The Love that Never Really Dies chapter 571

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The staff Sasha encountered on her way down through the elevator weren't aware of her identity and continued whispering amongst themselves as if they couldn't be bothered by Sasha's presence.

On the other hand, Sasha's face turned pale and haggard when she heard their conversation.

Roxanne?

She no longer had the strength to pull herself together when she was determined to seal the deal a few minutes ago.

It had gotten the better of her to the extent she couldn't even bring herself out of the elevator when she reached the designated floor.

Ding!

After some time, she finally mustered her strength to bring herself out of the elevator. Instead of going after the person in charge of Wells International, she started searching high and low in the parking lots.

A few minutes later, she saw a familiar car and thought Roxanne must have been next to him throughout their conversation.

What the hell were they doing together? Since when were they on good terms with each other? Why did he reprimand me in front of her?

Sasha had a hard time catching her breath. Nevertheless, she made her way to her car and sped out of the parking lot without a second thought.

Meanwhile, Roxanne was still in Sebastian's office to sort things out with him. She had brought along the shares transferal agreement for ownership given to the Rocke family by the representative of Sinch Enterprise and handed it over to Hayes Corporation.

"Sebastian, my father wants me to return this to you! He also sincerely seeks your forgiveness! All this while, he had been living in guilt because he wasn't aware that incident would bring upon your father's demise!"

Roxanne handed over the share transferal agreement to the man with her eyes brimming with tears, but Sebastian couldn't care less and stare at her with a deadpan look.

It was undeniable he was no longer on bad terms with her since she helped him to expose Sasha's doppelganger and treated Sabrina.

Therefore, instead of acting all arrogant, he explained in a callous tone, "You don't have to return those to me since those are nothing more than a few pieces of paper. Sinch Enterprise was involved in a series of scams. In other words, it was never the stakeholder of Hayes Corporation."

Roxanne's eyes widened in disbelief when she heard him. She asked, "A-Are you serious? W-We have always thought it's something important! I-I'm so sorry for the misunderstanding

since we're not really well-versed in them."

She put the things she had with her aside and noticed the man had no intention to carry on with the conversation anymore.

It was evident he wanted her to leave him alone since it was written all over his face.

Roxanne clenched her fists and asked, "Speaking of which, have you figured out the identity of Sasha's doppelganger?"

"She's Xenia! It turns out she's alive all this while! Solomon's adoptive mother saved her when she was knocked out by Robert! In the end, she had a series of surgical procedures to

alter her look! I can't believe they have been plotting against you! On top of that, the Blackwood family and Sasha..."

After making herself clear they were the ones bringing upon his misery, she stopped halfway

through her orated speech.

Sebastian brought himself to a halt when he heard the woman bringing up the identity of the doppelganger since he wasn't aware of the truth.

As soon as he found out she was merely a doppelganger, he paid no heed to her after making use of her to smoke out Yancy as the mastermind behind Solomon's plan.

Aware of the things awaiting the woman since she had failed to carry out her mission, he couldn't be bothered to waste his time to go after her.

Nonetheless, he couldn't believe the vicious woman was Xenia. He asked, "How did you figure out her identity?"

"M-My father brought this up in front of me! Sebastian, would you like me to keep an eye on them on your behalf? I'll definitely try my best to be of aid if you need my help!"

She had just volunteered herself to be the spy of Hayes Corporation to gather information in Sinch Enterprise.

Truth be told, she was there in an attempt to get her hands on the man. Since things were no longer chaotic, she thought it was a great time to make an advance on the man.

Although he might not be bothered with her presence, she was certain her persistence and hard work would pay off in the future.

See! It has merely been a few days, but he's already having a conflict with Sasha! To her surprise, as soon as she made herself clear, the man asked in a callous tone with his

face puckered, "Why don't you tell me the reasons why I need to send you there on behalf of

the company?"

"A-Aren't you curious as to why Solomon has approached Sasha? I can't believe he has the guts to show up again when you have shown him some mercy and set him free!" Without a second thought, the man cast the ashtray in the direction of the entrance with all his might, yelling, "Get out of my sight at once!"

Roxanne shrieked in fear of being struck to death when she thought she might not brace herself through the heavy blow on her head.

It was then Luke rushed into Sebastian's office and showed her the way out. "Ms. Rocke, why have you made your way here? Have you a death wish or something?"

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Meanwhile, Sasha continued speeding on the highway after blacklisting a few people from getting in touch with her through the phone.

However, that was merely a waste of time since there were only a mere few who truly cared about her.

Buzz! Buzz!

"Hello?"

"Ms. Wand, where are you? We have gotten in touch with the person in charge of Wells International! He has agreed to grant us an audience with him as long as we're able to reach

his office before twelve o'clock!"

Jenny, the secretary, had made the call to share the good news with Sasha.

Upon a simple glimpse at her watch, Sasha frowned since it was almost ten o'clock in the morning.

It would take her three hours to make her way to Horington from Avenport. In other words, it was a mission impossible for her to reach the person in charge since she only had about two hours.

Nonetheless, she wasn't given much of an option, so she told Jenny, "Alright, tell him I'll reach his office before twelve o'clock."

"Alright, Ms. Wand!"

Thrilled by the great news, Jenny hung up the call with a bright grin.

Within a few minutes, those from the operational department thought they had finally made it and couldn't wait to share the great news with the others.

Luke heard the great news when he was on his way back after showing Roxanne the way out of the company.

"You know what? The newly appointed person in charge of the operational department is currently on her way to confront the client!"

"I must say I'm impressed! I can't believe she has the guts to make her way to the customer's place without others' aid!"

"Isn't it obvious, we need to stop making fun of..."

As Sasha's subordinates started complimenting her, Luke paid no heed about it and made his way upstairs to join Sebastian in the conference room.

Meanwhile, immediately after she hung up the call, Sasha accelerated the car, speeding her way through the highway even when the road was covered in snow.

She was going at 100 mile/hour which could be deadly especially when the highway was covered in snow.

She took a deep breath and started praying it would stop snowing soon. To her surprise, it

was the exact opposite of her prayer.

As soon as she made her way out of Avenport, it started snowing heavily. She couldn't even see the road since the windshield was covered in snow.

She slowed down by the time she reached the junction. When she stepped on the brake, she

heard the sound of the wheels sliding forward.

It was then she started perspiring in fear of not making it out alive.

She had no choice but to go really slow instead of trying anything rash.

Along the way, she was glad it was still in the morning. Although there was a heavy snowstorm, the road had yet to freeze. Thus, it wasn't much of an issue.

However, shortly after she made it out of Avenport, a car almost ran into hers when they were at a slightly higher altitude.

She had the shock of her life and thought of cursing the driver, but she found out the driver seemed to have lost control over his vehicle.

After a short while, his car swayed off the road and fell off the guardrail in front of her. Oh, God!

In the meantime, Sebastian, who was in the middle of a conference, wasn't aware that Sasha was on her way to Horington.

He made up his mind to focus on his work in an attempt to calm himself ever since Roxanne's departure. The conference lasted for an hour and a half and didn't seem to come to an end just yet.

Luke, who was in charge of the memo of the conference, found his phone buzzing. Josephine: Mr. Scott, we have some sort of bad news! Those from the operational department told me that they couldn't get in touch with Mrs. Hayes!

Huh? Why is she informing me when they can't reach their supervisor? Aren't they supposed

to call her or something?

Luke, who was equally occupied, was rendered speechless by the message.

Luke: Why are you informing me when they're supposed to be going after her with the rest of

the department?

Josephine: No! Mrs. Hayes is currently on her way to Horington!

Luke: What?

Luke finally recalled the conversation of those from the operational department.

Is that the reason they have been complimenting her? Oh, God! Has she really made her way

to the office of the infuriated person in charge who has turned down the proposal of Hayes Corporation?

Luke finally linked the missing pieces of puzzles together.

Luke: Since when did she leave?

Josephine: Immediately after Mrs. Hayes found out that his office was located at Horington, she made her way there alone since Mr. Hayes had instructed them to get their hands on the

person in charge's whereabouts. She was supposed to reach his office by twelve o'clock. It's

currently eleven-thirty, but they just couldn't reach her.

Josephine repeated the timeline of the incident after gathering the details from the staff of the operational department.

Luke knew something was wrong as soon as he figured out Sasha was on her way to Horington.

His limbs turned rigid as he started perspiring in fear of the things awaiting them.

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Sebastian, who had been conducting the conference, found out his assistant started losing himself in a train of thought.

Thus, he glared at his assistant in the eyes and asked, "What are you doing?" Luke, who was drenched in sweat, finally returned to his senses and answered, "Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Hayes is currently on her way to meet the person in charge of Wells International." Irked by the incident in the morning, Sebastian was harsh with his remarks. "Is that any of my business when it's part of her job?"

Luke gulped and knew nothing he had in mind could convince his infuriated supervisor. In the end, he looked out the window and announced, "According to the forecast, there's a heavy snowstorm in Horington today!"

Sebastian's eyes widened in disbelief when he heard Luke.

On the other end, Sasha was in deep trouble since she had lost control over the vehicle immediately after the car fell off the guardrail in front of her.

Bam!

As a result, she bumped into the guardrail and almost passed out due to the heavy blow on her chest.

Fortunately, she wasn't involved in another accident since there were merely a few drivers on the highway due to the terrible weather.

It took her a long time to pull herself together. Seconds after she returned to her senses, she

started surveying her surroundings.

Things were pretty tough on her end since her belongings, including her phone, were all over

the place in the car.

She knew there was no way she could make it to Horington in time. Afraid she would mess things up again, she thought of getting in touch with the person in charge to inform him of her situation.

Once she gathered her thoughts, she withstand the racking sensation she felt and leaned over to pick up her phone.

"Hello, is this Mr. Will?"

Confused by the call, the person in charge of Wells International asked in return, "Yes. May

know who's on the line?"

Thrilled, Sasha introduced herself, "I'm so sorry for interrupting you, Mr. Will! I'm the representative of Hayes Corporation!"

"Well, as long as you make it to my office within another half an hour, I'll grant you an audience with me to pitch the proposal again."

The person in charge of Wells International was from Moranta. When he heard Sasha, he answered in a courteous manner and assured her he would honor his promise.

Half an hour? Are you kidding me? There's no way I'm going to make it in time when I'm this

close to losing my freaking life!

"Mr. Will, allow me to express my utmost apology since I don't think I'm going to make it in time."

"What?"

The foreigner started throwing a tantrum and yelled, "Are you trying to waste my time or what? I have been pretty merciful to spare you two hours, but you're telling me you can't make it in time? If that's the case, forget about the proposal!"

He was about to hang up the call immediately after he made himself clear it was over. The anxious Sasha yelled at him in return, "No, Mr. Will! We wish to establish a long-term working relationship with you and your company, but I can't make it since I'm caught in the middle of something."

"What are you talking about?"

"I'm involved in a minor accident due to the bad weather. I'll show you a photo if you're having doubts."

In an attempt to convince the foreigner, Sasha snapped the photo of her car bumping into the guardrail.

She did a great job leaving herself out of the photo since it wouldn't be wise for her to play to the man's emotions.

As a qualified negotiator, she needed to share the details of her situation with the other party to gain their trust.

Indeed, the foreigner stopped picking on her and announced, "Well, I'll just give you another hour if that's the case."

"Thank you so much, Mr. Will! I'll definitely make it there in time! Also, allow me to introduce myself! My name is Nancy!"

"Nancy?"

The person on the other end asked in disbelief and thought he had heard of the name during

his time abroad.

"Yes, I used to work for Andy! In fact, I was the one behind a lot of the investment proposals!

I had also done a few startups a huge favor and contributed to their current success! I can assure you it's a beneficial deal for both parties!"

Sasha introduced herself and her past achievements to convince the doubtful man since she knew it would take more than a mere accident to convince him.

Hence, she needed to persuade him it was worthy of his time to meet her. Otherwise, he might lose his patience if she were to be late again.

Her identity and past achievements happened to be the most persuasive things she could leverage on.

Once she had everything sorted out, she finally returned to her senses and started checking on the condition of the car.

She was grateful the Cayenne turned out to be sturdier than she had thought. In spite of the impactful blow, she could still start the car without any trouble.

Thus, she made up her mind to carry on with her journey and thought it wasn't such a bad day after all.

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She merely had two options left. Unless she could think of something to start the car, she would have to acquire the aid of the police and make her way to Horington without her sole mean of transport.

There was no way she would give up her sole mean of transport. In the end, she withstood the racking sensation and crawled her way out of the car.

Stepping on the inches thick snow, she marched in the direction of the boots and got herself the snow chains that would enable a car to move just fine during winter.

She had gotten those from an automotive store quite some time ago. Over the years she spent abroad, she had picked up all sorts of skills, including the basics of getting snow chains for the wheels during winter.

Those were meant to increase the friction between the ground and the wheels of the car during winter to prevent accidents due to the slippery road condition.

As tough as her life had been throughout the years, she had learned countless valuable

She had the chains installed within a few minutes as if it was just a piece of cake for her. Since it was almost twelve o'clock, she returned to her seat and started the car, neglecting the bruise on her forehead.

In the meantime, Sebastian had boarded the chopper against his subordinates' advice. They

were against the idea of him boarding the chopper due to the bad weather.

Afraid something bad would happen to Sebastian, Karl tagged along.

Prior to their departure, Karl asserted in a final attempt to change Sebastian's mind, "Mr. Hayes, I have gotten in touch with the authorities and ensured there is no accident on the highway from Avenport to Horington. You need to take it easy since Mrs. Hayes may have long made her way to Horington."

The moment he brought up his suggestion, the man ahead of him boarded the chopper without a second thought and took over the control of the chopper.

Huh... Karl knew nothing he said could change Sebastian's mind. Thus, he joined him in the chopper and took over the control over the chopper from Sebastian.

It was dangerous to fly a chopper during such a heavy snowstorm. Had they failed to exercise caution, they might end up in a serious accident.

To Karl's surprise, as soon as they embarked on the journey, Sebastian instructed him to fly the chopper along the highway from Avenport to Horington in an attempt to locate the missing Sasha.

What the heck? Why had he picked on her in the first place? This is getting on my nerves! Karl had no choice but to fly along the highway as instructed. They were surprised to encounter countless vehicles involved in serious accidents.

They couldn't believe Sasha wasn't the only reckless one.

Have they lost their minds or something? Why the hell are they out and about during a heavy

snowstorm?

Karl's veins bulged as he thought to himself. Thankfully, they had yet to encounter Sasha's car.

Shortly after they made their way out of Avenport and headed in the direction of Horington, they noticed the road of the regions at a higher altitude was completely covered in snow. "Mr. Haves—"

"Have I not made myself clear? I want you to lower the altitude of the helicopter!"
Karl had the shock of his life the moment Sebastian broke the silence and yelled at him out of the blue.

Once he turned around, he noticed the man behind him had been clenching his fists with his eyes glued to the road.

He was glad he wouldn't have to witness Sebastian's wrathful look since Sebastian had a telescope with him.

As a result, Karl lowered the altitude of the chopper and found out countless vehicles were trapped and had pulled over at the side of the road.

Nonetheless, they couldn't verify if the drivers and passengers were safe and sound due to the heavy snowstorm.

Sebastian put his telescope aside and reprimanded, "Why the heck have you stopped? Hurry

up and get going!"

Karl had no choice but to carry on with the journey to Horington. It had been twenty minutes.

but the car they had been searching for was nowhere to be seen.

"Mr. Hayes, I guess it's safe to assume Mrs. Hayes—"

When he was about to tell Sebastian his wife might have reached her destination safe and

sound, Sebastian's phone started buzzing.

Mr. Hayes, we have found a car matching the descriptions of the one your wife owns on Jadeborough Street! Can you verify if this belongs to her?

Along with the text from the authorities was a photo.

Without a second thought, Sebastian accessed the photo and went dead silent as soon as it showed up.

He stared at the car next to the guardrail in disbelief and hoped he had been seeing things. No, this can't be!

Karl was startled by Sebastian's response since he went dead silent out of the blue. In an attempt to figure out the things going on, he turned around and asked, "Mr. Hayes?" Oh, God! Has something bad happened?

"J-Jadeborough Street!"

"H-Huh?"

As Karl looked at Sebastian with a confused look, Sebastian yelled at him, "Have you not heard me? I want you to make your way to Jadeborough Street at once!" Karl was rendered speechless and made his way to the designated location instead of saying something else.

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They finally made it to Jadeborough Street after a few minutes.

As soon as they landed, Sebastian alighted from the chopper and rushed over to the crushed rail guard. He found out there were shattered pieces of spare parts, including the license plate, all over the place.

Sasha!

The man felt as if he had lost the most important thing in his life after being unreasonable and the feeling of despair over the past two days.

Sebastian thought Sasha shouldn't have resorted to such extreme countermeasures to save

Solomon when they had gone through all sorts of ups and downs in life.

Truth be told, he wouldn't mind doing her a favor, including setting him free as long as she brought it up.

To make things worse, immediately after Sebastian set Solomon free, Solomon made his way to the hospital to see her. However, she mentioned nothing about it when she made her

way home.

What's wrong with me? Why is she trying to keep me in the dark? Has anything happened between them? She's aware that I don't want her anywhere near him, but she has been

keeping in touch with him behind my back! On top of that, they were so intimate with one

another!

Overwhelmed by the duo's interaction, Sebastian was on the verge of going berserk. He had

been trying his best to stop himself from trying anything rash ever since then. Otherwise, he was afraid he might break the law.

The moment he saw the license plate in front of him, he felt a strong urge to take things out on himself for being jealous over something trivial.

It doesn't really matter! I guess I haven't learned from my lesson just yet! I have started taking her for granted again ever since she's back! It's my fault for getting so full of myself! "Mr. Hayes, where are you going? You need to stay calm and stop trying anything reckless when we're in the middle of nowhere!"

Karl's eyes widened in disbelief when Sebastian was about to jump off the cliff in an attempt to search for Sasha.

He rushed over and stopped the reckless man in the nick of time.

Has he lost his mind or have a death wish? Isn't he aware he's going to lose his life if he fell down the cliff?

"Mr. Hayes, why don't you stay calm and get in touch with the authorities instead of trying something as reckless as this?"

"Stay away from me!"

Sebastian could no longer stay calm; immediately after he shrugged Karl off, he wanted to jump off the cliff again.

It was then, he received another text from the authorities of Horington.

Mr. Hayes, the car you're searching for has made it to Horington! If it's necessary, we can locate her on your behalf!

Karl was thrilled by the news and showed the reckless Sebastian the message, yelling in excitement, "Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Hayes is fine! She has made it to Horington! You don't have to jump off the cliff anymore!"

On the other hand, Sasha had finally made it to Horington and met the person in charge of Wells International, Samuel Will.

"I'm so sorry for taking such a long time, Mr. Will!" Immediately after she showed up at the man's office, she expressed her sincere apology.

Intrigued by the capabilities of the woman in front of him, Samuel looked at her in the eyes and continued recalling the information he had gathered.

Although she used to be one of Andy's employees, her so-called employer was not a match for her in terms of management because Andy spent most of his time taking care of his shady businesses.

Meanwhile, Nancy had been handling most of the portfolio of the firm's clients. Since Andy had been supporting her, she could easily strike a deal with conglomerates of different backgrounds.

In short, the woman in front of her was the bigshot of the financial industry. To his surprise, the bigshot turned out to be a foreign woman.

Samuel greeted her in return, "It's a pleasure to make your acquaintance, Ms. Nancy! Speaking of which, don't you think it's time for you to take care of your wound?" When she caught him staring at her forehead, she finally recalled she was involved in a

minor accident a short while ago.

She found out her forehead was completely drenched in blood and thought she must have embarrassed herself again.

"I-I'm so sorry..."

Ten minutes later, Sasha joined Samuel in the restaurant after she returned from the infirmary of the hotel.

Staring at the table full of dishes, he suggested, "I'm sure you haven't had your meal! Why don't we carry on with the session over a meal?"

"Sounds great to me, Mr. Will!" Sasha was touched by her seemingly caring client. At the very least, it was the first time throughout her day she felt appreciated.

Seconds after she took a seat, Samuel asked, "Why have you joined Hayes Corporation, Ms.

Nancy? Weren't you an employee of Andy? Kindly forgive me for being frank, but I think you deserve a better opportunity at Wall Street."

Sasha was at a loss for words to conclude the things she had gone through. Thus, she said, "Well, it's quite a long story."

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She knew she deserved a better opportunity at Wall Street as well. However, she just couldn't bear to leave her family when they needed her.

When she was about to share the proposal with him, he announced, "Actually, I think it's a waste of your talent if you remain a member of Hayes Corporation."

"H-Huh? W-Why is that, Mr. Will?"

"It seems like Mr. Hayes doesn't appreciate you and your talents when all he did was to send

you to approach me. On top of that, he didn't even bother to express his concern over you when you had just braced yourself through a heavy snowstorm for the company's sake."

The foreigner in front of her was spot on. All of a sudden, Sasha was overwhelmed by tidal waves of emotions and couldn't bring herself to savor the dishes anymore.

She had no intention to talk about the things he had brought up, but she couldn't deny he was right because no one bothered to express their concerns over her.

"I-I think it's because he's not aware of the harsh weather!"

"Are you trying to pull my leg? How is that possible when Horington is merely three hours' drive away from Avenport? I truly think you deserve a better employment opportunity with someone who appreciates your talents."

He didn't bother to keep his thoughts to himself when he found out Sasha had been trying to

deceive herself over and over again.

As a result, Sasha's face turned pale and haggard since she was rendered completely

speechless by the man's brutal remarks.

"I-Is that the case?"

"Of course! In fact, Wells International is more than happy to have you if you wish to join us!"

Samuel finally exposed his true colors and brought up the suggestion with a bright grin. Once again, Sasha was startled by the man's suggestion and thought he must have picked on Hayes Corporation without holding back just to get her to join Wells International. Sasha found the suggestion hilarious, but she knew the foreigner in front of her was right. Half an hour later, they finally carried on with the formal session of officiating the deal as

Unwilling to give up just yet, Samuel asked after they had sealed the deal, "Ms. Nancy, are you sure you're not going to join Wells International?"

Sasha repeated herself, "Thank you so much for the offer, but I have no intention to leave my

family for the time being."

soon as they finished their meal.

"Well, it's such a shame, but I still look forward to working with you in the near future!" Samuel's regret was written all over his face, but he did a great job carrying himself in a courteous manner.

He also thought of arranging the transport back to Avenport for Sasha. Thus, he asked, "Ms.

Nancy, how are you heading back to Avenport?"

"Huh?" Sasha looked out the window and responded with a self-deprecating smirk. "I think I'll spend a night here and see if I'm able to make my way back tomorrow."

She was exhausted and thought it was time for her to take a break.

Shortly after they wrapped up the session, Sasha showed Samuel the way out and checked herself into a room to call it a day.

It was then a Rolls-Royce was brought to an abrupt halt at the entrance after accelerating all

the way from afar.

Samuel, who happened to be nearby, and Sasha, were rendered speechless as they thought

the ones in the car seemed to have pulled over in front of them to flaunt their wealth. They had their eyes glued to the passengers inside the luxurious vehicle. A few seconds after the passenger wound down the window, she saw a familiar man in the car.

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"Miss, are you still checking in or not?"

"That won't be necessary anymore! Thank you so much for your time!" Sasha stuffed her identity card into her bag and marched in the opposite direction of the entrance.

The receptionist was at a loss for words since Sasha had fled the scene before she could say anything else.

Similarly, the man, who had just alighted from the car, responded with a frown and rushed over to the fleeing woman's side.

"Darling, where do you think you're going? I'm here to take you home!"

What the heck? Is she the wife of this seemingly filthy rich tycoon? The onlookers stared at the duo with their eyes gleaming.

Meanwhile, Sasha couldn't care less about the man and seemed to be irked by his presence

since her face was scrunched up.

Seconds after she made it to the road, she tried to hail herself a cab, but someone wrapped his arms around her waist from behind, holding her in his arms against her will.

"Sasha, where are you going? Haven't you heard me?"

He asked in a callous tone, indicating he was equally irked by her response.

Sasha found his question hilarious and thought her upcoming plan had nothing to do with him.

She made up her mind and turned around to confront the man, glaring at him in the eyes. "Where else am I supposed to go apart from heading back to the company to report to my boss?"

"What?"

Sebastian's heart skipped a beat since she had been acting aggressively.

"Haven't I made myself clear? I have sealed the deal with the person in charge of Wells International! In other words, I have carried out your instructions!"

The woman in his arms repeated herself as if she had no intention to waste her time with him anymore.

Sebastian's face turned pale and haggard when he caught a glimpse of the woman's bandaged forehead.

"Darling, I—"

"No, Mr. Hayes! Stop addressing me in such an intimate manner! Take this with you since you're here! I'm glad I won't have to make my way to your office anymore!"

As soon as she finished her sentence, she stuffed the stack of agreements she had with her to the man.

Sebastian was about to say something to explain himself, but the woman started biting his hand with all her might since he refused to move away from her. "Ouch!"

As a result, he shrieked in pain and unfastened his grip.

Sasha fled the scene without a second thought. By the time Sebastian returned to his senses, she had boarded a cab and disappeared in the middle of the bustling streets. Oh no... Karl was completely speechless when he saw the conflicting duo running away from one another after a series of misunderstandings.

"Mr. Hayes, I'm afraid Mrs. Hayes is mad at you. What are we supposed to do next?" The already infuriated man yelled at the man next to him, "Isn't it obvious? Hurry up and go get the car over at once!"

Prior to his departure, Karl mentioned, "The staff told me Mrs. Hayes' car was completely dented when she made her way to the hotel. They were afraid something bad might happen

to her. They were just glad she was fine. Otherwise, I'm afraid it's over for you..."

Halfway through his orated speech, Karl brought himself to a halt since he had made himself clear Sebastian was very close to losing her forever.

Sebastian, who was well aware of the things that might be in store for him, responded with a frown.

That was precisely the reason he couldn't wait to alight from the car and rushed in her direction the moment he saw her in the lobby.

He felt a strong urge to beg her for forgiveness and bring her home with him, but she had fled the scene again.

Staring at the bite mark on his hand, he clenched his fists and gasped out his instruction, "Just get going!"

"Yes!"

Karl finally returned to the car and made his way to Sebastian's side.

On the other end of the city, Sasha had reached the train station.

She had no intention to sort things out with her so-called husband just yet. Truth be told, she

could still feel her heart-wrenching due to the silent treatment over the past two days.

What does he mean he's here for me? Is he telling me he's not aware of the heavy snowstorm? If he doesn't want me dead, why hasn't he stopped me from leaving in the first place?

Overwhelmed by a sense of despair, Sasha showed the ticketing agent her identity card

requested, "Can you get me a train ticket to Avenport?"

The heavy snowstorm continued. It was a relatively desolate departure hall since there were merely a few guests due to the harsh weather.

Sasha made her way to the departure hall with her ticket and took a seat to take a short break.

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"Hey, are you alone as well?"

"Huh?"

Sasha turned around and noticed there was a little girl, who was around the age of seven or eight, seated behind her.

The seemingly pitiable little girl looked at Sasha with an aggrieved look.

Sasha turned around and looked elsewhere to avoid eye contact with the little girl as she couldn't stand having another equally pathetic figure next to her.

"N-No!"

"You don't have to lie since there's no way you're here without others when you're injured if

you're not alone."

Sasha gaped at the little girl's remark and thought the little girl was right. She wouldn't be there on her own without others if others truly cared about her.

I'm in the middle of nowhere without anyone to look after me when I have just gone through a minor accident and injured myself!

I guess Mr. Will is right! No one cares about me! It seems like I'm not as important as a trivial deal!

She felt a prickling sensation behind her eyes. A short while later, torrents of grief started streaming down her cheeks.

"H-Hey-"

"Yes! You're right! No one cares about me! That's precisely the reason I'm here without anyone else!"

Sasha finally let loose of her emotions. Sitting next to the little girl, she continued wailing since she couldn't pull herself together anymore.

The last straw had finally broken the camel's back.

The little girl was startled by Sasha's response since it was never her intention to bring the woman next to her to tears.

"It's not a big deal, isn't it? If no one cares about us, we'll just have to take good care of ourselves!"

"What?" Sasha sniffled and looked at the little girl in the eyes.

The little girl advised, "We'll just put ourselves ahead of others! See! I bought myself all kinds of snacks since they had the guts to leave me alone!"

Sasha continued weeping because of the things the little girl had gone through.

When Sebastian reached the duo, he saw the duo savoring ice cream on the bench next to one another when they were supposed to stay away from those during winter.

"Are you feeling better?"

"Nah, what about you?"

"Nah, shall we get another ice cream?"

"Sure!"

Sebastian couldn't believe Sasha had agreed to savor another cup of ice cream in the middle of a heavy snowstorm.

The little girl next to Sasha retrieved the ice cream she had in her bag and shared it with her

Has she lost her mind? What does she think she's doing eating so much ice cream when it's

freaking cold out there? She's supposed to stop the little girl instead of playing along with her!

He marched in their direction with the thought of snatching their cups of ice cream away from them in mind.

Out of nowhere, the little girl asked, "Where are you going? Are you heading home?" "Mmm."

Sasha responded with a nod and continued savoring her ice cream. In spite of the frigid sensation she felt, she couldn't be bothered.

The little girl turned around and advised, "If that's the case, you need to leave everything

behind as soon as you finish your ice cream."

"Why?"

Sasha turned around and looked at the little girl with a confused look.

To her surprise, the little girl asked with a self-deprecating smirk, "Isn't it because they're the

ones you care about the most? I mean, I'm against the idea of returning to them, but I'm not given much of a choice since I'm still a minor."

Sasha thought she had been hearing things because the little girl mentioned something none of her peers could understand.

Once they wrapped up their conversation, the little girl started packing her bag and walked in the direction of the ticketing station.

It was then Sasha found out she wasn't just another little girl—no ordinary little girl could get used to traveling alone.

She thought the little girl must have her fair share of ups and downs in life. Therefore, she had picked up the skills none of her peers was familiar with.

If that's the case, what am I supposed to do?

Staring at the little girl's departing back, Sasha reached for her phone seconds after she lost herself in a train of thought.

"Dad? Shall we go for a short getaway soon? What do you think?"

"A short getaway?"

Rufus, who had received the call out of the blue, was startled and confused at the same time because he couldn't fathom the reason she brought that up out of the blue.

On top of that, it was almost time for the festive season of the year. Thus, he was against the idea.

"Where do you want to go? It's almost time for the festive season, isn't it? Don't you have to work? Are you sure you have time for—"

"Dad, those aren't really any of your concerns. If you're not against the idea, I'll bring you and

the children abroad for a short while. We'll make our way to a tropical country and spend some time there."

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Sasha interrupted her father and told him the things she had in mind. She felt a sense of relief after blurting out the things she had been keeping to herself.

I'll never allow others to get the better of me anymore! My life will never be the same! There's no need for me to start all over again because I'll decide how I live my life from now on!

Sasha had been anticipating her father's reply in silence. Suddenly, someone showed up next to her and snatched her phone away. "What the-"

"Dad, he's just trying to pull your leg! Just pay no heed to her! I'll talk to you again soon!" Sebastian took her phone away from her and wrapped up the conversation with Rufus on her behalf before hanging up the call.

When Sasha found out the man next to her was none other than her so-called husband, she couldn't keep herself calm anymore.

"What do you think you're doing, Sebastian? Why the heck have you snatched my phone? Who do you think you are to make the call on our behalf?"

"I'm making the call on your behalf as your husband."

Instead of reprimanding her the moment he saw her, he finally stopped getting full of himself. Then, he cooed, "Darling, can you stop throwing a tantrum and follow me home?" He cast his dignity aside and started begging her to show him mercy.

Ironically, Sasha thought he had been being sarcastic again. Hence, she returned the favor and said, "What do you mean by going home? Are you sure that's considered my home? Do

you even want me there?"

She enunciated her question when she recalled the silent treatment she had been going through in the past two days. Worst of all, he responded with a scowl when she went near him.

I can't believe the look of disgust on his face. I'm his freaking wife!

Once again, her eyes started brimming with tears. Startled by Sasha's response, he assured

her, "No! I want you to go home with me! Why else would I be here if I don't want you home?"

"You're here for me? Are you sure, Sebastian? Since when have you learned to lie? Where's

the almighty Mr. Hayes everyone's afraid of?"

Unsure of the things to say to defend himself, he gasped out his reply, "I have been telling the truth!"

I won't fall for your lies anymore! I'm well aware of the things you have done and told her! It's

not even much of a challenge to figure it out! The things you have brought up are so freaking

hilarious! Just stop trying to deceive me!

All of a sudden, someone announced, "The train to Avenport will reach the platform soon. Passengers boarding the train please get your ticket ready for verification purposes."

Without a second thought, Sasha brought herself up and rushed in the direction of the ticketing station.

Sebastian's veins started bulging on his forehead again. Without any hesitation, he went after her in an attempt to stop her.

To his surprise, he was stopped at the ticketing station.

"Mister, can you please show me your ticket to board the train?" "What?"

Sebastian, who had never taken the train, was getting irritated since he couldn't wait to reach his wife.

Unfortunately, the ticketing officer refused to show him the way to the train. As much as he tried to threaten the ticketing officer, he couldn't force them into submission.

On the other hand, Sasha heaved a long sigh of relief once she boarded the train because she thought no one could possibly show up to annoy her anymore.

She had made up her mind to get off the train at the next station. Her upcoming plan was to bring her father and her children abroad with her for the time being.

To her surprise, a few minutes after she took her seat, a familiar figure showed up in front of her, irritating her all over again.

"Step aside!"

The person next to Sasha asked with a frown, "Why? I have purchased this...!" He couldn't even finish his sentence as he was tempted by the stack of cash the man flashed him.

"No problem, sir! Please take my seat and enjoy the complimentary snacks!" the passenger next to Sasha answered with a bright grin and marched away as soon as he got his hands on the stack of cash.

As infuriated as Sasha might be, she knew it wouldn't be wise to make a scene when others had their eyes glued to them due to the noise.

"Have you always enjoyed taking the train? Is it because it's a comfortable ride?" Sebastian paid no heed to Sasha and took a seat next to her immediately after he sent the passenger next to her away.

He couldn't get used to taking a train since it was relatively cramped. On top of that, he thought there was an awful stench lingering in the air.

As he started retching, Sasha remarked in a sarcastic manner, "What's wrong? Are you having it tough? If you can't take it anymore, why don't you go ahead and get off the train?" It was finally Sebastian's turn to force a smile as irritated as he was. "What do you mean? I can't smell anything apart from your unique scent! There's no way I'm leaving you when I can't get enough of you!"

Sasha flushed instantly when she heard that.

Seconds after she snapped out of bewilderment, she looked out the window and thought it was time to ignore the shameless man next to her.

A few minutes later, the train finally departed. The passengers on the train started engaging themselves in all sorts of activities to kill the time.

"Hey, care to join us for poker?"

"Sure!"

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"Shall we catch a movie? I have downloaded all sorts of movies for the exhaustive ride!" "What about a horror movie? I think it's a great time for some thrilling fun!"

"The game is about to begin!"

"First blood!"

"Double kill!"

The ones playing the game were seated around Sebastian. They didn't bother to be mindful of their volume and continued having a great time amongst themselves.

Sasha was delighted because Sebastian started clenching his fists due to irritation.

Huh! He shouldn't have tagged along in the first place!

The middle-aged man in front of them unpacked something. All of a sudden, an awful stench permeated throughout the confined space.

Sebastian couldn't take it anymore. He sprang up from his seat and rushed in the direction of the washroom with his mouth and nose covered.

That's it?

Sasha started gloating over his misfortune and considered herself lucky that he finally stopped getting in her way.

I guess it's pretty tough for someone who has been living the posh life ever since he's young!

On top of that, he has mysophobia!

Sasha thought Sebastian would definitely take off as soon as they reached the next station.

Thus, she would get off at the station after the next.

She would get her father and children to join her elsewhere if she couldn't make it back to Avenport. However, the man returned to her after ten minutes.

The pale and haggard man announced with a handkerchief over his mouth, "Darling, I'm back. I'll be fine in a short while."

Why is he making it sound as if I have been waiting for his return?

Sasha turned around and ignored the man. After hesitating for a few seconds, Sebastian finally took the seat next to her again.

Truth be told, he couldn't take it anymore since he had never spent such a long time in a cramped space with people from all walks of life.

Nonetheless, he knew he had to brace himself through the challenges. Otherwise, she might

run away from him again the moment he failed to keep an eye on her.

I'm afraid if she's serious about running away from me, I won't be able to reach her even if I want to since she's so smart. Well, she literally spent half a decade running away from me! Slouching against the seat, Sebastian closed his eyes to divert his attention from the things irritating him.

A short while later, a baby started wailing in the train.

Boohoo...!

Sebastian, who was also a father, couldn't take it any longer since Ian had never thrown such a huge tantrum when he was young.

To be precise, the nanny would tend to the little boy whenever he started making a scene.

Thus, it wasn't much of Sebastian's concern.

As Sebastian started feeling lightheaded, he covered his ears in an attempt to regain peace of mind.

"Is your baby hungry or something? He's not going to whine for nothing, isn't he?" "I'm afraid he's really hungry."

Out of nowhere, someone mentioned, "Well, what are you waiting for? Hurry up and feed him! You don't have to worry since we won't discriminate against you!"

Sasha looked at the man next to her and saw the man retching again. Afraid he would make a scene and embarrass himself, he covered his mouth to stop himself from puking.

As Sebastian rushed in the direction of the washroom again, Sasha clenched her fists in silence.

"Is your husband not feeling well or something? I have seen him rushing in the direction of the washroom twice within a few minutes."

The passengers around them expressed their concerns over Sebastian's wellbeing.

Sasha was at a loss for words. Seconds after she gathered her thoughts, she assured them,

"I think it's just his motion sickness again. He's going to be fine in no time."

"Huh? Can someone really suffer from motion sickness when they're on a train? What's your

husband's occupation? Has he never boarded a train?" an elderly man asked.

On top of that, he wasn't around when Sebastian offered the young man a stack of cash to get the seat next to Sasha.

When he heard Sasha mention that Sebastian couldn't get used to traveling on a train, he thought Sebastian must be a country bumkin.

Sasha had no intention to carry on with the conversation. She turned around and looked out the window for a moment of silence.

As much as she wished to ignore Sebastian, she realized she was worried about him.

Occasionally, she would look in the direction of the washroom to check on him.

Sasha, are you seriously going to forgive him? Just how useless can you be? You need to let

him be and hold your ground!

It had been quite some time since Sebastian left his seat, but he was nowhere to be seen just yet.

She thought he might have taken off, but the train had never stopped.

Oh, God! Has he passed out in the toilet or something?

Her heart skipped a beat when she thought about the worst possible outcome.

She sprang up from her seat and was about to run in the direction of the washroom when he

finally staggered his way back to his seat. "Darling, where are you going?"

He couldn't care less about his condition and rushed to his wife's side in fear of her running away from him.

Sasha was overwhelmed and looked elsewhere to avoid his gaze.

"I'm just trying to get myself a glass of water."

"Are you thirsty?"

The man's eyes gleamed. He asked, "Shall we upgrade our seats to business class? I have just found out from someone that there is plenty of food and beverages in one of the carriages near the business class. carriage."