

Pampered 271

Chapter 271 Tina repeated, “Didn’t you hear what I said just now, Mr. Langford? You should consider **seeking treatment** if you’re deal.”

Samuel’s eyes glazed over her with a thin layer of ice before he **spat a venomous word out of** his thin lips.

“Leave!”

Tina’s fists were clenched tightly, already clammy with cold sweat. The entire time, she was waiting for that command.

She didn’t hesitate to spin on her heels and walk away. At that moment, she didn’t bother hunching over to disguise herself, so her stubborn and straight figure appeared in Samuel’s line of sight.

He frowned once again. The more he looked at her, the more he thought that she resembled **that woman...**

Moreover, she was wearing a pair of sunglasses and kept trying to hide her **appearance. She** didn’t dare to show her face at all. A flash of suspicion streaked through his dark orbs, which were slightly **narrowed.**

At that moment, Cindy walked down the stairs slowly in her new outfit.

“Samuel, I’m done changing into my clothes. You...”

Before Cindy could finish speaking, Samuel stood up and approached her slowly. Stunned, she could only watch his tall and well–built frame getting closer to her while her heart **started** beating wildly. A hint of embarrassment quickly appeared in her **eyes.** Did her plan succeed? Did Samuel find her appearance refreshing and delightful? **Before she** knew it, Samuel opened his mouth to pose a question in a tone of ice. “Where’s Keith?”

Keith?

Cindy was surprised to hear the question. “He... Um...”

Samuel no longer hesitated to brush past Cindy’s shoulder as he strode toward Keith’s room.

Cindy didn’t expect that he would care about that child.

What should she do now?

That d*mned filthy spawn! He couldn’t have **picked a better time to break out into a high fever!** Would Samuel blame her for not taking care of their son? **Cindy was so mad** that she stomped her feet twice in a row before lifting the hem of her **dress** and rushing upstairs. At that time, Keith happened to be resting in his room. **He was wearing his cotton pajamas**

while leaning against the bedpost and reading quietly. “Young Master Keith, your father has arrived to see you,” a servant whispered from the doorway.

Keith lifted his head and looked at the doorway. A man who strongly resembled him happened to be standing there.

It was Samuel.

Keith's voice was flat and cold, just like the tone that was frequently adapted by the man before him. "Wow. Either the sky's falling soon, or pigs can now fly. When did you remember that you have a son, Mr. Langford?" His words were hurtful and cold as always. In a way, he was a miniature Samuel. However, the cool plaster placed across his forehead made him look more childish rather than cold and aloof.

Before Samuel could say anything, Cindy started scolding the boy. "Is this how you speak to your father, you ungrateful brat?! No wonder Samuel doesn't like you at all! I see you've never picked up any manners during the time I was separated from you!"

Cindy was so furious at the filthy spawn, she was about to combust on the spot. She went through so much just to get out of her prison and return to Samuel's side. Thanks to that vixen who kept seducing him, however, he was never interested in her. It was bad enough that Keith didn't do his best to please Samuel. Instead, the stupid boy dared to mock Samuel Keith opened his mouth to retaliate. "Mommy, I'm sick." "Just because you're sick doesn't mean you have the right to be rude! Hurry up and apologize to your father!" Cindy approached Keith immediately and grabbed him harshly by the arm. "Do it now!"

Keith's tiny frame couldn't fight back against Cindy's strength. Unable to tolerate the shenanigans anymore, Samuel demanded coldly, "Stop it right now, Cindy." "S-Samuel! I'm just trying to..." Panicked, Cindy tried her best to explain herself. "Get out of here right now! Don't make me repeat myself!" She could only grit her teeth and shoot Keith a threatening glare before leaving reluctantly. The moment the door was closed behind her, Samuel opened his mouth to speak to Keith. "Keith, you spent so much time and effort trying to free her. Is this outcome you desired?"

Chapter **272** Keith went silent.

Samuel was right. Was this the outcome he truly wanted?

He thought he would be able to live happily ever after with his mommy when he first hatched the long-term plan, but he didn't realize that... ..His mommy never loved him in the first place. Samuel continued, "Cindy isn't suitable to be a mother."

"Yes. You're right; she is unsuitable, but I also heard that you have a side piece. Are you planning to let that woman become my mother instead?" Keith replied with another question. Dark eyes flitted across the room and were trained on Samuel's face. Keith was just a miniature version of Samuel. Most of his features took after Samuel; everything except for his eyes. Keith's words, as well as his gaze, reminded Samuel of that particular woman. A surge of annoyance flooded his heart as he frowned instinctively. "Where did you hear that rumor from?" "The walls have ears. People tend to talk, and I always listen to them." Keith looked slightly surprised. "Are you really going to marry her? Who is she?"

SIE

Keith may be young, but he was very smart. Samuel didn't like Cindy at all. The reason he married her was because he had assumed responsibility for her. Plus, he owed her his life.

The fact that a cold-hearted and ruthless man like him was willing to marry a woman meant that he really liked her, right? "This has nothing to do with you." Samuel's tone was unbearably cold.

After he caught Tina that day, he vowed to keep her by his side at all times and never let her slip away from him ever again. He even had his men print out a divorce agreement so that he could officially end things with Cindy. However, what was her response? "I hope you'll reap what you sowed! Go to hell! Don't ever come near me ever again!"

Her gaze was filled with disgust. The words that she spat out were akin to daggers carving down trails on his heart.

From that day onward, he would never trust Tina ever again..

"What do you mean, it has nothing to do with me? She's about to become my stepmother, isn't she? That has everything to do with me!"

"Ha! Stepmother? She doesn't have the right to become the mistress of the Langford family. What awaits her will be the cruelest, most gruesome fate ever!"

Those words were not supposed to be uttered in front of a child.

However, Samuel still displayed his most ruthless and coldest side in front of his genius son with an extraordinarily high IQ.

The moment his words fell, he spun on his heel and walked out of the room.

Keith frowned immediately. His curiosity about that woman's identity was piqued slightly. Just what kind of woman was able to anger a cold and heartless man like Samuel to this degree? Then again, Keith was still living under Samuel's roof, so he didn't dare to investigate the woman's identity so blatantly. He had to avoid causing friction between him and his father.

Were it not for that, he would have loved to watch the spicy drama unfold before his eyes. Keith let out a sigh and felt the cooling plaster on his forehead before lying back down on his bed to rest.

When Tina got chased out of the living room by Samuel, she quickly returned to her room. Cindy's instruction for her was to design clothes of various styles for her so that every time Samuel laid his eyes on her, he would be constantly in awe by her new appearance. The poor woman had worked overnight to come up with the first outfit. There was still so much work left to do, so she mustn't stop working in order to have a good night's sleep in the

future.

However, Tina didn't know that Samuel had walked all the way to her room upon leaving Keith's room. The sight of her silhouette working on the sewing machine made him barge into her room all of a sudden. When Tina heard the loud footsteps echoing behind her, she turned around instinctively. "Who...?" Before she could react, the man took off the sunglasses from her face.

Chapter 273 Ever since Samuel met Linda the designer, he had always been curious about her true appearance. It wasn't until the moment he saw the irritatingly familiar silhouette that he decided to investigate Linda's identity once and for all. That was the reason he pulled Tina's sunglasses off her face without any hesitation.

Tina was already stunned by the sudden assault, so she could only stare at the man in a daze. Samuel glanced at her before his brows tangled in a deep knot.

That woman's face...

"Ahh!"

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Tina reacted by screaming loudly. She quickly covered her face and curled into a quivering ball by crouching down. "What are you doing?!"

Samuel saw the face under the sunglasses flash past his line of sight earlier. It was a pale face with crooked and stiff-looking features. At first glance, it looked like the woman had gone overboard with plastic surgery. He realized that his guess about the woman was wrong. With a frown still nestled between his brows, he threw the sunglasses back to Tina before saying, "Sorry. I thought you were someone else."

When Samuel asked his bodyguards to investigate Linda, they found out that she had never revealed her face in public before. Whenever she appeared in front of people, her appearance would always seem so weird and unsightly.

RW The truth was... Her looks were so ugly that she couldn't bear to face anyone at all.

"Ahhhhh!" Tina was still screaming at the top of her lungs. What Samuel did to her just now scared her to death.

Samuel could no longer withstand the high-pitched scream. He quickly left the room instead of lingering there a second longer.

When he finally left, Tina, who still looked like she was scared out of her wits, stopped screaming immediately. She quickly got up and locked the door, feeling her legs wobble with every step.

She thought she was a goner just now. Fortunately, she had already prepared a new disguise for herself. As soon as she was chased back to her room, she quickly grabbed the adjustable plastic wax that was mostly used for special effects makeup and molded a new face for herself. Paired with exquisite makeup, Tina's new face looked like a living nightmare from a plastic surgery gone wrong. The only way to see through her disguise was to study her face at a close distance. Tina touched her face subconsciously. The feeling of the plastic wax against her face was extremely uncomfortable. Then again, it was all thanks to this thing that she was able to trick

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Samuel into thinking that it was her real face. At that moment, someone started knocking rapidly on her door, which gave her another huge **scare**.

"Who's there?!"

Had Samuel realized that something was wrong and decided to return?" "It's me!" Cindy's cold voice drifted from outside the room. Tina put on her sunglasses before slowly opening the door. "What is it, Mrs. Langford?"

Slap! Before she could finish speaking, a heavy slap was delivered on her face. "You filthy b*tch! Were you trying to seduce my husband? I just saw him exiting your room!" Cindy was so angry that her entire body shook, her expression twisted into something ugly and sinister. It was bad enough that Samuel hated her and chose to keep his distance from her. Later, she discovered that he rendezvoused with a mistress behind her back. Now, she caught him walking out of this woman's room earlier. All these filthy vixens were clearly challenging her bottom line! "You filthy b*tch! I'll kill you right now!" Cindy was about to pounce onto Tina when she accidentally knocked the sunglasses off Tina's face. The sight of that ghastly face scared the wits out of Cindy. "Oh my god! Why do you look so hideous?". Cindy's reaction was straightforward and blunt compared to Samuel's long silence after seeing Tina's fake face. Tina quickly picked up the sunglasses from the floor with her head lowered as she said, "Mrs. Langford. Now that you've seen my face, you should be reassured, right? How can I ever seduce Mr. Langford with a face like this?"

Chapter **274** Cindy shot a disgusted look at Tina, who had already worn her sunglasses. "I never expected that you'd look this ugly!" "Haha! That's right. I'm not a natural beauty like you, Mrs. Langford," Tina replied with a bitter smile

Cindy was pleased to hear the praise. She thought the designer was bold enough to seduce her husband, but it turned out that the latter was no more than an ugly hag.

So what if this woman was a famous designer? She didn't even dare to reveal her face in public!

"People tend to say that ugly people cause the most trouble. You may be ugly, but I want you to remember this. My husband is the most capable man in this world. I won't let any woman get close to him and seduce him. As for you, stop dreaming about doing any of those things. Got it?"

Tina cradled her face gingerly. "Got it..." Cindy was satisfied by that answer. Before she could turn and leave, she suddenly remembered that she was here with another purpose.

"Oh, right. I forgot to tell you something. The outfit that you designed for me is simply awful!"

She dumped the clothes Tina had spent the whole night making on the floor and stomped on it a few times in a row. "Redo everything for me! I want you to keep designing and making clothes until I'm satisfied!" Cindy commanded. Then, she left immediately. Tina took a deep breath in order to calm herself. Then, she slowly bent down to pick up the clothes. However, a pair of smaller hands moved faster than her. Keith quickly squatted down and picked up the dirty outfit. While he patted the dust away, he said, "I think this outfit looks really nice." "It's you!" Tina was shocked to see him. The sight of the cooling plaster on his forehead reminded her that he was still sick.

"Why are you out of bed? Your fever has just gone down, so you're still very weak. It'll be bad for you if you were to catch a cold at this time. Tina's caring words made Keith frown. "You can barely take care of yourself, and yet you're still fussing over me." He was as sharp-tongued and cold as usual. However, Tina would never forget the sight of the little boy having a high fever and allergies in the attic while his birth mother, Cindy, didn't bat an eyelid in his direction.

At the end of the day, he was still a pitiful child. Tina said helplessly, "That's how the world works for adults like me. It's a tough and cruel world out here. However, you're still a child. You don't have to care about all that. Hurry up and go rest in bed." Then, she put the clothes away and returned to her room. Keith had no intention to leave. Instead, he trailed after her into the room while asking, "Why did you come to my house? You even disguised yourself as an ugly woman!" Tina didn't dare to tell him the truth. She could only smile bitterly at him in return. "You saw what happened just now. If I don't make myself ugly, I'll suffer even more here." Keith frowned deeply while nodding. "You're right. If she found out that you're actually a pretty lady, she might claw your face..." | Clawing her face would be the last thing Cindy would do. If Cindy discovered that Tina had appeared in front of her alive and well, she would definitely rip Tina into shreds first.

Tina knew very well how cruel and heartless Cindy was. **However**, the fact that Keith was able to say such things at such a young age made her heart **ache**. "Don't be too sad. I heard she got separated from you for a few years. Maybe she's treating you like this because of the separation. Once you two have spent a long time with each other, she'll gradually treat you better." Keith replied sarcastically, "Really? Let's hope that's the case." Tina finally realized the reason she thought Keith looked so familiar at first glance. It was because when he smirked so coldly, he resembled Samuel. Truthfully speaking, she was surprised to see the resemblance. However, she quickly regained **her senses** a moment later. As she didn't want Keith to become as cruel as Samuel when he grew up, she felt like she had to say something. At that moment, someone's stomach let out a loud grumble in the room.

Chapter **275** Tina knew that it wasn't her stomach that grumbled. She glanced at Keith and asked, "Are you hungry?" Embarrassment replaced the previously cold and aloof expression on Samuel's tiny doppelganger. "It wasn't me!" Keith quickly refuted with a reddened face. His retaliation made him look like a normal five-year-old in Tina's eyes.

She did her best to stifle her giggles as she replied, "Alright, you didn't make that noise. I was the one who got hungry. Since your fever just went down and you're still sick, why don't you have a simple and light meal? I'll cook some food for you."

Keith maintained his deadpan stubbornness as he replied, "I don't need it..."

Grumble!

His stomach chose to protest angrily against his staunch denial.

"Are you sure you don't want any food?" Tina's tone was very caring. "I think you'll need it. Are you sure you don't want to eat something, Young Master Keith?"

At that time, Keith could feel his pride crumbling into dust. If there was a hole in front of him right now, he would gladly dive into it.

“Fine! Hurry up and bring me a bowl of food!” After that, the boy clutched his stomach and ran upstairs. He was afraid that the longer he remained in the room, the more embarrassed he would become thanks to his grumbling stomach.

Once Keith was no longer in her line of sight, Tina finally allowed herself to laugh loudly. She quickly tidied up her room before hurrying toward the kitchen.

However, she didn’t know that Samuel had been standing behind a corner a short distance away the whole time. Having witnessed everything, he now had a strange expression on his face.

His subordinate said to him, “Mr. Langford, sir. After investigating for a long time, we finally discovered a picture of Linda before she went through plastic surgery.”

Samuel had ordered his men to investigate Linda’s background out of a whim. If his subordinates were unable to come up with any important information, he would just let it go.

Now that this particular woman lived in his mansion and shared a close relationship with his own son, Samuel couldn’t help but pay more attention to what his men had to say about the designer.

Despite having seen her face, he still couldn’t ascertain if she was there without any hidden **motives**.

The subordinate passed some documents over to his master. There was a passport picture of Linda attached to the documents that was taken five years ago when she was applying for a French passport in Paris. Samuel’s cold gaze fell on the picture. The woman in the picture looked like a plain Jane with dull skin.

The information written on the documents depicted that Linda stuck out like a sore thumb in the Parisian fashion world, particularly due to her plain looks in an industry filled with good looking models. That revelation made her insecure, so she wanted to rely on plastic surgery to make herself artificially beautiful.

However, she didn’t expect that her surgery would fail. Hence, she never revealed her face in public since then.

Samuel stared blankly at the blurry picture. Now that Linda’s face was completely exposed, all suspicions he had of her dissipated on the spot. Yet for some reason, he found himself feeling quite disappointed. “Is there anything else, Mr. Langford?” the subordinate asked anxiously. “No.” Samuel threw the documents aside.

He seemed to have remembered something because he added coldly, “By the way, the duke will be hosting a birthday banquet for his youngest son next week, so I need brand new designs of formalwear. Cindy, Keith, and I will be attending that banquet. Tell Linda to send the designs to my study by tomorrow night.”

Chapter **276** Even though Samuel disliked Linda, he was used to separating his private feelings from work matters. Since Linda had an innate talent for designing, he didn’t plan to chase her out of the **mansion**.

“Understood,” the subordinate replied. At that time, Tina had no idea what Samuel had in store for her. She prepared some food in the kitchen and took a serving tray up to Keith’s room before knocking on his door.

“I’ve set the food aside earlier, so it’s warm now. Hurry and eat it. It won’t taste good once it gets cold,” she said as she set the bowl on the bedside table. If it wasn’t for Keith’s tough personality, she would have insisted on feeding him. The boy’s expression became increasingly complicated before he asked, “I’m not your real son. Why are you being so nice to me?” Tina was stunned to hear that question. “Why are you asking me that?” “Why? Isn’t this obvious?” Keith continued. “The reason why those servants treated me nicely is because they’re afraid of my father’s reputation. When I was severely ill and was on the verge of death, they didn’t dare to disobey Cindy’s orders at all. You were the only one who wanted to take me to the hospital and ignore her orders. Even though you didn’t succeed in the end, you still didn’t give up and ended up taking care of me throughout the night. After that, you continued working till morning.” He asked, “Typically speaking, you should hate me because I’m the son of the woman who harasses you non–stop. Why are you being so nice to me?”

Confusion and suspicion filled Keith’s eyes at that time. Tina, on the other hand, was completely flabbergasted at his words. What on earth was that five–year–old thinking this whole time?

She couldn’t help but place a hand on Keith’s forehead. “Is your fever not gone yet? Why else are you mumbling nonsense?”

Keith was severely germaphobic. He rarely interacted with Samuel, let alone with anyone else.

Upon seeing how much Tina cared for him at the moment, he didn’t slap her hand away coldly. Instead, he tolerated her gesture.

He replied, “I’m not feverish. In fact, I’m perfectly sober right now. Am I wrong for saying all that?”

“Well, you do make sense. Then again, making sense is just one thing. You’re still an adorable five–year–old at the end of the day. Anyone else would have done the same thing as I did.” “Is that so?”

Keith lifted an eyebrow immediately. The way he suspected Tina made him look exactly like Samuel.

. “Have you forgotten how those servants stopped you before?”

“They didn’t have a choice. After all, they didn’t want to invite trouble to their doorstep.” “Then why were you the only one who wasn’t scared of trouble?” Tina was completely speechless.

That d*mned brat! Her act of kindness was just a very simple thing, yet he insisted on grilling her with so many questions! “That’s because I’m a kind soul!” Tina replied shamelessly. “A beautiful and kind–hearted woman like me is a rare commodity in this world! You should appreciate me more, you know? Also, if you don’t eat your food soon, you’ll die of starvation!”

“But...”

“If you don’t eat it right now, I’ll tell everyone that your stomach keeps growling loudly! Then everyone in the Langford manor will know about this embarrassing side of yours!”

Tina’s threat was very useful in this situation. Not only was Keith cold, aloof, and mean, but he was also very mindful of his reputation and pride due to his young age. He didn’t dare to refute her upon hearing

the threat, so he could only pick up the bowl and start eating the food slowly. At that moment, someone knocked on the door loudly.

“Linda!”

Tina was surprised to hear someone calling her name. She turned around and asked, “Who are you?”

Keith snuck one glance at the door before rolling his eyes. “Who else can he be? He must be one of Samuel’s subordinates, here to pass on a message to you.” The subordinate said, “Linda, the Langford family will be attending a banquet next week. You are to design formalwear for them. Mr. Langford wants you to start working on the designs right now and send the drafts personally to his study by tomorrow.” Panic seized Tina’s heart the moment she heard the instructions. “I have to personally send the designs to him?!”

Chapter **277** “Why?” “Why?” The subordinate had an odd expression on his face. “Isn’t this what you should be doing? If there are any sudden changes to the drafts, it’s more convenient for Mr. Langford to tell you in person, right?”

Tina went silent after that. She had no idea how to refute the subordinate’s words, so she could only stay quiet.

Now that he had carried out his role as a messenger, the subordinate chose not to linger anymore and left. On the other hand, Tina was left anxious and nervous. What should she do now?

When Keith noticed her plight, he asked, “Are you afraid of him?”

She could only smile bitterly. “I think everyone’s afraid of him.”

Tina would be fine if Samuel merely wanted her to design for him, but the problem was...

She didn’t have his exact measurements. Wouldn’t this mean that she would have to personally seek him out and take his measurements?

The poor woman could only leave Keith’s room with a muddled brain. She had barely escaped from Samuel’s clutches earlier that day and gotten rid of his suspicions, but now, she had to return to him once again. What should she do this time? Tina was very frightened, but at the same time, she knew that she was left with no choice but to proceed.

She took a deep breath, having steeled her resolve. She would die sooner or later anyway, so she might as well go seek Samuel out right now and perform her task.

After asking for directions from a nearby servant, Tina finally found her way to the study. She prepared herself mentally for what was about to happen next while clutching the tools firmly in her hands. Then, she knocked on the study door lightly.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Her heartbeat had already accelerated by the time she knocked on the door three times in a row. She didn’t know how much time had passed before a voice finally traveled through the door from inside the

study. "Enter." Tina opened the door slowly with sweaty hands. The interior design of Samuel's study exhibited a mature and business-like style. His work desk was sharp and angular, its dark and shiny surface emitting a cold glint.

The man in question was still wearing the same suit as before. His long and slender fingers gripped a black fountain pen sturdily as he made corrections on the documents before him.

All in all, he looked cold and heartless as usual.

Tina entered the study quietly, just like a mouse.

Samuel rubbed his forehead and spoke to her coldly without even lifting his head. "Just leave the coffee on the desk."

It was obvious he had mistaken her for a servant who came in to serve him with coffee.

Tina spoke up carefully. "Mr. Langford, it's me..." Samuel frowned instinctively before lifting his head. He finally realized that Linda was the one standing in his study. "What is it?" he asked.

"I heard you're planning to attend a banquet, so you requested me to come up with a few designs for you. However, I don't have your body measurements. So..." Tina showed the measuring tools in her hands. "Tch! How troublesome," Samuel remarked in a slightly impatient tone. Tina's heart skipped a beat out of fright. "I'll leave right now if I'm disturbing you, Mr. Langford. I'll come back later once you're free."

(There's no need for that. You can do your work now.)

The moment his words fell, Samuel stood up and started undoing the buttons on his suit jacket.

In order to take accurate measurements of one's body, they mustn't wear any excessive clothes, much less a suit jacket. The clothes would affect the final measurements, after all.

As a professional designer, Tina knew that it was a very vital step when it came to taking **measurements**.

However...

The sight of Samuel taking off his suit jacket crisply without any hesitation made her blush slightly. Of course, Samuel didn't think too much about it.

He placed the jacket casually on the desk, now clothed in a white buttoned shirt. After he undid the buttons of his cuffs, he started folding his sleeves upward, revealing his strong and taut **arms**.

At that moment, Samuel exhibited an attractive musk filled to the brim with masculine **pheromones**.

He shot Tina an annoyed look, realizing that she was still standing there in a daze. It made him frown impatiently. "What are you standing there for? Hurry up and come here!"

Chapter **278** Tina finally snapped back to her senses, realizing that she had been staring at Samuel like an idiot the entire time.

It was a good thing she was wearing sunglasses. As such, he had no idea that she was staring at him. Otherwise, she would have been thoroughly embarrassed and humiliated. Tina quickly lowered her head

and replied meekly, "Yes, sir. I'll start working now." Her legs felt like jelly when she sensed Samuel's oppressing aura enveloping her. Guilt racked her brain, but at the same time, there were other reasons at play. Her heart beating wildly behind her ribcage, she started approaching Samuel slowly. The latter asked coldly, "Which part are you measuring first?" "Um... Well..." Tina started stammering out of instinct. She ended up asking, "W-Why don't I start from your wrist?" Samuel's reply was dripping with impatience. "Do I look like I'm the designer here?" "I'm sorry! I'm very, very sorry!" Tina quickly apologized. The sight of the woman acting so skittish around Samuel made him recall the scene that he had witnessed earlier that day. She was laughing and smiling when she hung out with Keith earlier. Now that she was right in front of him, she looked so meek and timid. Was she afraid that he might eat her alive? "Am I that scary?" he asked. Tina would never dare to answer that question that spelt doom to her. Her voice was as soft as a drop of rainwater merging seamlessly with the ocean. "N-NO..." "Really?" Samuel chuckled coldly. Tina was so frightened that she shivered involuntarily. Being together with Samuel in a room was incredibly terrifying for her. It wasn't because of his powerful aura, but due to the possibility of him recognizing her at any given moment. Tina no longer dared to dawdle, so she swallowed nervously and said, "Mr. Langford, I'll start measuring your arm." Samuel didn't cause any trouble for her after that. He cooperated with her by stretching his **arm**.

Tina was a professional fashion designer, so after taking his initial measurements, she finished the rest of the task easily and quickly.

When his arms were done, she then measured his height, shoulder width, leg length...

– After making sure that she got all the main measurements down, it was time for Tina to focus on the details. She explained, "Mr. Langford, I'll be... um, I'll be measuring your neck now. In order to measure it, I'll need to wrap the measuring tape two centimeters below your Adam's apple, so I might come in contact with your skin..." Everyone knew Samuel had severe germaphobia. It was dangerous enough for people to get close to him, let alone make actual physical contact with him. However, Samuel only frowned. "Why are you saying all this nonsense?" He undid the first two buttons of his shirt swiftly as he spoke. Tina was quite nervous when she noticed how nonchalant Samuel seemed. She didn't dare to stand in front of him, so she chose to stand next to him. Then, she stood on her tiptoes and started measuring his neck.

The moment her fingers touched Samuel's neck, a dark expression appeared on his face. He wanted to shove her away instinctively, but he smelt a faint floral scent immediately afterward.

His study was always neat and tidy. Things like perfumes and fragrances would never be used in this room.

The light floral scent didn't waft from his clothes, so the woman next to him was the only possibility...

At the same time, that scent smelled so familiar. He had smelled another woman with that fragrance not too long ago... Samuel's expression changed all of a sudden. Then, he gripped Tina's wrist firmly. He used so much strength that Tina thought her wrist was going to snap on the spot. He gazed down at her, a swirl of emotions flickering through his eyes. "You..."

Chapter 279 Tina was so surprised that she instinctively ripped her wrist out of Samuel's grasp and retreated a few steps backward. "M—Mr. Langford, what's wrong? Did I do something wrong?" she asked in a frightened tone. The sight of Tina looking so terrified allowed Samuel to gradually calm down. He did see her real face and investigated her background...

It was all that d*mned woman's fault! Not only did she betray his trust, but it was also thanks to her that he became an insomniac. Now, he was reduced to a paranoid shell of a man. Samuel rubbed his sore forehead in irritation before saying coldly, "It's nothing. I'm not used to a stranger touching me, that's all. Keep going." However, Tina hesitated to act. She continued asking fearfully, "Are you sure?"

When Samuel noticed just how frightened she looked, he realized his sudden change in attitude had scared her. "Yes. I'm fine," he replied. "I was spacing out earlier and ended up thinking about a woman who should've died a long time ago." His response drilled even more fear into Tina's heart. · A woman who should've died a long time ago? That would be her, right? However, she didn't dare to reveal her inner fear. All she could do was take a deep breath before approaching Samuel once again. Now, she acted more carefully than before. After measuring his neck, she went ahead and took his chest and hip measurements...

Tina worked carefully and slowly, not daring to touch Samuel at all. It was as if he was a ticking time bomb in her eyes. Finally, she was done taking all the measurements. Tina let out a sigh of relief before saying, "All the measurements have been taken now, so I'll be taking my leave, Mr. Langford." Before he could answer her, she hunched over and left the study immediately like she was running away from him. She felt as if she had just successfully escaped from a demon's lair.

"Whew! Luckily, I escaped just in time! That was so scary!"

Upon returning to her room, Tina locked the door behind her and leaned against it while patting her chest to soothe herself. "Did you commit a crime? Why do you look so scared?". Suddenly, a child-like voice drifted from a corner of the room. The sight of Keith's face almost gave Tina a heart attack.

"Keith? Why are you in my room?!" she shrieked. "Can't I be here?" The boy frowned immediately. He continued coldly, "This is my house, so your room is also a part of my territory." "You..." Tina was so angry that she shook. Then again, she couldn't bring herself to argue with a five-year-old, especially when he was still very ill. "Go back to your room and rest there," she said. "Aren't you handing over the designs to Samuel tomorrow? His measurements aren't the only data that you need. You'll have to take my measurements as well, right?" Keith continued speaking with the same frown. "I came here to find you on my own just so you wouldn't have to make an extra trip to my room in order to do your work. I didn't expect you to chase me out of your room."

Tina didn't know what to say. ;

When it came to Samuel and Keith, she could never find the right thing to say.

"You're right. Thank you for coming here on your own. Stand up straight, now. I'll start taking your measurements."

Compared to the tough time Tina had while taking Samuel's measurements in his study, the process of taking Keith's measurements was obviously shorter than easier. "Alright, I'm done taking your

measurements. Tomorrow, I'll present you with a design that will make you look like a handsome young prince. No one else can outshine you in the banquet for sure!" Tina said.

Keith rolled his eyes before commenting snidely, "I'm the heir of the Langford Group. If anything happens to Samuel in the future, I'll be the new head of the company. I don't want to look like a prince! That's so childish!" Tina didn't know what to say. 'Heh... I guess I'm too naïve and stupid to think that he'll like that idea...'

She could only laugh dryly, already feeling the atmosphere becoming awkward. Keith had successfully inherited Samuel's cold blooded trait and ruthlessness. Like father, like

son.

He was only five years old, yet he was already hoping that his father would die so that he could become the next head of the company. "Does Samuel know about your personality?" Tina couldn't help but ask.

Chapter **280** "Of course he has no idea what I'm like. In fact, there's a lot that he doesn't know about me."

Keith harrumphed coldly, a trace of smugness in his tone.

No one knew about his identity as a hacker, including Samuel. Oh, wait!

Memories started flooding into Keith's mind immediately.

Back when they were trying to shake Samuel's bodyguards off their car, Keith was forced to reveal his secret identity as a hacker to Tina and Kara.

"He doesn't know a lot of things about me, but you do. Will you tell him everything about me?" he questioned seriously with a slight frown on his face. "Of course not! Your secret's safe with me." "I don't believe you." Keith was still suspicious of Tina. She could only smile helplessly in return. "Then, what am I supposed to do in order to make you believe me?"

Keith thought for a moment. For some reason, he was reminded by the memory of Tina and Kara interacting with each other. He blurted out; "Let's make a pinky promise! If you ever lie to me, you'll have to swallow a thousand needles!"

Tina was speechless after hearing the request. 'Isn't he the childish one here?'

However, she chose not to say anything about it. Instead, she stuck out her pinky and tugged onto Keith's tinier finger as she promised to guard his secret.

"Now, do you believe me?" Tina asked in a tone that was clearly meant to comfort children.

For some reason, Keith didn't find her tone unpleasant despite his hatred for being coddled. Perhaps it was due to the fact that she had been taking care of him all this time. He knew that she was the only person who would ever treat him with kindness.

"Hmph! I'll believe you for now." The boy turned his head away in embarrassment. "I have to go back to my room now. Have fun working."

"Got it."

Tina smiled helplessly in return. After escorting Keith out of her room, she returned to her desk and started working on the designs. Upon returning to his room, Keith quickly switched on his computer. He logged into the website meant for hackers and saw a few unread messages. "Boss, you're right! That Langford guy did investigate Linda! It's a good thing you gave me

instructions in advance. I drafted a fake profile on her and sent it to him! Also, even though you asked me not to pay close attention to that Langford guy's affairs to avoid being detected by him, I still discovered something. Lately, he issued a bounty with great rewards on a woman." Arthur sent over a picture while adding, "Look at this picture! To me, she seems like a normal looking woman. She can't be the rumored homewrecker, right? Maybe she's just an ordinary thief."

The moment Keith glanced at the picture, his expression turned grave. A sharp glint appeared in his eyes immediately. That picture was very blurry, and it was true that the woman on it looked very plain... However, Keith recognized the woman straightaway.

The woman on Samuel's bounty that promised great rewards to anyone who found her, also known as the alleged thief of the pigeon egg diamond ring, was in truth Linda the fashion designer, who was currently in a room downstairs. What...

What on earth was actually happening here? Various guesses and theories flitted past Keith's mind in a split second. Could it be that she had other motives in mind, hence her decision to treat him with kindness?

After all, it was insanely difficult for him to find someone who would be nice to him without asking for anything in return.

Keith's mind was soon cluttered with so many thoughts. The expression on his face grew darker and more thunderous.

Logically speaking, he shouldn't place his trust in a woman that he had just gotten to know for a short period of time.

But... But...

Despite having only spent a few days with Tina, Keith could clearly feel the gentle and kind aura radiating off Tina. Her daughter was a very friendly and energetic girl as well. Should he believe that woman? "Boss, should we interfere with this bounty?" Arthur, Keith's subordinate, messaged via the website.

As a young genius hacker, he couldn't wait to sow seeds of chaos in this world.

If life was only fun that way, after all. Keith thought for a very long time before sending his reply.