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Elira took a look at it and her expression changed instantly for she had not expected it to be that serious. Needless to say, Isaac was really not an ordinary man.

She remained smiling nevertheless. "It's not a big problem, but it is highly advisable to not take a shower tonight. Otherwise, it'll take longer for it to recover."

She then took out a cream from the medical kit. "Apply this cream thrice a day. It should recover within three days."

While Patricia applied the cream by herself, Elira left the lounge and went toward Isaac's desk. "President Arnold, I've checked on her and it should be fine after applying the cream for a few days."

He looked at her and said indifferently, "Thank you, Dr. Caddel. Liam is waiting for you outside to make payment to you."

"No, that's not necessary. I've just done my job." She shook her head as she dared not receive extra money when it was an order from Nikola himself.

"I insist," stated the man as it was actually a bribe for her to keep it a secret.

In the end, she gave in. "Thank you, President Arnold."

Meanwhile, Patricia left the lounge with a delighted expression. After applying the cream, the cooling sensation around her chest had definitely soothed the pain.

Watching her smiling face, Isaac knew that she was no longer in pain after seeing the doctor.

She returned to her position to organize his recent schedule while receiving some calls for additional appointments in the process.

When there was nothing else to do, she read books to kill time. Besides, broadening her insight would be helpful for her in the future when she had a better idea for her new career.

Suddenly, she received a message from Darcie. 'Tricia, I'm so sorry, but could you buy me some time? I know that I've promised to return the money in a month, but I haven't settled down with the house price.'

Reading the text, Patricia thought that it would not be a problem to delay the payment for a few days. 'Okay. I'll inform him about it.'

'Love you, Tricia!' She smiled at the cringey sticker sent by Darcie.

She left the president's office and headed toward the pantry with her mug. At that moment, she noticed that some of the employees stopped whispering and went back to their desks as soon as they saw her. Her brows knitted tightly and her grip tightened around the mug. Are they gossipping about me? Forget it. I'm Isaac's personal assistant anyway. So, we're meant to be close. Sigh, why is it so hard to earn myself some money?

Patricia entered the pantry to fill up her mug before giving a call to Gus while standing in front of a window.

"Patricia, are you calling to return the money?" Gus was happy as he had received his commission this month. If she was going to return the money right now, the debt would be settled.

"Gus, my friend is facing some problems at the moment. Can she return the money a few days later?"

He was stunned to hear that. "I gotta ask my boss about that."

She smiled. "Just give me a call after you ask him."

After terminating the call, Patricia took a sip of water while gazing out of the window. It felt as if there was hope in life and life itself was getting better as days passed. Now, her only wish was to see Poppy recover so that Darcie would not be in distress.

Subsequently, Gus called back and she answered the phone. "So, how is it?"

"Patricia, he said that it's okay to take a few more days, but it'll come with an interest."

"Hmm, I understand. Tell your boss that I'm fine with it," said a smiling Patricia as it was reasonable for them to charge an interest when they were going to postpone the payment.

"But the interest rate is kinda high, Patricia. It's better to return the money as soon as possible."

Hearing that, she promised sternly, "Okay. I'll have my friend pay the money ASAP."

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Patricia went back to the office and found that Isaac was absent.

He did not return to the office either for the rest of the day, which granted her an easy day at work. She took a few phone calls that had been transferred over from the main operator and most of them were regarding important matters that required an appointment with President Arnold.

That was basically Patricia's daily job scope in general. Moreover, she also had to tag along with Isaac during most of his site visits; she was in charge of bringing food and drinks, an umbrella, and sunglasses for him.

She realized that he resembled a man-baby as he had everything in life sorted out for him, relishing in being served by others. What a wonderful life.

Strangely enough, Isaac did not bring her with him today.

Perhaps he knows I am unwell from my allergic reaction... As she thought of that, a smile flashed across her face.

He was out of the office even until clock out time.

Patricia was ready to leave work and pick up her kids from school when she decided to send him a few texts. 'President Arnold, I'm getting off work now. Do you need me to prepare dinner?'

If Isaac had to socialize tonight, then it meant that she would not need to head over to his place to cook him dinner. After quite some time, he finally replied.

'No, I have something on tonight.'

At that moment, she revealed a satisfied smile as her fingers danced happily on the phone keyboard. 'President Arnold, go easy on the drinks and head home early!'

She reckoned that she was such a great secretary for being so responsible.

She sent off the text without waiting for a reply as she joyously left the office for the kids' kindergarten after slinging her bag in her arms.

The kids had just finished school when she had just arrived. The kindergarten provided after-school classes which Patricia had signed the kids up for, so they usually stayed on till nearly 7.00PM.

Subsequently, she lined up along with the other parents. She was known by all of the teachers in school thanks to the triplets; coincidentally, they were all in the same class.

The teacher then called out the names of the triplets and Sylvie was the first one to run out.

"Tricia, you're here to pick us up today!"

Sylvie held a handmade necklace in her hands. "Look at the craftwork we did today in the after-school class. This is for you."

Patricia spoke to the teacher for a while before ushering the triplets toward the car.

The excited Sylvie continued, "Tricia! I made this necklace, so you must wear it every day!"

Patricia looked down and saw the tri-colored beads around her neck before frowning slightly. However, she did not bear to reject Sylvie after noticing her excitement. "Alright. I will keep it on."

Meanwhile, Sylvie turned to look at Scott and Stellan who were holding onto their craft work as well.

"Stellan! Scott! You two made Tricia bracelets too, right? Put it on for her."

Sylvie was an outwardly innocent and adorable child while Scott and Stellan were much more mature in comparison. The brothers felt that their works were only good enough for display and that their mommy would be ridiculed if she put it on.

Noticing her two sons who were walking behind by themselves, Patricia turned around and headed toward them. She then stretched out her hand. "Put it on for me."

As a mother, she was definitely going to play along and preserve her kids' child-like innocence as much as possible. Furthermore, it was even more important for these two kids here as they tend to behave haughtily at times.

Scott exchanged glances with the smiling Stellan. "Mommy, we're not young kids anymore. We know the bracelet isn't a toy."

After saying that, Stellan placed the bracelet in his hand into Patricia's palm and Scott did the same as well. Both of them glanced in the other direction as they handed over the bracelets awkwardly.

She noticed the bracelet that Scott had made was a black one while Stellan had made a gray one. To that, she could not help but burst into laughter.

"It must be tough on both of you to accompany Sylvie for classes."

The brothers were highly intelligent and were able to learn things by themselves quickly. They had already completed the elementary school curriculum, but because they had to take care of their naughty little sister, they had no choice but to attend kindergarten with her.

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Scott and Stellan shook their heads. "Mommy, you're the one who has it tough."

Since young, the two were aware of how tough things were for their mommy as she juggled several jobs each day for their sake. Not only that, she refrained from treating herself by spending money on pretty clothes or branded make-up products. That was the reason why they were determined to study hard as they hoped to grow up quickly to lessen her burden.

Patricia glanced at the handsome faces of her two sons and saw the firm look in their eyes. At that moment, she could feel her emotions overwhelming her.

I will literally do anything for my two sensible sons! She walked over and hugged them tightly.

"Thanks for choosing me as your mom."

She realized that she had her flaws and was not able to provide them with a good life or even a father. To that, she was utterly grateful to be chosen as their protector.

At that moment, Sylvie rushed over and joined their group hug.

"I'm here. I want a hug too!"

The two boys pulled Sylvie into the middle and all three of them hugged her tightly as she beamed widely. "Hahaha... We're a happy family!"

After their touching moment, they finally got into the car.

Suddenly, Sylvie asked, "Tricia, last night, Mr. Handsome called me and asked to speak with Scott and Stellan. He told them that you had to travel for work last night, so you couldn't get home on time. Where did you travel to? I want to go too!"

Mommy should bring me with her wherever she goes especially when Mommy's with Mr. Handsome! Mommy should have brought us too. I enjoy seeing him because he looks similar to Scott and Stellan! We are like a family! Sylvie thought.

Patricia lifted her eyes slightly and thought, No wonder they didn't ask for me! He informed them beforehand.

Not bad, Isaac. What a man of principles.

Last night, it completely crossed her mind that she would have to inform the two sons regarding her late check-in at home. Not to mention, she had a 'curfew' at 10.00PM; otherwise, the brothers would have pestered her to find out her location.

She had been so focused on locating Percy that she forgot about her three kids at home.

A warm fuzzy feeling welled up within her and undeniably, Isaac deserved all of his achievements and titles.

"I was on the outskirts of town and it was getting too late to return. Sylvie, I have to travel for work, so I can't bring you along."

Sylvie nodded. "Okay, then. Can we invite Mr. Handsome over for dinner soon, then? I miss him." I haven't seen him in ages and I miss him so much!!

Patricia glanced at Sylvie from the rearview mirror and noticed that there was a wistful look in the little girl's sparkly eyes.

Since when did Sylvie become best buddies with Isaac?

Stellan also piped up, "Mommy, we think that Mr. Arnold is great. You should go out with him."

The two boys had discussed the matter and came up with this decision. The man had a great personality even in a drunken state and he was good-looking as well. Besides, each time their mommy had to stay out for the night, he would inform them in advance,

granting him extra points as her potential partner. In conclusion, they were very willing to have a man like Isaac to care for their mommy and love her the same way they did.

At that point, Patricia nearly mistook the brake for the accelerator. What did they just say?

Sylvie tumbled off from her seat and climbed up from the car mat.

"Patricia Aniston, could you not step on the brake so suddenly? It's so painful."

Scott and Stellan both reached out and placed their protective hands in front of Sylvie's waist to prevent her from tumbling off her seat again.

Meanwhile, Patricia smiled sheepishly. "Alright, I'll slow down. However, things between Mr. Arnold and I aren't what you guys think. He's my boss and I work at his company, so we see each other quite often. Still, there is nothing between the two of us and I would never date him."

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Scott and Stellan remained silent, but Sylvie could no longer contain herself.

"Even if he's your boss, you can still date him! If he's your boyfriend, then no one would dare to bully you at work."

At that moment, Patricia was rendered speechless. This girl is only five, but it seems like she knows too much!

"Sylvie Aniston! You're forbidden from watching dramatic soap operas from now on!"

Sylvie then stuck out her tongue at Patricia, hinting at her gloom.

As soon as they arrived back home, Sylvie went off to look for Josephine with a pout on her face.

Scott and Stellan followed Patricia up the stairs and entered her bedroom.

She was about to change her clothes when the two boys walked in. "Do you guys have something to say to me?" she asked with a smile.

Subsequently, Scott passed over a flier to her. "Mommy, we've enrolled you for a training course."

Taking the flier from his hand, she realized it was the YK School of Fashion.

Stellan smiled and explained, "Mommy, you've always enjoyed designing garments, right? You can join the course and learn something new."

Taken aback by the situation still, she glanced at the flier in her hand before taking a look at her two sons.

They might be young, but they know me so well!!!

Patricia's lips quivered slightly before she replied, "Thank you, boys!"

At that moment, the boys smiled and Scott reminded, "Don't forget to attend classes every day after work. Don't be late or leave class before it ends."

Stellan piped up as well, "We can't wait to wear the clothes designed by you."

The boys each spoke solemnly and warmly in respective; these two adorable faces instantly became Patricia's motivation to succeed.

She nodded at them. "Yup. I'll definitely work hard and design beautiful clothes for you."

Scott and Stellan both nodded pleasingly. "Go on and take a shower. We'll leave now."

With that, they left her bedroom and went back to theirs.

Recently, the two of them had just bought a new computer and they had found a very experienced teacher to teach them programming.

Patricia watched as the boys left her room and she heaved a sigh while holding onto the flier with the payment receipt.

Tempted to inquire where they got the money from, she recalled how dependable her boys usually were and her worry instantly simmered. They will never do anything illegal.

Perhaps they asked for a loan from Zachary. As such, she grabbed her phone and gave him a call.

"Tricia, did you know that I would be back today?" Zachary's excited voice rang out.

"Where have you been?"

It finally made sense to her as she had not seen him lately. However, she generally stayed out of contact with him unless necessary as she had been keeping a distance with him for the past few years.

"I was in Calderon for a business trip for nearly an entire month. I just got off the flight."

Seeing that her phone call came at the perfect timing, it was no wonder that he had assumed she knew of his return.

"Zachary, I wanted to ask whether Scott and Stellan have borrowed money from you?"

The fees for the fashion school would at least cost around ten thousand plus, so how can they possibly afford this much of money?

"No, they didn't. Scott and Stellan are good at trading stocks, so they must have made plenty of money from there."

As soon as Patricia heard that, she was stunned.

"What? Did they actually invest in the stock market?"

Not surprised by her response, Zachary knew that she would react this way. "I was the one who helped them register for an account and we used your identity. Don't panic, though. Those two boys are talented and they're not greedy, so they'll be fine."

Still, his words did not help much as Patricia remained uneasy. She was annoyed that Zachary had taught them to dabble in the stock market despite having so many other better things that he could teach them. Many people lost their fortune from dabbling in the stock market and ended up taking their own lives by various methods. Hanging, overdosing, jumping off the building!!!

There were plenty of reports on the news about that as well. The two boys were fairly young and they would not be able to resist temptation, which meant that there was a higher chance of them getting into trouble.

"Zachary, that's all for now. Go on with your day."

After she hung up the phone, she immediately went into the boys' room. She saw that they were seated in front of their desks and their fingers moved deftly as they tapped furiously on their computer keyboards.

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"What are you two doing?"

The boys exchanged looks with each other before Stellan replied with a smile. "Mommy, we're just playing some games."

They hurriedly shut the webpage before Patricia leaned forward to take a look; all she saw on the screen was an animation film playing.

She finally felt at ease as she heaved a sigh of relief.

"Where did you two get the money for the school fees? Also, Zachary told me that the two of you learned about stocks from him. You're not allowed to do that from now on. We should always do things the proper way and work our way up slowly. We'll only get ahead of ourselves if all we think about is money."

Scott rose to his feet and tugged her hand to pull her toward his little bed before seating her down. The triplets shared the same room together, but Sylvia's bed was separated by the wardrobe and she had her own little secluded spot.

Meanwhile, Stellan turned around on his swivel chair to look at Patricia. "Mommy, we only invested once. From then on, we never involved ourselves in the stock market anymore. The money was earned from that encounter and it was just enough to pay for your school fees."

Looking at her two sons, Patricia realized that they were way too smart most of the time for her to even begin imagining the thoughts in their mind.

The only person that she could clearly understand was Sylvia and she knew exactly what was going on in her daughter's mind.

In fact, she wished for her two sons to be more like Sylvia and live a simple life as innocent children.

"Is that true?"

Both of them raised their right hands. "We swear—"

Before they could finish their words, Patricia's cold voice rang out and interrupted them.

"That's enough. I trust you guys."

The duo looked at each other and smiled. As for Patricia, she went back to her room to take a shower.

She took her clothes and walked in the direction of her bathroom when her phone suddenly rang. Subsequently, she turned around to glance at the screen of her flashing phone before putting down her pajamas. It was Isaac on the line.

Reluctant to answer the call, Patricia thought, You better not ask me for freshly made desserts past 8.00PM...

However, she needed to keep her job, so she was not entitled to any basic rights being a debtee.

"Hi, who's on the line? You woke me up from my sleep."

"It's not even 9.00PM yet and you're asleep? Patricia, are you a rooster?"

She pursed her lips angrily. You're the rooster! You must come from an entire family line of roosters!

"What can I do for you, President Arnold?"

Seated in his car, Isaac had just finished dinner with some customers. He did not drink any alcohol during dinner but had smoked a lot of cigarettes, which resulted in his hoarse voice.

He reached out and tugged at his necktie to loosen it. His eyes narrowed slightly and his Adam's apple bobbed.

"Patricia, this is a reminder for you to not take a shower tonight. Otherwise, your allergic spot will take longer to recover."

As he said that, his vision suddenly darkened.

Some specific imagery from last night flashed across his eyes and he gulped hard to suppress the indecent thoughts in his mind.

Meanwhile, Patricia's eyes widened instantly as she nearly forgot about her allergy. The medication given by the doctor was very effective and after applying the medication twice at the office, she no longer felt the pain. As such, it suddenly dawned upon her that she had to refrain from getting the spot wet.

She smiled sheepishly. "President Arnold, you're so considerate of your staff. I nearly forgot about that. Thanks for the reminder."

Isaac chuckled in a low voice. "After all, you sustained those injuries because of me, so I have to take full responsibility."

He laughed wickedly and seemed to be reminiscing about the scene from last night.

"Because of you?" Patricia was significantly perplexed.

She lifted her hand to touch the allergic spot. What has this got to do with him?

He responded calmly, "Last night, I was the one who brought you there and you ended up having too much to drink, which caused your allergy to flame up. How can it be unrelated to me, then?"

To his knowledge, Patricia was too simple-minded and naive in her thoughts, so he knew that he could tease her in any way he wished to. Right now, he toyed with her relentlessly.

She smiled. "Ha! That's true. President Arnold, have you reached home? You should go to bed soon! Bye!"

After hastily ending the call, she immediately switched off her phone.