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Knowing what Hazel was going to say next, Sheldon changed the subject and said, "Keep it up with your piano practice. I'll take you to meet Hilbert up in a few more days and let him mentor you." I suppose it's good for Hazel to learn as many things as possible and be a decent lady. I guess this will prevent her from turning into an uncultured woman! Soon, Sheldon was quickly surprised by that thought in his mind. Why do I keep thinking about that woman?

Upon hearing Sheldon's words, Hazel felt agitated deep down, even though she was still reluctant to entertain her brother. Then, she nodded and said, "Thanks, Sheldon!"

Meanwhile, the man nodded as well. "Get some rest."

As Hazel headed upstairs and passed by her father's room, her heart sank because she had a hunch that her father was going to leave them soon. If Dad is gone, I'll be left with only Mom and Sheldon. Since Hazel had always been the apple of her father's eye, she would no longer be treated that way if he passed away. Therefore, she didn't want to lose her father, as she wanted to keep the one thing that she treasured so dearly. I wouldn't even get to meet Mr. Hilbert if Sheldon didn't pull some strings. So, if Dad is gone, I can't imagine how the others would think of our family.

A few moments later, Hazel squinted, feeling a strong hatred surging through her. Who does that heartless divine doctor think she is? Does she have no idea who she is dealing with? It's the president of Yobril's National Council! So, how could she turn Sheldon down, knowing it's my father?!

Meanwhile in Sandfort City, Janet received a call from Lee not long after she woke up. Raising her eyebrows, she swiped her phone screen to answer it. In fact, she had not accepted any new mission for a while since Lee hadn't contacted her until now. Although she had savings enough to last her for the rest of her life, she still had to shoulder the heavy daily expense for her base in Sandfort City. Thus, she would be glad to take up a new mission to make some extra money.

"Janet!" Lee waved his hands. "Long time no see!"

Janet raised her eyebrows and asked, "Any new mission, Lee?"

Lee became serious and replied, "There has been a new mission since this morning, but we don't know how we should go about it."

"What's the mission objective?" Janet asked out of curiosity.

"Someone is willing to pay us ten million to investigate one person."

Upon hearing Lee's reply, Janet raised her eyebrows once more. Really?! Ten million just to investigate one person? This is going to be a walk in the park, man!

"Alright, I'm game! This is a sweet deal that is too good to turn down." Wow! I wonder who is willing to pay so much!

"Janet, the person they want to investigate is you," Lee answered as he found himself caught in a dilemma.

"Me?" Janet was amused to hear that before she continued to ask, "Wait a minute! Which 'me' are they onto?"

A few seconds later, Lee's voice was heard again. "Sandra."

What? Another person who wants to sniff me out?! Although Janet knew she could profit from her alter ego, she was still wise enough to take precautions in protecting her identity. After that, she rubbed her eyes and took a while to ponder, whereupon she answered, "I guess I'll pass this one up." Soon, she added, "Delete the details of this order from our database as well."

After hanging up the call, Janet was still bewildered about why there was someone interested in Sandra's whereabouts. Well, 'Sandra' doesn't exactly keep a low profile either, so why does this person need a world-class hacker to sniff me out?

In the meantime, Hazel was caught in a trance after learning that her offer had been rejected. What?! I offered ten million, yet I still got turned down! What kind of hackers are these people? I can't believe they're calling themselves number one in the world! Who the hell would say no to ten million?! Or could they also struggle to locate this doctor's whereabouts? Why won't this divine doctor just quit hiding and come out of the shadows?!

Soon, Hazel chuckled indifferently and criticized those hackers with contempt on the inside. These hackers are lousy! And the divine doctor is simply just a phony! In fact, there are way

too many swindlers out there in Sandfort City! Not only are they just crooked, but dumb as well for turning down ten million.

Meanwhile, Sheldon sent for their family's doctor, Sam Fraser, to check on their father after Hazel went upstairs. At the same time, Reiner was stunned when he noticed two scars on Sheldon's neck. "Young Master Fuller, why are you hiding those scars from Young Miss Fuller?"

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Sheldon responded with silence for a few moments and said, "What's the point of letting her know? She'll only make a fuss out of it!"

While Reiner nodded in agreement, he soon frowned and said, "Now that our plan to get Doctor Sandra's help has failed, what are we going to do next?"

"She said the disease is incurable!" Sheldon knitted his eyebrows.

Although everyone in the Fuller Family knew that ALS was a terminal disease, they still went on to try their luck by approaching the divine doctor. After all, they still had a glimmer of hope that they could find a miracle cure with Doctor Sandra's help.

At the same time, Sam was distracted from his work as he furrowed his brow and said, "Young Master Fuller, with all due respect, I think those are just some cock and bull story that people made up. The way I see it, the divine doctor doesn't exist at all!"

In fact, Doctor Sandra first became well known in Markovia and subsequently in Sandfort City after she successfully performed a craniotomy surgery. Because of that, she had become a revered legend who had done the impossible. Nevertheless, no one was able to prove the authenticity of the story since there was no official news published about it on the internet or the papers. In that regard, many had speculated that she was merely trying to protect her identity from unnecessary exposure.

Reiner nodded in agreement and comforted Sheldon. "Young Master Fuller, Dr. Fraser is renowned in the medical world, not to mention the fact that he is the doctor in charge of Yobril's president. So, if he can't treat ALS, I don't think anyone else can, including that divine doctor."

Sheldon massaged his forehead and spoke with a deep voice. "We must give it a try anyway! For now, I suppose we'll have to trick her here." It's a little too soon to jump to conclusions now. Perhaps I should lure her here before telling her about my father's condition.

In the meantime, Sam only stared at Sheldon with a pair of furrowed brows, shaking his head. Man! That divine doctor must be a swindler, but I can't believe her trick has already gotten into Young Master Fuller's head.

The next morning, Janet woke up, only to see Mason no longer lying by her side. Not long after that, she heard a knock on the door and proceeded to open it before she was greeted by the butler. "Good morning, Miss Jackson. Young Master Mason is waiting for you downstairs."

"Alright, noted." Janet nodded and made her way to the bathroom. Soon, she heard a notification alert from her computer, whereupon she walked closer to see what it was with a toothbrush in her mouth. While she was logged in as a hacker at that moment, she rubbed her eyes and saw another offer for twenty million to investigate one person.

Tempted by that, Janet decided to read more details about the offer, only to be surprised the next moment. What the hell is going on?! Is this from the same person who wanted to sniff Sandra out yesterday?! Janet blinked a few times and clicked on the user account of the person who made the offer. "Tsk! Tsk! Tsk!" Why won't this person ever give up?! Anyway, whoever is behind this looks adamant in locating Sandra's whereabouts. Let's see what I can find out about this mysterious stalker.

With the toothbrush in her mouth, Janet's fingers began rapidly hitting the buttons on the keyboard. Five minutes later, she managed to identify the person who made the offer.

"Hazel Fuller. The daughter of the Fuller Family, and it seems that her father appears to be the president of Yobril's National Council. Oh, a big shot! No wonder she is willing to pay a fortune to sniff me out," Janet murmured to herself.

As Janet was going through their family tree, she suddenly noticed a familiar face and realized it was the man whose throat she had left a mark on the night before. In that instant, she curled her lips upward and thought to herself. Aw! This is pure familial love, isn't it?

They're mobilizing everyone in the family to come after me. I suppose I should feel 'honored' about that, shouldn't I?

After that, Janet shut down her computer and headed downstairs emotionlessly. In the meantime, Mason shifted his gaze to the stairs when the footsteps drew his attention. Then, he sinisterly squinted and gazed at Janet with a smirk. "You're becoming a night owl, aren't you?"

"I had a rough night!" Janet sluggishly walked toward Mason and sat down.

The man squinted once again. "Hmm. It looks like my sweetheart had trouble falling asleep without me by her side."

"Nah! No such thing." Janet played hard to get and mumbled, "Without you around, I'd have my best sleep ever."

Mason smiled in embarrassment for an instant but decided not to press on since he knew she was too prideful to admit it. "Alright, I'll keep you company when everything is over, okay?"

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As Mason leaned closer to smell her hair, he could detect an aromatic fragrance wafting toward his nose. Meanwhile, Janet felt her heart beating a thousand times faster upon noticing the man's reaction. Thus, she quickly said, "It's time for breakfast now! No wonder I'm so hungry!"

I'm hungry too, not for breakfast, but for you. Ugh! I might as well become a monk if I have to hold in my desire any longer! When is my girl ever going to grow up? But if she grows up, she'll lose her purity and innocence... No, please don't grow up in that case, Janet. Soon, Mason retracted his arm from her waist and held her hand before taking her to the dining area.

When they got there, they were greeted by the sight of a table full of pastries and beverages. However, when Janet's eyes fell upon a bowl of liquid in a strange color, she immediately pushed it away from her.

Upon noticing her response, Mason gazed at her in bewilderment. "What's wrong? Are you sure you don't want to taste it?"

At the same time, the chef also saw Janet's furrowed brows and unhappy expression. Thus, he came closer and explained to the lady. "Miss Jackson, this soy milk is a must to try in my hometown."

Even with that explanation, Janet still remained silent. Upon seeing that, Mason chuckled and provoked her to drink the soy milk. "What's wrong? Are you scared to try it out?"

"Who told you I'm scared?" Janet picked up the bowl and hesitated for a short while before guzzling the liquid down her throat.

Meanwhile, Mason only stared at Janet with a cunning smile until she suddenly vomited what she had just swallowed into the empty bowl in front of her.

At that moment, Sean happened to come in and witnessed Janet vomiting. When he saw that, his expression changed from a worried look to a happy one as he shifted his gaze from her face to her stomach.

Does this mean there is going to be a new member in the Lowry Family soon? Darn it! Miss Jackson is becoming a mother sooner than I expected! At the thought of that, he reached for his phone and texted Old Madam Lowry, who was in Markovia, about his discovery.

On the other hand, Janet wiped her mouth with a piece of tissue paper while cursing deep down within her. For god's sake, what the hell did I just drink? Is this even meant for humans? What kind of nasty taste was that?! "You jerk!" Janet glared at Mason angrily. I can't believe he actually let me drink some soy milk that was left overnight!

Unable to hold in his amusement, Mason chuckled and raised his eyebrows. "How was the taste?"

Really?! I'm surprised he still has the nerve to ask me that guestion! What is he up to?

Then, Mason gave her a piece of tissue paper and laughed. "I was just suggesting you to take a sip instead of guzzling the whole bowl of soy milk." How was I supposed to know that she fell for that ego trip so easily? After all, I only just wanted her to taste a little bit of that soy milk.

Hastily, Janet grabbed a glass of water and drank it while complaining to Mason. "Ugh! I was too gullible! If this had happened to me when I was younger, I wouldn't even have cast an eye on that funny-looking liquid at all."

With a smiling face, Mason sympathetically patted Janet's back and comforted her. "Okay. Okay, it was my bad, babe."

On the other hand, Sean received a call from Old Madam Lowry right away as soon as his message was received. He then excitedly picked it up and heard the old lady's agitated voice. "Are you saying that Janet is pregnant?"

"Indeed! I just saw her vomiting just now. It looked just like morning sickness that all other pregnant women commonly have!" Sean happily replied.

His answer instantly put a bright smile on Old Madam Lowry's face. Oh, I must say that my boy Mason really did a great job! However, she quickly stiffened, and chills traveled down her spine when something crossed her mind. Wait a minute! How could Mason be so inconsiderate to make Janet pregnant so soon? She is just eighteen this year! Furthermore, she still has to go to college. Does he expect her to attend her lectures with a big tummy? The thought of that didn't sit well with Old Madam Lowry, so she decided to make a trip to Sandfort City.

On the other end of the call, Sean didn't notice the change in the old lady's emotion since he reckoned she was just too happy. Not long after that, he curled his lips upward and smiled, thinking that he should spread the word to everyone in the Lowry Family.

A few moments later, a new message popped up in a mysterious group chat. 'Miss Jackson is pregnant! To all members of the Lowry Family, please be sure to take good care of Young Master Mason's future wife.'

In fact, the group chat consisted of the majority of the members in the Lowry Family, including the servants, the butler, and even the driver, but Mason was not in the loop. Needless to say, it was a platform for them to gossip about all affairs in the family; even the last message sent was on the day Janet moved into the Lowry Residence.

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Meanwhile, Black Python, Red Python and White Python simultaneously heard a notification alert from their phones when they were still in the middle of their mission. As they opened up their inbox on their Messenger accounts, they paused for a while and began to join the gossip. 'Did you just say Miss Jackson is pregnant?! Are you sure about it?'

At that moment, all three of them were shocked by the news they had just received. So, does that mean our boss has a child on the way? But Miss Jackson is only eighteen, isn't she?

Yes, absolutely positive about that. Why would I lie about it? In fact, I just saw her morning sickness with my own eyes just now, and the look on Young Master Mason's face seemed strange as well. Anyway, I think that was just his way of expressing love and care for Miss Jackson, especially when he gazed at her.' Come on, guys! It has only been a few months, and Miss Jackson is already pregnant. This is no ordinary feat from Young Master Mason.

As soon as the news reached everyone's ears, they all cheered in excitement, but one of the maids sent a message into the group chat. 'Are you sure about this? Miss Jackson is only eighteen. Isn't this a little too soon for her to get pregnant?'

Another maid replied to the group, 'No wonder Young Master Mason has been sleeping in the study recently. I guess I now know why after learning that Miss Jackson is pregnant.'

'Tsk! Tsk! Miss Jackson seems to be in a good mood lately. I guess I shouldn't feel surprised about that anymore since she is about to be a mother. I believe their child is going to inherit both of their perfect genes and be a brilliant kid!' Another message appeared in the group.

To that, a butler replied, 'You don't say. Everyone knows Miss Jackson is a genius!'

'It looks like we have to keep our eyes open from now on, everybody!' The driver chimed in as well.

Then, another maid sent a message that read, 'But why don't Young Master Mason and Miss Jackson announce the good news?'

'What kind of question is that? It's not like you don't know how 'safe' it is around Sandfort City. Young Master Mason must be doing that to protect Miss Jackson.' That was Sean's reply in the group chat after a brief pause.

Black Python chimed in not long after that. 'Mr. Sean has a point. In that case, all of us should say nothing about this matter, lest we find ourselves in trouble.'

Soon, another maid joined the conversation. 'You both are absolutely correct! We need to be discreet!'

'Miss Jackson is still an 18-year-old young girl. We all know how much Young Master Mason loves Miss Jackson, so do you all really think he would want her to suffer by making her pregnant? After all, being pregnant isn't exactly a comfortable experience for any lady.' White Python expressed a different opinion in comparison to the others, as he didn't believe Mason would impregnate Janet and make her go through the pain many mothers-to-be would.

'You're cute, my friend! How do you know what Young Master Mason thinks? Unless you were hiding under their bed during their... intimate moment.' Red Python refuted White Python, rendering the latter speechless in that instant.

One of the maids asked, 'Mr. Sean, have you told Old Madam Lowry about this?'

Sean replied, 'Yes, of course. She was totally over the moon when I told her that. I think she will likely make a trip back here and propose to bring their wedding forward.'

Shortly after that, Sean sent another message into the group chat. 'Alright, I've gotta go. Young Master Mason seems to be eyeing me now. Catch you guys later!' Sean hurriedly put away his phone and responded with a smile. Then, he instructed the chefs in the kitchen to prepare more food and pastry, as well as some sour plum juice and many other snacks that a pregnant woman would love.

After the meal, Janet and Mason sat side by side on the couch. The man was reading newspapers, while the lady was occupied with her phone; both of them looked completely relaxed.

After playing with her mobile game for a while, Janet received an incoming call, only to realize that it was from Old Madam Lowry. A brief moment of hesitation later, she decided

to pick it up and heard the old lady's affectionate voice. "How do you feel now, Janet? Do you have trouble getting used to it?"

Janet paused for a few seconds, confused with Old Madam Lowry's question. Nonetheless, she nodded and replied with a smile, "I'm good, Madam! How are you lately?"

"Come on! You should call me Grandma now!" Old Madam Lowry sounded unhappy, as if she didn't like the way Janet addressed her. Baffled by the old lady's response, Janet scratched her head and wondered about the reason while blinking. That's how I've always called her, and she never said anything about it! Why would she suddenly change her mind...?

Before Janet could figure out what was going on, her train of thoughts was interrupted by the old lady's kind voice once more. "By the way, I just had someone send you some supplements." They're good for the baby.

Janet was stunned once again when she heard Old Madam Lowry's words. Wait a minute, why would she send me supplements all of a sudden? Despite her confusion, she didn't want to dampen Old Madam Lowry's enthusiasm. Thus, instead of asking her for a reason, Janet gracefully accepted the old lady's kind offer.

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After that, Old Madam Lowry decided to educate Mason a little. Therefore, she said, "Janet, can you please put Mason on the phone? I'd like to have a word with him."

"Oh, sure. He is just sitting right next to me, actually!"

Then, Janet raised her eyebrows in a confused manner and handed her phone over to Mason while speaking in a languid manner. "Grandma wants to talk to you!"

Despite his bewilderment, Mason still went on and answered the call. "What's the matter, Grandma?"

Soon, Old Madam Lowry began to nag at Mason like she was lecturing him for his wrongdoing. "Things are not going to be easy for Janet. So, spend more time with her and be more tolerant. Remember, you must love, protect and care for her! Let Sean or Henry take care of the hard work. Do you understand?"

The old lady's words filled Mason's mind with a million question marks. Why does she sound like she is telling me her last words? At the thought of that, the man knitted his eyebrows in puzzlement, but he still nodded in agreement due to his love for Janet. "Well, that's actually how I've always treated her."

"Good! Good!" Old Madam Lowry happily chuckled after hearing Mason's response. That's my grandson! As for Janet's pregnancy, I'll teach him more about that when I get to Sandfort City. "Alright! I guess I should leave you both to it." Old Madam Lowry hung up the call after a few more moments of nagging.

For the next few moments, Mason and Janet exchanged gazes with each other in a baffled manner. Nevertheless, the moment Janet got her phone back, she couldn't help but feel nauseated when she recalled the soy milk that she had tried earlier.

"What's wrong, babe?" Mason sympathetically patted Janet's back.

"What do you think?" Janet unhappily glared at the man.

Mason chuckled and said with a deep voice, "Oh, let me find out what it tastes like." As soon as he finished his sentence, he planted a kiss on Janet's lips and rubbed them with his.

While Janet blamed Mason for the soy milk that he had fooled her into drinking earlier, everyone else in the house thought she was blaming him for her pregnancy. A few seconds later, the group chat was bombarded with messages again.

'Oh gosh! It looks like Miss Jackson is really pregnant!'

'That's right! I just saw Miss Jackson's morning sickness too.'

'Yeah, she also just played hard to get with Young Master Mason and glared at him.'

'Yes! Yes! She looked like she was blaming Young Master Mason for impregnating her.'

From that point on, Janet began to witness strange behaviors among the servants. When she was having a meal, the chefs would specially serve her with soup; when she was enjoying her dessert, the maids would serve her a glass of walnut milk with the reason that it was good for health; when she headed upstairs, she would be followed by someone who would help her walk up the stairs.

What's going on? Why is everyone acting so strangely? Janet waved her hand at those maids who were standing by the stairs and said, "Don't follow me!"

Although they submissively nodded in response, they still treated her and looked after her like she was a pregnant lady.

Later that evening, Sean and Mason were discussing something in the study. Since the Lowry Family had always wanted to venture into Markovia, Mason had thrashed out the details with MX in setting up a base over there. Although he had initially thought that everything would go on without a hitch, they subsequently hit a snag when something went wrong with the logistics when they were moving their inventory and weapons over.

It turned out that their cargo had been intercepted and withheld by a mysterious organization at Markovia's customs. For a few days, Sean had been investigating the organization until he finally found a lead on this day.

"Young Master Mason, it looks like these people are not easy to deal with. I heard they are from the second most powerful organization in Markovia." Sean reported what he had found to Mason while staring at the latter, who was sitting in his chair.

Mason squinted and said, "These people are gutsy indeed! Even when the most powerful organization, MX, is on our side, they still have the nerve to intercept our cargo!"

Even so, Mason knew he couldn't rush into a rash decision by taking them heads on since he had no idea how strong that organization was. Nevertheless, he still deemed that they would be tough to handle since they should be more or less as strong as MX, considering their reputation as the second most powerful organization in Markovia. I must do something to gauge their strength and retrieve our cargo.

Then, Mason raised his eyebrows and said with a calm voice, "Where are those people now?"

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"They're hiding at Markovia's underground casino!" Mason curled his lips into a smile and chuckled. "I didn't expect them to be this good at hiding."

Indeed, the underground casino in Markovia was a place teeming with shady characters in different businesses, which made it hard for AQ's men to be detected. Ah, the leader of AQ is not foolish after all! Looks like I have to pay a visit to Markovia's underground casino tonight.

As Sean observed Mason's change in expression, he had gotten some hints, so he asked, "Should I get the plane ready for you?"

"Yes. Bring Henry along as well."

Initially, Mason believed that it was best to bring only a small group along. However, taking Henry along would bring them the upper hand; when he was staying in Markovia, he had been a regular visitor of the underground casino. Therefore, he must have been familiar with the location and the layout of the casino, and the knowledge would be a great help for their operations later at night.

Before their departure, Mason had wanted to bid farewell to Janet. When he entered her room, he found that she had fallen asleep, hugging her laptop tightly against her chest. Seeing that, he caressed her hair and gently whispered, "Wait for my return like the good girl you are."

His husky and magnetic voice echoed in her ears, causing her to wake up in a groggy state. When she saw him, she was confused, so she inquired, "Where are you going?"

Initially, Mason had planned to leave without waking her up, but now that she was up, he briefly explained the situation to her. 'Some trouble has arisen on the other side. We might have to get it settled."

"What trouble?" Janet's voice was tinged with surprise and dismay.

In response, he put on a serious expression and confessed, "The Lowrys' cargo to Markovia has been intercepted."

"By who?"

"The second most powerful organization in Markovia—AQ." His eyes narrowed into dangerous slits and they gleamed with malice.

"AQ?" She muttered the name softly and stared at the man for a while. "I want to follow you."

Upon hearing that, he walked back to her and held both of her hands tightly. "Be a good girl and wait for me at home."

"I don't want to!" I want to follow every step you take! "You've picked me as your partner for life, so why wouldn't you allow me to take the risk with you? Or perhaps, you've never considered me as your partner?" She stared at him with eyes full of determination.

He fell silent for a while and turned around to look at her. Finally, he relented and asked her, "Do you know how to shoot?"

Momentarily taken aback by the question, she froze, but soon, her eyes hardened. "I can always learn."

"Take this gun. I'll teach you how to use it on the plane later." As he spoke in a lowered voice, he took out the gun in his waist holster and placed it in her hands.

Feeling excited, she answered, "Got it!" This means that Mason has agreed to bring me along. But if I show up in Markovia without any disguise, AQ's men will definitely recognize me.

A moment of silence later, she looked at him again, and when she spoke, her voice was riddled with worry. "Won't it be dangerous to show up without any form of disguise? Do you think we'll need that?"

"Let's board the plane first and talk about it later." Then, he took her hand and led her out of the room.

When they arrived at the airport, it was already seven in the evening. Henry had long since been waiting for them in the plane with his legs crossed, looking completely relaxed. Staring at the couple who appeared in front of him with interlocked fingers, he lifted a brow in surprise. "Miss Janet, you're here as well?"

She greeted him flatly. "It has been some time."

"Yeah, it is. Ever since Young Master Mason is with you, he doesn't care about me anymore." Henry sounded rather dramatic, and he had put on a pitiful expression as well.

When he first saw Janet on the plane, he was dumbfounded because he had never expected Mason to bring her along. Not only that, Mason had also requested a mask to be prepared for her. Looks like he has truly fallen in love.

"Don't give me that crap!" Mason glared at him coldly.

In response, Henry chuckled and grabbed a mask from the seat beside, which he threw at Mason. "Here, as per your request."

Mason caught the mask and carefully put it on Janet's face. "Wear this for protection."

The Lowrys had too many enemies around, and Janet was his greatest weakness. Hence, he would never allow anyone to find out about her identity as his lover, for he did not want to put her in harm's way.

She paused for a second before praising him. "Well, this is smart."

At the side, Henry laughed and replied, "Miss Janet, whenever Young Master Mason is on a mission, he will always put on a mask."

"Is that so?" She checked out her reflection in the glass window of the plane, but she froze in surprise. This mask looks... familiar.

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Have I seen this somewhere before? A scene at Leamore Lane on a particular night flashed across her mind. The design of her mask in the window reflection looked quite similar to the one worn by the leader of Black Rain.

Could it be... Just when she was about to piece the puzzle together, Mason called out to her, "Janet, get the gun. I will teach you how to use it."

He caressed her head and his voice was very gentle, which was a stark contrast to Black Rain's unforgiving tone that she had heard that day.

At that, she let out a sigh of relief, thinking that she must have been overthinking things. There are lots of masks of the same design in this world. I must have complicated things out of nervousness.

Noticing her blank gaze, he chuckled, amused at her expression. "What is it that you're thinking? Are you scared?"

As he spoke, he slid his hand around her waist and took the gun from her. She was shocked by his sudden movement and froze for a moment. "Nothing. Why would I be afraid?"

In response, he smiled and looked at her, his eyes shining with determination. "Come here. I'll teach you how to use a gun."

All this while, Sean had been standing behind them and had witnessed their exchange.

At that moment, the group chat with a hundred members started to get heated again. There, Sean announced, 'Young Master Mason is bringing Miss Janet to Markovia this time!'

Black Python wasn't very amused. 'You're overreacting. What's so surprising about it? The two are basically glued together like Siamese twins!'

White Python agreed with him. 'I know, right? Did you not see how Young Master Mason doted on her?'

Red Python joked, 'Mr. Sean, looks like your observation is not as sharp as before. Time to retire, huh?'

Strings of laughing emojis flooded the group chat after that. Upon reading the comments, Sean became frustrated and anxious. 'We're in Markovia to fight for our cargo, and we're heading straight to the underground casino. It's very dangerous!'

Shocked, Black Python lost his grip on his phone and it slipped onto the floor. 'What? Young Master Mason actually agreed to bring her to such a dangerous place?'

White Python was confused as well and typed a string of question marks along with his comment. 'She's pregnant! That's not a good decision!'

Red Python finally sensed the urgency of the situation. 'Mr. Sean, why didn't you stop him? If Old Madam Lowry learns about this, you're going to be in hot water!'

Dumbfounded, Sean secretly grumbled to himself. F*ck, if I had known that Young Master Mason would bring along Miss Janet, I wouldn't have reported the cargo incident to him! I would have asked Black Python and the gang to snatch the cargo back! If Miss Janet loses her baby, I won't be spared as well. But now that things have come to this, Young Master Mason probably won't listen to me anymore.

Everyone in the group chat held the same opinion and advised Sean, 'Mr. Sean, stop him! Tell him not to bring her along!'

Upon seeing that, Sean took a glance at Janet and Mason in trepidation; Mason was currently teaching her how to use a gun.

His legs shaking, he walked up to the couple and expressed his concern. "Miss Janet, don't you think it's not the right time for you to hold a gun?"

Mason shot him an icy look. "What's bad about it? Do you have any objections?"

While she was holding the gun in her hand, she seemed to be completely feeling at ease. She blew at the muzzle and asked Sean in a lazy tone, "What's bad about it?"

"N-Nothing. You look cool. Everything's good. The gun suits you!" Sean waved his hands in a panic and stammered, "T-The silver on this gun goes very well with your fair hands. It's a perfect match!"

Upon hearing Sean's jumbled words, Mason flashed him a look with a hint of exasperation and hostility—a signal for him to get lost.

Sean's hand was shaking as he clutched his phone and scurried away to another seat at the side. Then, he typed into the group chat, 'I'm dead! I'm dead! Not only did I not talk them out of it. I even offended Miss Janet!'

After sending out the text, he planned to switch off his phone for his own peace of mind, but he suddenly received a text from Old Madam Lowry.

'It's late now. Is Janet asleep? Are you taking good care of her? As the oldest member of the Lowry Family, you should keep an eye on her and share Mason's burden at work. Only then will he have time to spend with her.'

Sean stared at the text with his jaw hanging and wondered how to reply to her questions. Even though he was unable to pull himself out of his daze, he soon felt his fingers typing away on the phone.

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Sean's reply read, 'Everything's good, but Miss Janet... went on a mission with Young Master Mason.'

Old Madam Lowry's reply was almost instant. 'What mission? That brat! How could he ask a pregnant lady to go on a mission with him?'

Sean added, 'They're going to snatch our cargo back from Markovia.'

The moment Old Madam Lowry received the shocking revelation, her face turned ashen and even the air around her seemed to have frozen. Cargo snatching? This jerk! Does he still care about his pregnant wife?

Within a minute, Sean's phone buzzed and the screen displayed an incoming call.

Old Madam Lowry's panicked voice boomed from the other end. "Sean, please talk that jerk out of it! If he causes Janet to lose the baby, I'll tear him into pieces!" Thankfully, her health had improved under Janet's care. Otherwise, she might have been lying on the floor from a heart attack by now.

Sean answered fearfully, "Madam, I talked to him just now. He doesn't take the matter seriously!"

Upon hearing that, she instantly jumped around in anger and bellowed, "That jerk! Hand him the phone right now!" How could he not care about Janet's pregnancy at all when it's such an important matter to everyone in the family? I can forgive Janet because she is young and clueless, but how could Mason, a fully-grown man, allow her to do as she wishes?

Sean agreed to it and glanced up, only to meet Mason's cold gaze. In the middle of his shock, he accidentally hung up on Old Madam Lowry.

A while later, Mason finally opened his mouth and said to him, "Who are you talking to? We're taking off soon. Hang up now!"

"Sure!" Sean nodded obediently at him. When he looked around once more, he noticed that Janet was having a shut-eye, and he felt much more relieved. A pregnant woman needs as much rest as possible!

On the other side, Old Madam Lowry heard the disconnect tone and felt even more frustrated. When they returned from Markovia, she vowed to teach these irresponsible brats a lesson. Mason is truly a failed husband! Why did he bring along his wife when he clearly knows that she's pregnant? It's a wonder that a man like him could find a woman like Janet!

When she called Sean again, she was dismayed to find that he had turned off his phone. She guessed that the three of them must have boarded the plane. Therefore, she switched her strategy and started bombarding Mason with texts.

'Mason, are you trying to give me a heart attack? How can you bring Janet to that dangerous place? I'm going to teach you a lesson when you're home!'

'Send Janet home IMMEDIATELY! If anything happens to her, you are not welcomed home anymore!'

'If anything bad happens to her, I will pass on with her as well.'

'Oh no, my sickness is acting up again. Get Janet home to treat me.'

After sending a bunch of texts to Mason, she called the butler over. "Get the plane ready. I'm heading to Sandfort City tomorrow morning."

The servants at Sandfort immediately got hold of the news of Old Madam Lowry's return. Therefore, they busied themselves with cleaning and housekeeping to welcome her arrival.

At the same time, the group chat was buzzing with frenzied activity.

'@Sean, you're dead. Old Madam Lowry is coming home from Markovia.'

'@Sean, if anything happens to Miss Janet, Old Madam Lowry is going to chase you out of the Lowry Residence.'

'@Sean, send Janet home ASAP!!!'

In the plane, Sean frowned as he watched the plane landing on the runway of Markovia's airport. His heart leapt into his throat as he faced the uncertainties that lay ahead.

At the underground casino in Markovia, business was getting heated up at around two in the morning. The entire place was lit with dazzling lights and filled with passionate shoutings of the gamblers.

A few men dressed in black suits were seated in the resting room. The leader of the group smoked as he listened to his subordinate's report.

"Boss, a group has arrived in Markovia. We've sent some men to investigate them and found out that they're the Lowrys from Sandfort City."

The 'Boss' was the man named Aquila. He looked at his subordinate with disdain in his eyes. "The Lowrys? You mean the Lowrys who had shipped something into Markovia and had their cargo intercepted by us?"

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"Yes, that's right!"

The Lowrys wanted to send their cargo into Markovia with no other intention than to get a piece of the pie in Markovia's market.

In Markovia, MX had taken up seventy percent of the market, so how could Aquila possibly sit back and watch some outsiders from Sandfort City chip away at the remaining thirty percent?

Even though Aquila had never witnessed the Lowrys' capabilities, he surmised that they must be quite powerful given that they were the top business elites in the continent.

When the cargo of the Lowrys had first entered Markovia, MX didn't even attempt to intercept. Left with no choice, AQ had to make the move instead.

Upon hearing that report, Aquila snorted in disdain. "MX is going downhill day by day. They'd rather be cowards than to intercept the Lowrys' cargo, forcing us to make a move on their behalf!"

Indeed, the nail that was sticking up would get hammered down—the Lowrys finally decided to hammer down on AQ, the nail that stuck out.

The subordinate who reported the update followed in mocking MX as well. "Isn't MX always a busybody when it comes to territorial issues? Why did they stay quiet when the Lowrys made a move?"

"Haha! That is why I say MX is going downhill." Aquila roared in laughter. In normal times, AQ had always been oppressed by MX, and it was time to release their pent-up frustration.

"Haha, if you didn't bring it up, I would have forgotten about them! We haven't seen that b*tch, J'Adore for quite some time."

"Hmm, I heard she has gone to Sandfort City recently."

"Tch. I was right then. How much can a woman do?"

"Hmph, I'm utterly disgusted by her arrogance!"

"By the way, why is she in Sandfort?" someone asked.

"Who knows? Guess she's avoiding the issue, burying her head in the sand."

"Haha, indeed! They are burying their heads in sand. It is an apt description for MX's current state of disintegration."

"The only reason she's in Sandfort is to build a training base."

Still, they thought that it was unfortunate for her, because Sandfort City was the territory for the Lowrys. It would be extremely difficult for a woman like her to go against the Lowrys alone. At the mention of that, the men in the room guffawed at the perceived misfortune that awaited J'Adore.

The guy, Baldy, who reported the Lowrys' arrival, asked Aquila, "Boss, if the Lowrys are here, how should we deal with them?"

Aquila chuckled and patted his shoulder. "Can't you see where we are? This is an underground casino!"

A few expert gamblers were placed at the entrance of the casino by Aquila. One of them was Ace, a character that was only second to the top gambler, also nicknamed the Queen of Gamblers. Those Lowry men from Sandfort could not possibly win against Ace and gain entrance to the casino.

The only person who could defeat Ace was Jasmine, the Queen of Gamblers and the all-rounder. However, rumors had it that Jasmine had retired from the business for a long time, so any attempt to look for her would be a devil of a job.

Without Jasmine, The Lowrys could never successfully break into the casino.

Hence, Baldy chuckled and complimented Aquila, "Boss, you've got all of your bases covered indeed."

In response, Aquila inhaled the cigarette smoke sharply and puffed out slowly, a smirk hanging on his lips.

On the other side, after a seven-hour flight, Mason and his team finally landed in Markovia. The second Janet stepped out of the plane, she was instantly surrounded by a sense of familiarity.

When they stepped out of the airport, they noticed a few luxury cars waiting to chauffeur them. Taking Janet's hand, Mason slowly made his way into the car with her. She smiled sweetly at the gesture and her eyes sparkled under the mask.

Not long after they entered the car, Mason's phone started to ring nonstop when the signal was connected. He checked his texts and cold sweat started to form all over his forehead.

Shaking his head in a defeated manner, he handed Janet his phone, gesturing at her to take a look. She was slightly taken aback by Old Madam Lowry's barrage of concerned texts as well, but she still shook her head adamantly. "I'm not going to be in danger! No matter what, you cannot send me home!"

Following closely behind them, Sean found the right opportunity to interrupt and advised her against continuing with their plan. "Miss Jackson, the underground casino is a very complicated and potentially dangerous environment. Shall I send you back to Sandfort immediately?"

She shot him an icy look. "Do I look like a coward to you?"

Sean was rendered speechless after his second failed attempt at talking her out of it.

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When they arrived at the underground casino, Janet got out of the car and headed straight for the entrance.

Behind her, Henry paused in confusion because he was here to lead the way, but Janet turned out to be more familiar with the casino than him. Has she been here before?

At the same time, Mason was as surprised as Henry. He narrowed his eyes suspiciously at Janet, and they gleamed as he pondered on his thoughts.

Noticing their absence, she turned around to find them staring at her blankly. Hence, she looked away and walked back to Mason guiltily. Taking his hand, she then told Henry, "Lead the way please!"

At that, Henry snapped out of his confusion, and he rubbed his nose awkwardly before jogging forward to take the lead. Still, he felt quite speechless at Janet's odd behavior. Why would she turn back and ask me to lead the way when she has already reached the entrance? Her brain works differently indeed.

Then, the group of four walked to the entrance and were about to enter when they were stopped by two burly guards. They checked out the pretty lady and the three smart-looking men before coldly demanding, "Please show your entrance ticket."

Henry paused briefly and curled his lips into an awkward smile. "I have not heard about any entrance ticket before."

"Cut the nonsense!" One of the men glared at them and hissed, "Perhaps not in the past, but you need an entrance ticket now!"

Janet stared at the two guards and coldly scanned them from head to toe. They look familiar... I guess they're members of AQ! Thus, she fired back at the guards in a hostile tone. "We're from a different city and only learned about the entrance ticket today. Can't you be more understanding?"

"You're asking for understanding?" The guard smirked. "Do you know the sort of VIPs that we receive in the casino? Look at yourselves; do you think you deserve it?"

At that point, Henry had tightened his fists and reached out for his gun at the waist. To his surprise, however, before he could touch the weapon, he was stopped by Mason, who hinted at him to not make any bold move for now.

"Our leader, Aquila, also gave an order earlier. Those without entrance tickets will need to defeat us and Ace for access to the casino."

"Ace?" Henry knew that Ace was the second greatest gambler of all times. In order to defeat him, they would need help from Jasmine, the Queen of Gamblers.

Even though Henry once frequented the casino, it had been some years back. At his current level, he had no confidence to beat Ace.

The two burly men at the door noticed their hesitation, so they scoffed at them. "Are you guys here just to cause a scene?"

"Yeah, you haven't even heard of Ace, so what makes you think you're qualified to enter the casino?"

"I bet you're incapable of beating us, let alone Ace!"

"Those who don't know about Ace should get lost!"

Mason stole a glance at Henry and inquired, "Do you have the confidence to win against Ace?"

In response, Henry sank into a short silence before shaking his head. The guards overheard their conversation and mocked them even harder. "You're here talking about defeating Ace, but I suspect you don't even know who he is!"

Right when the guards thought the group would leave in humiliation, the only female in the group suddenly spoke up. "Ace? Isn't he that man who lost to Jasmine, the Queen of Gamblers?"

She ended the sentence with a chuckle and lifted a brow, which made her appear rather enchanting. Upon hearing that, Mason and Henry were surprised and intrigued by her remark.

The two guards were taken aback as they had not expected the young lady to know about Ace and Jasmine.

"Who are you?" They stared intently at her and demanded to know about it.

"Whether I tell you or not, it will not affect my victory tonight." She smirked at them as she spoke.

Upon hearing that, the two guards could not resist chortling at her. "You're quite full of yourself, aren't you?" After a moment's pause, one guard said, "Do you think you can win against Ace just because you've heard of his name? Why don't you look at yourself in the mirror?"

In response, she beamed at them. "I know my abilities very well. Why would I need to look into the mirror?"

A troubled expression crawled up Henry's face, and he reminded her, "Miss Jackson, no matter what, you shouldn't underestimate Ace."