

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr

Chapter 31

Brother? Frowning, Sonia glanced at the caller ID and said, —Sonia Reed speaking, but I don't have a brother. You must be mistaken.|| —There's no mistake. He says he's your brother. His name is Tyler Fuller.|| The moment she heard the name, Sonia was reminded of the terrible things Tyler had done before this, and she freaked out. —I'm sorry but I don't know him.|| With that, she hung up immediately. Charles asked in curiosity, —Brother? Is it Carl?|| —No. She called the wrong number.|| Then, Sonia walked out of the office with Charles. They planned to discuss Paradigm Co.'s future plans over some Japanese food. However, as soon as she entered the lift, her phone started ringing again. Sonia kept her shirt on as she answered the call. However, instead of the female police, the person at the other end of the line was Tyler. —Hey Sonia, come pick me up from the police station.|| During the six years of marriage between her and Toby, his brother—Tyler, had either addressed her by her full name or did not address her at all. This was actually the first time he had called her 'Sonia'. Nonetheless, this fellow sounded very reluctant. It was as if he was forcing himself to address Sonia as such. —Your brother and I have already divorced.|| Sonia reminded Tyler, and herself at the same time. —You should call your brother and ask him to bail you out.|| Tyler scowled. —Is it so hard for you to come to the police station?!|| —Go ask your brother.|| Seeing how Tyler changed his attitude within a second, Sonia frowned and

remained silent. Just as she was about to hang up, Tyler hung up before her.

—Toby's brother is looking for you?|| Charles asked as he caught quite a number of keywords from the conversation.

—I heard Toby has made reservations at the Sheraton Hotel. He even invited Tina's family to have dinner with his parents to plan the day of their engagement again. Shouldn't his brother be together with them at the hotel?

Why is he at the police station?||

—He probably committed some crime and got detained.|| With a calm look,

Sonia pursed her lips. —He wants me to bail him out.||

Charles sneered, —Does he think you and Toby are still married? How could he

still order you around like this? His character is exactly the same as his

mother's!||

When they arrived at the car park and were about to get into the car, Sonia

suddenly asked, —How long will one be detained in the police station

normally?||

—Depends on what crime they committed. If it's causing an affray, they will be

detained for around 15 days if no one bails them out,|| Charles answered and

looked at Sonia in resignation. —Are you thinking of going to get him?||

—He doesn't dare to call Toby, which shows that he must have committed

something serious.|| Sonia got into the car. —I'll go take a look.||

Charles bent down and knocked on the car's window with a sulky look. —Are

you abandoning me for the sake of your ex-husband's brother?|| However, Sonia ignored him and drove out of the basement car

park.

While on the way to the police station, Sonia recalled the conversation with

Charles at the car park just now, and she hated herself for being soft-hearted

at that moment. She had decided to let things go, yet here she was on the way to help when his brother was in trouble.

After arriving at the police station, Sonia mentioned Tyler's name, and the policewoman led her in. Soon, she saw a row of youngsters in school uniforms standing by the wall. Everyone looked disheveled with serious injuries on their faces.

—Tyler Fuller.|| The policewoman called upon Tyler, who was standing among the youngsters. —Your sister-in-law is here to pick you up.|| Tyler immediately lifted his head. His eyes lit up for a second when he saw Sonia, but he soon pouted and snorted. —You b*tch, I knew you would come.||

Sonia looked at him calmly and said, —What did you just call me?||

With her hair tied up into a ponytail, she looked gentle and elegant in her black coat, but her tranquil gaze actually sent a chill down Tyler's spine.

The two of them looked into each other's eyes for a moment before Tyler spat through gritted teeth, —So-nia.||

Sonia was amused seeing Tyler's aggrieved look. She didn't sign the bail bond immediately but asked him, —Why did you get into a fight with the others?||

Tyler kept quiet.

Just then, one of them from the row of youngsters who were standing at the corner of the wall yelled at Tyler, —Hey Tyler, I heard your sister-in-law has already divorced your brother. How can you be so shameless to ask her to come bail you out? Ha! You're just like your mother, ordering people about impudently.||

—I think his mother must have mistaken his gender when she gave birth to him!!

Tyler's eyes became bloodshot upon being provoked by the few youngsters' mock. He had an impulse to dash toward them and give them a punch in their faces.

Nonetheless, Sonia quickly grabbed his uniform. —Are you actually thinking of causing a ruckus in the police station? Do you want me to call your brother?!

Worried that Sonia would really call Toby, Tyler pulled his arm away from Sonia with a dark face without allowing the latter to touch his uniform.

After signing the bail bond for Tyler, Sonia glanced at the other youngsters at the corner of the wall and said to the police officer, —It's normal for kids to have fights. I'll bail the others out too; it's just a small matter and it's not necessary to trouble their parents.!

The police officer understood that the youngsters were from the same school and they would have one less case to worry about if the fellows were released earlier, so the officer agreed. As such, Sonia signed the bail bonds for the other youngsters too.

On the other hand, Tyler had never thought Sonia would do this. His blood boiling, he scowled at Sonia, —Are you crazy? Why are you bailing them out too?!!

Tyler glanced at the youngsters in front of him and mumbled sulkily, —I could have won if there were only three of them, but then another two came...!

—That means you didn't.!

Sonia darted a glance at him. —I thought you were all high and mighty!!

Hearing that, Tyler was rendered speechless.

After coming out of the police station, Sonia followed behind the few youngsters at an unhurried pace, which made Tyler confused. Just as he caught up with Sonia after hesitating for a while, Sonia suddenly hit the back of one of the youngsters with her handbag, causing the fellow to wail in pain. Seeing Sonia daringly hit their friend, the other fellows quickly surrounded her. Sonia yelled at Tyler, who was dumbfounded, —What are you waiting for? Come and beat them up! Didn't you say you're able to defeat three of them?|| Upon regaining his composure, Tyler quickly rolled up his sleeves and darted over. Sonia dragged two of the youngsters away, so it was a piece of cake for Tyler to deal with the other three. In no time, all the youngsters were beaten to a pulp. At the same time, there were more injuries on Tyler too, and he grimaced in pain as he had received a punch in his right cheek. Sonia straightened her disheveled hair and said to the few youngsters who were knocked to the ground. —I'm giving you guys mercy by asking him to beat you all up. If I were the one to deal with you guys, I can make you guys stay in the juvenile detention center for three months—mark my words.|| She said the scariest words in a calm tone, which caused the few youngsters who were still students to wimp out and didn't dare to utter a word anymore. —Get up,|| Sonia said and pointed at Tyler who was standing next to her. —Apologize to him.|| The few youngsters quickly stood up and apologized to Tyler. After that, they ran away immediately upon Sonia's dismissal.

Tyler looked at Sonia's side profile with mixed emotions. Back then, when Sonia asked Toby to marry her, Tyler had thought that she had indirectly broken up Toby and Tina. Hence, he had treated her with hostility all this while and picked on her when she was still in the Fuller Family. However, he had seen a different Sonia at the bar last time, and today. It seems like she isn't that bad after all.

—I heard Toby and your sister-in-law-to-be are at Sheraton Hotel. It's up to you whether you want to go home or go to the hotel.|| Sonia took out some cash and shoved it to Tyler.

Then, she walked toward the driver's seat. Just as she was about to get into the car, she heard one of the car's doors being opened and closed shortly after that.

Looking at Tyler, who was sitting in the passenger seat, Sonia tried to keep her shirt on. —Tyler Fuller, go hail a cab. I have no time to send you back.||

—I'm not going back. I'm going to sleep in your car!|| Tyler was yelling so loud that the wound at the corner of his mouth was torn, and he scrunched his face in pain.

—Get out. Toby and I have already divorced.||

However, Tyler remained still in the passenger seat and snorted, —An ex-sister-in-law is a sister-in-law too. I've already addressed you anyway.||

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Looking at Tyler's badly beaten face, Sonia sighed deeply and got into the car without further arguing with him.

Meanwhile, Tyler had not deemed himself an outsider at all as he started touching things in Sonia's car.

Sonia's car was a standard sedan, but because Tyler was very tall, he could only shrink his long legs below the seat. However, he still thought it was the car's problem. —What kind of lousy car is this? I can't even move my legs! Hey, why didn't you ask for a car when you and my brother were going through the divorce?||

—Just get out if you're not happy with it.|| Sonia didn't speak kindly to him as she didn't want to spoil him. —Go and sit in Toby's fancy car instead.||

With that, Tyler stayed silent.

Soon, the car arrived at the parking lot in the basement of Bayside Residence.

Seeing Sonia get out of the car, Tyler quickly jumped out and followed behind

her. —I heard that the houses here are very expensive. Did you sell the Ocean's

Heart to buy this property? Did Toby really not give you a single cent when

you guys divorced? Hey, have you lost your mind? Even if you asked Toby for

some money, no one would say anything about it.||

Sonia ignored him and even deemed him absent. After arriving on her floor,

she entered the house after scanning her fingerprint.

If not for Tyler's quick response, he would have been left outside the house.

He was so annoyed that he felt like cursing Sonia but he knew he needed a

place to sleep tonight, so he snorted and bit his tongue.

Seeing Sonia walk toward the kitchen, Tyler yelled at her, —I want beef

noodles—two bowls!||

Although he detested Sonia, it was undeniable that Sonia had great cooking

skills and he enjoyed her dishes. Back when Sonia was still at Fullers'

Residence, she would prepare lunch for Tyler to bring to school. After Sonia

had left the family, Jean had hired a chef who claimed to have worked in a five-star hotel before. However, it turned out that his cooking was nasty and even Sonia's cooking was better than his.

—I'm going to make plain noodle soup—take it or leave it,||
Sonia said coldly without even turning around. —The first-aid kit is in the second drawer of the storeroom. Go get it yourself.||

What the heck! This woman has simply divorced Toby, but why does it feel like she has become a totally different person?

After complaining about Sonia inwardly, Tyler reluctantly went to get the first-aid kit from the storeroom and sprayed the disinfectant at the wound on his face.

Sonia was still preparing dinner, so Tyler wandered around the apartment. He noticed that the guest room was empty while there were only Sonia's apparel and cosmetics in the master room—there was no trace of another man at all.

Could it be that the toyboy named Carl Lee does not stay here? Tyler walked to the table beside the floor-to-ceiling window and found a laptop, some stationery, and a half-opened old metal box on the table. He glanced at the door before secretly opening the metal box. Inside the metal box was a pile of yellowed letters.

Out of curiosity, Tyler took one of the envelopes and opened it. After reading the content, he realized that Sonia was writing to a pen pal named 'John'. She shared interesting stories in life with him and asked him if his grandmother was well.

When Tyler saw the date at the bottom right corner of the letter, he mocked her with disdain, —Hmph! This b*tch did not focus on her studies and was dating on the web! How has she not been fooled yet?||

All this while, I wondered why Sonia had a big change in her personality after the divorce from my brother. It turns out that this is her true color—she has always been wild!

—Tyler Fuller.|| Sonia's impatient voice came forth from outside the bedroom.

—I'll give you ten seconds. If you don't come over and have your noodles, I'll throw it away.||

Damn! How dare this woman threaten me!

Cheesed off, Tyler simply stuffed the letter into his pocket and thought to

himself, I have to let Toby see this and tell him that Sonia has engaged in web dating since she was in school.

When Tyler went to the kitchen, the beef noodle was still on the table, so he sat down and tucked away, thinking that Sonia was still sensible.

Meanwhile, Sonia sat down across from Tyler and asked, —Why did you fight with the others?||

—Mind your own business.||

—Sure, I shall mind my own business and ask Toby to come over then.|| Sonia

knocked the table with her finger and smiled faintly.

Hearing that, Tyler remained silent for a moment before he spoke up

reluctantly. —There's this girl in our class who always gets bullied by them. They

even had the guts to cut her hair! I couldn't just sit and watch anymore so I

started throwing punches at them...||

However, it so happened that a police officer, who had just got off from work,

passed by when they were fighting, so all of them ended up being detained in

the police station.

—I didn't know that you actually have a sense of justice,|| Sonia said.

Because Tyler was bad-tempered and had always picked on Sonia when she

was back in Fullers' Residence, Sonia had never meddled with his affairs and would only leave it to Toby to handle. Tyler pursed his lips. —I'm just frustrated to see a few guys bullying a girl.|| While eating, he asked Sonia, —By the way, I've wanted to ask this since just now—where's the toyboy? Isn't he staying with you?|| —Who?|| —The one named Carl Lee.|| Tyler rolled his eyes and gabbled, —I went in your room just now but didn't see any men's clothes.|| Sonia was annoyed at Tyler, who pried her room even though he was just a guest. Lifting her head, she stared at Tyler and smirked. —There's no one here named Carl Lee, but there is a toyboy within a stone's throw.|| Within a stone's throw? Startled, Tyler soon realized what Sonia meant upon seeing her staring fixedly at him, and he choked on the noodles. —Shameless woman!|| Tyler rebuked as his face turned red out of anger. —I'm only sixteen, and I'm your ex-husband's brother! H-How dare you have such thoughts?!|| Sonia asked unaffectedly, —Isn't that what you already think of me—a flirtatious woman?|| With that, Tyler was at a loss for words. After dinner, Tyler refused to leave and inhabited the couch as he wanted to stay the night. Perceiving that she couldn't chase him away, Sonia went to get her phone. Tyler caught a glimpse of her dialing Toby's number, so he pounced over to snatch her phone. —Hang up! Don't call him.|| —If you refuse to leave, I'm going to ask Toby to come over.|| Sonia dodged so that Tyler wouldn't be able to snatch her phone. —So—nia—||

—Calling me Sonia a hundred times isn't going to help you.
Leave now or I'll
ask Toby to come.||
Seeing the call had already been forwarded on the phone, Tyler
pounced
toward Sonia, snatched the phone from her, and hung up the
call.
As Sonia did not expect that reaction from Tyler, she fell to the
ground upon
the pounce. Although the back of the couch was soft, she was in
pain as she
had knocked her head hard.
Tyler heaved a sigh of relief after hanging up the call. Then, he
noticed Sonia,
who was frowning after falling onto the couch. The hem of her
sweater folded
outward, exposing her fair, thin waist and...
—T.F.?|| Tyler had sharp eyes and noticed the alphabets
tattooed at the right
side of Sonia's waist.
He soon understood the meaning of this short form. Staring at
Sonia in shock,
he mumbled, —You... have Toby's name tattooed on your
waist?||
Just then, the doorbell rang.
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Sonia quickly pulled down the sleeves of her sweater to cover
the wordings of
her tattoo before she opened the door. She was surprised when
she saw Toby
and Tina standing right outside the door because she never
expected them to
come.
Toby wore a black suit while next to him was Tina, who wore a
champagne-colored evening gown that made her look fair and
beautiful. Both of them
looked compatible with each other when they stood together.
When he saw Sonia's messy hair and pink cheeks, he
immediately became
colder and asked her in a low voice, —Where's Tyler?||
—How did you know he's at my place?|| she asked him as a
reply. —You even

know where I live. Have you been following me?||
Tina took a step forward and answered in a gentle voice, —Miss Reed, you've gotten the wrong idea. Toby and his parents were having dinner with my family tonight. When he saw that Tyler was not at the hotel and he couldn't be contacted by phone, he checked Tyler's phone location. Then, we asked the security for your door number.||
Sonia gave a lazy yet attractive smile. —I see. And here I thought President Fuller is unable to forget about me after the divorce and keeps following me around.||
Tina's smile froze, but she quickly responded in a gentle manner, —We are here to pick Tyler up. Can you ask him to come out quickly?||
Sonia turned around to yell into the house, —Tyler, your brother and your sister-in-law are here. I'm not the one who told them about your location. Your brother is the one who installed location services on your phone and found you from there.||
When Tyler saw his brother, his shoulders slumped in a slightly lazy manner as he slowly walked out of the house with his bag. When the three of them were about to leave, she called after them, —President Fuller, your brother used my medicine and ate two bowls of beef noodles at my place. Aren't you planning to pay for it?||
Tyler replied angrily, —How much does two bowls of beef noodles cost? Since when have you been so stingy?||
—Well, beef is quite expensive now. Apart from that, we are not related to each other anymore. So why would I allow you to eat for free here?||
He was speechless upon hearing that. Meanwhile, Toby took out five pieces of cash and passed them to Sonia with

an indifferent expression on his face. —Is this enough?||
—Yes. Thank you, President Fuller. Have a nice journey back home.|| After receiving the money, she closed the door immediately without a second glance at them.
The three of them then took the elevator down. After they entered the car, Toby finally asked Tyler, —Why didn't you head to the hotel and instead come to Sonia's place? What's going on with the injuries on your face?||
Tyler was feeling rather defeated in front of his brother. Upon hearing Toby's questions, he immediately and truthfully replied, —I had a fight with my classmates. I know that you were having dinner with Tina's family and I thought that it's not a good idea to go to dinner while looking like this. So, I asked sis—I mean, Sonia—to bail me out and had dinner at her place instead.||
When Tina heard that Tyler still referred to Sonia as his sister-in-law, her fingers clenched.
Tina took the medical kit in her car to gently deal with the injuries on his arms while speaking in a soothing tone, —Tyler, if you get into trouble in the future, just call me or Toby. We are a family now, so don't worry about troubling us.
Apart from that, Miss Reed already has a boyfriend. It's not appropriate for you to continue troubling her like this. I'm sure her boyfriend would mind.||
At this moment, he remembered how Sonia had teased him during dinner earlier while feeling slightly uncomfortable. —She seems to be staying alone.
She's not living together with that guy.||
Toby shot a glance at him through the rearview mirror. He did not know why he felt relaxed upon hearing Tyler's words.

—Maybe they have a different abode.|| Tina gave a gentle smile. —Your wounds have been disinfected. Does it still hurt?|| —Not anymore. Thank you, Tina.|| Tyler smiled. Tina is so gentle and she speaks softly. She’s much better than Sonia! After closing the medical kit, she casually spoke to Toby, —Toby, I heard that you already asked Tom to deal with the news in our circle, right? It’s just a small matter, so we didn’t expect the employees from Paradigm Co. to record a video and upload it online. The video became viral among the circle and ruined your mother’s reputation, which affected yours as well.|| —What do you mean, Tina? Are you suspecting that Sonia asked her employees to record the video?|| Tyler asked in confusion. —That’s not what I meant,|| Tina replied hastily. —I just thought that Sonia might have known about this long ago and restricted her employees so that the video would not spread like wildfire among their department.|| —Paradigm Co. has many employees. Even if she had warned them, those who didn’t mind getting into trouble would still secretly upload the video.|| Tyler pouted. —On top of that, Mom is in the wrong here. Toby and Sonia have already divorced, yet Mom still made a scene at Paradigm Co. because of such small matters.|| Even though he did not like Sonia a lot, he had spent six years living under the same roof as her. He knew that she was not the person who would resort to some dirty tricks as such. Apart from that, it was Jean who went to make a scene at Paradigm Co. It wasn’t something that Sonia had asked for. Tina was shocked to see this. Tyler obviously hates her. Why is he speaking up

for her now?

—Tina, why are you looking at me like this?|| When Tyler saw her looking at him,

he raised his hand to touch his face, but he accidentally touched his wounds

and hissed in pain. —Do I look that bad?||

She immediately returned to her senses and smiled gently. —A little. I was just

thinking that your classmates would be looking at you when you head to

school tomorrow.||

When Tyler heard that, his expression sank and he thought about skipping

school. However, his older brother was the driver, so Tyler did not dare to say

it out loud, for fear that he might not even be able to enter his house the next

day. He had always been quite a coward who did not dare to speak up.

They soon arrived at Fuller Residence.

Upon seeing that Tina was still here, Jean affectionately pulled Tina's hand.

—Oh, Tina, it's been difficult for you to search for Tyler with Toby. Thanks for

the hard work. Since it's already so late, why don't you stay the night here?

Well, you should move in earlier anyway.||

Tina also wanted to stay, so she shot a glance at Toby. After seeing that he did

not utter a word, she pursed her lips before saying, —Alright.

Thanks, Madam

White.||

—We are a family now, so don't be too courteous!|| Jean was overjoyed when

she saw that Tina agreed to stay the night.

After Toby came out from the shower, he did not immediately go to bed and

looked through a few documents instead.

When he opened the drawer to take a pen, he opened the wrong tier and saw

a stack of yellowish letters that were placed inside the drawer.

His gaze

became much gentler when he saw the letters.

It was a coincidence that he was able to know Maple, his pen pal. After they exchanged many conversations with each other, they had a great time, which was out of his expectations. This was the first time he felt touched when he interacted with someone through letters. Yet, he never expected the pen pal to be Tina.

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While Toby was deep in his thoughts as he looked at the letter, someone knocked on the door of the room and opened it.

—I saw that the lights in your room are still switched on, so I guessed that you are still busy.|| Tina entered the room as she wore a dark blue bathrobe. The belt was loosely tightened around her waist, revealing her collarbone and some fair skin. She also sprayed some perfume on herself and looked quite attractive.

After she placed the glass of fruit tea on the table, she leaned toward him with intention. —I made some fruit tea so that you will feel more energized when you work.||

—I'm done with work,|| he answered. Then, he opened the drawers and showed her the letters within. —When I was about to take a pen, I saw our previous letters. I didn't expect that we would have exchanged many letters with each other.||

Tina panicked for a moment when she saw the letters, but she quickly calmed herself down. —It has been six to seven years ago. Why are you still keeping them?||

—They are extremely memorable for me.|| Toby caressed the letters and smiled.

It's because you are the first woman I fell for.

Tina turned around to wrap her arms around Toby and leaned against him.

—Toby, since I'm with you now, we don't need these letters anymore. Why

don't you ask the maids to destroy them tomorrow?||

Upon seeing that he had remained silent, she pretended to feel hurt. —You

keeping these letters show that you are still in the past. Am I as a living person

any lesser than the letters? Do you want to continue to talk to me through

letters and not live together with me?||

When Toby saw the hurt on her face, he felt quite sorry for her. She's right.

She's here with me now, so it's not important to keep the letters now.

He caressed her hair. —Alright. I will ask people to destroy them tomorrow

—Sure!|| Tina slightly smiled. Her heart skipped a beat when she smelled the

nice fragrance from him.

She quickly summoned her courage to kiss Toby's Adam's apple.

Toby's body stiffened for a few seconds. When she kissed his jaw, he did not

pull her into his embrace. Instead, he pushed her away inconspicuously.

At this point, she had already untied the sash on her robe to reveal huge

patches of her fair skin.

Upon being faced with such temptation, his expression did not change

whatsoever. Without even looking at her for another second, he adjusted the

bathrobe back on her.

—Toby, we are already living together.|| No matter how emboldened she was,

Tina still felt awkward when she faced such rejection. —We can do anything

together. Or, are you thinking that I'm not good enough?||

We've already been living together, so we can do some intimate things.

However, he doesn't seem to even have any desires even after such

temptation.

On the other hand, Toby had also felt slightly anxious. When he saw tears swimming in her eyes, he gently consoled, —You have just recovered, so your body still needs to regain its strength. Let's talk about this in the future.||
—Alright.|| Tina nodded and leaned in his embrace, but worry still rose within her.

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As soon as she signed the contract with Rentoor, things had been going well for Sonia. While she was busy with work in the office, her secretary knocked on the door before entering with a document in her hand. —President Reed, Mr. Coleman has sent this over.||
—What could he have sent?|| Sonia mumbled and took the document out of its file. After perusing it, she realized that it contained details of Continental Co. and gave off the aura that he created this document to stage a takeover of the company. Sonia immediately called Charles to tell him about this. He immediately remarked, —It's a good plan to buy them as a subsidiary of our group. Since my company has been using quite a lot of money recently, I don't have much money for you to spend.||
—90 million should be enough, right?|| she asked. She looked at the document that predicted the acquisition price to be around 90 to 140 million.
—What the hell? Where did you get so much money from?||
—Carl gave it to me.||
Charles sighed in envy. —I didn't expect that a male model would earn this

much. If I'm ever bankrupt in the future, I'll become a male model too.||
Sonia replied in annoyance, —You? If you really become a male model, I bet you can't even earn a hundred thousand.||
—Alright, alright. I know that you think everyone else is better looking than me.|| He clucked his tongue. —I'm actually quite curious about something—
Zane has actually asked other people to acquire Continental Co. Why doesn't he do it himself and instead pass the information to you?||
Charles added, —Seeing how well he treats you, has he fallen head over heels for you?||
Upon hearing that, Sonia was speechless. She had enough of his nonsense and decisively hung up the phone.
Not long after, he texted her again. _ Baby, today is my birthday. In the past, you said that you'd be busy once you're married, so you don't have time to celebrate it with me. Now that you are divorced, you're still not free?'
As Sonia had been quite busy with work recently, apart from work-related matters, she did not have the time to care about other things. If Charles had not reminded her, she would have forgotten about his birthday.
She smiled and replied, _ Of course I remember about it. I have already booked a place to celebrate it with you at the Luna Club. I'll select the most expensive present later!'
Since he had helped her out quite a lot, she also wanted to thank him.
Charles replied, _ Tsk! It seems like I have to thank Toby for the divorce.
Otherwise, you won't have time to celebrate my birthday too.||
Sonia was speechless upon seeing that.
After she settled the remainder of her work, she left the office and prepared to

buy a watch for him as a present.

It was a coincidence that the saleswoman who had previously served was

working today and she enthusiastically greeted Sonia. —Mrs. Fuller, it's been so

long.||

Sonia merely smiled and openly responded, —President Fuller and I are already

divorced. You can address me as 'Miss Reed' next time.||

—I'm sorry about that, Miss Reed. I was previously abroad for studies and only

returned a few days ago, so I haven't been keeping up with the news,|| the

saleswoman quickly explained.

—No worries about it. It's my friend's birthday today and I want to give him a

watch as a present. Do you have any recommendations?||

When the saleswoman saw that Sonia was not angry about her faux pas, she

quietly heaved a sigh of relief and picked a few watches to recommend them

to Sonia.

The watches were from the same series and they looked quite decent.

Even though Sonia was picking a present for Charles, she couldn't help but

think that Toby would also look great in those watches when she looked at

them.

However, in the course of the many years of their marriage, she had bought so

many watches for him that she became the VVIP customer of this store.

However, Tyler had never worn anything that she bought for him.

While she was lost in her thoughts as she looked at the leather-bound wrist

watch, she heard a familiar voice just as she was about to take it.

—This looks quite good. Please explain more about it to me.||

Sonia turned around and saw Tina standing next to her with her friend. They

were holding a few shopping bags in their hands and it looked like they had just done some shopping.

Tina had a slight smile on her face, but when she learned that Sonia was

looking at the watches as well, her smile froze.

She politely greeted Tina, —Hello, Miss Gray. What a coincidence.||

—Indeed.|| Tina tightly clenched the shopping bags with a smile. —Are you here

to buy a watch for your boyfriend?||

Sonia hummed in agreement and ignored her.

Just as Sonia wanted to ask the saleswoman to wrap the watch as a gift, Tina

was one step ahead and pointed at the watch as she spoke, —I want to buy this

watch. Please wrap it up for me.||

With that, she turned around and smiled at Sonia. —I just think that Toby would

look great with this watch. Don't tell me that you are also planning to buy it?||

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Although Tina was speaking in a gentle tone, she was openly taunting Sonia.

Sonia merely arched her eyebrows before she graciously smiled. —Since you

said it first, it's alright. You can go ahead to purchase it.||

Tina never expected that Sonia would not even compete with her and gave

her the watch instead. As a result, Tina did not return to her senses in that instant.

—Tina, it seems like Sonia doesn't dare to offend you.|| Tina's friend leaned

toward her and boasted. —She doesn't have any support after she divorced

Toby. Her company is on the brink of bankruptcy, which is why she won't dare

to take anything from you.||

Indeed. Now, Sonia has nothing apart from a broken company.

After hearing her friend's words, Tina felt relieved. She took the watch and

handed it to the saleswoman with her credit card. —I'll pay by card. Please wrap it for me.||

However, the saleswoman did not accept Tina's card and she instead asked

tentatively, —Miss, are you one of our VVIP customers?||

—No.|| Tina frowned while looking slightly displeased at this moment. —You

mean to say that I can't even pay by card to buy this lousy watch?||

—You can buy any other watches in our store using a card, but not for this

series.|| The saleswoman looked conflicted. —Only the VVIP customers, who

have spent six million in our store for the past two years, can buy it.||

Tina was speechless upon hearing that.

—She's just a saleswoman who sells watches. I wonder where her arrogance

comes from!|| Tina's friend exclaimed in annoyance. —I want to speak to your

manager! How ludicrous! We can't even buy a watch here?||

The saleswoman explained, —The watches in this series have restrictions. It

won't change anything even if our manager is here.||

—Alright, I understand that we are not able to buy it, but what about this

woman?||

—Well, Miss Reed is able to buy it,|| she replied. —She became our VVIP

customer three years ago as she has spent enough money here.||

Once again, upon hearing those words, Tina was at a loss of words again.

When she heard what the saleswoman said, she spent a lot of effort

maintaining the gentle and calm composure on her face.

Sonia had enough of the drama and took the watch from Tina's hand before

she passed it to the saleswoman. —Since you are not able to buy it, Miss Gray,

I'll take it instead.||

—Alright.||

In a short moment, she took the receipt and the wrapped watch back with her.

Sonia said her thanks, but she paused next to Tina just as she was about to

leave and apologized, —Miss Gray, there are some things that you can't buy

even if I give the opportunity to you.||

When Tina heard Sonia's words, it felt like a slap to her face and she even felt

her cheeks burning.

As she glanced at Sonia's leaving figure, Tina recalled what Tyler had said

when he accidentally called her during last night. Her gaze then slowly

darkened. Why is she always after what I want?

.....

Sonia was in a great mood after witnessing the drama. When she took the

elevator to the basement parking lot, she saw a familiar face.

—President Reed.||

She quickly recognized the tall and slender woman in front of her. —Rebecca

Harper?||

Rebecca was Charles' ex-classmate. She was initially about to work for his

company, but when he learned that Sonia did not have any support in

Paradigm Co., he asked Rebecca to help Sonia out.

Even though Sonia had been recently busy, she knew that Rebecca worked at

the finance department as an accountant and she was rather careful at the job.

—There are many employees in the company, so I'm quite surprised that you

remember me.|| Rebecca smiled as she held a cake in her hand. —There's a

dessert store here that serves tasty desserts. I'm on my off day today, so I'm

here to buy some desserts. What about you, President Reed?

Are you here to

buy some clothes?||

—It's Charles' birthday today, so I'm here to buy some presents for him.|| Sonia

shook the bag in her hand. —Do you have any plans tonight?||

—No. I just plan to head home and watch a few movies on the couch.||

—Why don't you join our celebration? The more the merrier.

Since you are his

ex-classmate, we are all familiar with each other,|| Sonia responded.

—Since you have invited me, I'll gladly join you, President

Reed!|| Rebecca did

not reject Sonia and pressed the button on the elevator to head down. —Let's

go to the second floor then. I'm going to buy a lighter for him.

After all, I can't

attend his birthday celebration empty handed.||

Rebecca had the looks of an innocent girl. She was fair, slender and

exceptionally beautiful, but she was a chatterbox at the same time. Once she

started speaking, it was difficult for her to stop, so she became loquacious.

This was the first time that Sonia had met someone even more talkative than

Charles, so she felt quite exasperated about it.

Just as she was about to bring Rebecca to Luna Club, Charles gave her a ring.

—My grandmother has insisted on spending the night with me and wants me

to return home to have dinner together. Argh! I guess I'll only arrive at Luna

Club by around 10:00PM.||

—Sure. We'll have dinner first before we'll wait for you in the private room

there.|| After she hung up the call, she brought Rebecca for dinner.

Once they found a spot, Rebecca looked around before asking Sonia,

—President Reed, I heard that you need to inform Luna Club your salary range

before you could enter. Is that true?||

—Yeah, so I booked the place under Charles' name.||

—Why didn't you use President Fuller's name? Aren't you guys married? It is probably more convenient to just use his card,|| Rebecca asked curiously.

Sonia's expression did not change much, but she asked indifferently, —How did you know that we are married to each other?||

—Everyone knows that. It's not a secret after all.|| Rebecca shrugged. —However, I'm curious—you are his wife and Paradigm Co. has not been doing well lately.

Why didn't President Fuller help you out?||

After many years of marriage, he didn't even look at me, let alone help me.

—He has way too many things on his hands, so he's rather busy.|| Sonia lowered her head to look at the cup of tea in her hands. —I've already divorced him a few weeks ago, so I'm no longer his wife.||

Upon hearing that, a shocked Rebecca exclaimed, —Oh! I see.|| She quickly saw that talking about this topic had rendered Sonia in a terrible

mood, so she lifted her cup of tea and toasted Sonia. —Congratulations for

becoming single again, President Reed! It's great to be single—we don't have

so much to worry about. It's an amazing thing! If you want to remarry, you can

consider Charles! Since you guys grew up together and he takes good care of

you, you guys are beyond compatible!||

Sonia smiled after she heard Rebecca's jokes as it helped to lift her mood quite a bit.

When dinner was over, she chatted with Rebecca while they walked around

the place. She planned to head to the private room to start the karaoke while

waiting for Charles to arrive.

Just as Sonia and Rebecca walked out of the restaurant, they met a few women.

Sonia was about to make way for those women, but she did not expect that

Tina and her friend, whom she saw at the watch store in the afternoon, were among them.

Upon seeing this, she was stunned.

As Tina did not expect to see Sonia twice in a day, she almost failed to maintain her composure.

—Miss Reed.|| This time around, she forcefully spoke through gritted teeth. —I

heard that Paradigm Co. isn't doing quite well recently. You'd need to reveal your salary here.||

Sonia merely gave a slight smile. —Yeah, I know. I'm using my boyfriend's card.

Do you have anything else to say about that, Miss Gray?||

Tina's pink lips were pressed together in a firm line, but she soon recalled

something and answered gently, —I'm about to play some card games with my

friends and we are one person short. It's good that we met here. Since we are

all acquainted with each other, let's play a few rounds together.||

With that, she introduced Sonia to her friends. —Meet Sonia Reed, the vice-president of Paradigm Co.||

As Tina spoke respectfully to the woman next to her and even lowered her

stance in a slightly ingratiating way, it made Sonia take a second look at the

woman, who wore a beautiful black dress. It made the woman stand out and

overpower her peers with just her looks.

—Who is this Miss Gray? Why is she so defensive toward you?||

Rebecca inched

closer to Sonia and asked quietly.

—My ex-husband's lover.||

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—She is definitely something to be able to hang out with Melody Stryder.||

Rebecca shot a glance at the woman next to Tina as she quietly explained,
—Melody is the granddaughter of one of the ministers in Norfolk who has just retired—Mr. Stryder. If you can hang out with her, you don't have to worry about your connections.||
Sonia had seldom mingled in society before this, so she did not know many people in the business circle, let alone folks from another city. No wonder Tina has drastically lowered her stance. Tina's background was nothing to a figure like Melody.
—Oh, so you're President Fuller's ex-wife?|| Melody shot a disdainful glance at Sonia without a slightest trace of respect at all. —Since we have all met each other, let's have a few rounds of games together. Are you willing to join us?||
Let alone poker, Sonia did not even want to talk to Tina. However, Sonia had learned how to read people's facial expressions after suffering in Jean's hands over the years. As soon as Melody started speaking, she knew that this was not a person whom she could cross. —Of course. The person we are waiting for is only arriving at 10:00 PM.|| Sonia was well aware that she was nothing at this moment. Hence, she did not want to be in a situation where she was bullied by Melody just because she had annoyed Melody. —I'm not good at poker, though. I hope you don't mind.||
Melody merely snorted before she left in her high heels. —Don't worry. It's just for passing the time.|| It was only after Melody left that Tina dared to speak. —If you really can't play, we'll go easy on you.||
Tina had learned from her friends that Sonia lost hundreds of thousands when she played poker with Mr. King from Dwells. According to the waiter, Sonia was just a beginner who could not even play

poker.

I'm definitely taking my revenge for the anger I felt at the watch store in the afternoon!

Sonia smiled. —Thanks, Miss Gray.||

While walking with Sonia to the private room, Rebecca asked quietly,

—President Reed, are you really bad at poker? Why didn't you reject them? I

think she thinks of you as an enemy. What if she lays a trap for you while you

are playing with them?||

—She already laid the trap when we met earlier. Melody is obvious on Tina's

side. Even if she lays a trap later, I have to knowingly walk into it.||

Rebecca shot her a glance. —Oh! You are too miserable!||

When the four of them entered the private room, they walked to a table for

poker and quickly started the game after the distribution of cards.

Rebecca did not know how to play poker, but she quickly searched for some

tutorials and knew the basic rules. When she looked at Sonia playing again,

she felt quite sorry to see the scene that she almost wanted to take over

Sonia's place.

Upon seeing how Sonia lost to both Tina and Rebecca for two consecutive

rounds, a striking smile appeared on Tina's face.

—Miss Reed, do you have a tattoo around your waist with the words 'TF'?|| Tina

suddenly asked. —It's the abbreviation of Toby's name, isn't it?||

Sonia played a card, but she did not reply to Tina.

Even though Tina was also playing, her gaze was fixated on Sonia's face. —I

don't feel comfortable that you still have a tattoo of his name on your body

even after you guys have divorced. Why don't we bet on the game? If you

lose, I'll ask the tattoo guy to immediately remove your tattoo.||

Upon hearing that, Rebecca could not stop herself from responding, —Miss Gray, this is over the top. It's President Reed's freedom to choose whatever tattoo she likes for her body. Her card skills are quite lousy, yet you are using this as the bet. You are obviously bullying her.|| —Miss Reed hasn't even started speaking, so why are you interjecting?|| Melody pouted her red lips in annoyance. —How annoying!|| Rebecca blushed in anger and wanted to retaliate, but Sonia stopped her. —I accept it.|| Sonia smiled gently with peace and calmness in her eyes. —However, what would you do if you lost, Miss Gray?|| While looking at the cards that Sonia played, Tina replied firmly, —If I lose, I will leave Toby as well as Seafield and I will never return again. If you think I'm bullying you, I can ask someone else to teach you poker. We can start our bet once you have learned how to play.|| —It's fine. I think I'm pretty good at the game. Are you really planning to have this bet with me? It's not a joke?|| Sonia asked. Tina replied confidently, —I'm serious. Everyone here is our witness.|| —Alright. Then, the winner will be the one to win two out of three rounds.|| With that, Sonia played a card that increased Tina's odds of winning. When Tina looked at the card, her smile even looked vindictive. I'm definitely winning this round! The moment that the first round started was when Rebecca knew Sonia was bound to lose after she saw the cards that Sonia had. Rebecca could no longer bear to watch the game and sighed. —I really don't want to see you lose. I'll go out and take a walk.|| After leaving the private room, she headed for the public restroom. As soon as

she entered the toilet cubicle, she took a cigarette from her bag and lit it. At this moment, her phone rang.

—What are you doing?||

—I'm at a club watching my boss playing poker with someone else,|| she

responded lazily with a puff of smoke. —Why? Are you coming over?||

—I asked you to look for someone in Seafield, yet you really think you are an employee?||

—Stop prompting me! He deserves it! He deserted his wife and his children in

the beginning. Now that he's about to die, he only remembers his son and

wants to make it up to him. Then, he asked us to find that son of his! You

better advise that old man to die sooner and donate all his money to charity

so that those few sons of his won't fight to death because of this small

amount of money. My leg was almost broken by them the last time around!||

—Rebecca, how could you talk about them in this manner? You are the

bodyguard of the Hayes' Family. If they let you live, you live; if they want you

dead, you have to die. How could you curse your boss to die soon?||

Rebecca took a puff of smoke before she unwillingly

responded, —I'm sorry for

saying that. I won't do that again.||

—The fourth young master's men have already gone to Seaview. You better be

careful.||

—Got it,|| she replied. —Send the information about the Stryder Family in Norfolk

to me. I'm being bullied by one of their people.||

—Rather than wasting your time with small characters like them, you better

start looking for the young master. I'll ask my people to send the information

to your email later. I have received news that he had once stayed in Jordain

County. When you are free, head over there and have a look.||

—Got it, Mr. Bayes.||

Rebecca's mood worsened after a few minutes of the phone call.

She headed

out of the washroom when she flushed the cigarette away.

On her way back to the private room, she saw a tall man in the club's black

uniform with a platter in his hands while he spoke to his colleagues.

When she saw his face, her pupils constricted.

Rebecca quickly turned around and ate two peppermint candies to get rid of

the cigarette smell in her mouth. Then, she quickly walked to him and patted

his shoulder. —You're the mechanic?||

Zane turned around at the woman who suddenly appeared in front of him.

After he narrowed his eyes, he quickly recalled who she was. —And you are the

pretty girl from 4S Automation who fixed the generator?||

—Yeah.|| She smiled. When she saw his attire, she was quite shocked. —Aren't

you a mechanic? Why are you here as the waiter? Are you that poor?||

Upon hearing that, Zane was speechless. Since when have I looked poor?

In actual fact, he lost a bet with his friends. Hence, he had to be a waiter for

the day and send drinks to them.

He knew that Rebecca had gotten the wrong impression, but he was too lazy

to explain the situation. Instead, he even added, —Yeah, I'm really poor. I have

to work three jobs a day. I've just started my shift here after I finished teaching

students.||

—Oh, teachers don't earn a lot and it's exhausting!|| With that, Rebecca took out

a piece of paper and wrote a phone number on it. —This is my number. Just

take it. I'll recommend you to be my boss' driver. The treatment is quite good.||

—Is that so?|| Zane arched his eyebrows. —It seems like your company is rather

big and your boss is wealthy?||

—Well, we're getting by. Have you heard of Paradigm Co.?||

—Yeah.|| At this point, he felt that something was wrong. —And your boss is?||

—Sonia Reed.||

Zane looked at Rebecca with mixed expression. —I know her.

She's the new vice

president of the company.||

—That's right. She's quite a nice person. If you are her driver,

she will not ill?|treat you.|| Rebecca did not notice anything

wrong with his expression. Before

she left, she even added, —I know you guys have a commission for the drinks.

You can send a few more expensive drinks to room 1288. I'll foot the bill later.||

When he heard that, Zane was speechless.

As soon as she left, a waiter came to him and asked, —Boss, President Reed

from Paradigm Co. is playing poker in room 1288. Do you want to take a

look?||

After thinking about it, Zane asked the waiter, —Is there another gorgeous

woman with a mole on her forehead?||

When he was at the restaurant earlier, he had seen Tina speaking to Sonia.

—Oh, have you been to that room?||

—Interesting.|| Zane touched his lower lips in excitement. —I wonder what

President Fuller's expression would be when he hears that his ex-wife is

playing poker with his current girlfriend.||

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Rebecca soon returned to the room.

Before she even saw Sonia's cards, Rebecca could already guess what had

transpired just by the 'gentle' smile on Tina's face. Sonia must have suffered a harsh defeat when I was away.

Rebecca went to sit next to Sonia and shot a glance at the cards in Sonia's hands. Again, they were not quite useful. Then, she asked in a low voice,

—President Reed, the woman opposite of you is not any other woman. She's your ex-husband's lover. Are you really going to be defeated by her like this?||

—No worries. I just have to win three rounds out of five.|| Sonia smiled. Since she sat down to play poker with them, she looked as peaceful as ever.

While she replied to Rebecca, she played yet another card.

—Game.|| Tina placed her card down with a brighter smile on her face.

Rebecca was speechless to hear that.

—President Reed, you have already lost two rounds to Tina. I think there's no need to continue,|| Tina's friend said pompously. —Tina is not a petty person. As long as you apologize to her, we will hire the best tattoo artist to remove the tattoo from your body.||

Tina raised her head slightly as she looked at Sonia. It looked as though she

was waiting for Sonia to concede defeat. —Would you like to continue, Miss

Reed?|| she asked in a gentle yet peaceful tone.

—Of course.|| Sonia shuffled the cards again without a change in her expression.

—We said that we could play five rounds.||

Tina's friend rolled her eyes at Sonia and she rudely

spoke, —We are giving you an opportunity, yet you are not treasuring it and pointing the gun at yourself.

Tina is so good at poker that I think you would never win against her.||

—That's enough.|| Tina stopped her friend, but she looked at Sonia vindictively.

—Since Miss Reed would like to continue with the game, I will follow her wishes then.||

They soon started a new round.

Since the occupants in the room were only women, the spectators did not merely watch the game. While they snacked on the tidbits, they chatted with each other.

Tina's friend was called Cynthia Stone. On Cynthia's right was Sonia while

Melody was seated on Cynthia's left.

Cynthia was not just watching the game as she even peeled an orange and

passed it to Melody ingratiatingly. —Melody, how long are you going to stay in

Seafield this time? Are you planning to spend the new year here?||

—I will return to Norfolk after the new year.|| Melody threw her cards on the

table loudly. With a frown, she added, —Peter Southfield wants to have a

divorce. He's back here to look for a lawyer.||

Cynthia was shocked to hear this piece of news and carefully skirted around

the topic. —Back then, didn't the Southfield Family beg your grandfather to

betrot you to him? They used your family name to accomplish many things.

How could he even dare to divorce you?

—Well, it's because—|| Melody suddenly remembered something and stopped

elaborating halfway through the sentence. Then, she merely gave a cold smile.

—I'm not someone he can easily marry and divorce! I want to see which lawyer

in Seafield is willing to take this case!||

Sonia merely listened to them in the silence as she lowered her eyes.

She did not know much of the Southfield Family in Seafield. She was only

aware that they were quite influential in this city with almost as much authority

as the Stryder Family in Norfolk.
Melody had the guts to be arrogant only because of her powerful background and her grandfather, who was a minister, supporting her. Even if she was married to the Southfield Family that was of equal standing to her family, it was the Southfield Family that was not good enough for them. If the Reed Family did not encounter that tragic accident which claimed the lives of all its members when Sonia married Toby, Jean would have had to respect her today.
Not to mention, Sonia wouldn't have suffered such a shameful defeat in her marriage.
She was lost in her thoughts as she thought about the past. At this moment, she suddenly heard Cynthia saying, —Tina will be engaged to President Fuller on New Year's Eve and she's planning to invite us to her place for dinner. Since you will still be in Seafield at that time, we will have a celebration together.||
—Oh?|| Melody was quite shocked to hear that. —I heard that she was already engaged to him. Why are they doing that again?||
—Well, that was the initial plan, but someone stole Tina's engagement necklace.
What disgusting behavior!|| Cynthia responded pointedly and shot a glance at Sonia as she raised her voice. —That won't happen again.
President Fuller said that he has only invited a few friends to the Fuller Residence for dinner. Apart from that, the wedding will take place on Valentine's Day next year!||
—Getting married on Valentine's Day?|| Melody asked Tina. —Is that true?||
Tina hummed in agreement before she gave a gentle smile. —I've been in a coma for six years. Toby thinks that we have already delayed it for quite a long

time, so he wants to get married soon. The designers have started to design the wedding dress, but we haven't selected a ring.||

—He even hired someone to specially design the wedding dress for you? Tina, he loves you so much!|| Cynthia said in an exaggerated manner to suck up to her.

Upon seeing that Sonia had lowered her head without speaking as though she wanted to pretend Cynthia wasn't there, Cynthia pretended to curiously ask,

—Miss Reed, I heard that the wedding dress you had when you married President Fuller was plain and ugly. You even wore an evening gown instead of a wedding dress. Is it true?||

Sonia remained quiet upon hearing that.

—How could you just wear an evening gown to your wedding? That's so unlucky! Is it because President Fuller refused to buy a wedding dress for you?||

She continued to remain silent.

Upon seeing Sonia's silence, Cynthia's voice became even sharper. She even nudged Sonia as she asked, —Why aren't you saying anything, Miss Reed?||

—How did you know that President Reed didn't wear a wedding dress when she got married? Have you personally attended her wedding?||

Rebecca could no longer tolerate Sonia being bullied further. —Apart from that, there's something wrong with your words.||

Cynthia snorted coldly. —She just didn't have a wedding dress for her wedding.

Can't I talk about it? Apart from that, what's wrong with what I've just said?||

—Everyone knows that President Reed and President Fuller used to be husband and wife. You bragging about it is just implicitly comparing Miss Gray's

husband to second hand goods,|| Rebecca softly answered with fake innocence.

The moment she said those words, she even shot a glance at Tina. —Don't you think so, Miss Gray?||

Cynthia did not expect Rebecca to be extremely sharp with her words. When

Cynthia saw the smile fading from Tina's face, she panicked. —Tina, that's not

what I meant. I never thought of President Fuller as your second hand husband.||

Rebecca burst out in laughter after she heard that and used her hand to cover

her red lips. —You said that you didn't mean that, but you keep talking about

President Fuller as if he's a second hand product. What exactly do you mean?||

Cynthia was so furious that she was at a loss for words.

Sonia was quite depressed while she faced Cynthia's taunts and just wanted to

ignore her. It was unexpected that Rebecca would stand up for Sonia.

Sonia's red lips twitched upward. Just as she was about to speak, she saw the

door of the private room being pushed open by a tall figure who quickly entered.

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The man wore a black coat that accentuated his attraction. However, because

of his naturally cold attitude and his distant gaze, it made people unable to get closer to him.

When Sonia's eyes rested on his face, her heart could not help but skip a beat

and she naturally lowered her head.

She did not expect that even after being divorced from him for such a long

time, he still had an effect on her.

—President Fuller, you've arrived.|| Even though Cynthia had been annoyed by Rebecca, Cynthia immediately greeted Toby with a smile when she saw him. —I heard from Tina that you are inundated with work. Are you here to pick her up?|| He hummed politely as a reply. When his gaze flitted past Sonia, he frowned in unhappiness. Has this woman forgotten about the lesson she learned at Sakura Heights? When Zane called him half an hour ago and told him that Sonia and Tina were playing poker together in a room in Luna Club, Toby did not believe him. He knew that Sonia was quite bad at cards and thought that she would not be that silly to play with Tina. Knowing that Toby might not believe him, Zane even sent a picture. It was only until Toby received the photographic evidence that he drove to the club. He immediately walked to Tina and his tone softened when he saw her looking frail. —Didn't you say in the afternoon you were coughing? Why are you here to play poker?|| She gave him a slight smile. —It's just a slight cough. Don't worry about it. On top of that, Melody is in Seafield, so I want to show her around.|| Toby knew about the Stryder Family in Norfolk and he was acquainted with Master Stryder. Toby removed his scarf and wrapped it around Tina. Even though it was a tiny movement, it was enough to make the women around them gush. Cynthia commented, —My, oh my, President Fuller. We all know that you care about Tina a lot, but the heater here is switched on. You're just trying to show off your love for Tina in front of us.||

Upon hearing Cynthia's teases, Tina blushed and she glared. —If you say one

more word of nonsense, get out of here.||

—Alright. I won't say anymore.||

When Sonia saw Toby carefully wrapping the scarf around Tina and him

passing a warm drink the moment he sat next to Tina, their intimate behavior

had caused Sonia's eyes to hurt.

She had deliberately walked into Tina's trap to punish her into leaving Toby

and never returning to Seafield, but he had appeared.

After seeing how affectionate he had treated Tina, Sonia no longer had the

desire to continue the battle.

Toby shot a glance at Tina's cards and said coolly, —Miss Reed is not good at

playing poker. Let's forget it after this round. You guys won't have much fun

playing with a beginner like her too. I'll play a few rounds with you instead.||

The smile on Tina's face froze before she gently

responded, —Okay.||

On the other hand, Cynthia continued to glance at Sonia's deck of cards and

realized that Sonia had a good chance of winning the round. As Cynthia was

slightly worried, she was about to inform Tina when Sonia separated her set

and placed a card out.

Upon seeing that, Tina was elated and she slowly revealed her cards as well.

—Thank you, Miss Reed.||

—Wow! You are amazing, Tina! I can't believe you have a royal flush!|| Cynthia

exclaimed agitatedly after seeing Tina's cards.

—Sonia, Tina has already won three rounds. You have to concede defeat.|| With

a cold laugh, Melody pressed a button to ask the waiter to come into the

room. Then, she passed him a stack of money. —Ask a tattoo artist to come

here as soon as possible.||

—Alright. Please wait for a moment.||

When Toby saw all these, he slightly frowned and asked Tina, —What is going on?||

—I heard from Tyler that Miss Reed has a tattoo bearing the abbreviation of

your name...— Tina explained in a low voice after biting her lips. —Apart from

that, she even insisted on betting with me. She said that if she lost the bet, she

would remove the tattoo.||

Rebecca rested her chin on her hand while looking at

Tina. —Miss Gray, you are

the one who ran into President Reed at the restaurant's entrance and asked

whether she had a tattoo on her waist bearing the initials 'TF'.

You were also

the one who asked her to bet with you over a round of poker.

And now, you're

saying that President Reed wanted to bet with you? Oh, how good you are

with words!||

—Don't be sarcastic!|| Since Cynthia had support, she roared at Rebecca. —Tina

doesn't want her boyfriend's name to be tattooed on another woman's body.

What's wrong with that?||

—She merely asked whether Sonia wanted to play poker with her. It's not like

Tina aimed a gun at Sonia's head to force her to agree.||

—That's right. No one forced Sonia. She agreed to the bet on her own.||

Upon hearing that, Rebecca was speechless.

Apart from Rebecca, the three other women in the room were Tina's friends,

so it was natural that they would support her and side with Cynthia's words.

Just as the group of women argued among themselves, the tattoo artist

arrived with a box of tools.

—Enough.|| Sonia stopped Rebecca from arguing further and calmly spoke to

Tina. —Since I've lost this round, I'm willing to concede defeat.||
Sonia leaned on a nearby couch and she yanked the edge of her sweater up to reveal her fair and skinny waist with the words 'TF' on it. The tattoo artist quickly carried out the procedure to remove the tattoo from her body.
When Toby saw her silently lying on the couch and allowing the tattoo artist to work on her body, he frowned when he saw the tattoo and felt annoyed for no apparent reason.
He recalled that when he previously communicated with Maple via correspondence, she had revealed that her favorite actor tattooed his late wife's name and hobbies on his body. By doing so, he would be able to see her everyday, as if she was physically there with him.
Maple once said that she would not do it because she was afraid of the pain, but she also added that she could tolerate having a tattoo of her beloved on her body so that he would be with her all the time.
At this moment, Toby suddenly asked Tina, —When we were writing to each other, what tattoo did you say you had?||
—We have too many letters to each other and since it was such a long time ago, I can't remember anymore.|| She shook her head and held his arms as she lifted her head to ask, —Toby, have I... done something wrong by asking Miss Reed to remove her tattoo?||
Tina's voice broke as tears swam in her eyes, making Toby unable to reprimand her. Instead, he stroked her hair with his huge palms.
—You did not make a mistake.||
—Okay.|| She smiled slightly and leaned her head against his arms.
She was elated that after Toby left earlier that morning, she immediately took

the letters from the drawer and burned them so that his pen pal, Maple, would no longer be on his mind.

When she saw Sonia frowning due to the pain from the tattoo removal, Tina

felt incredibly overjoyed. Sonia still lost to me!

Cynthia stood there with her arms crossed. It was not enough for her to watch

the process as she even insulted, —Tina gave you an opportunity to back out

earlier, yet you didn't want it and continued playing. Miss Reed, if you don't

know poker, please learn the game once you have arrived home. Sometimes, if

you force yourself to do something, you will only suffer!||

The other women also chuckled in a low voice as they looked at Sonia

gleefully.

Sonia had been controlling herself since it hurt to remove the tattoo. Her

forehead was glistening with a film of sweat and she no longer had the energy

to reply to Cynthia's remarks.

The moment that the process was almost completed, a waiter of the club

walked to them and asked politely, —May I know who Miss Sonia Reed is?||

—I am.|| Sonia looked at him. —What's the matter?||

He handed a small bag to her. —This is given to you by a gentleman with the

last name of Lee.||

—Thanks.||

In order to divert her attention so that she would not feel much pain, Sonia

immediately opened the bag and removed a little box that had blue satin

wrapped around a small ring.

It was a diamond-shaped ring. Although it was small and exquisite, it still

glimmered under the lights.

—This is the work of the famous designer, K.|| As soon as Rebecca saw the ring,

she immediately recognized it. —I heard that K made it with his own hands and it's worth more than four million when it was auctioned in Avalon Isle.||

—It's just like the Ocean's Heart—the only jewellery in the world where it's priceless.||

—It's so beautiful!||

The women looked at the ring on Sonia's hand with passion and they longed

to wear it to post a picture online to show off.

At this moment, Sonia received two new messages from Carl.

Charles told me that today is his birthday and you are going to celebrate with

him tonight. When I sent a present to him, I actually sent a gift to you as well.

Do you like it, Sonia?'

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Sonia was already in a bad mood, but she had never expected that Carl would

send her a gift even though he was in Palmont.

Receiving the present had relieved her of her negative emotions.

After she replied to his message, she wore the ring on her ring finger to cover

the marks of her previous wedding ring.

When Toby saw Sonia's cheerful smile, the expression in his eyes immediately

sank.

Cynthia had never expected someone to present Sonia with such an expensive

gift, which made her annoyed and jealous. She suddenly remembered

something and intentionally asked in a loud voice, —Miss Reed, didn't you say

that your boyfriend is Charles? You also used his name to enter this club. On

the other hand, Mr. Lee is the male model who was involved in some rumors

with you, right? I bet you guys are more than just friends for him to send you

such an expensive gift.|| She snorted coldly before she added, —I even heard rumors that you might have another man, which is why you wanted to divorce President Fuller. I didn't believe it at first, but now it seems like the rumors are true!||

Sonia merely gave a cold laugh. As for the reasons for wanting a divorce from Toby—even if others don't know it, I bet he knows. She looked at Toby with the expectation that he would clarify things for her, but he merely sat there with Tina in his arms and a cold look in his eyes without moving. Well, didn't I see everything earlier? What am I expecting?

When the tattoo on Sonia's waist was completely removed, the slight fire within her was completely extinguished.

—Miss Reed, say something!|| Cynthia continued to force her. —Does Charles know about Mr. Lee's present? Does he know that you are cheating on him?||

—It's a beautiful room, but why is there a sparrow here?|| At this moment, Charles' voice rang in the room. Right after he asked that question, he walked into the room with a black shirt and a disdainful expression on his face. —This sparrow is noisy and annoying. I wish I could cut her tongue and make her shut the hell up.||

His vicious words had stunned Cynthia's tongue into silence as she subconsciously staggered backward by a few steps. As Charles stood right in front of her and appraised her from head to toe, he clucked his tongue. —Why are you retreating? Are you scared? Do you think you're that sparrow?||

—N-No,|| she stammered.

—I think you are. You sound like the sparrow I'm talking about.||
With that, he
pulled her hair and slammed her head into the table where they
had played
poker earlier. Then, he asked casually, —Who's free to pass me
a knife?||
Rebecca immediately snatched the knife from the fruit platter
and passed it to
Charles while she cared to comment, —This knife is extremely
sharp. Be careful
not to hurt yourself.||
Cynthia's legs trembled and she immediately burst into
tears. —T-Tina...
Melody...||
However, the entire room fell into extreme silence as no one
actually spoke up
for her. Tina had grabbed Toby's sleeves and wanted to stand
up in anger.
However, he pressed her down and signaled for her to sit down.
He wanted to see how far Charles was willing to go to take
revenge for Sonia.
—Why? Have you all become mute?|| Charles looked around his
surroundings
and was rather surprised to see even Tina and Toby there. With
a cold snort,
he turned around to look at Rebecca, who had passed him the
knife. —Tell me,
did they bully my baby just now?||
—It's not just bullying!|| She immediately rushed over and
spilled the beans.
Upon listening to Rebecca's explanation, Charles shot a glance
at Toby and
snorted coldly for the second time. Then, he pushed Cynthia
aside before he
advised Sonia, —Why don't you head to our room first? Once
I've sorted out
the matters here, I'll head over.||
—It's okay. Let's go.|| Sonia grabbed Charles' arm as she didn't
want him to
have a grudge with the Stryder Family because of
her. —Celebrating your
birthday is more important.||

However, her movement was reflected in Toby's eyes, which made his gaze even deeper.

—That won't do. You are being bullied here. As your childhood friend, I can't simply stand aside and watch.|| Charles waved at Rebecca to ask her to bring Sonia away. —I'll just teach them a lesson. I won't hurt them.||

—Let's go, President Reed. Charles will know what to do.|| With that, she yanked Sonia out of the room.

He quickly walked to the poker table and found a place to sit down. —Let's play a few more rounds. You can choose three people whom you like to play the game with.||

Then, he lowered his head and took a puff from his cigarette before he casually added, —If any of you wins, I will give you 10 million. On top of that, I will kneel before you and address you as my lord'. If I win against you all, you just have to remove your clothes and leave the room in that manner.||

Compared to Charles' bet, it was nothing for them to remove their clothes. His proposition had caused the rest of the women in the room to be slightly moved. If we win, we would get 10 million!

After being annoyed by his arrogant attitude, Melody walked over in large strides after gritting her teeth. Then, she pulled the chair to his right and sat down as she laughed coldly. —Charles, I'll be waiting for you to call me your lord!||

Charles playfully leaned against his chair. —Sure. Who else is in? Let's start soon. After that, I'm heading over to accompany my baby.||

After all, she was there. If she did not say anything, the rest did not dare to make a move even though they wanted to join.

Melody chose a few other women who were good at poker before she looked at Tina.

Even though Melody had said nothing, Tina understood her implicit words.

—Toby, Mr. Lane is going overboard. Why don't you help us out?|| Tina asked softly. She knew that Toby was good at poker and that Charles might not be able to win against him.

However, Toby merely sat there without moving. He then responded in a low voice, —I still have some emails to settle. You can go ahead to play with him.||

She did not expect that he would reject her. Even though her body froze in that instant, she quickly smiled. —Alright. Wait for me for a while more then.||

Charles did not feel pressured when he played poker with the three other women. He had played the game aggressively and ruthlessly. Before they wrapped up the last round, he impatiently knocked on the table.

—Are you guys idiots? You are so slow at playing the game. Could you be faster?||

His words made their faces blush red in anger.

Tina had made a self proclamation that her skills in poker were excellent. She

thought that with the three of them against Charles, one of them would at

least win. Unexpectedly, no matter what she played, he had followed suit and was aiming at her.

Before they could even finish the game, Tina had already taken most of her

clothes with only her strappy white camisole remaining.

—I win!|| He revealed his cards again.

Tina secretly gritted her teeth. She could tell that he was aiming at her to avenge Sonia.

After Charles flicked away the ashes from his cigarette, he prompted her,

—What are you waiting for, Miss Gray? Take your clothes off!||
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—You are going way overboard now, Charles!|| Melody
commented coldly. —Do
you think Tina and the rest of us are blind? Of course we can tell
that you are
directing your vengeance at her! She only has her strappy
camisole left. What
else do you want?||

Charles merely shrugged with a confused expression. —I won.
So, she should
remove her clothes, shouldn't she? Since when have I gone
overboard? Well,
you can also help her out by taking off your clothes!||
Upon hearing that, she was speechless. As the heater was
causing the room to
be extremely warm, she had only worn a spaghetti strapped
long dress.

Of course, she would not embarrass herself just to help Tina
out.

—We should end things here since it's already quite late.|| Toby
walked over to

Tina and wrapped his coat around her.

Before Charles could say anything, Toby added
indifferently, —I'll ask my

accountant to transfer 30 million to you tomorrow morning.

The Fuller Group

will withdraw its acquisition of Snoway and I will ask my team to
assist you in

acquiring the company instead.||

Since Charles had already embarrassed Tina and with Toby
taking a step back,

he felt that it was a good opportunity for him to stop his
taunts. —At the age of

ten when Sonia played poker with her father, even he lost to
her, let alone

me.|| He extinguished his cigarette in the ashtray before he
slowly stood up.

—When you guys were playing with her earlier, although it
seemed like you had

won, it was just that she did not want to play with you.||

When his shoulders brushed past Toby's body, Charles shot a glance at him and snorted. —It seems like she really doesn't want to be with you anymore. Otherwise, even if Tina is ten times better at the game, she will also lose to Sonia.|| Upon hearing that, Toby recalled Sonia's peaceful expression when she was having her tattoo removed. Then, his eyes darkened. So, she actually knows how to play poker.

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Meanwhile, Sonia and Rebecca had just ordered snacks and finished singing a few songs in the private room when Charles returned. Rebecca quickly walked to him to ask about what had happened. When she heard that Tina had stripped to the point of being nude, she felt vindictive. —If Toby wasn't around, she probably would have walked out of the club naked tonight!|| —I know, right?|| He let out another snort. —An eye for an eye! No matter how she bullies my baby, I'll return the favor a few more times!|| —Thanks.|| Sonia smiled and gave Charles a toast. He did not ask why she had allowed the rest of them to bully her in the poker room earlier. Instead, he stretched out with his hand and yanked her into his embrace as he teased, —We have already slept on the same bed for a long time. Why are you still thanking me?|| —Whoa!|| Rebecca looked at them with widened eyes. —Is it true?|| —Of course it's true—|| —If you destroy my reputation any further, I'm going to slap you.|| Sonia gave Charles a hard kick before she explained to Rebecca, —When we were younger,

his parents were usually not at home, so he always came to my place for food.

He even slept there without compensating us. Don't you think that he's taken it quite far?||

Upon hearing that, Rebecca immediately looked at him in disdain. —Ah, I see. It turns out that he is just thick skinned.||

They had joked around without realizing that there was a small voice recorder taped under the table, which recorded their entire conversation.

Charles' friends soon arrived one after another, which gave the room loads of vigor and laughter.

Sonia did not like a huge crowd. On top of that, she was in a bad mood and

merely sat in the corner while drinking some wine. After some time, she saw

Charles and his friends playing games that involved drinking and joined them.

Even though she lost in those games, she still felt jubilant as she poured a mixture of red and white wine into her mouth.

After a few rounds of doing so, she felt quite dizzy.

—I'm going out to take a breather. You guys should carry on without me.|| As

she felt that she could no longer continue with the games, Sonia informed

Charles before she walked out of the room.

She merely wanted to head to the balcony to enjoy the breeze.

However, as

she had drunk too much in the room earlier, she felt even more nauseous

when the cold wind blew at her face.

Sonia covered her lips and quickly ran to the washroom.

It was after she threw up that she felt much more comfortable.

She splashed

her face with cold water before she looked at herself in the mirror. How

pathetic and pitiful. I hope this is the last time I allow myself to be drunk.

As she walked out of the washroom, she headed to the balcony again. At this moment, a waiter passed her by with a tray in his hands. When he saw that her cheeks were reddened and that she still looked drunk, he passed her a bottle of water that was on his tray. —Miss, you will feel better after drinking some water.|| —Thank you.|| Sonia took the bottle from him and immediately opened the cap to drink it. A huge hand then suddenly pinched her bottom before a breathy whisper landed in her ears. —Beautiful girl, your figure is alluring. What's your price?|| —Let me go!|| she coldly replied with the intention to crush the person's hands. However, as she had just finished throwing up, she did not have much energy left. Apart from that, she was also quite dizzy, which made it easier for him to hug her and yank her toward the elevator. —Don't worry. I have lots of money. I can pay you any amount of money that you want,|| the man said with a snicker. Sonia had no idea why she couldn't stop her body from softening. She bit her tongue in an attempt to wake herself up and she stomped on his shoes with her pair of high heels. When he released her in pain, she quickly fled the scene while placing her hand on the walls for support. However, as soon as she ran outside, the man chased after her and pulled her hair in annoyance. —I've already told you that I'm going to give you some money. Don't take it for granted—|| At this moment, another hand suddenly pinched his wrist hard. —Ahhhh!|| He let out a loud scream, feeling as though his wrist was about to break. —Who the hell are you? How dare you touch me!|| Even though the man was cursing, he immediately fell silent as soon as he met

the other person's cold pair of eyes. —P-President Fuller...||
—My pleasure.|| When Toby saw the long strands of hair in the man's hands, his gaze darkened even further. He applied more force and immediately crushed the man's wrist.
With an indifferent tone, Toby asked, —I wonder what business you have with my ex-wife, President Mills.||
President Mills did not dare to even grunt. Beads of sweat formed on his head as he suppressed his urge to yell aloud and instead bowed to apologize to Toby. —I'm sorry, President Fuller. I didn't look properly as I thought she was one of the employees of the club. I didn't know that she is your ex-wife—||
Toby released him and called for a waiter. —President Mills is drunk. Arrange for a car to send him back,|| he ordered.
Upon seeing that Toby decided to let the matter slide, President Mills heaved a sigh of relief. However, at this moment, Toby added, —His eyes are not working well. Arrange an optometrist at the hospital to do an eye checkup on him.||
President Mills was speechless when he heard that. After President Mills had followed the waiter out, Toby shot a glance at Sonia, who was still holding onto the wall for support. Her hair was in a mess and she could not even stand straight. It was obvious that she had drunk a lot.
He still remembered what Charles had told him earlier. Toby walked to Sonia in large strides and he pulled her arms to lift her up on her feet. —Sonia, what are you implying?|| He was quite strong as he held her weak waist, but his tone was indifferent. —You know how to play poker, yet you deliberately lost the game?||

—It's none of your business!|| she answered sarcastically. She wanted to shove his hands away, but she was so dizzy that she almost landed in his embrace.

She managed to force herself to stand straight. When she raised her head, she saw a blurred face with a pair of deep, profound eyes that looked at her fixedly.

—None of my business? Is that what you just said, Sonia?||
New chapters