom and started the lessons.

It was not until the children were taking their afternoon nap that Edith had time to take a breather.

Habitually, she took out her phone to check on her messages.

A smile curled on her lips when she saw Neil's messages. Just as she was about to read his messages, her phone vibrated, and Aaron's name popped up on the screen. Edith tapped at Aaron's name and pressed her phone to her ear.

"Aaron Li, I am still at school. You better have a good reason for calling me during my working hours," Edith spoke as soon as the phone call was connected.

"Heads up. Your grandfather is heading to L City with Grandpa George and my father," Aaron said.

"What? Why?"

Edith started to panic upon hearing that her grandfather was heading to the city. She still hasn't told her grandfather that she was now living with Neil and Hazel. Previously, she did not say a word to her grandfather as the contract only lasted for two months.

But now that she was dating Neil, Edith was afraid that her grandfather would chop that man into pieces upon finding that her precious granddaughter was cohabiting with a man.

"Remember that I am working on some murder cases with those guys in L City? Well, apparently, when something similar happened in Z Town a few years ago, your grandfather's team was assigned to investigate those murders."

Back then, Grandpa George and Aaron's father were both in her grandfather's team and they have been working together for years.

"There was another murder last two days and we are getting desperate to solve this case. The team in L City wanted them to come over and share their knowledge."

Edith frowned as she tried to recall the information Aaron had shared with her previously.

A few women were found dead in a gruesome manner with signs that they were violated. The autopsy showed that there were similarities between the murders that took place in Z Town a few years ago and the recent cases in L City.

It was due to this that Aaron has been traveling back and forth from Z Town.

As she grew up, Edith often spent her time at the police station. Sometimes, she would overhear her grandfather and his men discussed murders and such. But she did not think that she had heard her grandfather mentioning this case before.

"Don't worry. Your grandpa and the others were planning to head back to Z Town once they are done," Aaron continued. "But your grandpa might want to have a meal with you before we leave.. I just called to remind you not to work overtime."

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As the students left and the kindergarten's atmosphere became quiet, Edith habitually went back to the classroom to call Neil and informed him that she will be heading out to meet up with her grandfather and the others for a meal.

"Who else will be there?" Neil asked when he heard that Edith and her grandfather would be joined by a few others.

"Grandpa George and Uncle James," Edith said. "You have met them both previously during the fishing trip. Aaron will also be there as well."

"Aaron?"

"Un." Edith nodded as sandwiched her phone between her left ear and shoulder to organize a few books on the table. "He's Uncle James' son. You've met him previously the first time we went to the beach together with Hazel. He's that policeman."

There was a slight fluctuation in Neil's expression as he heard her words.

Assistant Shawn, who happen to be in the office to retrieve a few documents suddenly felt the change of temperature around him. He tilted his head to look at the air conditioner before he shifted his gaze to his boss. A thought came to his mind and Assistant Shawn scrambled to leave the office as soon as possible.

Neil remembered that cheery policeman he had met previously. That man left a deep impression on him because he had mentioned that he often patrolled the area his parents were living in.

His eyes narrowed as he recalled that Edith's relationship was pretty close. The last time Aaron visited the city, he had come to find Edith and the two had a meal together.

"Do you need me to come along with you?" Neil asked.

"No. It's fine," Edith answered quickly. "Grandfather and the others will leave to Z Town after having a meal together." She pressed the phone close to her lips and whispered, "Grandfather was still unaware that I am living together with you."

"You don't want to introduce me to your grandfather?"

"That is not what I meant." A giggle escaped her as she heard his upset tone. "I wanted to introduce you to my grandfather as my boyfriend. But with other's presence, it would not be suitable."

She was her grandfather's precious granddaughter. What if her grandfather was upset and ended up beating her boyfriend in front of others.

"Let's find a time and go back to Z Town together to meet my grandfather," Edith continued.

Neil's expression softened a little bit upon hearing her words.

"Where will you be having your meal?" Neil asked.

"I haven't decided. I will update you when I know."

"Whatever happened, don't drink," Neil reminded.

His expression turned cold as he imagined his drunk girlfriend giving that policeman a confession.

"Un. I know. Darling, I won't take a sip."

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Edith left the kindergarten and went straight to the station where Henry had dropped her previously. She sent a text message to Aaron and the man appeared from the building with a smile on his face.

"Your grandfather and the others are almost done," Aaron spoke as he reached Edith's side. "They should come out anytime soon."

After waiting for five minutes, her grandfather and the others came out of the station. Knowing that it was not the best place to have a conversation, the group left in Aaron's vehicle and found a place to have a meal.

They arrived at a Hainanese restaurant and entered a private room.

Edith sent a text message to Neil to inform him of her whereabouts and continued to talk to her grandfather and the others happily.

"Grandpa, what is it with the murder case?" Edith asked after a while. "Why do I feel like I have never heard you mention this case before?"

Mike Qian exchanged his glance with his friend before he reached for the glass of water to take a sip. "It was something that happened a long time ago. You were not living with me when I was still investigating this case."

"I guess you and Aaron were around three years old the first time the first murder happened," James said. "How would you know anything". He suddenly noticed the look Mike was giving him and immediately reached for his wine cup.

"You still haven't caught that murderer?"

Mike's expression grew darker. "The technology back then was not as good as it was now. Moreover, the murderer was really careful about leaving any useful clues for us. It was one of the toughest cases we handled."

"We did not expect that the murder that happened twenty years ago to happen again in L City," George Bei commented. He turned to Aaron and slapped him on his shoulder. "That's right. You should have told us earlier that you were helping those guys to investigate the case. We could have told you everything we know and perhaps they would stop another murder from happening."

"How was I to know that you were in charge of this case?" Aaron rubbed at his shoulder with an aggrieved face. "Don't you remember that the station in Z City caught on fire sixteen years ago? If I did not mention this case casually to my father, I would not know that you guys were the one who was investigating this case."

The three old men's faces turned gloomier as they recalled that big fire. It was because of that big fire that they had lost a lot of clues. Important documents were burned to ashes, leaving them with nothing useful.

"Let's not talk about this depressing matter," Mike said. He took a deep breath and tried to change the subject. "We are here to have a meal, aren't we? Right. What happened to the food we ordered? Why are they not here yet?"

Edith craned her neck to look at the door and stood up. "I will go and check." She took her phone and head out of the room to look for the waiter. Just as she reached the lobby, Edith her eyes caught sight of someone familiar.

Noticing that someone was staring at him, that man turned around and smiled as their gaze met.

Edith quickly walked over to him and chuckled. "Darling, why are you here?" Her voice was a whisper.

"I just thought that you might need a lift after this meal ended," Neil said. "I don't want you to walk around alone."

Of course, he would not tell his girlfriend that he was worried that a potential rival was having a meal with his girlfriend.

Neil's expression changed when he saw that unpleasant person appeared behind his girlfriend. He was just worried that this person came to L City to snatch his girlfriend and now, he had appeared before him.

"President Mo," Aaron greeted enthusiastically. "Why are you here as well?"

"Mr. Li, am I right?" Neil smiled amiably.

"You remember me." Aaron's expression brightened. He looked at both Neil and Edith alternately and smiled. "Are you here to have a meal? Coincidentally, Edith's



grandfather, and a few of us are here to have a meal as well.. We had a private room. Why don't you join us as well?"

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The three old men were surprised when Edith and Aaron returned with another person. They quickly adjusted their expression when they recognized his face.

"We ran into President Mo outside," Aaron speak. "Since we're all here to have a meal, I thought it would be better to invite him as well. Anyway, we are all considered people from the same town."

"Neil," Mike greeted.

"Grandpa, you are familiar with President Mo?" Aaron was surprised by the way the elder man had addressed Neil.

President Mo was someone from high class and it was not easy to be an acquaintance to him.

"Hmm... The last time he came to Z Town, we had the chance to go fishing together. That's right." Mike shifted his gaze to look around. "That little princess did not come along with you?"

Neil coughed. "No. I came here alone. My niece is at home with her nanny, doing her homework."

Noticing the slight change in Mike's expression, Neil wondered if he should bring along that little girl to have a meal together. He knew that Edith's grandfather liked his niece and they get along very well during the fishing trip.

"Come on. Don't just stand around. Have a seat," Aaron said. "The food should be here soon."

Neil followed Edith and sat beside her. Seeing that his seat was taken, Aaron froze before he touched the tip of his nose and moved to sit at the other side.

Noticing Aaron's reaction, Neil's lips tilted slightly upwards.

"We have already ordered our food. If you would like to add anything, just tell to the waiter," Mike said. "Don't be shy. Today, my granddaughter is treating us to a feast."

Neil glanced at the woman beside him and smiled. "Then, I won't be polite."

The waiter came into the room and Neil added two more dishes to their order. Once the waiter had left, Neil turned to Mike and asked, "Grandpa, why did the three of you come to L City this time?"

"It's nothing." Mike coughed. "We just came to L City for an official matter."

A frown appeared on his face. "Grandpa, if it was something that I can help you with, you have to tell me. I might not know much, but I do know a few people that could help with anything."

MH Group was the top property and developers' company in L City. In fact, most of the property in L City was under MH Group. Years ago, MH Group purchased a large land and developed that small town into the city they knew. As the president of MH Group, Neil had his own connection with certain people and was able to pull some strings in L City.

"You don't have to worry." Mike glanced at his friends. "We came to L City to help the authorities with some investigation. Before the three of us retired, we were with the police. Coincidentally, there was a case in L City that they needed our advice. So, we decided to come over and help."

"If you have anything that you need my help with, you can find me," Neil repeated. "You can find Edith and she will know how to find me."

At this time, the waiter walked in and started to serve the food. As the aroma of the food wafted to their nose, none of them realized that the way Neil addressed Edith had changed. The three old men started to laugh happily upon seeing their favorite wine being served.

The atmosphere in the room turned livelier as they chatted happily. None of them brought up the matter about the murder case and instead started to reminisce Edith and Aaron's childhood stories.

Of course, while the others were happily telling the stories, Neil could only put on a polite smile on his face as his gaze turned darker. Though he was interested to listen to his girlfriend's childhood stories, it was not a pleasing experience to hear that there was always that one man in every part of the story.

Neil raised the cup in his hand and took a sip as he silently observed the man sit across him.

His eyes narrowed slightly upon noticing the way Aaron was staring at his girlfriend.

If it was up to him, Neil would really like to announce to everyone present that the two of them were dating. However, Edith wanted to wait and he did not want to do something without consulting her opinion. At this time, he could only suppress his feelings.

His gaze shifted toward the person beside him. Edith was happily drinking as she chatted happily with the grandpas.

Seeing her reddened face, Neil rubbed the space between his brow.

Who was it that made a promise to him that she will not take a sip? He had reminded her not to drink, but it looked like she had forgotten his reminder. It looks like he will have to punish this girl for not listening to his words well.

Neil observed the situation and reached for his phone to send an important text to someone.

Once the meal ended, everyone started to ponder over the same problem.

The three elders looked at each other and wonder if they should stay a night in the city. From the look on Edith's face, the three elder men were sure that this girl would be having a problem getting home.

"Grandpa, don't worry. I am not that drunk. I can get home safely." Edith tried to convince the elders though she was holding on to the wall to support herself. "Someone will take me home safely. Right." She took a deep breath and turned around. "I forgot to settle the bills."

Neil reached to grab the woman before she fell. "Don't worry about the bills. It has already been settled."

Seeing his voice, Edith tilted her head up and stared at the man with her eyes unblinking. No one knew what was going on through her mind at the moment.

Fearing that his friend would create a problem, Aaron went forward to take her away from Neil, but at this time, Lily Zhao showed up at the scene, calling out her name.

"Edith Qian!"

The group turned around and Grandpa Qian's expression grew softer upon recognizing her granddaughter's best friend.

Edith looked at her friend and hugged her arms. "Lily, why are you here?"

"Lily, are you here to pick up Edith?" Mike asked.

Lily glanced at Neil and nodded. "Edith texted me earlier and said that she was going to crash at my place for a night. Grandpa Qian, you are heading back to Z Town tonight right? Don't worry. I will look out for Edith."

Mike glanced at his granddaughter and heaved a long sigh. Seeing that there will be someone looking after his granddaughter, Mike finally urged the others to leave.

Once Aaron's vehicle disappeared from their sight, Lily turned to Neil and forced a smile. "President Mo."

Neil nodded. "Thank you for your help. I owe you a favor."

"It's fine." Lily waved her hand and transferred the drunk Edith to Neil.

An hour ago, she received a text message from Neil, asking her to come over to the restaurant to help him with Edith. She was not expecting that she would see her friend in her drunken state.

As Lily recalled her friend's behavior when she was drunk, Lily started to pray for Edith and hoped that she would not be digging a grave for herself.

"Can you walk?" Neil asked as he leaned over to Edith.

Edith leaned on his arms and nuzzled her head on his shoulder. "Darling, I can't walk. Give me a piggyback ride!"

Lily sucked in a deep breath at her friend's bravery! She was surprised to hear Edith addressing President Mo as darling. Then, she was brazen enough to ask for a piggyback ride!

Her expression froze when she saw the doting look on Neil's face. She was so sure that Neil would flip at Edith's request, but she was wrong.

Neil took a deep breath and carried his girlfriend in his arms in a princess carry. The drunk person then rested her head on his chest before she closed her eyes.

Lily watched as the two leave and prayed that her friend would not cause more trouble later.

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Edith opened her eyes to a slit when she felt her back colliding into something colder. Something was trying to pry her hands away from a warm source and she was not very happy about it. She adjusted her eyes and found that Neil was in front of her.

"Be good. Let me go first. I will make you some tea to help you sober up." The man in front of her spoke in a very gentle voice.

Edith loosened her hands from his neck before she moved on the sofa to get into a comfortable position. Her eyes shut as she continued to sleep.

Neil heaved a long sigh as he watched her shut her eyes and continued to sleep.

Earlier, after Driver Tang had sent him home, Neil had to carry her back into the house. Fortunately, his girlfriend was very well behaved in his arms.

He bent down to kiss her on the forehead and walked into the kitchen.

Little Hazel has gone to bed a few hours earlier, and Nanny Ann had left with Driver Tang just a few minutes ago. Although Nanny Ann had offered to look after Edith, Neil was worried that Nanny Ann would arrive home late, and therefore, he let her go home first.

After spending a few minutes in the kitchen, Neil came back into the living room with a mug of tea. He lifted the person on the sofa and tried to wake her up gently.

"Wake up. Have a drink first."

Edith frowned when she heard his voice again. Then, she obediently opened her mouth and let Neil feed him the tea. Because of their awkward position, some of the tea trickled down from her mouth to her neck and went downwards.

Neil placed the mug on the table and looked at the person in his embrace. Then, he pulled out a few tissue papers on the table and helped her to wipe her mouth. His gaze followed the water stain and stopped at where it had disappeared.

His throat rolled as his gaze went down lower. Realizing his thought, Neil quickly turned his gaze away to meet his gaze.

At this time, Edith was staring back at him with her eyes unblinking.

The two of them continued to lock their gaze into each other for a while before Neil moved to pinch the woman's cheek.

"Didn't I tell you not to drink? Why were you drinking too much just now?"

Edith raised a hand and swatted his hand from her face. "Don't pinch my cheek."

Neil continued to stare at her as if challenging her to give him a proper answer. "Wait until you sober up and see how I will punish you."

"Darling, you said that I am not supposed to drink without your presence. Since you were around, then, of course, I can have a few more drinks with my everyone. Darling, you said so. So you cannot get mad at me."

His brow shot up at her words. Suddenly, Neil wondered if Edith had sobered up slightly. Edith would seem to respond to him whenever he asked her questions. The last time he found her drunk, was it not the same?

He poked at her cheek and looked at her expression.

"Were you very happy today?"

"Un. Happy. I had a meal with everyone. Then, my darling came to pick me up."

His lips tilted up slightly. "Do you know who I am?"

"I know." She nodded. "Iceblock Mo!"

His face twitched at that name. He pinched at her cheek again and leaned in to bite her lips.

Edith pushed him away and rubbed at her lips. Her eyes were staring at him in aggrieved.

Seeing the expression on her face, a helpless sigh escaped him. His thumb caressed her lips until she stopped giving him that look. Neil tilted his head sideways and asked. "Do you like me?"

Edith studied his face and nodded. "Like."

"How much do you like me?"

"Very much."

Noticing that Edith would answer his questions without fail, Neil decided to get some information from her.

"Were you very close to that policeman, Aaron?"

Her head moved slowly into a nod. "We grew up together. Grandpa always sent me over to his house whenever he went away to work on some case."

He pinched her chin and forced her to look at him. "Do you like him?"

Edith laughed. She wrapped her arms around his waist and buried her face on his chest. "No. I only like my darling."

A satisfied smile curled on his lips upon hearing her answer. But that smile soon disappeared as Neil thought of the way Aaron was looking at her during their meals earlier. As a man, how can he not realize the way that man was looking at his girlfriend?

"But Aaron likes you." His voice was a whisper, but it was laced with something dangerous.

Edith raised her head to look at Neil. Then she began to pout. She struggled to get away from him and knelt on the sofa so that she seemed taller than him. Suddenly, her hands moved to pinch him on both cheeks, stretching them as far as she can get.

"Darling, didn't I tell you to smile?" She looked at his stretched lips and smiled happily. "Un. Just like this. Very good looking." She released her hands and poked at his cheek as if taking revenge because he did the same earlier. "But you can't let others see this."

The corner of his lips tilted up into a helpless smile. "Alright. I will only smile at you."

Satisfied with his answer, Edith leaned to kiss the tip of his nose. She pulled away and stared at his face for a long time.

A chuckle escaped him. Neil looked at her blushed face and asked, "How do you feel? You have to tell me if you're uncomfortable."

"Darling, I'm sleepy. I want to sleep."

Neil heaved a sigh. "Let me help you back to your room."

Edith spread her arms open. "Darling, carry me."

A chuckle escaped him. Then, he picked her up into his embrace and took her upstairs into her room.

The scent of her filled his nose as soon as he entered the room. He took the time to look around and thought that the air in the room had changed since Edith had moved in. Although there were not many changes, Neil thought that the room seemed livelier and brightened up.

It seemed that the room had changed according to the person who stayed in it.

Neil walked over to the bed and placed her gently on the bed. Then, he tucked in the blanket on her body and leaned to kiss her forehead.

He turned to leave and stopped when Edith grabbed his hand. Turning around, Edith was staring at him with her eyes wide. He walked over and patted her hair. "Sleep. Good night. I will see you tomorrow."

"Don't leave. Sleep with me tonight."

His expression froze and his gaze darkened as he looked at her. "Silly woman, do you know what you're saying?"

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Neil stepped over slowly and his gaze trained on that woman.

"Sleep." Edith scooted over to a side and patted the bed. "Come here. Darling, accompany me to sleep."

A chuckle escaped him, knowing that this woman literally meant sleeping and not anything else. He pinched at her cheek to vent his frustration, but suddenly, Edith grabbed his wrist and with a tug, Neil fell on top of her.

The two stared at each other silently in that position and their eyes could only see each other.

Neil felt her breaths caressing his face and his body began to heat up. His gaze started to trail down to her nose, then to her lips...

"Darling?"

"Hmm?" His gaze went back to hers. At this time, Edith was staring back at him with her eyes wide.

"Why are you so good looking?"

Edith continued to stare at him and watched as his lips slowly curved into a smile.

Seeing the expression that she liked so much, Edith tugged at the front of his shirt, pulling Neil closer to her before she kissed his lips. Her lips brushed against his gently. She wanted to savor the way he tasted and could not get enough of it. His lips were so sweet and she was addicted to them.



His throat rolled as Edith started to lick at his lips, begging for an entrance. Neil was slowly losing his mind and soon, his lips parted and he took the lead to kiss her.

Edith let out a soft hum as he nibbled at her lips and continued to kiss her senselessly.

Her hands that were crumpling at his shirt slowly loosened. Her hands trailed down to feel the muscle under his shirt.

Suddenly, Neil let out a gasp as he felt her hands slipped into his shirt and touching his skin.

Neil pulled away and looked at the woman under him. "Baby, are you trying to seduce me?"

The woman smiled sweetly at him and her hands continued to roam around his body.

"Edith Qian," he called her name through his gritted teeth. If she did not stop now, Neil thought that he might no longer hold back. He removed the paws from his body.

Neil took a deep breath and kissed her cheek. Then, he pulled her body closer and patted her hair softly. "I won't do anything to you when you're not sober. I will just hold you to sleep, alright?"

Silence filled in the room. Neil buried his nose on her neck and held the person in his arms tightly as he tried to calm down his raging urge.

"I can't breathe." Her voice sounded aggrieved.

Neil heaved a sigh as he loosened his embrace.

However, as soon as there was space for her to move around, her naughty hands started to roam around aimlessly on his body again.

Neil quickly grabbed those misbehaved paws and locked them both above her head. He lowered his head to look at her and pecked at her lips. "Don't do this. Let's just sleep alright?" He pleaded.

"Let me go." Edith struggled and with a few moves, she managed to escape from his grip. "Darling, let me touch you."

A laugh escaped him as he felt the hands went back to their original position. "Baby, you are going to kill me if you continue to do this."

The atmosphere in the room soon changed. The night was especially quiet, and inside the room, sounds that could make people blush could be heard.

Neil buried his face on the crook of her neck as he held her body tighter. His lips parted and his throat rolled as his chest heaved up and down. Neil found that it was harder to control his breathing as seconds ticked.

He lifted his head to look at Edith and frowned upon seeing the serious look on her face. A chuckle escaped him before he leaned to kiss her lips deeply.

Suddenly, Neil closed his eyes. His breathing hitched and a low grunt escaped him. Neil rested his head on her shoulder as he steadied his breathing. Once he had calm down, Neil bent to peck at her lips before he pulled out some tissue papers to wipe her hands.

Once everything was cleaned up and organized, Neil pulled Edith close to him and hugged her to sleep.

...

The first thing Edith noticed upon waking up was her throbbing headache. After a while, she found that her hands were both sore and tired. Later, she started to feel that her body was surrounded by a very comfortable warmth.

Edith shifted her body and turned around.

Her eyes went wide when she saw Neil's handsome face. His eyes were closed and his breathing steadied as he was in a deep sleep.

Her mouth parted as she sucked in a deep breath. Her hands moved to check at her clothing and a sigh of relief escaped her knowing that nothing had happened between them last night.

Edith calmed down immediately and started to observe her situation first. A deep frown appear on her face when she noticed that she was in her bedroom. But... why was this person beside her.

No matter how she thought about it, Edith could not figure out what happened last night.

She remembered going for dinner with her grandfather and the others. Then, Neil appeared and joined them for a meal. She recalled drinking a few cups of wine with her grandfather, and later, Lily showed up and Neil took her home.

But, wait. Why did Lily come over to the restaurant?

Was she dreaming or seeing things?

Edith rapped her knuckle on her head as if it was going to help her with her memory. After a while, her movement stopped and Edith stared at her hands with a puzzled look on her face.

What on earth happened to her hands? Why does it felt as if they did not belong to her?

Her gaze went back to look at Neil's sleeping face.

They had slept together but Neil had not done anything to her while she was under the influence of alcohol.

"Stop staring at me like that or I might not be able to control myself."

His eyes snapped open as he spoke.

The two of them continued to look at each other for a long time before Neil leaned in to kiss her forehead. "Good morning."

"Good morning," Edith whispered. She pulled at the quilt cover and hid half of her face under it. "Neil... why are you in my bedroom? Last night. What happened last night?"

A chuckle escaped him. Because he had just woken up, his voice sounded especially deep. He tilted his head sideways and spoke, "Last night, you would not let me leave.. Edith Qian, you pulled me here to accompany you to sleep. Did you forget everything?"

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Edith really wanted to admit that she did not remember anything, but the expression on Neil's face made her think that she needed to think things carefully. Edith continued to watch Neil as she was trying to figure out what she was going to do next,

At this time, Neil pushed over the quilt cover and get up from the bed. Suddenly, there was a loud thud behind him. Turning around, Neil grew anxious when he saw Edith disappeared from the bed.

There was a loud groan. When Neil reached her side, Edith was laying on the carpeted floor as she continued to massage her head.

"What happened to you?" Neil inched closer. "How did you fell off the bed?"

Edith looked up and gasped as her gaze met with Neil's shirtless top. "Why... why are you not wearing a shirt?"

She was too shocked upon seeing that topless torso that she had accidentally rolled off the bed and hit her head on the floor. Fortunately, they were carpeted.

He crouched down beside her and smiled. "You really don't remember anything, do you? You took it off from me last night, saying that you wanted to touch me."

Her eyes widened. "No way, I am not such a hooligan."

"Really?" Neil sneered. He pointed at a spot on his shoulder. "You bite on my shoulder last night, saying that you want revenge for leaving a mark on your neck, did you not remember that as well?" His hand then moved to point at a few different spots. "Here. Here. You bit me over here as well. You said you wanted to touch me everywhere.."

Edith sucked in a deep breath upon looking at the reddened spots on his body. There was even one tiny spot just below his Adam's apple! The scene in front of her showed how much she was enjoying her night and did not think of the consequences of what will happen when she woke up in the morning.

"Then... why didn't you stop me?"

"Do you think I can stop you?" Neil raised a brow. "Last night, I was the damsel in distress while someone else was acting like a villainess. You know very well how strong you are. You can take down a man bigger than you without any problem. Every time I tried to restrain you, you would retaliate against my move and do just as you like."

Edith's Qian, what have you done?

She did not expect that she could turn into a beast when she was drunk! This was the first time that anything like that happened.

Her brain reprocessed the words he spoke and suddenly her face turned red.

Touching him everywhere...

Does that mean that she had touched some forbidden place as well? Would that explain why her hands felt as if they won't be listening to her command anymore?

Suddenly, she was embarrassed to face Neil.

Her brain quickly processed everything and Edith flashed him a timid smile. "Darling, I'm sorry. The last thing I remember was watching my grandpa leaving with the others. Then, everything became hazy."

Edith mentally cursed herself. She had the chance to look everywhere and touch everywhere, but she could not remember a thing! This was too frustrating!

A teasing smile appeared on his lips. "Then, do you want me to help you recreate what happened last night?"

Her face turned a few shades redder. "No. No. That's not necessary." There was a brief silence between them before Edith spoke again, "I-I promise I will not drink too much again."

Neil took a deep breath and stretched his hand to pull her up. "It's fine." The smile on his face clearly showed that he was enjoying whatever happened last night. "You can drink as much as you want to as long as you are with me."

...

When Edith showed up at the kindergarten in the morning, her best friend, Lily, was waiting for her outside the gate. Her eyes grew wide as she gave Edith a look from head to toe.

"Edith, are you alright?"

"Of course I'm alright. What's wrong? Why are you asking such a question in the morning?"

Lily turned to look at the two underage children beside them. After urging them to enter their classroom first, Lily pulled Edith to a corner and began her interrogation. "What happened after you left the restaurant last night?"

Edith stared at her friend with her eyes wide, wondering how did Lily know that she was at the restaurant last night.

"You don't know how freaked out I was when I suddenly received a message from President Mo, asking me to meet you both at the restaurant."

"Why did my darling asked you to meet us at the restaurant?"

"My darling?" Lily felt the corner of her lips twitched. She quickly got over that endearing terms and explained what Neil had asked her to do last night.

Seeing that her girlfriend had drunk a little bit too much, Neil had asked for Lily's help and acted as a decoy so that her grandfather and the others will not worry about leaving Edith in her condition. Edith has not told her grandfather that she was now living together with Neil, and Neil wanted to save trouble for his girlfriend. Therefore, Lily had to step in.

Everything was easier for them as it was not the first time that Edith had stayed over at Lily's place and her grandfather trusted Lily very much.

Thinking of her considerate boyfriend, a smile curled on her lips.

"Are you sure you're alright?" A curious look flashed on her face and that concerned look was suddenly transformed into a teasing look. "Don't tell me that nothing happened between you and President Mo last night?"

Edith blinked innocently. "I was drunk and quickly passed out when we arrived. What could happen?"

...

Meanwhile, back in MH Group Headquarters...

Assistant Shawn, along with others who worked closely with Neil had long noticed that their boss was in a very good mood.

Earlier, one of them had made a mistake in their report, but instead of flying into a rage as he would usually do, President Mo had given that person a few pointers on how to make things better.

This scene shocked everyone and soon, various rumors started to fly around as they tried to figure out the reason for his sudden change.

Assistant Shawn had heard a lot of gossips, but none of them were near to the truth. A lot of them had thought that President Mo's good mood could be associated with the company winning an important tender.

He knew that the reason behind his boss' good mood was related to his girlfriend. After all, that marking just under his Adam's apple was quite clear. He had seen those similar markings before and knew what are they.

However, President Mo had the audacity to tell everyone else that he was bitten by a bug! To think that everyone else would believe his words...

Assistant Shawn massaged his neck area, feeling slightly tired. He knocked on the door and walked in into the office to see his boss sat down behind his desk, working diligently in such a good mood.

He let out a cough to get his boss' attention and slid a document on the table. Assistant Shawn watched as his boss scribbled his signature on the paper and retrieved the documents.

"President Mo, a representative from GINA asked whether you would be attending their function this weekend," Assistant Shawn spoke.

"I'm not going. I have another plan this weekend."

Assistant Shawn nodded and was about to leave when he heard his boss called his name again.

"This function, they will be held in Capital City, correct?"

"Yes."

Neil tapped his fingers on his desk and suddenly smiled. "Tell them that I will be attending."

Assistant Shawn thought that his change of mind was too sudden, but knew that he was not in the position to ask. "Certainly, President Mo." He nodded. "I will help you book your flight."

"Hmm." Neil nodded. "Book a ticket for Edith and Hazel as well.. They are both coming with me on this trip."

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As the weekend comes, Edith and Hazel followed Neil to the airport early morning.

When they arrived, Assistant Shawn was already waiting for them. The assistant handed over the flight tickets to Neil and exchanged a few words before he followed them into the departure hall.

Edith looked at the little girl who was holding on her hands tightly and brought her over to sit down and waited for their flight.

"Are you excited?"

"Un." Hazel nodded enthusiastically. "This is the first time that we're going on a trip together. Of course, I'm excited." The little girl smiled happily when Edith patted her hair. "Auntie Edith, have you ever been to Capital City before?"

"Me?" Edith pondered over the question and nodded. "I have been to Capital City once. But I don't remember much about that trip."

"Why not?"

"I was still young when I visited the city," Edith said. "I think, I was around your age. That was almost twenty years ago. I'm sure that the city has changed a lot."

Edith could not remember that trip much, but she could recall that she was visiting Capital City with her mother.

Back then, there was an event and her mother had accepted a job as an interpreter. She had followed her mother into the hall and watched as her mother interpreted the speaker's words.

At that time, Edith thought that her mother was the most amazing woman. To understand a foreign language and able to interpret them within seconds was not an easy task.

Edith had learned French for years, but she did not think she would be able to do something like her mother had done.

"It's fine if you don't remember them," Hazel spoke. "This time, I will help you to make new memories."

A warmth filled her heart as Edith heard the little girl's words. She laughed and kissed the little girl on the cheek. "Un. I will make a lot of memories with you. Let's have a lot of fun together."

As they continued to wait, Edith wrapped her arms around Hazel as the little girl leaned on her body and read a book. Seeing that her boyfriend was still discussing work matters with Assistant Shawn, Edith looked up at the television and watched the news.

At this time, the newscaster was reporting news of a homicide that happened last week. Due to the horrifying way that the victim was found, this news has been discussed for days, and the case only grew heated.

The victim worked at a famous nightclub in L City and has been reported as missing for weeks before her body was found around the garbage disposal area. There were signs that she was violated and tortured before she died.

Though the news did not give much information on how the woman was tortured, Edith had heard a few things from Aaron and knew that the details can be very... disturbing.

The woman's parents were grieving over their only daughter's death and were upset that the police could not give them the answer they wanted. Therefore, they invited a few reporters to express their grieve, and soon, netizens had helped to make this case big.

It was then that some netizens found out that this was not the first time a woman had faced the same fate.

A few months ago, another woman was found dead in the same manner, but because that woman was an orphan, no one paid much attention to her death.



But now that the case was heatedly discussed among the public, the police were now getting anxious. They had to face the public's anger as well as the pressure from their superiors.

Serial murder was always something that the public would be worried about.

Some of the netizens commented that the reason the police were slow with the investigation was that this murder might be related to someone very high profile. Because of those comments, the public was now enraged, and the police had to ask the public not to make an assumption in case they might cause them to disturb them from finding out the truth.

Edith immediately thought of her grandfather and Aaron. Although the newscaster did not mention anything about the same case that happened in Z Town years ago, Edith knew that this was the same case that they were investigating.

As a woman, Edith was angry that this culprit has been violating women for years and was still able to walk around freely. She can only hope that this culprit would be caught before he causes more harm to other women.

"Why do you look so upset? What were you thinking about?"

Hearing the voice, Edith turned to her right and saw that Neil had slipped into the empty seat beside her. "Nothing. I was just watching the news and hearing what happened to that woman made me angry."

Edith felt his arms snaked around her shoulders and she cooperated by leaning her head on his shoulders.

The passerby who saw this scene could not help but did a double-take.

The man was wearing sunglasses, but it could not hide his good look. The pretty woman beside him was leaning on the man's shoulder as he hugged her tight, and the small girl was hugged into the woman's arms. It was a perfect picture of a family of three.

"Have you heard anything about this case?" Edith asked.

"I've heard a few things about it," Neil admitted. "Why are you suddenly curious about this case?"

"Aaron was working on the investigation."

Neil's face turned a shade darker at the mention of his potential love rival.

"According to my grandfather, around twenty years ago, there were similar cases," Edith whispered. "Back then, he and his team were investigating the murders, but they were not able to catch the culprit. They think that the serial murders in L City this time were very similar to the one in Z Town."

"Is that why your grandfather came over to L City the other day?"

"Hmm." Edith nodded. "Grandpa came with the others to help the investigation. They think that the cases in L City and Z Town were done by the same person or group."

Neil turned his head to look at the television and saw that the newscaster was reporting news that General Attorney Leng was planning to leave his position to enter politics.

His arm that was hugging Edith tightened. He was aware of the news from the first day it was reported on the news. He had some insider news and knew how those women were murdered. Neil grew anxious at the thought that something similar might happen to the people he cared about.

"You need to be careful as well," Neil said. "Don't go out alone. If you have someplace you needed to go, ask Driver Tang to take you there when I am unavailable. Although I know that you can look after yourself well, I don't wish for you to encounter something like that."

Seeing the concerned look on her boyfriend's face, Edith smiled and pecked at his throat. "Un.. I know."

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The flight to Capital City arrived in less than an hour. When the four of them arrived, Assistant Shawn immediately found the driver, and they were taken to The Orchid, a five stars hotel under Zhang Group Worldwide.

Edith walked around and could not help but admire the ambiance of the hotel. Zhang Group Worldwide was well known for its luxury hotels. Their branch in Capital City was often visited by famous people from all over the world. Edith naturally had heard about this hotel brand as the world-class conventions and events would often be held at this hotel

There are rumors that the pastries in the Capital City branch are the best. The pastry chef, Chef Qin Zhan was said to be a mysterious guy as he would often reject any interviews. However, anyone who tasted his craft would soon fell in love with the

delicateness of his pastries and they could no longer find anything better than Chef Qin Zhan's craft.

Edith snapped out from her trance when she felt Neil's arms snaked around her waist. Turning around, Edith found that the man was looking at her with a smile.

"Come on," Neil spoke. "The room is ready."

It was at this time that Edith began to worry about their sleeping arrangement.

Fortunately, Neil was considerate enough to book a two-bedroom suite. After settling into one of the bedrooms with Hazel, Edith walked into the living area and the three of them made a plan to go out.

"Let's just play somewhere close by," Neil said as he handed over a brochure. "I still have to attend a function this evening."

Edith studied the brochure and took note of the place they could visit. Then, she went over to Hazel's side. "Hazel, where do you think we should go?"

The little girl stared at the brochure for a long time and frowned. There were a few places that she wanted to go to, and she could not make her decision which place she wanted to go to the most.

"You haven't decided yet?" Edith asked. "Do you need me to help?"

"No. I think I have made my decision," Hazel spoke with a serious expression on her face. She lifted her hand to point at the brochure and stopped herself at the last moment. Her eyes caught something she thought was interesting and Hazel pointed to another picture. "Here. I want to go here."

Edith looked at the picture and frowned. Her expression changed seconds later and Edith patted at her hair. "The Science and Technology Center. Are you sure?"

"Un." Hazel nodded. "Auntie Edith, I wanted to go here."

"Alright. Let's go to the Science Center then." Edith laughed. "I thought you were going to choose a petting zoo."

There was a slight crease forming at the space between her brow as Hazel was reconsidering her decision. The petting zoo was indeed her first choice. Hazel loved small animals and had a collection of plush toys of various animals. However, she changed her mind when she saw the picture of the robots that almost resembled the model that Alex liked to play with.

After accompanying Alex with building those models, Hazel began to show interest in robots. Hazel thought that building and assembling something was interesting.

Seeing the hesitation on Hazel's face, Edith pulled the little girl into her embrace and whispered, "We can always ask your uncle to bring us here again. Let's go to the petting zoo next time."

Hazel's face brightened up upon hearing the suggestion. She looked at her uncle with her usual adorable look and blinked. "Uncle, let's go to the Science and Technology Center today. Next time, can you take us here again? I wanted to play in other places as well."

It was not the school break and Neil could only bring them to Capital City to play around for the weekend. Fortunately, the trip from L City to Capital City took less than two hours. They departed on the earliest flight that morning and was planning to head back in the evening tomorrow.

Though time might be limited, it would be enough for them to play around.

"Alright." Neil quickly agreed. "But first..." He paused and pointed at his cheek. "You have to give me a kiss."

The little girl climbed up the sofa, wrapped her arms around her uncle's neck, and planted a long, wet kiss on his cheek. "Uncle, you're the best!"

Neil laughed as he looked at the little girl. Though his cheek felt a little cold after Hazel had kissed him, he was very reluctant to wipe them away.

The first time he took Hazel to live with him, their relationship was very awkward. They were related, but he did not know how to speak or interact with each other. During the first month, his mother had to help them get along. They were finally able to speak, but the way Neil would speak to Hazel was almost the same as the way he would talk to Assistant Shawn. Hazel would not take the initiative to talk to him and would prefer to answer by nodding or shaking her head.

Slowly, with the help of the people around them, their relationship started to improve and got better after Edith had come to live with them. Look at them now. They have been living together for more than half a year, and their relationship only grew close and better.

Neil pecked at Hazel's cheek in return before he let her go away to get ready to go out. He lifted his head and saw that Edith was watching him. Neil raised a brow and his lips curved into a cheeky smile. "What is it? You want to kiss me here too?" He pointed at his cheek.

Edith turned around to find Hazel and heard the person behind her laughing happily.

"Edith, come here."

She turned to look at him and watched as he patted the spot beside him. After a brief consideration, Edith walked over and sat at the end of the sofa. "What is it?"

Neil looked at the person who deliberately sat a distance away from him and sighed before he inched closer. "Would you accompany me to attend a social function tonight?"

Edith looked at him in surprise. Clearly, she was not expecting Neil to ask her to come along. "Is Hazel coming too?"

"No." Neil shook his head. "Assistant Shawn will look after Hazel while we're away." He raised his brow and continued, "Why do you think I wanted to bring Assistant Shawn along?"

Edith thought that Assistant Shawn would definitely cry if he heard his boss's words.

"What kind of social event?" A thought came to her mind and a frown appeared. "But, I don't have anything appropriate to wear."

"You don't have to worry about everything else. If you agree to come with me, I will arrange everything. All you have to do is to show up together with me." Neil stretched his hand to play with her hair. "This social function is not anything complicated. Just a gathering with a few friends. You just need to stay by my side. I will just show my face and then we can leave." He stared into her eyes and continued, "Edith, I really hope that I could introduce you to others as my girlfriend."

Edith had wanted to decline. She had never been to a social function and was sure that she would be bored if she went with him. However, Neil's gaze told her that he really wished that she would agree.

They were dating. Neil had worked hard in understanding her preferences. It would be ridiculous if she did not try to work hard to understand his world. If she wanted to continue being by his side for a long time, she will need to get used to attending such a gathering.

Two people in a relationship had to work together to be able to stand by each other side by side. It would not be fair if one person did all the job. In the end, the relationship would soon turn suffocating for the couple.

"Alright." Edith leaned in to kiss his cheek.. "I'll go with you."

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It was the weekend and The Science and Technology Center was crowded with people when they arrived. Looking at the crowd in front of him, Neil's expression turned slightly displeased. However, his expression grew soft when he saw the excited look on Hazel's face.

Neil had thought that Hazel would be bored quickly after going to such a place, but Hazel seemed to be enjoying herself with various activities for her to join.

As long as the little girl was happy, he would be happy.

The little girl held on to Edith's hand tightly and would often turn around to ensure that the two guardians were with her all the time. The event from the last time was still vivid in her mind and Hazel did not dare to go far away from them, especially when she was at a place with a big crowd.

Neil looked at the way Edith was hugging Hazel as she explained to her something about the exhibition. He took out his phone to snap a few photos. He was about to send the picture to his mother habitually when he recalled that he has not told her that he was dating. If he suddenly sent the picture to her mother, wouldn't his mother start to suspect anything?

In the end, he could only send his mother pictures where Hazel was alone in the frame.

After walking around the Science and Technology Center for two hours, Hazel's step began to slow down.

"Are you tired?" Neil asked. "Do you want me to carry you?"

Hazel considered his question for a while and shook her head quickly. "No. Hazel is a big girl. I don't need you to carry me."

"Even if you're a big girl, it's not wrong for you to lean on me when you are tired," Neil pointed out. "You see, I even carry Auntie Edith the other day when she could not walk."

The little girl's eyes widened as she stared at Edith. The look on her face was as if she was wondering whether her uncle was telling her the truth or was just simply tricking her.

Edith narrowed her eyes as she looked at Neil.

Darling, could you at least give me some face in front of your niece?

To admit that she had let Neil carry her in front of Hazel was too embarrassing!

Edith cleared her throat and tried to explain. "Last time, I sprained my ankle, remember? Your uncle helped to give me a piggyback ride because I was unable to walk."

The expression on Hazel's face was as if she was slowly accepting their logic. Turning to her uncle, Hazel then spoke shyly. "Then, can you carry me?"

Neil nodded. "Of course."

They had thought that Neil was going to crouch down so that Hazel would be able to climb on his back. However, Neil lifted Hazel high before he placed her on his shoulder.

Hazel was startled at the sudden move and Edith quickly went forward to safeguard the little girl from falling. It was only when she was sure that Hazel would not fall that Edith took a step back.

Neil clamped both her legs in his hands and looked up. "Don't worry. I won't let you fall. Just sit still and don't move around too much, alright?"

"Un. I know." Hazel nodded. She raised her head and was amazed at what she could see at such height. Her posture began to relax and the three of them continued to walk around until they have seen almost everything.

Once they had a late lunch at the hotel, the three of them returned to their room to rest.

Neil had sent Assistant Shawn to look for a few people to help Edith dress up for their evening while they were going out to accompany Hazel to the Science Center.

After taking a short break in the room, Edith was swiftly taken away to follow Assistant Shawn to get ready.

Seeing that the person who was supposed to accompany her for her afternoon nap was taken away, Hazel was dumbfounded.

It was only after her uncle had explained that he was going to take Edith out to attend a social gathering in the evening that Hazel began to relax.

"Don't worry," Neil said. "You won't be alone. Uncle Shawn will look after you while we were away."

Hazel hesitated. "When will you two return?" Her expression was as if she was worried that the two were going to leave her at the hotel.

"We should come back before midnight," Neil said. "Will you be alright to stay here with Uncle Shawn? If you're not alright with it, then, I will go alone and let Auntie Edith accompany you here."

Hazel sat down quietly as she considered the idea.

She did not want to be left alone at the hotel without both of them. After she was almost kidnapped, she did not have the courage to be anywhere without either her uncle or Auntie Edith.

But at the thought that Uncle Shawn will accompany her, Hazel thought that she would be able to part with them for a few hours. She has been staying with Nanny Ann while her uncle and auntie were at work. She should be alright to stay a few hours with Uncle Shawn. After all, this will not be the first time that her uncle had put her under Uncle Shawn's care.

Hazel nodded. "You can bring Auntie Edith with you. But you have to come back like you have promised, alright?"

His lips turned up into a smile. "I promise."

"Pinkie promise."

Neil locked his pinkie with Hazel's and spoke, "Pinkie Promise." He pulled the little girl into a hug and kissed the top of her head. "Thank you. Next morning, I will take you to the hotel's rooftop pool. I heard that scenery was very pretty."

"Un." Hazel nodded in agreement.

Neil took out a mobile phone and handed it over to Hazel. "Take this. You can call me or Auntie Edith whenever you want and we'll answer your call. Here, let me show you." Neil taught her how to use the phone and which number she should call in case of emergency. "Now, you give it a try. Call me."

Hazel pressed a few buttons and the phone call was quickly connected. Her eyes sparkled when she saw that she was able to contact her uncle quickly.

After a while, Hazel's sleepiness drifted away and she stayed by her uncle's side as the man assured her that everything would be fine.

The doorbell rang a while later and Assistant Shawn entered the room with a few dresses in his hands.

"President Mo, these are the dresses you asked for. You can look at them and choose."

"Thank you." Neil glanced at the dresses and turned to Hazel. "Which one do you think is good for Auntie Edith?"



Hazel tapped her fingers on her chin as she walked back and forth to study the dresses. After a while, she pointed her tiny fingers at the sleeveless, long soft gold dress. "I like this one.. This one looks the best."

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"What do you think?" Edith turned around slowly and looked at the little girl hesitantly.

Hazel climbed up the bed and watched Edith from head to toe. She asked her auntie to twirl around and finally nodded. "I knew it. Auntie Edith, this dress looked very nice on you."

"Really?" Edith tugged at her clothes, feeling a little uneasy with the dress.

She was used to pants and a comfy shirt as her job as a kindergarten teacher would require her to be flexible. The only time she would wear a dress like this was to attend a wedding.

The last time she attended a wedding was two years ago, right?

"If you don't believe me, then we can ask my uncle," Hazel said.

Edith looked at her reflection in the mirror in a daze. For a second, she was having a hard time believing that the person in the mirror was her. The people sent by Neil was definitely good at their job. Her makeup was light, but her lips were painted red. Her long hair was curled and swept to the left side, giving her an elegant look.

If her grandfather saw her at this time, he probably would not be able to recognize her.

Edith took a deep breath and turned to Hazel. "Then, I will get going now. If you need anything, you can call me or your uncle, alright?"

"Un. I know. Uncle had taught me how to make a phone call."

Edith heaved a sigh upon seeing the serious look on Hazel's expression.

The little girl was so confident that she would be alright, but right now, Edith was the overly worried one.

Edith patted Hazel on her hair and smiled. "Will you be alright staying here with Assistant Shawn? What should I do? I am very reluctant to leave you."

The little girl giggled happily and hugged her auntie tightly. "Auntie Edith, you should go and accompany my uncle. I will be alright. I'm a big girl and Uncle Shawn will stay with me. "

"Alright. Don't stay up too late. If you're feeling sleepy, you should go to bed earlier. I will accompany you to bed when I come back, alright."

"Un." Hazel nodded again.

After reassuring that Hazel would be fine, Edith finally walked out. Her gaze met with Neil the moment she stepped out. Her breath hitched at the way Neil was staring at her. His gaze was burning and Edith felt her body heating up.

"Do I look okay?" Edith tightened her grip on her dress before she quickly let go. A frown appeared on her face and Edith quickly looked away shyly. "Why... are you looking at me like that?"

His throat rolled as he continued to watch her.

Edith was clad in a floor-length sleeveless empire dress with a lace bodice. The dress was modest, but the way it was hugging her at all the right places was making him unable to stop his mind from running wild.

He had always known that Edith had a great figure. But to look at her dressed up prettily like this made his heartbeat escalated. She was a goddess. His goddess.

Neil stepped closer and stopped in front of her. He looked at her smooth shoulders and thought that the soft gold complimented her skin well. Hazel had definitely made a great choice.

He touched her chin gently, tilting her face up, making her look at him. "You're beautiful." His gaze stopped at her lips, and he fought the urge to kiss her moist lips. At this moment, Hazel was still watching them and he did not want to ruin her lipstick.

Edith bit back a smile. She looked at the man who was dressed in his formal attire in front of her and rested a hand on his chest. "Thank you. Well, you look handsome as well."

A chuckle escaped him. Neil suddenly thought that it would not be a bad idea to skip the event and instead, took this beautiful lady in front of him on a date.

"Didn't you say that we are meeting some important friends?" Edith asked.

It seemed that he had spoken out his thought out loud.

Assistant Shawn who was standing at the side was surprised at the way his boss was acting. This was the first time that she had seen him in a daze.

Countless women had tried to seduce him with their beauty before and Assistant Shawn was almost convinced that his boss was not interested in women when he never gave them any reaction.

It looks like President Mo could be weak against a beauty as well. Just that, it would depend on the person before he could show a reaction.

"Should we head out now?" Edith asked. "I haven't worn high heels for a long time. You have to support me so I won't fall."

Neil let her held on to his arms and the two finally left the hotel after giving a few reminders to Assistant Shawn and Hazel. Neil led her to the entrance and helped Edith into the vehicle he had rented.

Almost thirty minutes later, Neil finally pulled over the vehicle at a fancy club in the city center. He went over to the passenger's side and helped her to get off. Then, he passed the keys to the parking attendants.

He turned to look at Edith and noticed the way she was staring at the club's entrance with a slightly dazed expression. His lips tilted into a helpless smile.

How can he not know that his silly woman was worrying about what will happen as soon as they stepped into the building?

Neil patted at her hand and raised a brow when she turned to him. "Are you worried?"

Edith snapped out of her thoughts and smiled. "You are here, aren't you?"

A chuckle escaped him. "You are right. As long as I'm here, you shouldn't be worried."

Neil was about to lead her inside when his phone suddenly rang. At the thought that Hazel was calling him, Neil quickly swept his finger on the screen and pressed the phone to his ear.

"Hello?"

There was a silence on the other side.

Neil glanced at his phone and noted that it was an unfamiliar number. Just as he was about to hang up, Neil heard a strange noise. He asked Edith to wait for him and stepped aside for better reception.

"Hello?" Neil tried again.

"Neil! Neil, it was you!"

His expression grew dark upon hearing that familiar voice.

"No! No! Don't hang up. It's me, Amanda!"

"Miss Shen, I told you that we have nothing else to talk about. I have to trouble you not to call me again."

"Neil, I really need your help. Please! I—"

Neil pressed the red button before Amanda could finish what she wanted to say. He took a few deep breaths to compose himself. The moment he raised his head and saw the beautiful woman waiting for him, his bad mood suddenly disappeared.

He walked over to Edith and offered his arms. "Are you ready?"

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Edith held her breath as they stepped into the hall. Suddenly, it felt as if their surroundings turned quiet and everyone was turning their heads at them. Her heartbeat escalated and Edith started to get a little panic.

A warm palm clasped over hers and Edith tilted her head to meet Neil's smiling face. Her heart calmed down quickly and Edith tightened her grip on his arms.

Once he was sure that his silly woman was more at ease, Neil led her inside. The guests approached him to greet him while sending Edith a questioning look. Neil left the crowd and headed towards a corner where a group of young men gathered.

One of them noticed that Neil was heading over and quickly notified the others. Suddenly, the group of young men turned their heads to look at them. The man on the center walked over and patted Neil on his shoulder.

"I thought that my eyes were playing tricks on me. Neil Mo, I did not expect that you would really show up today," the man said.

"Thank you for your invitation, Matthew," Neil nodded.

The man called Matthew replied with a smile.

Everyone in their circle was aware that Neil Mo had rarely attended a social gathering such as this after his brother, Adam, passed away. They heard rumors that he was now looking after his niece and understood that it would not be easy for him to join them in their gathering.

Therefore, to see Neil appeared at the gathering with a pretty lady beside him was definitely something shocking.

"Let me introduce you," Neil glanced at the person beside him and smiled. "This is Edith Qian, my girlfriend. Edith, this is my friend, Matthew Liang."

Matthew looked at Edith from head to toe, scrutinizing her. As someone who often organized and attended a social gathering, Matthew Liang was someone who knew almost everyone. However, he did not think that he had seen the woman beside his friend in their circle before, and suddenly, Matthew was curious about Edith's identity.

His lips curled into a friendly smile and he stretched his hand for a handshake. "Miss Qian, it's a pleasure to meet you."

The handshake ended quickly as Matthew noticed his friend's displeased look.

"It was surprising to know that someone like Neil would find himself a girlfriend," Matthew joked. "Miss Qian, I hope that you will have a good time at this party. Feel free to eat or drink anything you like."

Edith nodded before she followed Neil's lead and was introduced to the group of young men. From Neil, she found out that this group of men were among his friends during his university years. Although everyone was now involved in different businesses and industries, they have not failed to keep in touch.

Neil was someone who did not enjoy a gathering like this, but he would attend this gathering at least once a year. Fortunately, his company was based in L City and he had reasons not to attend the gathering frequently.

Seeing that the men were starting to discuss business, Matthew's fiancée, Clara, walked over and invited Edith to hang out together as they enjoyed the food.

"Will you be fine?" Neil frowned when he heard his girlfriend's agreement.

He had promised that he will be around her all the time and was not expecting that she would agree.

"I'll just look around to pick up something to eat. What can happen to me?" Edith laughed upon seeing the frown on his face gotten deeper. "I promise I would not go far away."

Neil nodded, reluctantly. "Just stay where I can see you, alright?"

The men stared at their friends in surprise as they overheard the couple's conversation. None of them expected that they would have the chance to see Neil Mo turn into a protective boyfriend.

Edith went with Clara to the buffet table and Edith began to choose a few light dishes and sampled them.

Clara was saying something when Edith decided to check on Neil. A look of surprise appeared on her face as their gaze met. Edith was not expecting that Neil would be looking at her. Slowly, her lips curled into a shy smile.

"I've met President Mo a few times while I was with Matthew," Clara said. "But this is the first time I have seen President Mo with that look on his face. It seemed that your relationship was pretty good."

Edith smiled at her words.

"I don't know I should tell you this, but, President Mo had a famous nickname. Almost everyone in the circle knew of this name."

"Let me guess. Iceblock Mo?"

Clara gasped. "How did you know?"

"I've heard about it from others," Edith admitted.

The two of them began to talk about this nickname and soon changed their topic to something else.

After chatting with Clara for a while and found that the woman was someone easy to get along with. At least she did not look down at someone like her.

At the thought that Neil has not eaten anything for diner, Edith began to choose a few dishes that would suit his taste. However, just as she was about to head back, a familiar figure walked over and stopped in front of her.

"I did not expect to see you here."

Edith looked at the woman in front of her and wonder if it was the famous scene where a rich heiress come to harass her for dating someone over her league.

"Miss Feng," Edith greeted and smiled. "I did not expect to see you here as well."

Autumn Feng gave Edith a lookover and scoffed. "Just because you are dressed prettily like this does not make you someone from an upper class."

She was standing near Matthew Liang and his friends when she saw Neil. Autumn had wanted to greet Neil when she noticed that the man was with another woman. She had almost storm over to claw the woman's face when she heard Neil introduced her as his girlfriend.

Neil Mo was someone who would treat almost anyone coldly. She had never seen him with a woman before and was almost convinced that Neil was someone who had no interest in a woman.

Seeing the way that woman was able to converse with someone like Neil and Matthew drove her insane with jealousy.

It was after watching that woman for a long time that Autumn began to realize that she had seen the woman beside Neil before. Her eyes widened when she realized that the woman was no other than Hazel's caretaker!

A mere caretaker had appeared at a prestigious social gathering such as this and was introduced as Neil's girlfriend!

Autumn was sure that this woman had used her position as Hazel's caretaker to seduce Neil!

Clara glanced at the two women and was at ease upon seeing that Edith and Autumn knew each other. However, her expression began to change when she heard Autumn's words. "Miss Feng, I don't appreciate you saying something like this to my friend."

Autumn bit her lips angrily. Although she wanted to say something to retort, Autumn knew that she was not someone who could go against Matthew Liang's fiance. Moreover, this social gathering was organized by Matthew. If she had accidentally provoked his fiance, there was a big chance that she would never have the chance to step into this kind of social gathering again.

"Miss Feng, it seemed that you have a problem with me," Edith said.

"Yes. You are not worthy as Neil Mo's girlfriend!"

Edith raised a brow. "And who are you to decide whether I am worthy or not? Are you Neil's mother? Whether I am someone worthy of him was not something someone like you should decide.. I don't know how your thinking work, but in my opinion, as long as he likes me, I will always be someone worthy of him."

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Of course, Edith's words infuriated Autumn Feng to another level.

But at the thought that her boyfriend has not eaten anything ever since they stepped into the building, Edith chose to ignore that woman and walked away with the plate in her hand.

She could still remember that Sophie had once told her how Neil was once hospitalized due to a bad gastric problem. She was worried that her boyfriend was going to suffer later for skipping his meal.

Seeing that the caretaker tried to run, Autumn tried to grab her arms. However, Autumn soon found that all she could grab was the empty air. With Edith swiftly moving away, Autumn had almost stumbled in her high heels. Just before she was about to fall flat on her face, Autumn felt someone held her on her waist, stopping her before she could fall.

Turning around, Autumn found that Edith was looking at her with a smile on her face.

The two women stood face to face and the crowd who noticed this little commotion turned their heads in the hope to see an exciting scene.

"Miss Feng, you should be careful," Edith said before she slowly released her arm around Autumn. She took a step back as she balanced the plate of food in her other hand. "Or else, you might sprain your ankle."

Autumn blinked, dumbfounded. It was not until Edith and Clara were far enough that she finally registered what was going on.

No matter how upset she was at the moment, Autumn knew that she should not do anything brash as the crowd was still watching her, waiting for a good show. It was hard enough for her to use her connection to come over at this social gathering. She could not do anything that would put her friends in shame, or else she definitely would lose her chance to come again.

Clara rushed over to catch up with Edith and gave her two thumbs up. "That was awesome!"

Edith laughed at her comment.

An embarrassed smile curled on Clara's lips. "I hope you would not take Miss Feng's words to heart."



"Miss Feng was just someone who was unrelated to me. I won't take her words to heart," Edith said.

Edith was someone who grew up without her parents. Because of that, she often heard a lot of hurtful words from the people around her. That was also the reason she had often fought verbally and physically with others. As she grew up, Edith decided that she was not going to get hurt by those unkind words again.

Seeing that Edith was not affected by Autumn's words, Clara was more at ease.

The two girls walked over to the corner where the boys were still catching up. Just as Edith reached Neil's side, the man had already taken the plate off her hand before he went to check on her.

"What's wrong?" Edith blinked. Her look showed her confusion at her boyfriend's strange behavior. When their gaze met, Edith quickly noticed Neil's darkened expression.

Although he was far away, Neil has been keeping his eyes on his girlfriend. He had seen how Autumn Feng approached his girlfriend and their exchange. He was the way the two women stood close to each other and he was upset at what Autumn was about to do to Edith.

"Are you alright?" Neil asked.

Edith flashed him a smile. "I'm alright." Her hands caressed his arms up and down to soothe his mood. Seconds later, the frown on his face gradually disappeared.

"You brought you some food, " Edith said, trying to shift his attention. "Don't just drink. Have something to eat as well."

Seeing that there was nothing wrong with Edith, Neil finally let out a sigh. However, the next second, Neil wrapped his arms around her waist and refused to let her go for a second as if fearing that something bad would happen to her later.

Edith was not expecting her boyfriend to be this overprotective.

Neil's friends looked at each other in disbelief. The majority of them were single and therefore, watching how Neil Mo, an iceblock, acting affectionately with his girlfriend was too much.

After spending more than an hour with his friends, Neil finally pulled Edith to leave. Anyway, he could always use Hazel as his excuse to leave the party early.

"What did Miss Feng say to you?" Neil asked the moment they entered the car.

Neil had a little bit of drink with his friends and therefore, Edith was assigned the task to drive back to their hotel. After checking at the navigation system, Edith turned to her boyfriend and smiled. "What do you think?"

The last time she had visited his office, Edith had overheard gossips that Miss Feng was after him and he had caught a whiff of jealousy coming from his girlfriend.

Neil had worked with Autumn for a few years and had heard how displeasing her words can be. At the thought that Autumn said a few words to his girlfriend, Neil was worried.

"Did she said something that upset you?"

Edith studied her boyfriend's expression for a while before she turned to start driving back to their hotel. "She said that I am not worthy of you."

"Don't listen to her," Neil said quickly.

A chuckle escaped her. She glanced at Neil and then, back at the road. "I know. I won't let her words affect me."

"Edith Qian, you are good enough for me."

Her lips curled into a smile and Edith chose to keep silent and focus on her driving.

When they arrived at the hotel, it was an hour before midnight and Hazel was already sleeping in the room.

Edith entered the bedroom she shared with Hazel as Neil spoke with Assistant Shawn in the living area.

A soft smile appeared on her lips upon seeing Hazel's peaceful sleeping face.

Edith stretched her hand to caress the little girl's soft face and tuck her into bed. Then, she took out her pajama and walked into the bathroom to remove her makeup and wash up.

After half an hour, Edith walked out in her usual oversized T-shirt and pants. Her hand was holding a towel as she dried her hair. Edith sat down at the vanity table and reached for the hairdryer.

Just as she was about to turn it on, Edith turned to look at the sleeping girl on the bed and paused. She stood up again and walked out of the room with a towel in one hand, and her phone in the other.

The living room was quiet when she came out. Edith glanced at the door across her and figured that Neil might have already gone to bed at this time.

Edith sat down and leaned on the armrest of the wing chair. Her hand moved as she continued to dry her hair while browsing some news on her phone.

"Why don't you dry your hair properly?"

Edith looked up from her phone and found that Neil was staring at her with a hint of displeasure.

"What if you catch a cold?"

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Edith sat up properly and looked at the man in front of her. "Hazel is asleep. I don't want the noise from the hairdryer to wake her up."

"Can't you take the hairdryer and dry your hair here?"

"The hairdryer is attached to the wall. How can I take it out?"

To avoid guests from stealing their hairdryers, hotels have started to attach them to the wall and therefore guests were unable to take them around. They can only use them where the hotel had left them.

Neil heaved a sigh when he realized that it was indeed the problem. "Come with me. Use the hairdryer in my room." He saw the hesitation in her eyes and continued, "It will take a long time for your hair to dry like that. Are you not planning to head to bed sooner?"

Edith hesitated, then she stood up and walked into his room. She looked around and noticed the little difference between their room. Although the decoration was almost the same, Neil's room was a bit smaller.

This man had let them take the master room and used the smaller one.

"Sit down."

Edith turned around and saw that Neil was standing by the vanity table with a hairdryer in his hand. She tilted her head sideways and laughed. "President Mo, are you going to help me dry my hair?"

"Why not?"

Edith eyed the hairdryer in his hand and shrugged. "Well then, I am not going to let this rare chance pass." She sat down and turned. "You can start now."

A chuckle escaped him. Seconds later, the hairdryer whirred and Neil combed her hair with his fingers. From the way he was working her hair clumsily, Edith was able to tell that he was not used to doing tasks like this.

Her lips subconsciously curled into a happy smile.

"My hair is a little long. It would take you a long time to help it dry," Edith spoke after a few minutes of silence between them. "Let me do it."

"It's fine. It will be over soon."

The sound from the hairdryer coupled with the way Neil was caressing her hair softly was starting to make her drowsy.

A while later, the sound finally stopped.

"It's done."

His voice snapped her out of her daze and Edith tilted her head up and met Neil's gaze through the mirror. Shyly, Edith lowered her gaze.

Neil placed the hairdryer back on the table and continued to run his fingers in her hair. Edith's hair felt very soft in his hands and he found himself addicted to playing with them. After a while, he gathered her hair to her left side, just like the way the hairdresser had styled her hair earlier for that social gathering.

His gaze stopped at her exposed neck and his throat rolled. Instinctively, his head lowered and his lips touched her skin.

Her neck recoiled at the sudden contact. Edith giggled and turned her head to look at the man behind her. "Don't do that. It's ticklish." Edith rubbed at the spot and stood up. "Thank you." She smiled. "That was a great hair drying service." Noticing the strange atmosphere between them, Edith quickly added, "I should go to bed now." She leaned in and pecked at his lips. "Good night, Neil."

Before she was able to leave, the man had hugged her from behind and rested his chin on her shoulder.

Neil snuggled to get into a comfortable position and tightened his embrace around her waist. "Are you really alright?"

Edith blinked, not understanding the reason behind his sudden question.

"The thing that Miss Feng had said to you, I hope that you won't listen to them," Neil said.

Earlier, he had told her that she was good enough for him. When Edith did not answer, Neil had thought that Edith was minding Autumn Feng's words. It was not that long ago when they have talked about insecurities.

He had reminded her that as long as they are together, there would always be voices telling her that they were not compatible. It was just that... Neil had not expected Edith to hear them the first time he had bought her to a social gathering.

This social gathering was something that was organized by his good friends. He had asked Edith to come with him to let her step into his world and build her confidence. He wanted her to get used to it as she would have to attend to them again sooner or later.

But with the way Autumn had behaved, Neil was worried that his silly girl would have a weird thought in her mind. Perhaps he should consider punishing Miss Fang when they return.

Edith released his arms around her waist and turned around to look at him. Her arms rested on his shoulders and looped at his neck. "I'm really fine. Miss Feng was just unrelated to us. I don't mind her gibberish."

Neil continued to stare at her as if he did not believe in her words. His eyes continued to look into hers as if searching for something.

"Darling, you don't trust me?"

"It's not a matter of trusting. I was more afraid that you would choose to hide things from me."

They said words can cut deeper than a sword. What if Autumn's words hurt her deeply and his silly woman would change her mind about dating him. It was hard for him to find someone he was comfortable with to be his girlfriend. What if this silly woman run away? Wouldn't he have to stay single then?

Edith tiptoed to peck him at the corner of his lips. "I am not hiding anything from you. I assure you. Miss Feng's words would not affect me. I already knew that you are someone out of my league."

Neil held her waist tighter and he did not hide his unhappiness upon hearing her words.

"But as long as you think that I am good enough to stay with you then, I am contented." Edith smiled, tightening her hands to hold him. "I am dating someone with looks, money and would treat other women coldly except for me. Why would I let him go? I am not that silly."

Seeing the bright light in her eyes, Neil finally believed that his girlfriend was telling him the truth. "You are right. I will treat everyone else coldly except for you." Neil swept strands of hair behind her ears and leaned in to give her a sweet kiss.

Feeling his lips against hers, Edith started to reciprocate, enjoying the way his lips moving against hers.

His hand moved behind her neck while he continued to kiss her deeply. This kiss... It was as if he was taking his time to let her know how much she means to him.

A gasp escaped her when she felt his warm hand slipped into her shirt and rested on her waist. His thumb caressed her stomach as he continued to kiss her, making her dizzy with an unfamiliar emotion.

After a while, Neil move back and stared at her. His eyes were dark and it was sucking her into it. Edith found that she was unable to look away.

"Edith." His voice was low and a little raspy. His throat rolled as he tried to suppress his emotion.

The first time he had felt this way, they were in his office. And again, when she had refused to let him go while she was drunk. Neil did not think that he would be able to suppress this urge again for the third time.

He hesitated for a long time before he finally asked, "I wanted to make love with you. Will you let me?"

Her eyes widened and Edith could feel her heart was beating furiously against her ribcage. Her face reddened at his question, but the man's eyes only grew deeper as he waited for her answer.

Edith bit at her lower lips, contemplating her decision. After a moment that seemed like an eternity, her arms around his neck loosened and the man could not hide the disappointment in his gaze.

Just as he was about to take a step back and calm down, Edith had grabbed the front of his shirt and kissed his lips.

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**WARNING:** This is a snu snu chapter. Read at your own discretion.

Edith found herself gasping for breaths and a little whimper came out as she tried to shifted her body into a comfortable position.

It took her a while until she was able to breathe normally. Her eyes were shut tightly and she was biting at her lips as she tried to calm down after that exciting experience.

It was her first time, the man was gentle and it was not as painful as she had thought. Perhaps it was a little uncomfortable and sore at the beginning, but after a while, her mind goes blank and she was unable to focus on anything other than to remind herself to keep on breathing.

After a while, she felt as if she had risen to the cloud. The feeling was amazing and she had enjoyed the moment.

But now that the feeling had subsided, all she felt was exhaustion.

At this time, her back was facing him and her head was resting on his arms. Neil wrapped his other hand around her waist and pulled her body close to him. Edith could feel the way his hard chest pressing against her back but was too lazy to move around.

Her neck shrank when she felt his breath tickling her before he planted his kisses on her shoulder. The person behind her continued to spoon her. His lips were trailing kisses on her back and his hands played with her hair as if trying to soothe her.

Edith continued to shut her eyes as she still needed some time to regain her strength.

A thought suddenly came to her mind and Edith groaned.

"What's wrong?" Neil asked. His voice sounded deeper and enticing as he was just beside her ear. "Are you uncomfortable?"

When she did not answer him, Neil moved to rain his kisses on her shoulder and neck.

"No. That's not it." Edith mumbled tiredly. She shifted her shoulders, feeling that his kisses were starting to tickle her. "It was just that, I don't know how I should be facing Hazel from now on."

"What do you mean?"

Her eyes snapped open and her gaze was looking at the tightly closed curtains. "I've slept with her uncle." Edith groaned. "Somehow, that felt weird."

A chuckle escaped him. "Then what about me? I've slept with her teacher. Doesn't that sound weirder and immoral? Hmm... I think it sounds exciting. Teacher Qian, what if we were caught by your favorite student doing a naughty thing like this?"

Edith burst into a giggle before the room silent again. "I should return to my bedroom. Hazel would panic if she did not see me when she woke up. I told her that I will accompany her to sleep."

Neil tightened his embrace on her. "Just stay here and rest. I will wake you up and you can go back to your bedroom before Hazel woke up."

"Alright," Edith immediately agreed. Just as she was about to close her eyes to sleep, Edith felt the hand that was resting on her stomach started to move up to her chest. His palm cupped her chest and he kept on kneading them softly as if enjoying the softness in his hand.

Of course, Edith did not know that her boyfriend had dreamed about touching her soft mound in his sleep before. The next day he woke up, he was unable to focus on his job because he kept on thinking about his dream.

Now that he was able to feel her softness in his hand, Neil was unable to stop.

The feeling of her chest in his hand felt very comfortable. Neil thought that he loved the way his palm cupped her breast perfectly. Her chest was just the right size for him to hold.

"I always knew that you have an amazing body," Neil whispered.

Her face reddened upon hearing his words. Edith covered her face with both hands and wished that she could hide away. How can this man say something this embarrassing to her at a time like this?

"Neil..." Edith gasped when she felt something hard poking at her butt. Her eyes shut tightly and Edith bit at her lips, knowing very well what was happening to her boyfriend.

She tried to twist her body to get away, but she was too tired to move around and Neil had used this chance to tightened his grip around her body.

Edith thought that if it was not because she had lost her strength, trying to get away from Neil would not be so hard.

Suddenly, Neil leaned to rain his kisses on her neck and ear, causing her to shrunk her neck. His kisses were starting to get ticklish and her breathing grew heavier as it was starting to arouse her.

Edith sighed, feeling the way his hands moved on her body.

One of his hands was massaging her chest. His fingers flicked at the bud on top of her peak. Occasionally his mouth would find her breast as he continued to tease her.



The other slipped between her legs. His fingers were touching her buds and moving further down into a slow, torturous movement inside her. It was driving her crazy.

His mouth was whispering sweet love words to her ear.

Her hands gripped the hand that was between her legs. But suddenly, Edith did not know whether it was to stop him from touching her or to keep his hand there so that he could continue giving her pleasure.

Her cheek flushed, her eyes shut tightly while her lips parted to catch up with her breath as Edith focused on the way he made her feel. Her mind blacked out as she was drowning in that waving sensation.

Edith burst a cry of ecstasy before her body gradually relaxed.

"Baby," Neil nibble at her ear. "I need you again."

A whimper escaped her as Edith felt his length entering her again. She latched to his arms as Neil continued to hit her at the same spot. Her body was very sensitive due to his touch. The tension was building in her and her lips parted as she let out soft moans.

Neil moved to find her lips and his tongue plundered into hers as they were both focusing on the pleasure they brought to each other.

After a while, their kiss parted and Neil pulled away from her body. Changing their position, he then entered her again and started to move inside her again, this time, a little quicker.

Suddenly, something in her head exploded and cries of pleasure escaped her. Her thoughts faded and Edith thought that she was unable to feel or hear anything around her.

Neil gave one last thrust before he buried himself into her and finally stopped moving.

The two of them stayed quiet in each other's embrace as they tried to steady their breathing.

The last thing that Edith felt before she drifted into dreamland, was Neil's gentle kisses on her eyes and forehead.

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Hazel woke up that morning and found that she was alone in a strange room. It took her a while before she was able to recall that she was visiting the city with her uncle and auntie.

A frown appeared on her face when she found that the person who was supposed to accompany her to sleep was not in the bed. Hazel turned her head towards the curtain and found that they were tightly shut. She did not know whether it was still dark outside or whether it was already in the morning.

Climbing off the bed with the help of the bedside light, Hazel then walked over towards the door to find Uncle Shawn.

Surprisingly, the person who was sitting in the living area was her uncle.

Neil looked up when he heard the door creaked open. After a while, the little girl appeared in her pink pajama.

"Uncle!" Hazel called out in surprise. "You came back."

"Un." Neil nodded. "We came back last night and you have already gone to bed. Did you sleep well?"

Hazel looked around the room and her gaze finally stopped at her uncle again. "But, where is Auntie Edith?"

Neil coughed upon hearing the question. "Auntie Edith was feeling unwell last night. She was afraid that she will disturb your sleep. Therefore, I asked her to sleep in my room."

Hazel looked at her uncle who was holding a tablet in his hand. "Then, did you sleep out here alone?"

His lips stretched up into a smile and Neil decided not to answer that question.

Last night, he and Edith had slept together. After that intense activity between them, Edith was too exhausted and Neil did not have the heart to wake her up, even though Edith had reminded him to wake her up before Hazel.

In the end, after waking up in the morning, Neil decided to wait in the living area lest Hazel would worry when she did not see either of them.

"Did you want to go for a swim?" Neil asked in his attempt to change the subject. "I did say that I will take you to the rooftop pool. The scenery up there is beautiful."

"Then, what about Auntie Edith?"

"We'll let her sleep for a few more hours," Neil said. "By the time we came back from the pool, she will wake up and join us for breakfast."

Hazel turned her gaze towards the closed door across her and pondered over her uncle's suggestion. After a while, she nodded. "Okay. Let's go for a swim and wake Auntie Edith for breakfast."

Neil heaved a sigh at her words. He walked over to his niece and patted at her hair. "Then, you go and change first. Do you need my help?"

Hazel shook her head. "No. I can do it myself." She thought for a moment and continued, "I will call for you if I needed your help."

Neil watched as his niece returned to her room and waited for a few seconds before he turned around and entered his room.

His gaze turned soft upon seeing a sleeping figure in his bed. At this time, Edith was sleeping on her sides with her long hair was covering half of her face. The duvet was pulled down slightly, exposing her shoulders and back to him.

Neil stepped forward to tuck her in but paused when he saw the marks on her skin. It hasn't been long since he had left them there and the marks were still red.

It seemed that perhaps, he had been slightly rough last night.

Looking at the scene in front of him, his gaze turned a few shades darker.

He was suddenly reminded of what happened last night and could not help but recall the way it felt when they became one.

His throat rolled and after a brief hesitation, Neil pulled the duvet to cover her exposed shoulders.

The person under the duvet stirred in her sleep. Edith turned her body slightly and whimpered at the soreness all over her body.

"Are you awake?" Neil sat down at the edge of the bed and tucked her hair away from her face.

Edith buried her face on the pillow. "No. Let me sleep a little while longer. I'm tired." Her eyes opened up to a slit and she was shooting daggers at the person who had made her tired to the point that she did not have the energy to lift her legs.

Seeing her accusation gaze, Neil could only smile guiltily at her. "I'm sorry." He bent to kiss her cheek and his hand moved to give a light massage on her waist.

"What time is it?" Edith asked. "What about Hazel? Has she woken up?"

"Hazel is awake." He saw that she was about to sit up and pressed his hand on her shoulder. "Relax. Hazel is fine. I told her that you were feeling unwell and needed a few more hours to rest.

Edith heaved a breath of relief and continued to lay down on the bed.

"I am going to take Hazel to the swimming pool on the rooftop," Neil said. "Do you want to come?"

Edith hesitated. She had told the little girl that she was going to accompany her to sleep last night and had not stuck to her words. Edith had thought about using this chance to make up for her, but she was too exhausted to move around.

"Just stay here and rest," Neil said when he noticed her conflicted expression. "Later when we return, let's have breakfast together, alright?"

Edith shut her eyes and nodded slowly. She felt him running his finger in her hair and his soft kiss on her temple before he stood up and left to find Hazel.

When Edith woke up again, the suite was very quiet. She recalled the words that Neil had told her earlier and stood up to head over to the bathroom.

Her legs weakened just as her feet touched the ground. Edith took her time to steady herself and walked into the bathroom.

A gasp escaped her as she saw the marks on her body. Edith gritted her teeth and muttered a few cursing words before she took a shower and refreshed herself.

Hazel and Neil were going to return from the pool soon and Edith did not want to let Hazel see her in her condition.

The uncle and niece returned to the suite just as Edith had come out from the room.

Hazel stared at her with her bright eyes and ran straight to hug her. "Auntie Edith!" She pulled away seconds later and looked at Edith with worry. "Are you alright? Uncle said that you were feeling unwell."

Edith coughed and glanced at Neil. "Well, I did not feel too well last night. Sorry. I did not accompany you to bed."

"It's okay. As long as you are feeling better now."

"Thank you, Hazel."

"But, Auntie Edith, you need to drink a lot of water. Your voice sounded a bit hoarse. Did you have a sore throat?"

Hearing the little girl's question, Edith's face turned slightly pink. The reason for her hoarse voice... was it not because someone had made her scream a little bit too much last night?

Edith shot another angry glance at her boyfriend.

Hazel put her hand on Edith's forehead when she noticed that her face had turned red. "You don't have a fever." Hazel heaved with relief.. "But you still need to eat your medicine before your condition gets worst."

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Ever since they have returned from their weekend trip to Capital City, Assistant Shawn began to notice a few changes in his boss. For example, he was more energetic and diligent at work.

The speed he used to check on the documents he read was even faster. President Mo was in a good mood and Assistant Shawn was allowed to leave the office on time for the first time since he began to work as President Mo's assistant.

This situation has been going on for a few days.

Those people from President Mo's secretarial department found that this situation was strange and decided to ask Assistant Shawn about this matter. However, Assistant Shawn too was puzzled over this new change.

It was not that he had never thought about asking his boss about his good mood. The last time he asked, President Mo only replied to him with an ambiguous smile.

Of course, Assistant Shawn was not aware that someone else was having a hard time behind the scene.

After their relationship was brought to another level, Edith found that there was one shameless person who would often sneak into her bedroom around midnight.

The first time he snuck into her room, Neil had told her that he only wanted to hug her to sleep. Seeing the look that he had learned from Hazel, Edith's heart grew softer and she had let him off. As long as he could wake up and leave before Hazel woke up and caught him in her room, Edith thought that she could yield to his request.

But who knew that this 'hugging to sleep' could soon turn into something else?

Although Edith could always throw this person off her bed, she was too weak against his seduction.

His gentle caress felt good and soon, it aroused her. By the time she regained her mind, they have already rolled around the sheet and she was panting to catch up her breath while contemplating her life.

The same thing had been going on for two days straight, and Edith had no other choice but to warn him that he could only hug her to sleep and not move his hands around her body.

Seeing his girlfriend's upset face, Neil finally chose to be obedient and only hug her to sleep without doing anything else. Even so, Neil found that it was a good thing to have someone he could hug to sleep.

The sweet scent and the warm temperature of the person who was sleeping beside him had helped him to get a good night's sleep and the next day, he would appear at the office with full vigor.

Assistant Shawn closed the door behind him and take a look at the documents in his hand again.

Earlier, President Mo had noticed the minor typo he made on the agreement. Instead of throwing the documents to the floor in anger, President Mo had gently reminded him to fix them and bring the file back to him before the end of the day.

It was strange and Assistant Shawn thought that he could not get used to this change.

Just as he was heading to his table, Assistant Shawn received a call from the security department that someone was heading up to President Mo's office. Hearing the name, Assistant Shawn's expression brightened up, and quickly went over to the elevator to wait.

A while later, the elevator door slid open and Assistant Shawn flashed a bright smile on his face. "Teacher Qian. I hope that you did not run into a problem on your way here."

Edith thought over his words and chuckled. "I did not run into Manager Feng today."

Assistant Shawn touched the tip of his nose and smiled. "A few days ago, President Mo had sent Manager Feng to another city to attend a seminar. If I am not mistaken, Manager Feng will only return after a month."

Her eyes widened at his words. Edith had wanted to joke with Assistant Shawn by mentioning Manager Feng as that woman had tried to make things hard for her the last time she came to the company to meet Neil.

"Is President Mo in his office?"

Assistant Shawn nodded. "He's reading some documents in his office. Teacher Qian, you can just walk into his office." He glanced at Edith and coughed. "Recently, President Mo has been in a good mood. Teacher Qian, I wonder if you have something to do with this change?"

Edith blinked before she burst into a laugh. "Assistant Shawn, are you sure that you are not thinking too much?"

"Of course not. The company was preparing for year-end account closing next month. Usually, President Mo would get very irritated around this time, but he has been in a very good mood."

Edith pondered over his words and shook her head. "I am sure that it was not because of me. How can I be someone that powerful?"

The two of them exchange a few words before Edith stood in front of Neil's office. She knocked on the door and entered when she heard his voice.

Neil looked up when he noticed that the footsteps did not belong to Assistant Shawn. The moment he saw the person he has been thinking about, Neil's expression brightened up. He stood up from his seat and walked over to meet her in the middle.

He gave a peck on her forehead and his arms intuitively wrapped around her waist to pull her closer to him. "Why are you here?"

Edith tilted her head sideways. "I cannot be here?"

A chuckle escaped him. "That is not what I meant."

"Well, someone said that he hoped to see me coming over at my own initiative and give him a surprise." Edith poked a finger on his chest. "Do you like this surprise?"

He replied to her with a deep kiss. Neil pulled away only when he was satisfied with the kiss.

Edith lowered her gaze shyly as she scolded herself for going with the flow every time his lips met with hers. Edith thought that she needed to figure out something to control herself or else, she might be at a disadvantage.

"I get off work early today and brought you some snacks."

"Hmm..." He gazed at her reddened face. "I think this snack is quite sweet. I like it."

Edith looked at the man and slapped at his chest when she understood his words. "Shameless."

His laughter echoed in the room and Neil followed after Edith to the sofa. He looked at the box of pastry and blinked his eyes at her. "Feed me."

Her gaze was shooting daggers at him, but her hand moved to grab the pastries in the box to feed him.

The two of them chatted about her day in kindergarten as Edith continued to feed her boyfriend with snacks.

At this time, someone knocked at the door.

A displeased look flashed on Neil's face before he permitted that person to enter.

Seconds later, Assistant Shawn showed up at the door with an anxious look on his face.. "President Mo, the police are here to see you."

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A frown appeared on Neil's face before he glanced at Edith. "The police? What did they want?" Neil stood up. "Is it related to Adam?"

It was not too long ago that his brother, Adam, and his sister-in-law, Clare, passed away in an accident. A few days after their death, there were reports that their accident was premeditated. Since then, Neil has been cooperating with the police to find out the truth.

However, the police could not find out many clues to prove that the allegation was true. The case was at a stalemate and Neil had to ask his friend, Henry Wu to investigate them secretly.

"No. It seemed that they are here to find a missing person," Assistant Shawn said. "The detectives are here to ask you a few questions. They hope that you can spend a few minutes and cooperate."

"A missing person? Did they tell you who?"



"It's Miss Amanda Shen." Assistant Shawn hesitated when his boss became silent. "President Mo, should I bring them to the meeting room? Or should I tell them to come again later?"

Neil snapped out of his thought. "No. Just bring them here to my office."

"Yes, President Mo." Assistant Shawn nodded and retreated silently from the room.

The frown on Neil's face deepened as the door close.

Amanda Shen has gone missing and Neil could not help but wonder what had happened to his ex-girlfriend.

Suddenly, Neil recalled the phone call that he had received from Amanda a few days ago. He was attending the social gathering in Capital City when he received her call. Her tone of voice was anxious as she had asked for his help but he had hung up on her.

Neil grew anxious at the thought that something might happen to Amanda that night.

Although the two had broken up years ago and he was still angry at the way she had cheated on him, it does not mean that he wanted anything bad to happen to her.

"Neil, should I leave and come back later?" Edith asked after noticing the long silence.

She had listened to the conversation between Neil and Assistant Shawn and thought that Neil would not want her to be around by the time the police came to talk to him.

Neil turned his head to his girlfriend and his expression immediately softened. "No. It's fine. Just stay here with me."

Edith hesitated before she finally nodded. She watched as Neil sat down beside her and reached to hold his hand. "Are you alright?" Her expression showed her concern.

Neil flashed her an assuring smile. "I'm fine." He patted at her hand and said, "The police are just going to ask some questions. There is nothing to worry about."

"I know. I am not worried."

She was raised by her grandfather who was also a police officer. After a few years of spending her time with her grandfather and his men, it would be impossible for her not to know the procedure.

"That Amanda Shen that Assistant Shawn had mentioned... was she the same Supermodel Amanda Shen?" Edith asked. "We ran into her the last time you took me and Haze to that private kitchen."

"Hmm."

"But, why would the police look for you to find Miss Shen?" Her tone was soft and cautious. There was doubt in her expression as she tried to guess at her boyfriend's relationship with that supermodel.

The last time they run into Miss Shen, the two of them had acted as if they were not familiar with each other.

"We've dated before," Neil admitted.

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Two police officers walked into the office after Assistant Shawn. They flashed their badges and introduced themselves as Detective Ryan Su and Stephen Yao.

Neil gestured them to sit and asked Secretary An to prepare some refreshments for the detectives.

Then, Neil sat across the detectives with Edith by his side.

"President Mo, I believe that your assistant had mentioned to you the reason for our visit today," Detective Ryan Su spoke the same time Secretary An entered the office with a tray of tea.

"Yes." Neil nodded. "I was told that Miss Amanda Shen has gone missing. What can I help you with?"

"President Mo, can you tell us what is your relationship with Miss Shen?" Detective Ryan asked.

"We've dated a while ago and broken up," Neil answered. "That was two years ago."

"Miss Shen is pretty with a good reputation in her industry. Why did you two break up?"

"Will this question help you with finding Miss Shen?" Neil replied to Detective Ryan's question with another question.

The detective merely smiled before he turned the pages of his notebook. "Miss Shen has been reported missing by her housemate a few days ago. According to her housemate, Miss Shen was last seen leaving the apartment they shared the last Friday. According to Miss Shen's call log, the last person she had talked to was with you, President Mo. And that was," he paused to check at the scribbling on his notebook, "last Saturday."

"Yes. Miss Shen had called me that Saturday evening."

"Can you tell me what did the two of you talk about?" Detective Stephan asked.

"We did not talk about anything," Neil said, turning his head to look at the other detective. "I warned her not to call me again as I have no intention to get along with her again. I hung up before she could say anything. If you check the call log, you will notice that the call lasted for only a few seconds."

"You seem pretty mad about your breakup," Detective Ryan pointed.

Edith shot a dagger look at the detective, knowing very well what he was trying to insinuate.

"Detective, what are you trying to imply?" Neil asked. There was a hint of irritation in his tone.

"I am thinking that perhaps the break up with Miss Shen upset you. You two were last seen together at Mr. Mark Wang's party. Perhaps, your encounter with Miss Shen a while ago had ignited your anger."

Neil chuckled at his words. "You think I have something to do with Miss Shen's disappearance?"

"It could be." Detective Ryan shrugged. "That is what we are trying to investigate. Right. Can you tell me where were you last Sunday at around nine to ten p.m.?"

Neil heaved an impatient sigh. "I was in Capital City. I went to Capital City last Saturday with my niece and my girlfriend. I was attending a social gathering with a few friends when Miss Shen gave me a call that evening. My flight back was on Sunday, at eleven p.m. Around nine to ten p.m, I was still in Capital City's airport along with my girlfriend, my niece, and my assistant. Detective, you can check with them as well as the security camera at the airport."

The two detectives' expression changed slightly upon hearing Neil's alibi.

"I am willing to help you with your investigation to find Miss Shen," Neil said.. "But detective, I don't appreciate it if you are here to accuse me of doing something I did not do."

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The two detectives left after asking Neil a few more questions.

After they left, Neil sat down on the sofa and rubbed his temple. Noticing the quiet atmosphere, Neil turned to Edith and saw that she was sitting across him with her arms crossed on her chest and she was in deep thought.

Looking at her serious expression, Neil let out a chuckle. "What are you thinking about?"

Edith turned to his voice and her expression relaxed. "Just something that the detectives had said."

Neil stood up and walked over to his girlfriend. He pecked at her cheek and smiled. "Don't think too much about it. I have told them what I know. It will be up to those detectives to look for Miss Shen."

Edith sat up straight and looked into Neil's eyes. "Darling, don't you think that it was a little strange?"

"What is?" He tucked a few strands of hair behind her ear.

"Miss Shen was missing and it was understandable that they would ask you questions as you were the last person they talked to according to her call log," Edith said. "But, why did they ask your whereabouts last Sunday?"

She could not stop recalling the detectives' strange expression upon hearing Neil's alibi. Her intuition was telling her that the detectives were hiding something important from them.

Neil thought over her question and shrugged. "Probably something happened at that period of time and they wanted to ensure where I was."

Edith snapped her fingers. "Exactly. Something had happened during that time. That was why those detectives were asking for your alibi."

Neil stared at his girlfriend and suddenly burst into a laugh. "Edith Qian, are you playing detective?"

"I'm not." Edith pouted seeing his laughing face. "I am just trying to figure out what was going on."

"Let's not think about it too much and let the detectives do their job."

"Darling, aren't you curious?"

Neil let out a helpless sigh. "It's not that I am not curious. But, I don't want to keep on thinking about it."

Her expression changed upon hearing his tone.

It was then that Edith remembered that her boyfriend might be the last person Miss Shen had talked to last Saturday. Amanda had called his number and asked for his help, but Neil had chosen to ignore her.

If something bad really happened to her, wouldn't Neil felt guilty?

Edith stood up and pulled her boyfriend into a hug. "Darling, are you alright?"

"I'm fine." He rested his head on her chest and sat quietly as Edith patted at his hair.

"I'm sure that Miss Shen would be fine," Edith said. "Don't worry. The police will find her in no time."

"I hope so," Neil paused as he tightened his embrace around her waist. "I will ask Henry to look for her as well."

The two of them head back home as Neil no longer had the mood to work. Their day resumed as usual. Edith went to the kitchen to prepare dinner with Hazel and the three of them ate their meals together.

Afterward, Edith helped Hazel with her homework and tucked the little girl into bed. Once everything was settled, Edith returned to her room and took a shower.

She climbed on her bed and took out her phone to browse for news of Amanda Shen. A few news portals had reported her as missing. The netizen had not reacted too much to this news, thinking that it was not strange for a supermodel like Amanda Shen to go off the radar to find some quietness for her peace of mind. However, her fans expressed their concern and worry.

Just then, the door swung open and a familiar figure walked in.

Edith glanced at the time and noted that it was a few minutes until midnight.

"Don't you have your own room?" Edith tilted her head sideways as she watched the shameless man climbed up her bed and slipped in under the duvet. "Why do you keep on coming to my room?"

Neil leaned in to rain his kisses on her face before he stopped and looked at Edith with a big smile on his face. "Then, how about we move over to the master bedroom?" He leaned in and whispered, "The bed is bigger and we can do all sort of activity and position."

The moment he finished his words, Neil received a smack on his chest. He laughed happily, grabbed the hand that had hit him before he pulled her closer to kiss her lips.

Edith shot him a dagger look.

This man! Can he stop being this shameless for a day?

"Baby, when do you think you're going to move into the master bedroom?" Neil asked. "Aren't you tired of sneaking around Hazel all the time?"

"I am not the one who was sneaking around." Edith batted her eyelashes innocently. "Darling, you are the one who sneaked into my room every night."

"What am I supposed to do? I cannot sleep well without you by my side."

"Then, how do you sleep before this?"

Neil chuckled. "The keyword is 'sleeping well'. Before this, I did not have a good night's sleep."

Although his words were a little bit corny, Edith found herself unable to stop smiling. Edith thought that perhaps she had liked this man a little bit too much that everything he said sounded very sweet to her.

Neil adjusted the pillow under his head and pulled Edith over so that he could hug her to sleep. "We should really consider being more open in front of Hazel." Neil had one arm under her head and the other wrapped around her waist as they were spooning.

Edith adjusted to get into a comfortable position. "I will think about it. Let me talk to Hazel first."

"Alright." His lips curved into a satisfied smile as he kissed her neck.

Neil raised his head upon noticing the light that came from her phone. "What were you looking at earlier?"

"Just news about Miss Shen's disappearance," Edith said. She lifted her phone and was about to log out when she accidentally refreshed the portal she was on. The finger that hovered on the screen stopped and Edith did a double-take when she saw the latest news. "Darling..."

"What's wrong?" Neil asked upon noticing something from her tone.

"Look at this," Edith shoved her phone over, and Neil narrowed his eyes at the sudden brightness.

Then slowly, his expression changed as he read the news.

On the news portal, it was reported that Supermodel Amanda Shen was found dead last night near her apartment. A beggar had found the body and reported it to the police.

The beggar was not aware of her identity and therefore had not made any fuss about it. It was until the body was brought to be autopsied that they finally find out that the dead person was no other than Amanda Shen.

But what raised the public anger was that the police were planning to keep this matter a secret from them.

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Someone from the higher up finally clarified that because of the condition Amanda was found, they were not able to find out her identity and they had no intention of keeping Amanda's death.

Of course, this statement garnered the public's attention and wrath. Amanda's fans especially wanted to know what happened to their idol and who was cruel enough to murder her.

It was a while later that someone had leaked some details about Amanda's death. A few photographs of how her body was found were passed around as well as some details from her autopsy report.

This new information heightened public anger. The photograph was gruesome and the details told them what she had suffered before she died. It did not take the netizen too long to connect the dots.

The higher-ups then appeared again and admitted that Miss Amanda Shen was a victim of the serial murder. She had become the third victim of that gruesome murder. It has not been a long time since the police announced that the first and second cases were linked. Now with Amanda's death, the public grew anxious.

Amanda Shen's death has been the talk of the country for more than a week and the public showed no sign that they were going to stop discussing this matter.

A few suspects were named, but fortunately, Neil was cleared with his alibi.

The public petitioned for the police to do their job and bring that psychopath who had murdered the three ladies to justice. Until the murderer was convicted, they would not feel at ease.

Edith looked at the person who sat across from her and was amazed at how Aaron had the appetite to eat even after looking at those disturbing photographs. "How can you still have the mood to eat after looking at those pictures?" She scowled.

Aaron slurped the noodles loudly and let out a satisfied sigh. "Then, what am I supposed to do? Do you mean that I have to starve myself the whole day? Beside. It was not too bad. At least, the body has been cleaned up."

"Miss Shen," Edith hesitated. "Is she really the third victim of the same crime?"

The man's face turned somber at her question. "It was as reported. The evidence pointed out that Miss Shen is the third victim in L City." His voice turned low and grim.

Edith thought of his words and wonder how many victims were there in Z Town in the past?

"I cannot say too much about it," Aaron sighed. "We were already in trouble after someone had exposed the details of that murder to the reporters."

"Then, how long will you be staying in L City?"

"I don't know," Aaron shrugged. "The team in L City are shorthanded now that they have to deal with the public outrage. I guess I will have to stay around for a while to assist them. That's right." He placed his chopstick down and smiled. "Edith, help me to find a place to live. I cannot afford to live in a hotel for a long time."

"What kind of place are you looking for?"

Aaron considered for a while. "Someplace with cheap rent. I understand that renting in L City is too expensive, therefore, I would not mind renting a place in A City as long as it took me around half an hour drive to the station. I'm not sure how long I will have to stay around, so it is more preferable for me to find a place without a lease. As soon as they don't need me around, I am planning to head back to Z Town."

Her lips twitched at his request. "Mr. Li, you sure have a lot of requests. Why don't you just live in the police station? Wouldn't that be more convenient for you?"

"You know me. I was raised by my mother and could not stand living in a dirty place," Aaron sighed.

Aaron's mother owned a B&B in Z Town and was very particular towards hygiene. Growing up, Aaron was used to tidy and clean surroundings and could not tolerate staying in a messy place for a long time.

"Crashing in with the others seemed troublesome. You don't know this, but after working on an investigation for the whole day, some of those guys don't really pay attention to



their personal hygiene. Just imagining the way the takeaway boxes stacked up on their desk would make me puke. I just want a clean place to return to so that I can eat, shower, and shit in peace."

"I still wonder how on earth did you became a policeman when you're a neat freak."

"Why not? Being a policeman and a neat freak are two different things." He chuckled. "A neat freak detectives are pretty scarce. At least a scarce species like me is likable among my female coworkers. You don't know how many of them tried to get along with me."

Edith rolled her eyes as she suppressed the urge from beating her friend to death. She tried to think of a place for Aaron to live and could not think of any place suitable for him.

A place suddenly came to her mind and Edith spoke up. "You can stay at my apartment in A City." The moment she said those words, Edith immediately regretted her decision.

"Living together?" Aaron's eyes went wide at her suggestion. He backed up and leaned on his chair with his hands waving around and his head shook like a rattle. "Eyy... your place is a one-bedroom apartment. Where do you think I am going to sleep? The couch? Besides, my mother adored you so much. She would kill me if she heard about this."

Edith had wanted to take back her words, but Aaron is a good friend of hers and at this moment, he really needed a place to live. Since she had her ways to help him, it would be bad to pretend that she could not help him.

"You don't have to worry. I am lending you my place, but we are not going to live together."

Aaron narrowed her eyes and leaned forward. "What do you mean? If I am living at your place, then, where will you be living? Edith Qian, you better explain everything to me."

"You have to keep this a secret." Edith watched him nodded, and frowned. "Promise me. Never mention this to my grandfather or anyone at all."

Aaron watched his friend skeptically but after seeing the firmness in her eyes, he raised his hands as if to surrender. "Alright. I promise. I won't mention this to anyone. This is a secret between you and me."

Edith took a deep breath before she spoke again. "I have moved out of my apartment in A City for a few months." Her voice grew soft as she spoke. "Even so, I am still renting that place as there are a few months lease."

"Then, where are you staying now?"

She looked away from meeting his piercing gaze.. "These days, I am living with my boyfriend in L City."

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Aaron stared at his friend for a long time and decided that his ears must have been playing tricks at him.

He had grown up with Edith and thought that the idea of Edith Qian having a boyfriend and cohabiting with a strange man was too bizarre.

Pushing the bowl of noodles farther away, Aaron stared at the girl beside him for a very long time, making her uncomfortable. "You try and repeat that. I think there is something wrong with my hearing."

Edith took a deep breath and looked at Aaron in his eyes. "I am now living with my boyfriend." Saying those words for the second time felt much easier for Edith.

"What boyfriend?" Aaron chuckled. "Edith Qian, you are trying to trick me with another of your joke, right? You? A boyfriend? It couldn't be an imaginary one, right?"

Her face turned darker at his words. "What do you mean by that? Aaron Li, are you looking down on me? Why is it so surprising to you that I have a boyfriend?"

Aaron stared at her for a long time again as if to see whether this girl would be lying to him. A few cursing words escaped his lips when he noticed that there was no fluctuation in her expression.

"You were telling me the truth?"

"Why would I joke about something like this? What would I gain?"

Aaron leaned on his chair as he continued to stare at Edith speechlessly. Somehow, he found that it was hard to process the information he received. Edith having a boyfriend was one thing, but cohabiting was another matter.

How long have they been in a relationship? Wasn't cohabiting a little too fast?

"We've been living together for four months," Edith said.

For the first two months, she was staying with Neil as Hazel's caretaker. But living together is living together, no matter whether she was Hazel's caretaker or Neil's girlfriend.

Another curse words escaped him. Suddenly, a thought crossed his mind and Aaron narrowed his eyes. "The last two times I came to L City to find you, you have been living with that bastard?"

Seconds later, Aaron felt a loud smack on his head.

Edith ignored the aggrieved expression on his face and warned, "Watch your words. Don't call my darling with such vulgar name."

Aaron felt the corner of his lips twitched. What darling? He had a lot to complain about but was afraid that this gangster in front of him would beat him to death.

"I wanted to meet him," Aaron said. "Unless if you take him to me, I won't believe that you have a boyfriend."

Edith thought over his request and nodded. "Alright. I will arrange for a meeting later."

"No. Today." Aaron stared at her with a serious look on his face. "You will let him know and ask him to see me today. "

Edith clicked her tongue and shot a displeased look. "Who are you? Why should my darling make his time just to meet you?"

Aaron tried his best to ignore that terms of endearing. "If you don't call him up for a meeting today, I will tell your grandpa and we'll see what he was going to do to you later."

Edith gasped at his threat. "You wouldn't. Aaron Li, you promised."

"I changed my mind. What are you going to do about it?" Aaron raised a brow. "Anyway, I am doing this for your own good. As someone who grew up with you, I need to help you to evaluate whether this man is a good person or not."

"The person I chose to date will definitely be a good person."

Edith narrowed her eyes and after a staring contest between them, Edith finally gave up and took out her phone. "Alright. I will give him a call and ask him to have a meal with us."

Anyway, it would be very troublesome if Aaron went to her grandfather and told her secret. Her grandfather would be surprised to hear that she was cohabiting with Neil and she was not ready to face her grandfather's wrath.

The phone call connected to Neil after a few seconds and his voice sounded deep and sexy through the phone.

"Are you done with your meeting with your friend?" Neil asked. "Do you want me to pick you up?"

Earlier, his girlfriend had mentioned that she was going to meet Aaron after work. Although Neil was a little reluctant to let his girlfriend meet up with his potential love rival, in the end, Neil decided to trust his girlfriend and made her promise that she was not going to take a sip of alcohol.

"Darling, are you busy?" Edith shot a dagger look at Aaron when he rolled his eyes at her.

The pen in Neil's hand paused when he heard her question. "What's the matter?"

"I was wondering if you can come over and have a meal with my friend, Aaron." Edith stood up and went to a corner to get some privacy. "I told him that I have a boyfriend, but he refused to believe me until he sees you with his two eyes."

"Alright," Neil answered quickly. The corner of his lips turned to a smile. Just the thought that Edith was going to introduce him as her boyfriend made him a little happier. "Just text me the place and time. I will be there soon."

The two of them exchanged a few words before Edith hung up. Noticing Aaron's stare, Edith turned to him and gave him a smug smile. "He'll be here soon."

"So, he's a real person." Aaron leaned forward. "But if he is a good guy, then why did you want to hide him away from your grandpa and everyone else? What is it? He's ugly?"

"You're the ugly one. My darling is better looking than you." Edith huffed. "It was not that I wanted to hide him away. We talked and decided to go back and break the news to my grandpa on the New Year."

With such a festivity mood, her grandfather would go easy on her boyfriend, right?

Aaron then recalled the important matter and decided to ask questions that have been haunting him since the very beginning. "Your boyfriend... he did not take advantage of you, did he?"

Edith looked away for a brief second and chuckled. "Do you think I am that easy to take advantage of? I am the one who takes advantage of him, okay?"

Aaron pondered over her words and thought that there was some truth in it. There were not a lot of people who could take advantage of Edith. This woman gangster can be calculative at times and would not let herself suffer any losses.

But... that was not what he wanted to know!

"Who is he? Don't he at least have a name?" Aaron decided to run this person's information on the database and warn his friend if he found anything suspicious about this boyfriend.

Edith flashed him a mysterious smile.. "You will know soon."

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Because Edith was going to introduce her boyfriend, she decided to change the venue and chose to have a meal at a Cantonese restaurant and opt for a private room.

Aaron grew anxious as they were waiting for her boyfriend to show up. There were a lot of questions in his mind and Edith would not answer them until her boyfriend showed up. Aaron could not be at ease until he saw the person he was supposed to see.

His legs shook impatiently under the table and Aaron would glance at the door from time to time. "Are you sure he's coming?"

"He should be here anytime soon. You must remember not to speak nonsense or I will beat you later," Edith said. "Anyway, why are you so anxious?"

"I just wanted to see which innocent man did you trick to be your boyfriend," Aaron spoke exasperatedly. He was very worried about this girl upon hearing that she and her boyfriend have started to live together months ago, and yet, this girl was treating him like he was the enemy.

His body froze upon hearing the knock on the door. Aaron clenched his fist and turned to the door.

A waiter in his uniform walked in to hold the door and a familiar figure entered the room. Before Aaron was able to speak a word, he heard his friend's cheering voice, uttering that endearing terms again.

His eyes grew wide and Aaron could not hide his surprise upon watching how Edith had gone towards that man's side and held his hand before the two walked over to him together.

Aaron thought that perhaps his eyes were playing tricks on him. The person in front of him at this moment, was he not Neil Mo? The President of MH Group? That prominent group in L City and one of the largest property and development companies in the country?

Why was he here and why was Edith holding on to his hand?

The two of them finally stopped in front of Aaron. Edith flashed him a bright smile and spoke, "Aaron, meet my boyfriend, Neil Mo. Oh, wait. You've met him before."

Neil flashed him an amiable smile and stretched his hand. "Mr. Li, Hello."

Aaron snapped out of his trance and shook hands with Neil. Though he had met Neil Mo a few times previously, this was the first time he was anxious to be around him.

His mind whirled and quickly connected a few dots.

Edith had said that she has been living together with her boyfriend for four months.

Then... the last time they had 'accidentally' run into this man, the two of them should already be in a relationship. When he left with those grandpas to return to Z Town, Neil had stayed around to wait with Edith until her friend, Lily Zhou showed up.

According to logic, someone as busy as President Mo should have left earlier as soon as dinner ended, but he had stayed around because Edith was drunk.

After Lily showed up, Aaron had left. Therefore, he would not know whether Edith would crash over at Lily's place or go back with President Mo to his place.

If she went back to President Mo's place, then, doesn't that make Lily Zhao an accomplice?

Aaron suddenly recalled the last time he had drive Edith over to a luxurious apartment in L City. Edith had said that the place belonged to a friend, but Aaron knew now that the luxurious apartment belonged to President Mo.

How could Edith trick him like this? Aaron really wanted to curse and scold this girl.

"Mr. Li, please, have a seat," Neil said. "We can talk while we eat."

Aaron nodded. He watched as the couple sat side by side just across from him and thought that this scene was a little strange.

This girl was too violent and would hit people whenever she was upset. She would not care whether that person was a boy or a girl, if someone made her upset, Edith would beat that person they cry. And her kicks and punches were not light either.

The last time he had said something wrong, Edith had swung her punch to his arms and that bruise lasted for a week.

How can someone like this dated President Mo? Was President Mo blind? Or was he a masochist?

Of course, if Edith knew what was on her friend's mind, Aaron would have to suffer another round of beating.

The waiter walked into the room carrying various delicacies. The aroma of delicious food wafted in the room. The food presentation was exquisite and colorful. The taste of each dish was very light and fragrant. However, Aaron thought that he was too full from eating too much dog food.

Now that the secret was out, Edith was not ashamed to act frivolously with her boyfriend in front of him. The two of them were clearly flirting as if he was an invisible man!

It turns out that this violent lady could act gently when she was with her boyfriend. She was not like this in the past!

Aaron was tempted to take out his phone, record this scene secretly, and send the footage to Grandpa Qian. He did not mind suffering some beating, but he was a little afraid to offend President Mo.

The three of them continued to have small talk while they were enjoying their meals. Though Aaron had a lot of questions for both of them, he did not dare to ask them straightforwardly and chose to eat in silence.

He took this chance to observe the two's relationship and found that their relationship was pretty good. At least, in front of him, Neil Mo had treated Edith well.

After having a little too much tea, Edith stood up and excused herself to the restroom.

Once the door closed after her, the atmosphere in the room suddenly turned stiff.

Neil placed the chopstick in his hand down and reached to drink some water. He then raised his head to Aaron. "Mr. Li, from the way you have been staring at me throughout the meal, I assumed that you have a few things that you wanted to say to me."

Aaron chuckled. "You are right. I do have a few things I would like to say. Now that Edith is not in the room, I hope you would not mind me asking a few questions."

Neil gestured with his hand. "Please. I will try to answer them the best that I can."

He narrowed his eyes and his gaze turned dangerous. The way Aaron was looking at Neil at this moment was the same as the way he was looking at the criminal while he

was interrogating them. "Do you like Edith? Or were you using her adoration towards you like something to pass your time?"

Neil stared at Aaron as if he was scrutinizing his enemy.. Then he flashed Aaron a smile that does not reach his eyes."I'm not sure which identity are you using to ask these questions? As Edith's friend? Or something else?"

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Aaron scoffed upon hearing the questions. "Edith and I have known each other for a long time. As a friend, of course, I am worried about her."

Neil picked up the glass on the table and took a sip as he continued to listen to Aaron. As long as Aaron did not come to him as his rival, Neil thought that he would be able to spend his time entertaining his questions.

"Edith might be a rash person. There are times when she would not think much of a consequence when she does something," Aaron said. "Dating you might be the same. Perhaps that girl was not thinking things through when she decided to date you. She did not know what she was going to face afterward when she stayed with you."

"Are you saying that Edith is stupid?" Neil said in a languid tone.

"Not stupid. But naive." Aaron narrowed his eyes. "President Mo, if you are not serious about her, I suggest you leave her side before she gets in too deep."

"Then, you don't have to worry. I am very serious about her."

Aaron studied the man in front of him with distrust.

Neil Mo was the President of MH Group. Countless women would want to be with him. They were all much prettier than Edith and some were heiress who could help him to bring up MH Group to another level. Therefore, Aaron could not understand why did Neil want to be with Edith. She was an ordinary kindergarten teacher who deserved a peaceful life and not anything messy from Neil's world,

"Mr. Li, you are worrying too much." Neil chuckled. "I don't think that Edith is just an ordinary kindergarten teacher. To me, she is more than that. There might be a lot of others who are prettier, richer, or smarter. But to me, she is perfect. She made me comfortable being with her."



The two of them might come from two different worlds, but Neil thought that the two of them could complete each other.

There was a slight fluctuation in Aaron's gaze. He continued to stare at Neil and found that the man was not saying those words to bluff him. At least, at this time, Neil Mo was really into Edith.

Aaron had a very complicated feeling as he realized this.

He chose to look away and grabbed the glass of water in front of him. He emptied the glass and looked at Neil again. "President Mo, tell me the truth... did Edith beat you up so bad and make you say these words?"

"..."

A chuckle escaped him before Aaron burst into a fit laugh. A few seconds later, the laughter subsided and Aaron turned to look at Neil with a languid smile. "President Mo, I know that you are someone in a higher position, but if I ever found out that you are bullying her, I will not be afraid to offend you."

Neil flashed the same smile at him. "Edith was not someone who is easily bullied. Even if I did bully her, don't you think that she will beat me to retaliate?"

Aaron continued to threaten Neil to treat Edith well and finally stopped once Edith returned to the room. The three of them spent their time together and finally left after the meal.

Before he left for his temporary place, Aaron made a promise to see Edith again before he moved into her apartment in A City in two days.

Meanwhile, Edith sat shotgun as they head back to the apartment. Glancing at the man beside her, Edith leaned forward with a smile on her face. "Darling, what did you and Aaron talk about when I went away? Aaron... he did not say something bad about me, right?"

A frown appeared on her face and Edith vowed to beat him up if she ever found out that Aaron was bad mouthing her in front of her darling.

"What makes you think that we were talking about you?"

"Then, what else could you talk about?" Edith raised a brow. "The atmosphere around the room had changed as soon as I came back. Moreover, Aaron no longer stared at you with the same hostility."

Neil went silent until the car reached a red light. "I've been wanting to ask you a few questions." He turned to look at Edith. "What is your relationship with that person?"

Edith blinked. "That person? You mean, Aaron? He's a friend who I grew up with."

"Really?"

Edith stared at the man and thought that something was wrong with his expression. She cocked her head sideways as a thought suddenly came to her mind.

Neil's expression... and the way he was looking at her... could it be that he was jealous? But, why does she feel like the look on his face was really adorable at the moment? She really wanted to go and pinch him on both cheeks, ah!

The light turned green and Neil turned his head to the road to concentrate on his driving. "Why do I feel like the way Aaron was looking at you is a bit different. He likes you."

"I and Aaron can't be together," Edith said and laughed. She continued to study his expression and saw that her darling was not convinced with her words. "Darling, you are imagining things."

Neil kept his silence. He was a man and naturally understood how a man looked at the person they liked. The way Aaron was looking at Edith was definitely different. It was not the way a friend would look at another.

"Even if he liked me, I really cannot imagine us getting together again."

Her words were a whisper but it caught his attention and Neil turned to her with a raised brow. "Again?"

Edith touched the tip of her nose and she lowered her gaze, realizing that she had spilled something unnecessary. "We've... dated before."

His grip on the steering wheel tightened upon hearing her words.

So... when Aaron had said so much to him, was he saying those as Edith's friend or her ex-boyfriend?

Neil was not convinced how they can be exes and still be close friends.

Neil recalled his conversation with Edith before and realized that Aaron was the person that she had given her drunk confession to years ago.

The atmosphere suddenly turned cold and Edith was suddenly shocked at the change. She had heard about Iceblock Mo for a long time and thought that she had seen the real Iceblock Mo, but this was the first time she had experienced something like this—the temperature dropping and the stifling air.

It turned out that the real Iceblock Mo was frightening! He could freeze the air with his aura.

Sensing his anger, the words that she wanted to speak stuck in her throat and Edith did not dare to speak a word.

In the end, Edith decided it was better to let him drive home safely first.. Once they were at home, only then it would be safer for her to explain her words and coax her darling.

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When they arrived at the apartment, Hazel was sitting in the living room, doing her homework. As soon as she saw Edith, the little girl went over to her auntie and pulled her to sit down and help her with her homework.

Neil exchanged a few words with Nanny Ann and went upstairs to his room. Edith watched his retreating gaze and heaved a long sigh. She could not understand why he was so angry that he did not want to say a word to her.

They were just good a few minutes later, but his mood suddenly plummeted the moment she had mentioned that she used to date Aaron. Even if he was jealous, wasn't his action was a little bit too excessive?

In the end, Edith could only decide to let him calm down before she would try to calm him down. Anyway, little Hazel was with her and she did not want her to notice that something was wrong with them.

However, Hazel was a sensitive child. She had noticed the way Edith would look up to stare at her uncle's bedroom door in a daze and sighed. This action has been repeated more than twice and Hazel knew that something was amiss.

Hazel put down the pencil she was holding and poked at Edith's arms.

Edith snapped out of her thought at the sudden contact. "Hazel." Edith forced a smile. "What's wrong?"

Hazel and wrapped her tiny arms around Edith's neck and stared at her with worry. "Auntie Edith, you don't seem alright. Is something bothering you?"

Hearing the little girl voicing out her concern, Edith felt her heart melted. Edith pulled Hazel into her arms and spoke in a low voice. "Your uncle seemed angry at me. Hazel, what do you think I should do?"

"Auntie Edith, what did you do?"

Edith stiffened at her question. She also did not know what she had done to make her darling angry, ah!

"My uncle would not be angry at you without reason, right?" Hazel spoke again. Since her Auntie Edith did not know what she had done wrong, Hazel thought that she should help to think about it together.

Edith thought of their conversation in the vehicle. "Maybe... I've said something wrong."

"Then, you should go and apologize. Auntie Edith, you taught us that when you do or said something wrong, you should apologize."

Edith looked at Hazel's bright eyes and could only agree with her words. "You are right. I should go and apologize." She forced a smile and patted at Hazel's hair. "I will let your uncle cool down first before I go and apologize."

The little girl smiled happily upon seeing that her auntie had decided to listen to her advice. Then, she picked up her pencil again and continued to concentrate on her homework.

Edith knew that she had to coax her darling. However, she was at loss at how to coax Neil. Although she had dated Aaron in the past, their relationship was not the same as other couples. Where would there be a day that she had to coax Aaron? That guy would be too afraid that he would be beaten up instead.

It was inappropriate to ask for Hazel's opinion regarding this matter. Therefore, Edith decided to turn to the person she could trust.

Fortunately, Lily was not asleep and took less than a minute to reply to her text message.

"You're in a fight?" Lily asked.

Edith thought of her question and wondered if this was the first fight between her and Neil since they decided to get together.

"How can you be in a fight? I thought you guys were still in your honeymoon phase?" Lily texted again.

"Lily, stop teasing me. Quickly help me to think of a way to coax my darling."

"Do you need to ask? If you wanted to coax President Mo, the first thing you have to do is to wear your battle armor."

"What battle armor?"

"Of course... your battle armor is your sexy lingerie. Then, you march into battle, take him down and make him forget about whatever argument you have. When the sun is up, your relationship would be restored to normal."

Edith had the urge to throw away her phone. It was not hard for her to figure out what was her friend suggesting her to do to coax her darling. She should know that asking Lily's opinion was not a great move. That woman's thought was too impure!

In the end, Edith decided to ignore Lily and try to come out with another method. It was not as if she owned a battle armor anyway!

Edith went back to her room after Hazel had gone to bed. She took a shower and prepared herself to go to bed. She glanced at the time and saw that it was almost midnight. Edith was planning to coax her darling when he came into her room, but the person who would always sneak into her room did not appear.

After debating with herself for a long time, Edith walked out of her room with her phone and headed over to Neil's room. Her hand hovered at the door for a long time before Edith decided to knock on the door.

She counted to three and knocked again when there was no answer. Then, Edith leaned closer towards the small slit between the door and whispered, "Darling, are you there?"

She had checked his office seconds ago and knew that he was not in there.

Seeing that the man did not open the door or answer her call, Edith started to panic. She raised her hand again and knocked at the door a little harder. "Neil?"

A few seconds later, the door swung open and a topless Neil appeared at the door. At this time, he had a towel wrapped around his lower half and his hair was dripping wet with water. It was clear that he had just gotten out of the shower.

Edith was momentarily in a daze as she stared at the droplets of water that streamed down to his abs.

"Why are you here?"

His question snapped her out of her trance. "I am looking for you."

A slight frown appeared on his handsome face. "Why are you looking for me?"

"We need to talk. Are you not going to let me in?" Edith peeked inside his room and turned to look at her boyfriend with an adorable expression, hoping that the man would stop being too cold to her and give in.

Neil stared at the woman before him before he stepped aside. "Come in."

A breath of relief escaped her when her darling finally let her in. Edith shut the door behind her and turned around.

The sight of Neil's naked backs was the first thing she noticed. Edith watched as his muscle rippled as he dried his hair with another towel and could not look away from it.. Her throat suddenly felt dry and the words she wanted to say to him were long forgotten.

## Chapter 192 – I Got Jealous

Noticing the silence, Neil threw the small towel in his hand and turned to look at Edith. "What do you want to talk about?"

Though he was now talking to her, Edith noticed that slight coldness in his voice. Her heart sank at his attitude. Edith did not know how she should deal with this situation. After all, she had never coaxed an adult before. Then... should she try to coax him the way she coaxed her students?

Or else... should she borrow Lily's suggestion? Take him down and coerced him into telling her what made him upset.

Sensing his scrutinizing gaze, Edith turned to look at the carpet under her feet.

Fortunately, the air in the room was not as stifling as it was in the car earlier. At the thought that her darling had calmed down a little bit, Edith took a deep breath and walked over to him.

"You... what is wrong with you?" Edith asked. "Are you angry? Why are you ignoring me? Did I do something wrong?"

Neil walked over to his wardrobe and pulled out a shirt. Swiftly, he put his shirt on and turned around. "What do you think?"

Her breath stuck in her throat. If she really knew what was on his mind, would she still need to come over and ask?

"I don't know."

"Then, you should recall what you have said to me."

Edith recalled the conversation in the vehicle before Neil had suddenly changed. The last thing they were discussing was Aaron. She had mentioned that she used to date Aaron in the past and that was when her darling's mood started to go icy cold.

Dating Aaron was something she did in the past. That relationship only lasted for what? Half a year? She had a little bit too much drink and had made a stupid bet. Whenever Edith recalled her impulsiveness, she had the urge to slap her younger self.

But for Neil to be angry about this matter... wasn't he too much? She never minded that he had dated someone like Amanda Shen in the past. Why would he mind about the person she dated in the past?

"I don't understand," Edith said. "I know what we have talked about previously, but I don't understand why you are acting this way. Neil Mo, why don't you help me to understand what did I do wrong instead of ignoring me like this. We both had a previous relationship, but did you see me giving you a cold shoulder when I found out that you were dating supermodel Amanda Shen in the past?"

Neil stared at the person in front of him for a long time. His lips moved as if wanting to speak, but no words came out of his lips.

He knew well that he was acting unreasonable, but what can he do about it? The moment he heard that the two were exes, Neil could not control himself. That annoying feeling rose from his heart and spread throughout his body.

He didn't like that the two were exes and were still very close. Through his conversation with Aaron, Neil could sense that he was protective of her. Neil could not understand why an ex-boyfriend would be protective of his ex-girlfriend

After a long silence on his part, Neil finally spoke, "I don't like Aaron."

Edith blinked upon hearing his words. "What?"

"When I recalled how you said you have confessed to him, I got jealous."

His voice was a whisper and Edith had thought that perhaps she had misheard things. But staring at his strange expression, Edith realized that she had not misheard things. Neil had admitted that he was acting strangely because he was jealous.

"What's there to be jealous about? Aaron and I," Edith heaved helplessly. "That was a long time ago. I was drunk when I blackmailed him to be my boyfriend. It could not even be considered a confession."

"Really?" His eyes darkened. "You can be close to someone you used to date before?"

"I grew up with him. We might not be blood-related, but I only see him as a sibling. We really did not like each other that way. Why do you think we broke up after a few months of dating?"

There was a slight fluctuation in his eyes, however, he was still not happy.

Seeing that he did not answer, Edith took out her phone and dialed a number. "If you don't believe me, then you can ask Aaron and let him clarify."

Before Neil could say a word, the phone call was connected and Aaron's face appeared on the screen.

Aaron muttered a cursing word. "Edith Qian, you better have a good reason for this phone call. I was about to take a dump."

Edith felt the corner of her lips twitched. This man was too vulgar. How can her darling be jealous of someone as obnoxious as Aaron Li?

"Aaron, you help me to explain to my darling."

"What?" Aaron frowned. "Ah... wait a minute. It's about to come out. Can I just call you—"

His words were left unfinished.

Aaron's expression froze upon seeing a cold man's face suddenly appeared on his screen. Suddenly, Aaron thought that his stomachache had miraculously disappeared and he no longer find the urge to do his business in the restroom.

"President Mo. What can I do for you?" Aaron stood up straight and leaned on the wall behind him. They have just seen each other a few hours ago. Back then, Neil's expression was not as frightening as it was now.

"My darling was upset when he heard that we used to be together," Edith said. "Tell him that we don't see each other that way."

It took Aaron a while to process what was going on. Did the two of them get into a misunderstanding because of him?

"President Mo." Aaron cleared his throat. "Don't misunderstand. We don't see that way towards each other. The only reason I dated her back then was because she had blackmailed me to it."

"My darling thinks that you have feelings for me. Aaron Li, tell me the truth. Did you think of me that way?"



His eyes went wide and Aaron started to wave his hands. "No. No. President Mo. I don't have that kind of feelings for Edith. She is the person I grew up with and we always look over each other." A cursing word escaped his lips. "I was always her punching bag. Why would I like that violent woman? If I stayed with her, I might lose half of my lifespan."

Edith turned the phone to her and narrowed her eyes. "Shut up. Don't say anything unnecessary."

"Yes. I'm sorry." Aaron pursed his lips and nodded obediently.

The couple was arguing, but he was stuck in the middle to help them resolve their misunderstanding. One was cold as ice and another was as fierce as a tiger. Mommy! He wanted to cry ah!

Edith turned the screen back to Neil, but before she could say a word, Neil had grabbed her phone and pressed the red button to end the call.