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Since I was now in charge of the company's audit, I went to the Finance Department to check things out. I was shocked to find that the internal audit had already begun.

Isabelle Leek, the person in charge of the Finance Department, handed me all the company accounts. "These are all the accounts up until now, Ms. Stovall. Take a look at them. This year's audit will include Mr. Quinn's side of things as well, so the workload will be heavier. Mr. Fuller intends to let Harrison Credit handle the external audit this year."

Flipping through the ledgers, I nodded and felt a headache brewing behind my



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eyes. "Alright, I understand. I'll look through these first. Also, can you sort out a copy of AC Credit's audited data from the previous years for me?"

"Sure!"

After that, I went back to my office with the documents. Stacey settled some things before coming in only to see me with my head buried in a stack of documents. "Ms. Stovall, the president of AC Credit, Mr. Thomas Lowe, just called. He wants to meet with you."

If AC Credit and Fuller Corporation stopped collaborating, there would probably be a loss of millions. Hence, I wasn't surprised that he was anxious

to meet me. However, Ashton wanted to end their collaboration. Perhaps something happened in between which I wasn't aware of, but I had no time to spare for Thomas Lowe.

Directing my gaze at Stacey, I ordered, "Just tell him I'm busy. One other thing, contact the president of Harrison Credit for me. I need to meet him. Look up the companies which were recently audited by Harrison Credit as well."

"Okay!" After Stacey left, I buried myself in my work once again.

In the blink of an eye, it was already evening. My back was sore and my whole body felt stiff from sitting for so

long. I stood and walked out of my office, finding that there was no one in the office area.

I made a cup of coffee and went back to my office, planning to order takeout. It looked like I had to stay here and work overtime today.

"Shouldn't you be packing up already?" A voice disrupted the silence, startling me slightly. I looked up and saw that it was Jared.

An involuntary smile appeared on my lips. "Well, you haven't left yet either."

He smiled vaguely and handed me the lunch box in his hand. "This soup was

just prepared by Devon. It's good for your health."

Surprise filled me as I peered at him.
"Thank you."

We weren't all that familiar with each other, so I thought that he'd leave right after this. To my surprise, he remained standing there. Unable to find anything to talk about, I simply kept silent.

"Did Ashton put you in charge of the company's audit?" He searched for a place to sit down and asked me.

I nodded. "Yeah. I don't have much experience with this, so it's a bit of a headache for me."

He seemed to fully agree, nodding his head quite a few times. "It has only one year since the company went public.

There is a huge difference between this year's audit and those from previous years. A slight mistake will

cause the company stocks to plummet. In fact, many companies go bankrupt every year due to errors in their annual audits."

He spoke earnestly, so I put down my work and glanced at him with a similar expression, to which he continued, "Furthermore, the audit company has been switched this year, so you have to be extra careful."

This was his reminder to me.

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"Ashton knows that auditing isn't my strength. Why did he still put me in charge of this?" A single mistake would cost the entire Fuller Corporation. The risk was too great, so I just couldn't figure out Ashton's intentions behind this decision.

Jared straightened up and looked at me. "If you do this right, the shares Old Mr. Fuller left for you will be legally transferred to your name. You'd possess all the rights to those shares, and you wouldn't just be a director. You'd become a partner of the company."

After a brief pause, he adjusted his

clothes and continued, "But if you mess this up, Fuller Corporation will be in trouble, and you might also face the risk of leaving the company once and for all."

My brows drew together, and I didn't know what to say to that.

Is Ashton betting the entire Fuller Corporation on me, or...

I didn't allow myself to entertain the other possibility and closed the ledger in my hand. As I opened the soup he had brought, I glanced at him and asked, "I've taken over the matters regarding HiTech, but why does Ashton want me to keep tabs on OrbitTech?"

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Jared frowned slightly as if in contemplation, and said after a few beats, "HiTech was acquired by Fuller Corporation because of its cash flow issues. So far, Joe has been the one managing it. Now that it has been handed to you, perhaps Ashton wants you to get more exposure to new technologies. After all, there are policies in place. Soon, the country will support the development of internet and tech companies. In the future, Fuller Corporation might mostly deal with new technologies, so maybe he wants you to familiarize yourself with these things in advance."

He added after a moment, "As for OrbitTech, perhaps Ashton has plans

to acquire it. So telling you to keep tabs could be because he wants to find out their potential for future development.”

I nodded and took a few sips of the soup. Finding it quite delectable, I looked at him and expressed my gratitude. “Thank you for your care during this time.”

He smiled and got up to leave.

“Are you heading home?” I asked, glancing at the sky which was already darkening.

He hummed a yes and replied, “I have something on later in the night.”

something on later in the night."

I nodded as a hint of disappointment flashed through me. I initially thought that we could have supper together later if he had the time.

After he left, I drank the soup and continued going through the documents until my butt screamed for me to pack up and leave for the day.

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Before I could start my car, I got a call from Macy.

I checked the time to see that it was ten already. As soon as I answered my phone, Macy's voice reached my ears. "Babe, guess where I am now."

Listening to the bubbling excitement in her tone, I thought for a while before answering, "Q City!"

"Damn!" she cursed. "Ms. Stovall, you're such a bore!"

Based on her choice of words, I knew that I guessed it right. Smiling into the

phone, I teased, "It's not like today's your first day knowing me. So how's it going? Have you found a suitable location?"

Fuller Corporation's underground car park was large, and not to mention, vacant now. While I sat in the car and spoke on the phone, I could vaguely hear the echo, making the hair on the back of my neck stand.

"Mhm. Q City is indeed a good place to settle down. It's very relaxing here too. I stayed here for a few days, and I really like the pace of life here. The weather here is really pleasant too, so I think it's a perfect place to settle down."

Macy talked a lot on the other end of the line, so I put her on speaker and started the engine. The car park was too empty and I felt a little uneasy staying here for too long.

I answered while reversing. "You should stay in Q City for a couple more days more to get used to it, and maybe check out some places for me while you're there. Ashton arranged another project for me. It's quite a difficult one, so I probably won't be able to go anywhere for the time being."

She swore a little and started nagging at me. "You've already decided to leave, so why the heck did you accept another project? Since you've decided



to leave, then do it once and for all. Stop having second thoughts or dragging things on."

Of course I knew that I had to leave once and for all, but humans were prone to indecisiveness, and some things were easier said than done.

Bang! I had just reversed out of my parking space when I ran into something. My heart skipped a beat and I hurriedly said into the phone, "Macy, I think I hit something. I'll call you back later. Gotta go."

Before Macy could answer, I hung up the call and got out of my car.

There would occasionally be stray cats in the underground car park, so I hoped that it wasn't anything too serious.

After circling my car, sure enough, I found a kitten at a blind spot behind my car. Its injury looked quite serious, so I walked over to check it out. The moment I bent down, someone

covered my nose and mouth from behind. The pungent smell of some kind of chemical invaded my nostrils.

By the time I realized the danger I was in, I had already lost consciousness.

I woke up to pitch-black darkness.

Everything around me was so quiet that I could probably hear the sound of

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a pin drop on the ground.

Panic surged in me, but after several minutes, I managed to calm myself down. Since my kidnappers kept me alive, it meant that they had other plans for me. Based on my title as Mrs.

Fuller, they either wanted to demand a ransom or use me to threaten Ashton.

No matter the reason, my life probably wasn't in danger for now.

With that thought in mind, my nerves gradually calmed. After about half an hour, I heard an ear-splitting noise just before the lights came on, blinding my eyes.

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Then came the voice of a middle-aged man. "The woman's awake!"

After some time, my eyes finally adjusted to the light. I scanned my surroundings and realized that I was being held in a container. Right in front of me, there was a man approximately three meters away, but because his back was to the light, I couldn't make out his features.

Despite that, I noticed that he was slightly plump and had a gravelly voice. Hence, I determined him as a middle-aged man. It was also partly because I caught a whiff of his cologne, which was usually what men who were quite accomplished would wear.

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This man was no thug. Instead, he was either a business owner or a white-collar worker.

"She's awake! Blindfold her and take her there!" said the man. Thereafter, a man with a thin frame came over. Their faces were covered, so I couldn't see what they looked like.

I was still dizzy, so although I could see my surroundings clearly, my body couldn't move at all. After my eyes were blindfolded, I was dragged on my feet for quite a long distance before being pushed into a room of some sort.

Then, my blindfold was untied. I had

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recovered some strength by then and questioned them with a hoarse voice. "Who are you? Why did you kidnap me here?"

The thin man didn't speak, but the middle-aged man said, "Relax, Ms. Stovall. We invited you to watch a good show. After you've watched it, we'll send you back."

Then, the door to the room was slammed shut. I was seated on a dilapidated bed with my arms and feet tied up. After struggling a few times but to no avail, I gave up.

Suddenly, the sound of a conversation

rang in the originally dim room.

"Ashton, you told me before that you'd divorce her and marry me. Don't make me wait for too long, okay?"

Is this... Rebecca's voice?

"Rebecca, stop kicking up a fuss!"

Ashton's voice sounded different from usual, as if he had a little too much to drink.

Why can I hear them talking? Who's doing this?

"Ashton, are you in love with her? Is that why you don't want to divorce her?" Her voice sounded frantic,

her?" Her voice sounded frantic, making things seem rather suggestive between them.

Then came a rustling sound, probably from undressing. Ashton said in a tight voice, "Rebecca, don't fool around. I'm already married to her."