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Heather watched in relief as Everly gave a slight nod. Given her current lack of experience, it was considered not bad for her to have such an understanding of the matter.

Seeing how happy Everly was when she left reminded Heather of her past self. At that time, she also had such simple and pure longing.

Back then, she probably didn't think that she could become such a person. After being confused for so long, it seemed like she could see the future in a glance.

When she saw others being constantly on the move with their lives, Heather felt an inexplicable sense of envy, as she felt that it was a wonderful thing to have goals and ideals.

When she first returned to Bradford City, she had a clear goal in mind, but now, she was getting more and more confused. Am I really going to continue down this path?

Suddenly, her phone rang at this untimely moment. Heather thought it was Myra calling, so she quickly retrieved her phone, but the caller turned out to be Matthias.

She didn't expect that he would be so stubborn. Seeing that Heather didn't answer his calls, he sent her a message.

'I'm in front of the Langston Residence's entrance. Are you sure you don't want to come out and see me?' Matthias came because he couldn't be at ease. Heather's 'I miss you' made him soft and filled his heart with affection, so he couldn't wait to see her.

Irritated, Heather pulled open the curtains, wanting to see if she could see Matthias.

However, she forgot that this was the second floor, so she couldn't see the entrance.

It seemed that she had to go down. Matthias always had a way to enter the Langston Residence, so she figured she might as well let him in on her own.

When Heather went to meet Matthias, she was wearing her simplest and most comfortable clothes, and she was barefaced. Today, she wasn't in any particular mood, so she didn't put on any exquisite makeup.

Waiting quietly outside the door, Matthias leaned against the car. Then, he saw his sweetheart approaching, with only a door between them.

"Why didn't you just come in?" Heather asked through the door.

"I was waiting for you. Just one glance at you is enough." Matthias didn't plan to enter the Langston Residence. Every time he went in, he would bring Heather trouble, so it was better for him not to go in.

"You're nuts," Heather muttered disdainfully, when in fact, she felt quite happy. Matthias finally knew how to be considerate of her, as him not going in would indeed make things less difficult for her.

The Langston Family had already come to the tacit agreement that Heather was dating Matthias. Although Heather might have such plans in the future, she wasn't currently dating him, so she didn't want others to gossip.

"So, you're really inviting me in?" Matthias decided to tease Heather.

"Don't. I'll come out," Heather answered with a smile. She couldn't possibly be so heartless. Besides, this was real life, not a drama, so why should they talk with the door between them?

To Matthias, this was an unexpected joy. After opening the door, Heather walked toward him. They were only a few steps away, but he seemed to be using up a lifetime's worth of his tender gaze to enclose every inch of Heather's body.

"You look like you were going to gobble me up," Heather joked. Today, Matthias was looking at her with a strange look, so she wondered what he was thinking about.

"Yeah, I want to eat you. I can't wait to swallow you whole." Matthias longed to spend his entire life with her. This feeling was getting increasingly stronger, so how was he supposed to restrain himself?

"Hmph!" Heather grunted and didn't respond to him. It seems like Matthias is being insatiable again. This guy is really...

"Heather, since you're already out here, why don't we go for a spin?" Matthias realized that he had turned into a hooligan after he saw Heather. At first, he just wanted to take one glance, but now, he was greedy and wanted her attention to last a little longer.

"I'm not dressed for that. I'm afraid tomorrow's headline would be, 'The President of the Locke Group Meets His New Lover in Secret'." A faint smile appeared on Heather's face, and she was seemingly amused with herself.

Matthias smiled as well. "That's quite a good headline." He never knew that Heather had such a humorous side.

"Women don't go out without makeup," Heather continued, her expression serious.

"You look good without makeup. No matter what, you're always the most attractive one."

Matthias turned on his complimenting mode as he just wanted to praise Heather. At the same time, he was proud of his taste for choosing such an attractive woman.

"Forget it! Myra said that I look like I'm eighteen without makeup." Heather patted her face playfully. Although it was a joke, she did look relatively young without makeup and wasn't exactly imposing.

Many times, Heather would inadvertently mention Myra. It seemed like Myra currently occupied a unique position in her heart.

Matthias believed that he had a long way to go, and he didn't know when he would be able to surpass Myra's position in Heather's heart.

"Where do you want to go? I'll take you there. If you're worried about being followed by reporters, then we'll just go for a spin. We don't need to get out of the car." Matthias was reluctant to leave Heather. He kept his eyes glued to her, refusing to avert his gaze for even a moment.

"That's boring. I don't like going for drives. Not to mention, it's windy today. I'd get blown silly." Heather's hair was dancing in the wind. Holding onto the ends of her hair, she laughed like a teenage girl.

"You just keep on refusing me. Do you not want to spend time with me?" In order to avoid suspicion, Matthias maintained a distance with Heather. After all, they were at the entrance of the Langston Residence, so they couldn't be too intimate. Otherwise, Heather would definitely be unhappy.

"You have to give me a reason that will arouse my interest. Otherwise, don't try to trick me into going out." Heather raised an eyebrow and gave Matthias a wide grin. Looking at him greatly improved her mood.

Heather was unaware of these subtle changes. Little did she know, her heart had started to sway, and she was also somewhat reluctant to let Matthias leave.

That was why she was so willing to chat with Matthias in front of the Langston Residence, as well as why she was so interested in his suggestion to go out for a drive.

If at this moment, Heather had on makeup, she wouldn't hesitate to get into the passenger seat of Matthias' car.

With no makeup on, Heather truly didn't feel like going out. She didn't want the media to expose her bare face. After all, the media had been keeping a tight watch on her and Matthias.

"I'm a little stupid, so I can't think of anything that will pique your interest," Matthias replied after giving it some thought. His various reasons didn't manage to get her interested in the past, so he didn't know what other excuses he could use.

"I'll go back in, then." Heather was truly speechless. He was really clueless when it came to relationships, and the way he pursued her was old-fashioned and clumsy.

"Do you remember the tea house we went to?" Matthias finally thought of a good place to go to, and thought that perhaps Heather would be willing to go.

"I won't agree to it. I don't want people I know seeing me without makeup." Heather called Matthias a fool in her mind. Of all places, he had to think of that tea house. He's really so stupid.

"I see." Matthias inwardly chided himself for being so foolish. How could I forget about it? How had it not occurred to me yet that Heather didn't want to go out because she didn't have on any makeup?

"Then, I'll bring you to a book bar," Matthias said. He had been to a book bar before, and the environment was rather decent. Moreover, he figured that Heather liked to read.

"You want to bring me to a book bar?" Heather asked with a smile. Only Matthias would think of a place like that! To have a date at a book bar, there would be pretty much no communication except for reading, as it was such a quiet place.

"Do you not want to?" Matthias peered apprehensively at her, hoping that she wouldn't refuse.

"It's not that." Slightly raising her eyebrows, she took one step closer to Matthias.

"That's a yes, then." Matthias finally smiled. To put it simply, Heather was really hard to please, so it was unexpected that a book bar had caught her attention.

"If they don't have the type of books I read, I'll leave immediately." Heather didn't forget to threaten him so as to give him a little pressure.

"Don't worry. I have faith in that book bar," Matthias answered, full of confidence. At this moment, coaxing her into the car was more important.

"There's another condition." Before getting into the car, Heather stopped short, then turned to look at Matthias. The two of them were so close that it was as if they were going to be in each other's arms in the next second.

"Hmm?" Matthias stared curiously at her, not knowing what condition Heather was going to propose.

"No one can take pictures of me without makeup. You can make sure of that, right, Director Locke?" Heather was seemingly giving Matthias a challenge, but she believed that with his abilities, this matter should be easy to handle.

"I promise you. I won't let anyone take pictures of how amazing you look now." Matthias

didn't forget to tease her while giving her an answer. All he wanted was to use every pleasant word there was to describe her.

"You've been quite the sweet talker lately. Evan must've taught you." Matthias' sweet words were somewhat deliberate, and his demeanor wasn't exactly calm when he complimented her, so she was certain that Matthias had learned all this from Evan.

"You don't like it?" Matthias thought that she would.

"There's no woman who doesn't like hearing nice things," Heather stated as she got into the passenger seat. Just as she sat down, she continued, "And I'm no exception."

Hearing this, Matthias figured that Heather was praising him in disguise, and only then did he turn back in his seat with satisfaction.

What a good day. Heather had become so gentle, so Matthias hoped that everything would go well later and that Heather would continue being in this state. Matthias looked profoundly at Heather, completely unable to focus his eyes elsewhere.

Heather turned his face away. "I'm not what you're supposed to be looking at. Drive properly."

Taking in his boyish appearance, Heather felt an indescribable sense of fondness. At this moment, she wanted nothing more than to snuggle in his arms.

Surprised by her own thoughts, she felt that she was getting greedier, so much so that she actually wanted to take her relationship with Matthias one step further.

Heather didn't understand what was going on with her. This wasn't like her at all. Is this what it feels like for my heart to flutter?

She studied Matthias, wanting to engrave his current look in her mind. At present, she felt extremely lucky to have met him.

"What books do you usually read?" Matthias cut to the chase, since they had never talked about this before.

"Take a guess." Heather wasn't going to tell him directly.

Matthias couldn't understand why girls liked to say that. If it were someone else, he would've shot the person a glare, but the person in question now was Heather.

Since Matthias was silent for a long time, Heather said, "You're taking me to the Aoki Book Bar, right?"

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Initially, he thought that Heather had never been to the Aoki Book Bar. He didn't expect that she had been there before, which meant that his surprise had failed.

Matthias was even more frustrated. Trying to surprise her was such a difficult task.

"Seems like my guess is right." A small smile appeared on Heather's face, as she enjoyed seeing the surprised look in Matthias' eyes.

"Yeah," Matthias mumbled bleakly, looking apathetic.

"Aren't you curious about how I made the right guess?" Heather, on the other hand, was delighted and wanted to tease him.

"I'm curious." Matthias didn't want to lie to Heather, so he figured he might as well be frank.

"I haven't been to the Aoki Book Bar, but it has quite a reputation, so it's normal that I've heard of it. This road happens to be the only way to get there, which is why I figured there's a

high chance we're going to the Aoki Book Bar," Heather explained, feeling quite pleased with herself. When she was with Matthias, everything became more interesting.

Matthias was disgruntled, but seeing the triumphant grin on Heather's face took away some of his frustration. It was worth everything to be able to make her smile.

"Then, can you guess what kind of books I like?" Heather suddenly liked playing guessing games like this, and the look on her face was one of mischief.

"I don't know." Matthias had pondered this question early on, but he truly couldn't guess what kind of books Heather liked. After all, she was full of surprises.

The fact that Matthias answered so quickly put Heather in a bad mood. It felt as if answering her was a perfunctory act. She stopped talking, and the smile on her face disappeared.

Matthias didn't expect Heather to change moods so quickly; he couldn't figure out why she was being this way. This made him distressed, and he didn't know what to do next.

Is guessing what kind of book she likes so important? Matthias couldn't understand what Heather was thinking at all. Are women's thoughts always such a mess?

He couldn't keep up with the rhythm of Heather's constantly changing thoughts. Her current behavior called for Matthias to reflect on himself.

After racking his brains, Matthias still couldn't figure out what kind of book Heather liked. If he didn't know her well, he would've said books on economics without hesitation.

However, now that he had started to know her better, he didn't think that Heather liked such books. Not to mention, he saw the books that she had written before, and it seemed like she didn't like to mention anything about economics.

Meanwhile, from Heather's point of view, Matthias was currently being indifferent, which made her dissatisfied.

In fact, Matthias was contemplating this question, but had come up with nothing. He reckoned that Heather's uniqueness was to blame.

"Your eyes have been continuously darting around. What on earth are you thinking up there?" Heather suddenly said as she stared at Matthias' eyes. Because of this, he was nearly unable to focus on the pedestrians and cars on the road.

Fortunately, Heather quickly withdrew her gaze and turned to look out the window. She appeared nonchalant, as if nothing had just happened.

Matthias was beginning to wonder if he had imagined things. He had heard the sentence so clearly that it must not have been an illusion.

Before Matthias could figure out what type of books Heather liked, she had thrown another hard question at him.

"You like fairy tales." This thought occurred to him countless times, and it kept on popping into his mind. Hence, Matthias decided to stop hesitating and just say it.

Heather thought that no one would get it right, yet Matthias had guessed correctly. She looked at him in surprise, probably wondering how he came to that conclusion.

"You really weren't making a wild guess?" Heather had to make sure of that first.

Upon seeing her reaction, Matthias knew without a doubt that he was right. Smiling, he shook his head.

"You're very special. You're different from others. It's very likely that no one would have

guessed that you liked fairy tales. But it isn't surprising for you to like such nonsensical things, because you've never been one to follow the rules." Matthias gave Heather a brief explanation, directly skipping his process of reasoning. In a roundabout way, he pushed the subject to Heather.

"Since you guessed correctly, then I'll give you a chance to read fairy tales with me." Heather seemed like a queen who was set high above the masses, and she was currently awarding Matthias with a knight's honor.

In just a moment, they would be reaching the Aoki Book Bar after taking a turn. The two of them talked and laughed in the car. Heather returned to looking lively, not continuing to make things hard for Matthias.

In fact, Matthias wasn't exactly sure of his answer. Upon hearing Heather personally admitting it, he somehow found her to be really cute.

Some people would be called childish if they were to read fairy tales while in their thirties. But, in Heather's case, the contrast was adorable, and it made Matthias' heart stir.

The atmosphere of the Aoki Book Bar was extremely girly and literary. Before this, Matthias was still worried that Heather wouldn't like how girly the place was. Now, it seemed like he had been worrying too much.

For a woman her age, she had to have a young maiden's heart. Although she didn't appear unusual on the surface, there was a faint trace of joy on her face.

Unlike other girls who would take photos with the book bar mascot outside the entrance, Heather just swept a vague glance over it, leaving others unable to guess what she was thinking.

Watching those girls' boyfriends tirelessly taking pictures of them, a soft smile appeared on Heather's face. She had never done this kind of thing before, nor would she do it in the future.

However, Heather was envious of this kind of ordinary happiness. If there were a next life, she wanted to be an ordinary girl living an ordinary life.

"Do you need me to take a photo for you?" When Matthias saw Heather looking in that direction, he thought that she wanted to take a photo with the book bar mascot too.

The Aoki Book Bar had a uniquely designed door, and the two mascots on each side were especially cute, so it immediately captured the hearts of girls.

"No. If you want to take a photo, I can help you." Heather refused before teasing Matthias.

Looking at the people who were getting their photos taken, he hurriedly waved his hand. "I'm not interested in those things." After all, Matthias was a dignified man.

The two of them walked into the bar. There weren't many people there, which was a distinctive feature of the Aoki Book Bar.

Because this wasn't a free book bar, they needed to pay a fee to borrow books. The fee was calculated by the hour, and it wasn't cheap.

This kept many people out. After all, few people were willing to spend much money on reading books, although the Aoki Book Bar provided the best environment for reading.

Hence, many people would stop at the door, and at most, they would take a look at the place and take photos with their mascot.

Of course, the Aoki Book Bar didn't care about their actions. Not many people went in and out of the bar anyway, so those people taking pictures at their entrance would only help increase their popularity.

“The founder of the Aoki Book Bar claimed that she was just trying to create the best reading environment. In my opinion, it’s just to disguise the high price.” This was Heather’s first time here, and she didn’t think that it was the best place for reading.

“Businessmen pursue profits. That’s normal.” Matthias didn’t think it was an issue.

“They placed mascots at the door to attract the public and increase their popularity, yet very few people actually walk in. The boss is greedy and wants to handle many things at once, but they’ve really overlooked the elites who just want to find a quiet place to read,” Heather said, hitting the nail on the head.

Matthias wasn’t at all surprised by Heather’s sudden change in demeanor. She was always tempted to make a few remarks when it came to business matters.

Matthias had this problem as well, so neither of them found it strange.

Heather’s statement wasn’t very clear as she had just made a simple point, but Matthias understood what she was trying to say.

He noticed the business model the bar used the first time he came here, so it went without saying that he knew what Heather was referring to.

“You don’t like it here?” Matthias thought for a while, then figured that Heather must not be satisfied with this place.

“No. I don’t hate it, but I won’t say I like it either.” Heather had some expectations for the Aoki Book Bar prior to this, but now it seemed like there was nothing fascinating about the bar.

The two of them walked to the front desk. Every part of the Aoki Book Bar was unique and different from other places. It was an unusual book bar, but being unusual was its only difference. In fact, it was essentially almost the same as any other book bar, and it was even more commercialized.

There was only one person at the front desk. She was wearing a college-style uniform with a red tie, paired with a white shirt and topped with a navy blue jacket.

When they got closer, they could see that the girl at the front desk was extremely beautiful.

Heather took another look at the girl, who seemed to be in her early twenties.

“Hello.” The receptionist was also responsible for the cash register, so it was a wonder how she could manage both sides.

Then again, the Aoki Book Bar’s business was slow, so one shopkeeper was enough.

Heather then did the rare thing of putting on a gentle smile.

Matthias rarely saw Heather being so kind to a stranger. “I need a copy of Leo Tolstoy’s ‘Fables and Fairy Tales’. Where can I find it?”

Standing to one side, Matthias was a little curious. He wondered why Heather would ask such a question, but the girl at the front desk answered in one breath.

“Please go to Area B, fifth row of the third column of the bookshelf. It’s the third one from the right.”

After getting a satisfactory answer, Heather went to borrow ‘Fables and Fairy Tales’. As an aftermath, Matthias had to pay the deposit for borrowing the book.

In no time, Matthias got the book-borrowing bracelet. He walked quickly to Heather’s side, then handed the pink bracelet to her, while he held onto the blue one.

“Why did you ask her that question just now?” Matthias asked curiously.

“Because she’s not just a simple receptionist.” Heather had asked that question just now because she wanted to confirm her suspicions, and it seemed that her guess was correct.

“Then, who is she?” Why didn’t I notice it? Could it be that the daughter of the boss of the Aoki Book Bar is on vacation and came to help out?

“We’ll meet soon, and her true identity will be revealed.” Heather had a feeling that they would meet this girl again really soon.

When Heather’s gaze met the girl’s, the look in the latter’s eyes was extremely special, and there was an indescribable emotion hidden behind them.

It wasn’t exactly hostility, nor was it curiosity. Whatever it was, Heather was looking forward to meeting her again.