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"Of course!" Amber smiled and nodded. She then looked at Makenna, "Ms. Gardner, thank you so much. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't have been able to gain so much."

Makenna bit her lower lip and did not say anything.

Jared held her waist, "Let's go."

"Then I hope Mr. Farrell and Ms. Gardner have a safe journey. Let's meet again in Olkmore City!" Amber smiled and waved her hand.

Both of them walked away gloomily.

Cole closed the door, "Dear, you're amazing. We have gained some profits from Jared with Corazón Azul. This time, we're earning a lot more. Didn't you see both of them leaving grimly? It's so amusing."

Amber took a sip of water using the straw, "It's a perfect opportunity. How can we miss it?"

"That's true." Cole laughed and then looked at her seriously, "But dear, are we really not going to follow up on this issue anymore?"

"Well." Amber nodded, "We can indeed send Makenna to jail, but there's no point doing so. Jared is right. If we do so, it will intensify the conflict between the Gardner family and Goldstone. At that moment, this may irritate the Gardner family and they may want to ruin Goldstone by all means."

Currently, the foundation of Goldstone was still too weak. It could not compete with the Gardner family yet.

Therefore, she must not bring a knife to a gunfight and compete with the Gardner family.

Cole also understood the pros and cons. Fiddling with his phone, he said, "Although it's a bit of a pity, still it's not bad to get so many things, especially that land. I'm afraid that Trenton will stomp in anger if he knows about it."

Amber could not help but laugh at his words, "I heard a long time ago that Trenton would like to develop manor-style villas in Olkmore City. He should indeed be dejected as we had snatched the land of his first villa area."

Cole gloated and threw up his hands, "Well, he has such a good daughter that always brings trouble to her father and fiancé!"

What Cole said did make sense. Makenna had slandered her for hitting somebody and ruined her own celebration banquet. She also lost the Corazón Azul that was specially prepared by Jared.

Now, Makenna caused her to fall over and this made Jared to lose the port. In addition to that, Trenton had lost the land due to this case. All these incidents resulted in nothing good for her father and fiancé.

Amber snorted while thinking of this. She suddenly felt pity for Trenton and Jared.

"That's right, dear." Cole approached her, "What are you going to do with that land?"

Amber raised her hand and moved his face away from her without any expression, "Build a factory. We need our own factory. We can't keep relying on others to manufacture our products."

She had always remembered Mr. Longman's rude behavior when they were at Red Plum Club.

She would never want to experience it anymore, nor did she want to beg people around to manufacture their products.

"Awesome, my dear, thinking so far ahead. Not bad, I support you." Cole patted Amber's shoulder.

"Thanks." Amber smiled. It was rare that she did not shove his hand away.

Both of them returned to Olkmore City the next day.

Amber rushed to Goldstone to meet with Myles Tam as soon as they got off the plane.

Myles sat down opposite to her and glanced at the bandage on her head with surprise, "Ms. Reed, you're..."

Amber touched the wound on her head and narrowed her eyes. She then put a cup of coffee in front of Myles and smiled, "Not a big deal. Just being schemed by a mouse."

"Oh, I see." Myles smiled gently and did not ask anything else.

Amber took the document that was handed to her by the secretary Sheila Dawson, "Mr. Tam, this is Maxmatch's acquisition contract. Do you need to check and see if there's any problem?"

Amber handed the contract to Myles.

Myles read through the document. When he saw the line stating that they would not interfere with Maxmatch's internal management as well as retaining the company's signature, he nodded in satisfaction, "There's no problem."

Amber smiled reassuringly. She took a pen and passed it to him, "Then you just need to sign it, please. The finance department will transfer the money to your account within half an hour."

Myles agreed and signed his name on the document.

From now on, Maxmatch became a subsidiary of Goldstone Co.

Amber closed the file and handed it to Sheila, "Keep it properly."

"Okay, Ms. Reed." Sheila took the document and left.

Amber stood up, "Mr. Tam, it's about time to eat. Let me treat you to a lunch."

"Sorry, but I still have an appointment later. What about next time?" Myles waved his hand.

Amber did not force him. She sent him to the lift and then went back to her office.

At this moment, the telephone on her desk rang.

Amber let go of the mouse and picked up the call, "Hello?"

"Ms. Reed, someone from the Farrell family is here, claiming that they're here to deliver a title deed. Do you want to see them?" Sheila asked over the phone.

Amber grinned slowly, "Why not? Let him come in. Who is here?"

She did not expect that Jared was quite proactive. He had already instructed somebody to send the title deed just after she had returned.

"It's Mr. Farrell's assistant, Ben Channing."

"Let him come in."

After hanging up the phone, Amber stared at the office door.

Soon, the door was opened. Sheila came in together with Ben.

"Ms. Reed." Ben stood in front of Amber and greeted her politely.

Amber smiled while pointing at the chair, "Have a seat. Sheila, go and pour a cup of coffee for Ben."

"Alright." Sheila replied. She then returned to the office after pouring a cup of coffee.

Ben thanked her and then sat on the chair. He handed two documents to Amber, "Ms. Reed, one of them is about transferring the ownership of the port while the other is the title deed of the land in the heart of the city. Please read through them."

"Alright, please wait for a moment. I will read through them quickly."

Amber looked through one of the documents carefully.

Ben was sitting opposite her. He was thinking about something.

He had never expected that Amber would have changed so much in just a short period. She was so charming and elegant now. On the other hand, Ms. Gardner whom he had always thought of as kind would turn out to be so evil.

It was really disappointing!

Amber felt that Ben was thinking something else. However, she did not bother and just finished reading the two documents.

After reading them, she put them aside, "Ben."

"Huh?" Ben was startled. He regained his sense immediately and adjusted his glasses, "Excuse me, Ms. Reed. Did you call me just now?"

Amber smiled and nodded, "I have finished reading these two documents. Thank you for making this trip. Help me to thank Mr. Farrell too."

"Alright, I will tell him. I shall leave first then." Ben stood up and left the office.

"Sheila, send Ben out." Amber looked at Sheila at the side.

"Ben, this way please." Sheila gestured and sent him out.

She was surrounded by a group of colleagues when she returned to the office.

"Sheila, he is Mr. Farrell's special assistant, right? Why is he here in our company? Is he here to look for Ms. Reed?"

"Could it be that Mr. Farrell asked Ben to send something to Ms. Reed? It was mangoes last time. What is it this time?"

"You said that Mr. Farrell and Ms. Reed were divorced. But they seemed to be keeping contact with each other. Are they going to remarry?"

As Sheila heard them gossiping, she threw up her hands and said helplessly, "How do I know? Alright, stop gossiping about their business. Go back and continue your work. You will be screwed if Ms. Reed comes out and checks your progress later."

Everybody immediately stopped gossiping and went back to their own place.

Sheila returned to Amber's office, "Ms. Reed, I have sent him away."

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Amber stood in front of the printer while copying the transfer document and the title deed. She said, "Got it. Distribute all those processed documents on the desk. Let me know when Cole comes in the afternoon."

"Alright." Sheila walked to her desk and carried that pile of documents.

Amber returned to her seat after making the copies. She arranged and stapled them. Then, she wanted to keep the original copy in the safe.

Suddenly, she thought of something and her eyes gleamed. She took a picture of the title deed with her phone and posted it on social media, "Thank you Mr. Farrell for the wonderful land!"

Then, she tagged Jared and Goldstone and the Trident Group. She believed that Trenton would be furious when he saw this.

Being a father, Trenton should be responsible for Makenna's fault too.

Amber smiled gently while thinking of the implicit meaning of her post.

Her phone rang suddenly at this moment.

Amber lowered her head and saw that it was called by Jeremy. She could hear his husky voice.

Amber found a bit tickling in his voice. She tilted her head, "Have you finished your work? How come you have time to call me now?"

"Not yet, I just finished shooting for a magazine. It's rest time, so I have nothing to do. I saw your post. What does it mean? Jared has given you a land?" Jeremy asked.

"Yes." Amber leaned back on her chair.

Jeremy frowned, "Why would he give you the land? You and he wouldn't..."

"What are you thinking?" Amber knew that he was thinking too much when she heard his odd tone. She found it amusing and explained, "This is what he compensated me because of Makenna."

"Compensate you?" Jeremy was dumbfounded while he sounded a bit more serious, "Did Makenna do something to you?"

Amber rubbed her eyes and sighed, "Yeah, I didn't expect it either. She was so daring."

She gave a brief account of what had happened at the resort.

After hearing that, Jeremy held his phone tightly. He looked angry, "How are you now?"

Although his expression was grim, still his tone was full of concern.

Therefore, Amber did not notice what was wrong with him. She answered, "It's fine. I just have a minor concussion. It will be fine in a few days."

"Alright." Jeremy grinned, "Well, I need to go back to work. Let's stop talking for now."

"Alright. Take care. Bye." Amber nodded.

"Bye!" Jeremy put down his phone. Then, he sent a message: I need you to do something...

The person on the other end immediately replied: Alright!

Jeremy gazed at Amber's smiling face on the wallpaper of his phone. He gently rubbed it with his thumb. However, he was slightly annoyed instead of being calm as before.

He was once enveloped in darkness. It was not easy to find somebody that could light up his life again.

He would make the person who dared harm her suffer!

In the Trident Group.

Trenton was explaining the development of the first villa area to the shareholders in the meeting. His assistant suddenly opened the door and entered the meeting room, "Mr. Gardner, something has happened!"

"What is it?" Trenton could only stop the meeting and asked his assistant who looked solemn.

His assistant could not announce the matter in public. So, he approached Trenton and murmured in her ear.

Trenton was shocked, "Is it true?"

"I'm sure!" His assistant nodded violently.

Trenton's face was flushed red. He slammed his hand on the table, "That woman has the audacity to do so!"

She got the land located in the heart of the city where the development of the first villa area was situated, not to mention she even dared to post about it online and tag him.

This was obviously to provoke and humiliate him purposely!

"Mr. Gardner, what's wrong?" Some shareholders asked curiously while seeing Trenton burst into anger.

Trenton took a deep breath and could barely suppress the fury in his heart. He replied calmly, "Nothing. Let's end the meeting and dismiss!"

He turned around and left the meeting room after saying that.

Trenton called Jared along the way and asked, "Jared, did you give that land in the city center to your exwife?" Jared was at the clubhouse at this moment as he was invited by Hayden.

He could not hear clearly as it was quite noisy in the room. So, he got up and walked towards the balcony. He then replied, "Did Makenna tell you?"

Trenton's eyes widened as he heard this, "What do you mean? Did Makenna know about this too?"

"Yes." Jared nodded.

"What's going on with you guys?" Trenton was puzzled as he was unhappy too, "Why did you give the land to Amber. She even posted the title deed online and tagged me. She wanted to show off but she was humiliating me implicitly. Do you guys know that?"

Everybody in Olkmore City knew that he had been interested in that land a long time ago.

They might even laugh at him as Amber had got that land!

Jared narrowed his eyes for a moment.

Amber had actually posted the title deed online?

"Jared, are you still there?" Trenton asked as he increased his volume.

Jared wondered and pursed his lips, "I'm here. Sorry, I didn't know that Amber would do this."

Trenton grunted in displeasure, "Tell me, why did you give that land to her? Is it because you still can't forget your ex-wife? Jared, I need to warn you that you shouldn't have any other inappropriate thoughts. You and Makenna are a couple. You're getting engaged at the end of the year!"

Jared somehow felt uncomfortable when Trenton was reminding him that he would get engaged to Makenna.

However, he did not look into the reason thoroughly. He just thought that he was too tired recently. He rubbed his nose and said in a deep voice, "I don't have any thoughts for Amber. I gave her that land because of Makenna. She almost got into big trouble this time."

"What?" Trenton looked serious, "Jared, tell me what is going on?"

"Makenna poured some shower gel in front of Amber's door. Amber tripped over and almost lost her life because of this. Later, Amber got wind of it and wanted to send her to jail. I could only offer a port and that land to resolve this issue." Jared explained the matter briefly.

Trenton opened his mouth wide and couldn't speak for a long time, "I got it. Jared, I'm really sorry to cause you trouble."

"Never mind. I hope you can talk to Makenna. Don't do those things again. I can help her now but that doesn't mean I can help her forever. Do you understand?" Jared's face was grim while he was overwhelmed with annoyance.

Trenton could sense that his tone was carrying a sense of warning. He understood that Jared was slightly displeased with Makenna.

Makenna had always been kind in her heart. Thus, the fact that she would do something like this astounded and disappointed him. Otherwise, he would not have said such words.

Obviously, Jared would break up with Makenna if she made mistakes again in the future. After all, nobody would like to marry a wife who was evil. He might be stabbed by his wife to death one day while sleeping.

"Alright. Don't worry, Jared. I will have a good talk with Makenna." Trenton promised him hurriedly.

Afterwards, he put his phone down and instructed his assistant with a gloomy face, "Get the car ready. I need to go home!"

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Trenton returned home half an hour later.

The housekeeper came up to him and Trenton handed him his coat. "Where are madam and miss?"

"They are in the room," the housekeeper replied, putting the coat on her arm.

Trenton grunted as a reply and went upstairs.

Inside the room, Mrs. Gardner and Makenna were sitting at the end of the bed, looking at an album next to each other.

Makenna pointed at herself in the picture. "Mom, do you still remember this picture?"

Mrs. Gardner caressed her long hair lovingly and replied, "Of course. This photo was taken when you were six. I still remember when you played hide and seek back then. I couldn't find you anywhere and I was scared to death. I thought you were missing. It turned out you had hidden in the attic and fallen asleep."

"I remember that. When I woke up and came down from the attic, I saw you crying and you had even called the police." Makenna recalled.

Mrs. Gardner's smile faded a little, and there was a trace of hatred in her eyes.

Why did she call the police when she couldn't find her? Because she thought her little daughter had been kidnapped by Hugo Reed too.

But luckily, it was just a false alarm in the end.

Makenna turned to the next page. A yellowing photo suddenly fell to the ground from the album.

She stooped and picked it up. There was a baby girl, which was about a few months old, in the picture. She was grinning, looking extremely adorable, which would soften people's heart at first sight.

But for some reasons, Makenna didn't like her at all. Instead, she held a bit of hostility and even hatred towards the baby in the picture.

However, she didn't show it. She gave the picture to Mrs. Gardner, smiled and asked, "Mom, is this my elder sister?"

Mrs. Gardner caressed the picture and nodded with teary eyes. "Yes, she is your sister, Makayla."

Seeing Mrs. Gardner miss the baby girl so much, Makenna couldn't help feeling jealous.

She took the photo back and put it into the album again.

She then took Mrs. Gardner's arm, placed her head on her mother's shoulder and said in a hushed voice, "Alright, mom, you become sad every time you mention Makayla, so let's not mention her anymore. I believe Makayla won't want to see you unhappy either."

'A dead person dared stealing mother's attention from me?' she thought to herself.

No way!

"Okay, let's not mention her anymore." Mrs. Gardner said with a doting smile. She didn't know Makenna's real intention, but thought that her little daughter was worried about her being too upset.

Just then, the door opened and Trenton came in with a long face.

Makenna spotted him first. She released Mrs. Gardner's arm and waved at him. "Hi dad."

However, Trenton only took a glance at her and he ignored her.

Makenna's smile stiffened, and she bit her lip with grievance. "Dad, what have I done wrong?"

"Oh, honey." Mrs. Gardner looked at her husband discontentedly. "Why are you so cold to Makenna? She didn't offend you."

"She didn't offend me? Ask her what she's done!" Trenton pointed at Makenna.

Mrs. Gardner immediately looked at Makenna.

Makenna looked puzzled too.

Noticing that she really had no idea about it, Trenton decided to cut to the chase, "I've already known about your little plot to harm Amber in the resort."

Makenna immediately evaded his gaze. "Dad, how did you know?"

"How did I know?" Trenton snorted. "Someone has posted the picture of that land on the Internet and meant to embarrass me. What do you say? For God's sake, can't you make a better plan next time? Now someone's got the goods on you and threatened us with that. We lost the land because of you..."

He was so enraged that he couldn't continue his words.

Makenna lowered her head, knowing that she was wrong.

Mrs. Gardner hugged her daughter tightly and she snapped, "Alright, alright, it's just a piece of land. Why are you being so fierce to her?"

Just a piece of land?

Trenton trembled with fury when he heard his wife's words. "Do you know how important that land is to us? We have invested in that land, and we could start the construction the moment Jared gives us the title deed. Yet now the land is gone, and all the projects are suspended. We can't afford the loss!"

The Trident Group had started to go downhill in recent years, so he wanted to develop a first-class villa area and restore the Trident Group back to how it was in its heyday.

But now, everything was in vain.

Makenna knew nothing about business, so she didn't regard it as a huge problem. She stood up and said calmly, "Jared said that the land in the north of the city will be given to you."

Trenton almost fainted. "What would I do with that land in the north of the city? It's in the wilderness. Who will buy a villa there? I'm still gonna lose money if I can't sell the house out!"

Would it be that serious?

Makenna finally panicked. "Dad ... "

"Don't call me dad." Trenton began to speak recklessly. "You've been blackmailed for what you've done to others several times. This time, you've even forced the Trident Group and the Gardner family to the brink of the cliff. You're so stupid. No wonder you're not my daug..."

"Honey!" Mrs. Gardner's expression changed and she hurriedly interrupted him.

Only then did Trenton realize his almost slip of tongue. He shut his mouth in time and spoke again after a while. "So, all in all, I want you to flatter Jared during this period of time. As for Amber, I'll deal with

her. You're not allowed to take action on her in the future or else she might blackmail you again. Do you hear me?"

Makenna agreed in a hushed voice as she drooped her head.

Without saying anything further, Trenton left.

After he left, Makenna took Mrs. Gardner's hand and asked, "Mom, what was dad trying to say just now? That I'm not his...?"

A voice told her that this was something she had to find out.

Otherwise, the result must be unbearable.

Evasiveness flashed across Mrs. Gardner's face, but she quickly adjusted her expression, smiled and stroke Makenna's hair. "It's nothing. Your father was just talking nonsense, you don't have to care about it. Alright, have a rest now. Aren't you going out for dinner with Jared in the evening? I'll have a conversation with your father."

With that, she left.

Makenna stared at the door with brooding eyes.

Since her mother was not going to tell her, she would investigate it herself and find out the truth.

As for Amber, she didn't die last time, but she won't be so lucky next time!

•••

At the Goldstone Co.'s building, the moment Amber and Cole came out of the conference room after a meeting, Sheila stopped in front of them and blocked their path.

She secretly stole a glance at Cole first. Having hidden away her feelings, she put on a straight face and reported to Amber, "Miss Reed, the Trident Group just called and said that Mr. Gardner wanted to see you."

"Trenton Gardner wants to see me?" Amber raised her eyebrow.

"Yes, he is on his way now."

Cole sneered. "He didn't even give you a chance to refuse, darling. By the way, did he mention what he wanted to do with my baby?"

"Well, no, he didn't." Sheila shook her head and answered. Her voice was a little softer than that when she talked to Amber.

But neither of them noticed it.

Amber nodded. "In that case, let's meet. Sheila, please make the tea."

"Okay." Sheila nodded.

Amber and Cole walked towards the office.

Cole stroked his chin. "Could it be that Trenton is coming to you for that land?"

"It should be, I can't think of any other reason." Amber pushed the office door open.

Cole fell one step behind and he closed the door. "I think he probably wants that land back."

Amber smiled and as she was about to answer, Sheila pushed the door open slightly and poked her head in. "Miss Reed, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Gardner has arrived."

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"He is indeed fast." Cole spun around in the chair, looking laidback.

Amber closed the folder in her hand and put it aside. "Please invite him in."

"Yes," Sheila answered.

Soon, Trenton came in and he stared at Amber with his sharp gaze.

Amber had been used to battles in the business world and she was not nervous. She smiled and gestured to Trenton. "Please have a seat, Mr. Gardner."

"How composed of you!" Trenton seemed to be praising her. He pulled the chair opposite her and sat down.

Cole sat down beside Amber.

Amber gently pushed the teacup served by Sheila to Trenton. "Thank you, Mr. Gardner. Please have some tea."

Trenton looked down at the tea in front of him and didn't intend to drink it.

Amber didn't care about it. She crossed her hands and put them on the table. "So, may I ask why are you here in Goldstone today?"

"I'll be frank. You know the land in the city center? I want it back." Trenton fixed his eyes on her.

Amber threw a side glance at Cole and quickly retrieved her look. She smiled. "Take it back? I'm afraid that's impossible. After all, the ownership has been handed over. It belongs to me now, not you. How could you get it back?"

Trenton realized what he had said was inappropriate and he immediately added, "I think you've misunderstood my words. What I meant was to 'buy it back'."

He was slightly enraged speaking of this.

He could have gotten this land for free in the first place, but because of Makenna's doing, he needed to spend money for God's sake.

"Is that so? Looks like I've indeed misunderstood you." Amber tugged a lock of her hair back behind her left ear. "How much are you going to pay for it then?"

"Twenty million dollars." Trenton looked at her and raised two fingers.

Cole rolled his eyes and couldn't help interjecting, "Mr. Gardner, you want to buy the land in the city center back for only twenty million dollars. You must be joking! Or is it that the Trident Group has gone bankrupt and you can't afford the price?"

Trenton's face turned grim as he listened to his sarcasm. "Mr. Lyon, you're gonna have to bear legal responsibility for spreading rumors!"

Cole was not intimidated at all. "What? Am I wrong? Otherwise, why do you only want to pay twenty million dollars? Who are you kidding?"

"Mr. Gardner, I'm with Cole on this. Twenty million is far from enough." Amber took a sip of the tea in front of her and said with an unchanged smile.

Trenton knew that the amount of money he was willing to pay was really not enough too and he fell into silence for a few seconds. "How much do you want?"

"400 million dollars it is!" Amber put down her tea and said a number.

Let alone Trenton, even Cole was stunned.

Trenton slapped the table and stood to his feet. "Miss Reed, you're being too greedy. 400 million?"

"I admit that the price is a little high, but it's a reasonable offer. It's a land in the city center, the preliminary estimated value is about 300 million dollars. When the surrounding is developed and it becomes more prosperous later, the price of that land will only rise. 400 million dollars is not a lot," Amber looked at him and explained calmly.

Trenton snorted. "Who knows how many years it'll take for the price of that land to rise to 400 million? Now you're asking me to pay you 400 million. I'd say, you don't actually want to sell it to me, do you?"

Amber shook her head. "I do. As long as you're willing to pay me this amount, I'll give you the title deed immediately. You only feel that way because you don't want to pay the money. In this case, I'd better keep the land for my own factory."

"Then I'll see if you could build the factory as you wish!" Trenton snorted coldly.

Amber narrowed her beautiful eyes. "Mr. Gardner, are you threatening us?"

Trenton didn't answer. He turned away and left.

Cole watched the door being slammed shut by him. "Darling, are you fooling him?"

"No. I'm not." Amber continued drinking her tea. "What I said is true. As long as he gives me that much money, I'll sell him the land. Since he can't afford it and had to think that way, I can't help it."

Cole stood up and walked around her, sizing her up and down. "Tut, tut. It's only been a while, and now you've evolved into a cunning fox in the business world. 400 million dollars. Not to mention Trenton, even Jared can't take out so much working capital at once, okay?"

"So, I'll keep the land for myself." Amber smiled.

Out of the blue, the cell phone on the desk rang.

Amber put down the teacup and picked the phone up. She glimpsed at the caller ID and frowned. "Hello."

"I'm sorry, Miss Reed. There's something wrong with our engineering team. We may not be able to help you build the factory, please find someone else."

The call was hung up before Amber had the chance to speak.

"What's the matter, darling?" Seeing that she didn't look good, Cole asked with concern.

Amber's lips moved. Before she spoke, the phone rang again. This time it was from the machinery company.

"Hello, is this Miss Reed?"

"Yes, I am," Amber clenched her cell phone and muttered. She had basically guessed what the person was going to say next.

"Well, Miss Reed, our company has recently signed a huge overseas order. We may not be able to help you assemble the machines. I'm really sorry. Please forgive us."

With that, the man also hung up the call, as if Amber was a monster which would engulf anyone who hung up slowly.

"Darling, what's going on?" Cole was anxious when he saw her looking gloomier and gloomier.

Amber slowly put down her cell phone and she looked as cold as ever. "Trenton had messed with the engineering team and the machinery company we found in order to hinder the construction of our factory."

"What?" Cole landed a punch on the table. "That old bastard is too shameless! No, I'll contact other companies."

"I'm afraid it's no use. Trenton wanted to stop us and he will certainly inform other companies too." Amber pinched her palm.

Cole was silent for a moment. "Anyway, let's give it a try."

With that, he walked aside and began to make a phone call.

Amber massaged the part between her eyebrows tiredly. Then, she took out her phone, typed something, and posted it on the social media.

Just after she finished posting and was about to put down her phone, a message suddenly popped up from above the screen.

Z: What's the matter?

It's him!

Amber's heart suddenly leapt and she didn't know what was wrong with her. Seeing that the person who sent the message was Z, she had a feeling that couldn't be described.

But Amber didn't think much. After taking a deep breath, she typed to reply: What do you mean by 'what's the matter?'

Z: I saw your post.

Amber only then realized that Z sent her the message because he saw her post on social media.

Amber felt heartwarming. She replied with a smile: Are you concerned about me?

When Jared saw the message, he pursed his lips.

He didn't know why he would ask her that when he saw her post. As soon as he reacted, the message had already been sent.

It would be no use for him to remove the message. She would still see it and ask him what he had sent, therefore it was better for him to leave it there.

Z: If you say so.

Amber: Then I'll take this as a yes.

Z: Uh-huh.

Amber replied: Do you really want to know what had happened to me just now?

Jared hesitated. Then he typed: Not really. You could choose not to say anything.

Amber: Why would I refuse to say?

She smiled. Not knowing for what reason, she had subconsciously treated the person as a listener and she told him about Trenton's deeds via voice message.

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Jared frowned after listening to her words. It was the first time Jared felt disgusted about the way Trenton did things.

Trenton could be so despicable just because he didn't get the land.

Suddenly, Jared's phone buzzed.

Jared kept away his thoughts and took a look at the screen of his phone.

It was Amber's text: What should I do now?

Amber added a sighing emoji at the end of the sentence. It looked adorable.

Somehow, as Jared stared at it, the emoji turned into Amber's face .

Perhaps Amber looked exactly like this now.

But soon, Jared became sulky when he noticed that he was thinking about something he shouldn't.

It had nothing to do with him regardless of what Amber looked like now.

Why was he thinking about all these?

Z: I don't know

Amber became disappointed when she saw the text message.

This person gave Amber an idea and helped her get Maxmatch the last time., Amber took him as a reliable person. This time, she sought for his help to see if he had any idea.

Amber suddenly realized that it wasn't a wise thing to do. It could develop into a habit.

"Amber, you need to count on yourself!"

Amber patted her face and started typing on the phone.

Amber: My apologies. It was just a random question. Don't mind it. I'll figure it out with my friend.

Friend?

Jared squinted his eyes.

Z: Boyfriend?

Amber took a look at the balcony.

Amber: Yeah.

Z was a friend of Hayden's. It wouldn't surprise Amber if he knew she had a boyfriend.

However, what everybody didn't know was that Cole was just her fake boyfriend.

Jared became frustrated when Amber admitted that she had a boyfriend. He loosened his necktie and replied: It's easy to build a factory.

"What?" Amber stood up in surprise.

What's wrong with this guy? Didn't he say he didn't know how?

Amber didn't give it much thought. She quickly replied with a voice message, "How?"

Jared could sense the trust and panic in Amber's voice. He relaxed his brows a little and became less frustrated.

Z: There's a project about a museum for exhibiting cultural relics around the world in Olkmore City. However, they haven't found a suitable location yet. You won't need that big of a space. You could share a part of the land with the government.

Amber immediately understood what Z meant. She smiled and typed: You're right! I can totally give part of the land to the gov, then waive their rent for a few years. Thereby, I could use the favour and ask for the government's help to build my own factory. Ha!

It meant that Amber's factory was supported by the government. Trenton will need to worry about the consequences if he wanted to disturb Amber's work again.

At the same time, Amber could also get the person in charge of the museum project to introduce some machine factories to her. The plan was to hit two birds with one stone.

The smile on Amber's face became wider. Her voice sounded livelier because of her happiness, "Thank you so much for your help again."

Z: It's fine.

Amber paused for a while and asked, "You see, we've talked for so long, but I didn't know your name yet. How do I repay this favour?"

However, Jared didn't reply to this message.

Amber knew the person over the phone wouldn't reply to her question. She sighed and quit the chat.

At the same time, Cole walked in from the balcony looking angry, "Baby, you're right. Trenton that old sly fox told all constructors and machine factories in the city not to work with us. They won't change their mind no matter what I say. Argh, this is so frustrating."

Cole's voice sounded hoarse. Amber stood up and made him a glass of honey water, "Don't be mad. I got it sorted."

"What?" Cole took the honey water and quickly asked.

Amber told Cole what Jared told her.

Cole clapped his hands, "This is great, baby! How did you think of it?"

Amber shook her head, "It wasn't me. It's from one of my friends."

"A friend?" Cole looked at Amber in doubt, "The person who gave you suggestions on purchasing Maxmatch?"

"That's the one," Amber nodded.

Cole put down the glass, "Baby, tell me the truth. Who is that guy, and who is he to you? Why does he keep helping you?"

Amber looked down. She didn't know how to answer Cole's question.

After all, that night was an accident. Amber couldn't tell anyone.

"Stop asking already. Drink it up. Then, we'll go to the government," Amber quickly changed the subject.

Cole knew Amber didn't want to tell, so he didn't force her. Instead, he went along with Amber, "Alright, alright. Don't rush me."

Later, Amber and Cole left Goldstone.

On the other side, in a private room of a club.

After finishing singing a song, Hayden saw Jared sitting in the dark corner alone. So, he grabbed two glasses of wine and approached Jared.

"What are you doing? You were either making calls or texting since we're here. I asked you to come to relax, not work," Hayden handed over a glass to Jared.

Jared took the glass and took a sip, "It wasn't about work."

"Then what are you doing?" Hayden sat down and peeked at Jared's phone. He was surprised, "Isn't this your ex-wife? You're still talking to her?"

Hayden looked at Jared with surprise.

Jared remained calm and replied, "She didn't know it was me."

"So, you're contacting her while hiding your identity?" Hayden looked like he was staring at an alien.

Jared cast a cold glance at Hayden, and then looked away, "I did not."

"Then, you're..."

"Stop it," Jared rubbed his temples and interrupted Hayden impatiently, "If I'm not mistaken, you have an uncle who worked in the government, correct?"

"Yes. What do you need?"

"Amber would make an application for an engineering team from the department. Ask your uncle to help with this," Jared took another sip of wine.

Hayden put on a weird smile, "Wait up. You've helped her the last time with the Yutoga deal, and now you're helping her again. What are you thinking? Don't tell me that you're still obsessed with her."

Jared frowned, "Stop the nonsense. I did what I did because Makenna had caused her injuries. I'm making it up for her on behalf of Makenna."

"Are you sure that was it?" Hayden stared at him with searching eyes.

Jared pursed his lips, "Duh?"

"I thought you still had feelings for her," Hayden muttered.

Hayden overheard Trenton's call, and he knew how Makenna injured Amber. He even knew Jared made a huge compensation to Amber for Makenna.

Well, since compensation had been made, then Jared wouldn't need to give anything more to Amber. However, Jared did what he did. It probably indicated that Amber still meant something to Jared. And now there was Makenna. It was going to be dramatic.

Then, Hayden smiled and put down his wine glass, "Alright. I'll give my uncle a call."

Jared nodded. Then, he grabbed his coat and stood up from the couch, "I've got to go."

"It's still early."

Jared didn't stop, "I'll go pick up Makenna."

Hayden let him go then. And he picked up the phone, "Hey, uncle...

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Amber didn't expect everything to go so smoothly. After an hour, Amber had gotten a signed contract.

The person in charge promised to help Amber to build her factory and arrange machines for her to thank her for waiving the rent of the land.

It was already dark outside after getting everything done.

Amber was starving.

Cole hugged Amber's shoulder and said, "Baby, let's go and have some steaks."

"Sure," Amber nodded.

"Let's go!" Cole held Amber tightly and strode towards the car.

They arrived at one of the most famous restaurants in Olkmore after half an hour.

Amber heard a familiar voice the moment she stepped into the restaurant, "Ms. Reed, Mr. Lyon. We've met again."

Amber's face fell in an instant.

Cole rolled his eyes, "What a coincidence."

It was Jared and Makenna.

Makenna gave him a tender smile, "Mr. Lyon, did you not want to see us?"

"Well, isn't it obvious?" Cole shrugged his shoulder.

Makenna didn't seem angry. Instead, she continued smiling.

Jared remained silent. He was staring at Amber's bandage. An indescribable emotion flashed across his eyes.

Amber felt it. She looked at Jared curiously and smiled too, "Mr. Farrell, why are you staring at me? Aren't you afraid that your fiancé would become jealous?"

Makenna's smile finally stiffened.

She knew Amber was trying to sow discord between Jared and her, but she had to admit that Amber was telling the truth. Jared was staring at Amber.

Jealousy filled Makenna's eyes. She felt suffocated, but she insisted on smiling.

"Oh, don't worry about that, Ms. Reed. You're standing in front of us. Of course, Jared had to look at you once or twice. Plus, Jared had to talk to so many ladies at work. I'll be so tired if I were to be jealous about it. Am I right, Jared?"

Makenna held Jared's arm.

Jared frowned when he felt Makenna was gripping him, but he didn't shake her hands off.

"You're so generous, Ms. Gardner," Amber pretended that she didn't see Makenna's bitter smile.

Cole yawned, "That's it, baby. There's no need to waste your breath on them. Didn't you say you're hungry? Let's go to our private room"

"Sure," Amber nodded.

Cole hugged Amber's waist and followed the waiter.

Jared became sulky when he saw Cole and Amber were so close. He felt the urge to separate Cole and Amber.

Jared restrained himself at last. He looked down and told Makenna, "Let's go."

"Sure," Makenna smiled.

On their way to their private room, Cole couldn't help commenting, "Baby, Makenna was definitely jealous about you, but she kept pretending that she wasn't and kept putting on fake smiles. Isn't that tiring?"

"Would you feel tired of sleeping or eating?" Amber answered Cole's question with another question.

Cole shook his head.

Amber smiled, "There you go. Pretending is a necessity for some people, just like how normal sleeping and eating are for us. How would they feel tired of the necessity?"

"You're right," Cole pouted. Then, he had an idea. Cole smiled wickedly, "Baby, If we tear off Makenna's disguise, do you think she would..."

"Stop it," Amber elbowed Cole, "She didn't mess with us for now. So we should keep our distance too."

But of course, if Makenna messed with Amber, she would definitely take revenge.

Amber and Cole arrived at their private room as they spoke.

Both of them order the signature steak of the restaurant. Amber stood up when they were halfway eating, "I need to use the bathroom."

"You want me to go with you?" Cole raised his brows and teased Amber.

Amber smiled, "What do you think?"

Cole recognized the danger in that smile of Amber. He shivered and put his hands up, "I guess I'll pass this time. Come back soon."

Amber nodded and took her purse out.

After using the bathroom, Amber started to fix her makeup in front of the mirror.

Suddenly, one of the cubicles opened. It was Makenna.

Makenna was stunned when she saw Amber. Then, she put on a smile and walked toward Amber. Makenna stood beside her and started to fix her makeup as well.

"What a coincidence, Ms. Reed," Makenna said while she was putting on face powder.

Amber was looking at the lipstick. She replied calmly, "You're right. What a coincidence for us to meet in the bathroom."

Makenna closed her powder case and looked at Amber's bandage, "How are your injuries?"

Amber fixed her lipstick. She didn't glance at Makenna at all, "Well, it's still a long way to go. You should know that better."

"Ms. Reed, are you still blaming me for what happened?" Makenna suddenly started crying.

Amber felt it was funny. She hadn't even touched Makenna, and she had already started crying. She acted like Amber had bullied her or something.

What a strange taste Jared had for women.

Of course, Amber, who used to like Jared, didn't exactly have the best taste, but luckily she had fixed her mistakes now.

Amber put her lipstick back into the purse, "Why should I? I've taken so much compensation. I'll go over the top if I'm still blaming you. May I know why Ms. Gardner has this thought? Do I look like a petty person to you?"

"No..." Makenna waved her hands, "I just felt like you're so cold to us, so I gather you're still blaming me."

Amber turned to look at Makenna, "You know, I'm a pretty straightforward person. I'm enthusiastic about the people I like, and I'm apathetic to those I dislike. So, what I don't understand is that you know I don't like you, but why are you still coming near me to get snubbed?"

Makenna could hear someone chuckle softly in the cubicle after Amber said that. Her face was flushing red as she couldn't believe she had just been mocked.

Amber looked away. "So, Ms. Gardner, stay away from me next time. Stop humiliating yourself. Didn't you realize that you can never rival me?"

Then, Amber zipped her purse and walked out of the washroom.

Makenna bit her lip and stared in the direction Amber left with a malicious look. She sneered.

Yes, Makenna might be losing now.

But, it could be different in the future.

After that, Makenna grabbed her purse and walked out of the washroom as well.

When Makenna was on her way back to her private room, a waiter walked past her. The waiter suddenly took out a handkerchief when he was beside Makenna and covered her mouth and nose.

Makenna's shriek was muffled and her eyes widened. However, she passed out before she could do anything.

Amber and Cole were about to go home after dinner.

Someone knocked on their private room door when they stood up from their seat.

Cole opened the door, and he saw Jared standing there.

Jared seemed tense, and a little anxious.

Amber wondered if something had happened.

"What are you doing here?" Cole stopped Jared in an impolite tone.

Jared ignored Cole and asked Amber, "Is Makenna here?"

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Amber raised an eyebrow, "You're looking for Miss Gardner? But why come to us, isn't she with you?"

Jared drooped down his eyes, "She's not with me."

"Not with you?" Cole gasped, then let out a wry smirk, "What, she's missing?"

Jared said nothing.

Suddenly, Cole's smile turned into a look of surprise, "Wait, for real?"

Amber looked to Jared, "Miss Gardner is missing, so you came to us to look for her. Do you think we secretly hid her somewhere, Mr. Farrell?"

"Makenna went to use the washroom and never returned. This was the place where she and you guys had a quarrel." Jared looked at her directly.

Cole snorted, "We have some kind of quarrel with her, so we decided to kidnap her? What kind of logic is that? Everyone knows that we're the first suspects if something were to happen to her. We'd be nuts to do something like that."

Jared pursed his lips but said nothing.

Deep down, he knew the possibility of Makenna being here was slim.

But he still wanted to try his luck here.

"Mr. Farrell." Amber pulled Cole by his clothes to the side, and she took a step toward Jared. "I did see Miss Gardner at the washroom, but I left before she did. I don't know where she went after that, but maybe you can go check the security camera by the restroom."

"I did, there's not a trace of her." Jared said as he clenched his fists.

Makenna didn't return to the private room, so he tried calling but couldn't reach her. He had the restaurant's manager sent staff to help search, but there was not a trace of Makenna.

The strange thing was, all of the surveillance cameras in the restaurant were functioning just fine, but there's not one that caught sight of Makenna. Something was amiss.

Cole puckered his lips, "If none of the cameras saw her, then maybe she was purposefully evading them and decided to hole up somewhere to, you know, see how worried you'd be over her. Sounds like something that drama queen would do."

Jared's face turned gloomy.

Amber gave Cole a look to stop him from talking.

Calling Jared's little princess a drama queen right to his face, wasn't Cole just asking for it?

"Ah, sorry, Mr. Farrell, just his force of habit. Please don't take it to the heart." Amber gave a halfhearted apology, then looked at the watch on her wrist, "Well, it's getting late, Cole and I really gotta get going. Mr. Farrell, hope you find Ms. Gardner soon, bye!"

Done talking, she threw a quick smile at Jared, then grabbed Cole's wrist and hurried off.

Looking at the joyful couple run off, Jared felt incredibly fretful inside.

For the six years they've been married, Amber always looked deadpan. The second they divorced, a ton of men sprung up around her, and she was being so cheerful. Such woman of easy virtue was nothing compared to Makenna.

Thinking of his grandmother's criticisms against Makenna and how she warned him not to regret getting divorced from Amber, he found it laughable.

Regret?

No way!

He shook Amber out of his head, and swiped open his phone to make a call, "Still no signs of her?"

"None. I've searched the entire area, even nearby the restaurant. There's no sign of Miss Gardner, Mr. Farrell. Shall we call the police?"

Ben stood at the restaurant's entrance, scratching his head.

Jared gripped the phone tightly, his voice sounded low and depressed, "It's no use. There's no telling whether her disappearance is an accident or not, so the police won't handle it. Not until at least 48 hours has passed."

"What do we do now?" Ben glanced around and shivered in the cold.

Jared was silent for a while, then said, "Take some men and keep looking around the area, be careful with any hint of Makenna."

"Got it!"

Jared hung up and left the restaurant, heading for the Gardner residence.

He quickly arrived.

Jared followed the servant into the house, where Trenton and his wife happened to be coming down the stairs. Seeing him alone, Trenton asked, "Jared, where's Makenna?"

Mrs. Gardner glanced behind Jared, "Is she still outside?"

"Mrs. Gardner, Makenna is missing!" Jared looked at the couple, then said with a heavy heart.

Mrs. Gardner froze, "What do you mean she's missing?"

Jared lowered his head.

Trenton's face turned pale, and he questioned Jared loudly, "Wasn't she with you, how could she have gone missing?"

"While we were eating, she went to the restroom, but never came back. I sent men to search for her everywhere, but we still haven't found her. I fear something may have happened to her." Jared replied, with an apologetic look on his face.

Mrs. Gardner rolled her eyes and fainted.

"Honey!" Trenton shouted, then hurried to catch his wife's limp body.

Jared also rushed over to help.

The two of them carried her to the sofa.

Trenton kept pinching her to try to wake her up.

Finally, Mrs. Gardner coughed a few times and came back to consciousness, then she pounded at her chest as she cried out, "Trenton, our dear, sweet Makenna, she's missing..."

"I know." Trenton held her in his arms and gently patted her back, "Don't worry, I'll find her!"

The second he said this, Jared's phone rang.

He took a look at the screen, then picked up the call, "Speak."

"Mr. Farrell, we found some clues to Miss Gardner's whereabouts." Ben was on the other end, and he spoke excitedly, "I heard from a bystander that Miss Gardner was kidnapped by a masked man, and forced into a van."

"A van?" Jared's eyes narrowed like an angry lion, "Get footage from all the surveillance cameras in the vicinity, I want the path and plate of that van."

"Got it." Ben nodded.

As soon as Jared hung up, Trenton and his wife stared at him, "What is it? Is there news about Makenna?"

"She's been kidnapped." Jared said in a tone that hinted murderous intent.

The second she heard this, Mrs. Gardner let out a sharp cry, and nearly fainted again.

Trenton's face was also incredibly ill, he gritted his teeth and hissed, "Who dares to touch my daughter!"

"We don't know yet, but once we find them..."

Trenton cut Jared off, "Once we find them, I'll handle it, and make them wish they'd never been born!"

Nobody could mess with his daughter!

If they dared to kidnap her, then they'd have better be ready to face his wrath!

Jared had no objections to Trenton's plans. "Sir, let's call the police first. Now that we're at least certain Makenna's disappearance was due to kidnapping, the police will take care of it. After all, we're limited on manpower. With the police's help, we should be able to find her even faster."

It was a reasonable suggestion, and Trenton was about to nod in approval.

Suddenly, Mrs. Gardner broke out, shouting at the top of her lungs, "No, no police, don't call the police. I can't afford to lose Makenna again, I can't!"

After she finished with her outburst, she was shaking all over, and there was a horrified look on her face. She did not look like the usual graceful lady at all.

Jared stared at Mrs. Gardner in appall, "Sir, Mrs. Gardner, she..."

Trenton hugged her tightly and coaxed her like a baby, "There, there, no police, no police."

Mrs. Gardner heard his words, and stopped shaking so violently. But the fear on her face was still there.

Trenton stroked her hair gently, and let out a huge sigh, "She has a condition.

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"Condition?"

"Yes," Trenton nodded, "Makenna never mentioned that she had an older sister, did she?"

Jared nodded.

A look filled with hatred shone in Trenton's eyes, contorting his entire face, "Her name was Makayla, she was our first daughter. When she was still a little child, she was abducted. We called the police, but it provoked the kidnappers, so they drowned her. Ever since then, my wife's mental condition has never been the same, until..."

A light sparkled in Trenton's eyes, "After Makenna was born, her state seemed to have gotten better. I never thought that Makenna would get kidnapped as well. This has triggered her mental illness again after twenty years!"

Jared tried to take in all this information.

Mrs. Gardner was probably worried that calling the police would provoke the kidnappers to kill Makenna.

"If that's the case, I'll call a security company and hire some men to rescue Makenna."

Jared was about to make a call, but this time, Trenton's phone rang.

Trenton placed Mrs. Gardner to the side, and looked at the anonymous call. It didn't even display the location from where the caller was calling from.

Trenton looked at his phone for a few seconds, then picked up, "This is Trenton Gardner."

"I heard you've been looking for me?" A man's cheery tone echoed from the phone, but it was also filled with coldness.

Trenton wrinkled his forehead, "Who is this?"

"Have you forgotten all about me already? I told you last time, I have a second present for you." The man began to laugh, which was enough to send chills down anyone's spine.

Trenton suddenly remembered, and his face turned into a scowl, as he hissed, "It's you!"

It was that fox mask man from last time!

Jared looked perplexed at Trenton, "Sir, what's the matter?"

Trenton gripped his phone, his hand slightly trembling, but he said nothing.

Over the phone, the man continued to cackle, "Yup, it's me. I heard you're all looking for me. So, here I am. Impressed?"

"Who said we're looking for you?" Trenton was so enraged that even his neck flushed red.

Looking for him? Why the hell would Trenton do this!

"Well, you're all looking for whoever took Makenna. So, isn't that me?"

Trenton stood up, "You kidnapped Makenna?"

Jared's eyes narrowed and stared at the phone in Trenton's hand.

Mrs. Gardner was incredibly anxious and snatched the phone from Trenton, "Who are you? Why did you kidnap my daughter? Please, let her go, I'll give you whatever you want."

"Whatever I want, is that so?" The man giggled.

Mrs. Gardner nodded her head repeatedly, "Yes, just name the price!"

"I don't want money. If you give me the Trident Group, I'll let your daughter go. Sounds fair?" He laughed deviously.

Mrs. Gardner's expression was frozen.

Trenton grabbed the phone back, "You must be joking!"

No way he would give anyone the Trident Group.

The man did not sound displeased at all, "Come on now, that was just a joke, don't be so upset, Mr. Gardner. Besides, I never thought about using her to get the Trident Group. I'm sure she's not even worth that much."

"Then why did you kidnap Makenna?" Jared's hands were balled into fists inside his pockets, but he could no longer control himself and shouted out.

The sly man sounded slightly surprised, "Oh, Mr. Farrell's there as well."

Jared wasn't surprised that the caller knew him. After all, this man was out to get the Gardner family, so it's no surprise he'd looked into all related ties to the family.

"Tell me, why are you doing this!" Jared asked again.

The sly man stopped laughing, and his voice turned ominous, "It's simple. She hurt the one I care about the most, so I'm going to make her pay."

Hurt?

Jared's eyebrows were knitted tensely.

Speaking of hurting, the only one Makenna ever really hurt, was Amber.

"You mean Amber?" Jared's hands were clenched into tighter fists as he tried to restrain himself.

He recalled that in the restaurant, there were quite a few men around Amber already. Who knew where this guy appeared from, but he might not be the last one either.

It appears that she secretly made quite a few male friends behind his back before they even got divorced. What a woman!

"It's Amber Reed. She's the one who caused this to our Makenna!" Mrs. Gardner's eyes widened, and the tears began to flow out again, "Why, why must the Reeds haunt both of my daughters!"

Hearing this, Jared's eyes suddenly flickered.

Now it's no secret why the Gardner family hated the Reed family so much.

Makayla's death must have had something to do with the Reeds.

"Mrs. Gardner, I must correct you there. It was your daughter who hurt Amber first, so don't go playing the victim. Mr. Gardner, check your computer. I'll let you take a look at your daughter. That's my second present to you." The man said and began to cackle again.

"Get the computer!" Trenton barked out.

A servant quickly rushed over with his computer.

As soon as Trenton turned it on, the image of a man wearing a fox mask popped out, which startled the Gardner couple.

Jared fixed his gaze on the man, trying to note down the skin tone, moles, tattoos, or any noticeable features.

He needed clues to find the masked man.

Unfortunately, the man was quite clean of any markings.

"Where's my daughter, didn't you say you were going to let us see her, where is she!" Mrs. Gardner grabbed the computer and fervently asked.

The masked man laid back on a sofa with his legs crossed. He held a glass of red wine in one hand, as he slowly stirred it, "Don't rush, Mrs. Gardner. Here she comes now!"

After he finished speaking, the computer screen split into two, with the masked man on the left, and Makenna on the right.

Makenna was tied to a chair. Her head was drooped and she didn't move. She was probably knocked out.

Behind her stood a muscular, masked man, where only his eyes and mouth were revealed, so it was impossible to see his face.

The sight was enough to distraught Mrs. Gardner, "Makenna!"

Trenton also glared at the masked man.

Jared asked in a chilling tone, "What have you done to Makenna!"

"Don't worry, she's fine. Ron, wake her up." The masked man rested his head on one hand and spoke off-handedly.

The man standing behind Makenna grunted, then walked out of the picture. Then he came back with a bucket of water. Suddenly, he poured the water all over Makenna.

"Ah!" Makenna shouted as she jilted awake.

"Makenna!" Mrs. Gardner continued to call out.

Makenna was in a daze, then she called back, "Mom, is that you?"

"It's me, it's me." Mrs. Gardner covered her mouth and whimpered.

Makenna also began to cry while glancing around her surroundings, "Mom, where are you. I can't see you. I'm so scared, please, hurry up and come save me."

"Don't worry, Makenna, mom will save you, and so will your father and Jared." Mrs. Gardner said as she pulled Trenton and Jared by their sleeves, gesturing them to say something as well.

Trenton spoke first, "Don't worry, Makenna, dad will definitely save you."

"And so will I." Jared looked at Makenna's haggard face, and tried to reassure her in a soft tone, "The camera is probably off on your end, so you can't see us. But don't worry, we can see you."

Reassurance from her parents and lover greatly helped to quell the overwhelming fear of being kidnapped in her heart, removing the feelings of hatred.

While kidnapped, Makenna awoke once, and happened to hear that she was kidnapped because of something to do with Amber.

So she was determined to make Amber pay ten folds once she gets out of here!

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"Tell me, what exactly do you want before you are willing to let go of my daughter?" Trenton looked sharply at the fox-masked man on the screen.

The man put down the glass in his hand and said, "Don't worry. I won't do anything to your daughter. Like I said, I just taught her a lesson. When she has had enough, I will surely let her go." After saying that, he snapped his fingers.

The other masked man beside Makenna dropped the bucket in his hand, walked behind her and began to touch her lustfully.

She was so scared that her face was colorless. She screamed, "Let go of me! No! Don't touch me! Get lost! No! Jared, save me!"

Jared pounded his fist on the coffee table and roared with furor, "Let go of Makenna!"

Mrs. Gardner and Trenton also hurriedly begged the man to stop hurting their daughter.

The man remained indifferent and said, "It hurts you to see your daughter and fiancée that you care about suffering so much, right? Have you ever thought that my heart also hurts when your daughter and fiancée hurt Amber?"

His eyes flickered and he instructed coldly, "Ron, go on!"

"Okay." The other masked man called Ron nodded and his hand slid straight into Makenna's dress and grabbed her.

"Bastard!" Jared wanted so much to kill him.

Mrs. Gardner and Trenton was driven crazy by this scene.

Trenton glowered at the man. He snarled through gritted teeth, "If you let him do anything to my daughter, I swear to God I'll destroy Amber even if I have to pay my life for it!"

The fox-masked man was not provoked. Instead, he smiled. "I never wanted to do anything to your daughter. But if she dares hurt Amber again, I will truly make her suffer. I promise you that before you destroy Amber, I'll exterminate the Gardner family first. You know I am able to do that."

After saying that, he directly cut off the video.

The next second, a text appeared on the computer screen: If you want to save Makenna, get here within half an hour. If you can't make it, I will have someone strip her naked and throw her on the street.

There was an address at the bottom.

Jared memorized the address and immediately left the Gardner family house.

Trenton knew he was going to save Makenna. So he asked his wife to stay at home and then followed Jared out.

Thirty minutes later, they found the place where Makenna was being held.

It was an abandoned industrial park. Makenna was locked up in a warehouse.

When Jared found her with his men, she was the only one left in the warehouse. The two men had already gone.

Jared saw her crawled up in a chair with her eyes closed. She kept gasping for air with a red face. He knew she might have a fever.

Feeling anxious, he rushed forward to untie the rope on her body and took off his jacket to cover her. Then he picked her up and walked towards the outside.

Just as he reached the warehouse door, Trenton hurriedly came. "How is Makenna?"

"She is having a fever and I must take her to the hospital!" Jared said.

After saying that, he directly carried her into the car.

Soon they arrived at the hospital and Makenna was sent to the emergency room.

When Cole returned after paying the fee, he asked Amber mysteriously, "Honey, guess what I just saw."

Amber was sitting on the sofa and a nurse was standing beside her, changing the dressing for the wound on her head.

She could not move, so she squinted at him, asking, "What did you see?"

He smiled happily. "I saw Makenna. She was sent to the emergency room. Do you feel happy?"

Happy? Really?

She rolled her eyes at her and then asked in doubt, "What happened to her? How did she end up in the emergency room?"

He scratched his chin and guessed, "I don't know. But judging from Trenton and Jared's looks, she must be injured seriously. Maybe something happened to her when she was missing. Honey, shall we go and find it out?"

"No. This matter has nothing to do with us. Just leave it alone. If we go, we may get into trouble," she frowned.

"You have a point." He nodded his head.

After applying the medicine, they walked out of the surgical department and prepared to go back.

Just as they reached the lobby, they heard a deep voice, "Amber!"

It was Jared!

She stopped and turned around.

Jared came from the charge desk with payment slip and stopped two steps away from her.

"Mr. Farrell, it's late. What's the matter?" She smiled and looked at him.

Cole impatiently looked at his watch and urged, "Well, say it quickly. It's more than ten o'clock. We still need to go back and rest."

As soon as Jared heard his words, his face became more sullen. "How many people did you tell that Makenna once hurt you? And who are they?"

Since the fox-masked man captured Makenna for the sake of Amber, Jared could find out the identity of him through Amber.

"Why do you ask?" She looked at him suspiciously.

"Just answer me!"

"Hey, hey!" Cole took a step forward and blocked in front of her. "Mr. Farrell, since you don't answer her question, why do you force her to answer yours?"

Jared ignored him and just looked at her intensely.

She understood his gaze and felt sorrow in her heart. Clenching her fist, and being silent for a few seconds, she answered, "Just one. I only told Jeremy."

Jeremy Lynch?

He narrowed his eyes and soon remembered that Jeremy was the model who followed her around some time ago.

"What about you?" He moved his eyes from her to Cole.

Cole snorted. "Jared, are you fucking interrogating us? Fuc..."

"Cole!" Noticing that Jared was getting gloomier, Amber pulled Cole. "Just answer him."

Although Cole felt reluctant, he still listened to her and replied angrily, "None. Are you satisfied now? Honey, let's go. He is a psychopath!"

After saying that, he tugged her and walked towards the hospital gate.

Jared did not stop them, and just stood in place and watched them go far away.

At this time, Ben came to his side with his phone. "Mr. Farrell, you are here."

"What is wrong?" Jared withdrew his gaze from the hospital entrance.

Ben replied, "Miss Gardner has come out of the emergency room. Mr. Gardner asked me to call for you."

"Okay," Jared instructed, "Check out Jeremy Lynch. I want to know if he is the fox-masked man!"

Although he had only met Jeremy once or twice, he had an impression of him, especially at Makenna's celebration party. The way Jeremy looked at Amber was unusual. It was how a man looked at a woman he loved.

Jeremy cared about Amber just like that masked man did. And Amber only told him about what Makenna did. So Jeremy was most likely to be the man.

"Got it," Ben replied in a serious way.

Jared turned around and walked towards the elevator.

In the car, Cole kept cursing Jared. Amber in the passenger seat slapped him on the arm and said angrily, "Enough. Stop it. I feel headache."

He pouted and stopped talking.

She rubbed her temples and said, "Have you guessed the reason why he asked those questions?"

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"What's the reason?" Cole asked. His words indicated his confusion.

Amber held her forehead and said with a sullen face, "Jared's questions have something to do with Makenna's situation. Maybe Makenna went missing because she got kidnapped and the kidnapper might be someone we know."

"Huh?" He got surprised.

She continued, "It has been a while since what happened in the resort. But Jared asked us how many people we had told about this matter, while Makenna is in the emergency room. It's pretty obvious. He doubted that we wanted revenge so much that we asked someone to kidnap Makenna."

This was why she felt heartbroken when seeing Jared's suspicious gaze.

Hearing her analysis, he instantly understood everything. With eyes flickering, he said, "It's all finished. You told him that Jeremy was the only one who knew that matter. He must think Jeremy was the one who kidnapped Makenna and caused her to go to the emergency room."

"In fact, I was wondering if Jeremy actually did this thing. Besides us, only Jeremy knew. Well, I have to ask him personally," she said.

She took out her phone from her bag, found Jeremy's number and dialed it.

Cole glanced at her secretly with a touch of imperceptible guilt in his eyes.

Soon the phone call came through.

Jeremy sounded a bit tired, "Amber, ahem, it's so late. What you do want?"

"Jeremy, are you sick?" Hearing the coughing over the phone, she instantly became worried.

He smiled weakly and said, "It's freezing here and it's an outdoor shooting, so I accidentally catch a cold. Ahem ahem..."

"Did you see a doctor? Have you taken the medicine?" she asked with concern.

Her words warmed his heart. "Yes, and I have taken my medicine. Don't worry, Amber. I will be fine in a couple of days. Don't worry. Ahem ahem..."

"How can I not worry about it? What if you got inflammation when you keep coughing like this?" She rubbed her face in annoyance.

Back then when she and her father first went to Ensford Town, they met the sick little Jeremy. The little boy was curling up on a shabby bed, coughing violently. She and her father hurriedly took him to the hospital.

The doctor said he had pulmonary edema and inflammation in his lungs. If he was taken to the hospital a little too late, he would have been dead. Now she heard him coughing again; how could she feel at ease?

"Give me your address later. I will send you some medicine that suits your conditions," she said decisively.

He smiled, "Okay. I got it."

"Alright, I want to ask you something." She looked a bit better on the face.

"Okay. Go ahead."

"The other day I told you that Makenna caused me to get hurt. You still remember that, right?" She slightly frowned.

Cole drove while listening with open ears.

A trace of uneasiness flashed in Jeremy's eyes. "Yes. What's wrong?"

"Makenna has been missing for a while tonight and she is in hospital now. Jeremy, tell me honestly. Did you do this?" she asked directly.

He just kept smiling, "No. I am so far away from Olkmore City. How am I able to do this? Amber, what made you think that I did it?"

"Jared asked me about it and I wondered if it had something to do with you." She told him the conversation she had with Jared at the hospital and then apologized, "I am sorry, Jeremy. I should not have suspected you."

"Amber, it's okay. I can understand. Since Mr. Farrell asked like that, it was easy for you to associate it with me. But I really didn't do it."

"I believe in you."

Cole wanted to give Jeremy a thumb-up.

Thinking of Jeremy's gentleness and those puppy eyes, Amber easily believed him.

But Cole would not be deceived. He knew Jeremy was most probably the one behind this matter. After all, he had once seen Jeremy's true face. Still, he wanted to praise Jeremy for doing such a good job!

Amber chatted with Jeremy for a few more words and then hung up the phone.

She put the phone back in her bag. "I am relieved to know that Jeremy did not do it. Jared can't do anything to Jeremy."

Cole smiled without saying anything.

She looked at the bid drugstore on the road and said, "Stop the car."

"Are you truly going to buy some medicine for him?" he pulled the car over and asked.

She nodded and said, "Yes. Wait for me here and I'll be back soon."

"Go ahead." He waved his hand.

She entered the drugstore, took a small basket and selected some medicine for Jeremy who always did outdoor shootings. It was easy for him to get sick flying around the world to different places with different weather.

So these kinds of medicine were indispensable for him.

After taking almost a full basket of medicine, she felt that it was enough and was ready to go check out.

Suddenly, she glanced at some contraceptive drug on the shelf in front of her. Her pupils tightened instantly.

She remembered that after that night, she did not take any measures. Would she...

She dared not to think about it anymore and quickly stopped a staff. "Hello."

"What do you need?" the staff asked with a smile.

Amber pointed to the contraceptive drug and asked, "Does it still have effect if I take it not so timely?"

"What's the interval?" the staff asked.

Amber had actually guessed the result but she still said with a little hope, "Almost half a month."

The staff shook her head. "I am sorry, Miss. The interval is too long, so there won't be any effect."

Amber tightened her grip on the small basket and asked again, "Can I detect whether I am pregnant or not within half a month?"

"It won't work either. At least a month will do."

"Well, thank you." Amber forced a smile.

"You are welcome."

After the staff walked away, Amber kept staring at the contraceptive drug for a while. Then she went to the checkout with her basket.

Seeing her come out, Cole got out of the car to take her bag and wanted to ask her what took her so long. But then he noticed her walking past him with a lowered head.

"Honey, what's wrong with you?" He hurriedly followed her, and did not even have time to see what kind of medicine she had bought.

She shook her head in silence, opened the car door and got into the car.

He stood outside the passenger side for a few seconds and then returned to his driver's seat. After throwing the bag onto the back seat, he looked at her while fastening the seat belt. "Honey, did someone do something to you?"

"It's not like that. I just remembered something that was so annoying." She leaned back on the seat, pinched her nose bridge and felt irritated.

How could she forget to take medicine after that night? Now she remembered it, but it was too late.

What if she really got pregnant?

"Tell me about it. Maybe I can enlighten you, huh?" he smiled and asked.

She waved at him listlessly and said, "Well, you can't do anything about it. Just leave me alone. Hurry up and drive. I am so tired."

Seeing that she did not want to say anything, he shrugged his shoulders and stopped asking. Then he started the car again with his keys.

Half an hour later, they arrived at Kelsington Bay.

She got out of the car with the bag of medicine. After saying goodbye to him, she turned around to go inside.

When she got home, she took a shower, blew dry her hair and fell asleep.

The next day, when she was still sleeping, she was awakened by a sharp and rude banging on the door.