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Even so, Charlotte didn't have a clear consciousness when it all happened. She couldn't remember who she had bitten. in fact, she couldn't even remember if she had actually bitten someone.

Nevertheless, she didn't think much of it as she buried her face in his chest and continued sleeping.

After a moment, the phone by the bed rang, and Zachary jolted awake. He realized that it was already bright outside and that the caller was Ben.

If I don't go back now, Grandpa is definitely going to notice.

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He slowly shifted his body to get out of bed, afraid that he would wake Charlotte up in the process.

But she was already awake. The woman opened her eyes blearily and asked, "What's wrong?"

"Did I wake you up?" Zachary stared at her beautiful face and was reluctant to leave her when he said, "I need to go now."

"Alright," she replied as she turned around. She then continued sleeping with her back facing him.

He leaned over and gave her a kiss before taking a few steps back hesitantly. After that, he quickly put on his clothes and left through the window.

Charlotte didn't turn back to look at him, but she could tell that he was an agile person as she listened to his movements.

From a rational standpoint, he definitely isn't just an ordinary person.

But strangely, she trusted him without any hesitation.

Just let him be...

At the thought of it, Charlotte fell back into slumber again.

Zachary ran the whole way back. He climbed over the wall in the backyard into the villa and landed in front of the window to Henry's room.

The latter had already woken up and was sipping on his tea in his wheelchair.

In an instant, Zachary jumped up to the balcony of the second floor.

Alarmed, Henry looked up but saw nothing. Yet, he said worriedly, "What happened? I thought I saw from the window."

"It might be a cat," Spencer guessed. "I heard that Mr. Potter keeps a lot of cats and allows them to wander around."

"Go and check if he is awake." The former had a hunch that something was wrong.

"I went to check earlier. He's still asleep," Spencer answered. "It's only eight in the morning now. He was busy till late in the night yesterday. Just let him sleep for a little more."

"He would normally wake up at six every day to exercise no matter how busy he is," Henry said with a frown. "It's weird that he's not awake even when it's already eight."

"Alright then. I'll go take a look."

Just as he was about to leave, someone knocked on the door, and Ben's voice could be heard, "Mr. Nacht, Mr. Zachary asked if you're awake. He wanted to know if you would like to have breakfast together."

Spencer and Henry gave each other a glance before the former went to open the door. "Mr. Zachary is up?"

"He just woke up and is now washing up," Ben answered with a smile. "Ms. Blackwood is also awake. Should I get someone to prepare breakfast?"

"Alright. Go ahead." Spencer nodded.

"Understood."

Spencer looked up at the second floor's master bedroom and saw a maid knocking on the door, saying that she was there to send the clothes. "Come in," Zachary's voice sounded.

The maid then opened the door and went in.

Spencer closed the door and said to Henry, "Look at that. I was right, but you didn't believe me."

"What a relief," the old man said with a nod. "Well, it seems like I was too suspicious."

"Yes. Don't worry too much about it," the former nagged. "I think Mr. Zachary and Ms. Blackwood are getting along just fine."

"I hope so." Henry heaved a sigh before adding, "We'll head back once we had our breakfast. My great-grandchildren are at home, and no one's there to take care of them. I'm worried."

"Alright. I'll get straight to it." Spencer nodded with a smile.

Ben instructed a maid to prepare breakfast and headed upstairs after that.

Zachary was already done changing and was tidying up his hair as he said, "Was Grandpa suspicious of anything?"

"I don't think he is. I saw Kyle preparing one of the cars, so I guess he'll be heading back after breakfast," his bodyguard said before sighing in relief.

"That's great." He put on his shoes and was about to go downstairs, but Marino rushed in to report, "Mr. Nacht, Sir Louis is here!"

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"What is he doing here at this hour?" Zachary asked with furrowed brows.

"Is it because of what happened last night?"

Ben became worried. Sir Louis is too naive. It's going to be troublesome if he lets slip of anything.

"He's probably here to talk about the project."

Zachary had not agreed to Lindberg Corporation's project to settle in. Last night, Louis wanted to have a discussion on it, but there weren't any results yet.

The other five partners were still waiting for an answer while the latter was waiting to answer them, that was why he was here to talk about it.

Zachary got down and saw that Henry and Cynthia were already seated at the dining table. However, he quickly made his way outside instead of heading to the dining room.

"Where are you going?" the old man asked.

"Louis is here. I'm going to go take a look," he answered and continued walking outside.

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At the same time, Louis had just gotten down from his car when he said, "Zachary..."

"Why are you here so early in the morning?" Zachary questioned.

"The business partners are waiting for an answer," the former replied with a frown. "I tried to convince Charlotte to quit for a really long time this morning, but she didn't want to."

Zachary was really shocked to hear it. He had expected her to quit on her own out of anger because of the kiss. Never would he had expected her refusing to quit.

It seems like her mental strength is much stronger now.

"I'm in a bind right now, Zachary. Can you just agree to it?" Louis' brows remained furrowed when he continued, "Charlotte said that if you think that she invested too little, she'll add more funds. But no matter what you say or do, she'll never pull back."

"You should head back first. I'll come to see you later."

He didn't want Louis and Henry to meet now.

"Why?" the latter asked in confusion. "I haven't had breakfast yet. I was thinking of having breakfast here too..."

"Grandpa is here. If he finds out about this project, he's sure to throw a fit," Zachary said in a low voice.

"I see." Louis's expression changed drastically as he said, "In that case, I'll take my leave now."

Just as he was about to get into his car, a silver Rolls-Royce sped towards them.

Charlotte is here!

Ben quickly rushed to close the gates.

Zachary furrowed his brows at the sight of that. What is she doing here now?

The car stopped, and the woman alighted from the car.

She was wearing a white suit, and her pale face was hidden underneath a layer of light makeup. The beautiful, cold yet charming woman was back.

"Sorry for the intrusion, Mr. Nacht." A smile hung on her lips as she spoke. It looked like a polite smile, but it also showed her fearless courage. "Since I haven't been able to invite you, I could only visit you myself."

"You were in so much pain last night, but it seems like you're much better now."

Zachary raised a brow at her. Although he looked icily arrogant, he felt extremely conflicted.

Back when he was messing with her, he could switch between his two personalities with ease. He would be so intimate with her at night but would treat her really coldly in the day.

Yet now, he had ignored his bottom line for her and breached his own principles because of his personal feelings multiple times.

If this continues...

"What?"

Charlotte had no idea that Zachary had gone to help her when she had a relapse.

"Ms. Lindberg..." Lupine whispered in her ears.

The woman's face instantly turned grim as she yelled, "Who allowed you to let him in?"

"This is all my fault." Lupine hurriedly bowed her head in apology.

"We'll talk about this later, Charlotte. Let's go," Louis said while pulling her away. "Mr. Nacht is here. If he knows you'll be attending, this project is sure to fail."

Even though he didn't know about Zachary and Charlotte's relationship, he was aware of the grudges between the Nacht and the Lindberg families.

"Mr. Nacht's here too?" Charlotte raised her brows upon hearing the name. "That's great. I wanted to meet him too."

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"The audacity!" A thunderous voice boomed from the courtyard.

Tensing up a little, Zachary quickly gave Louis a look.

"Charlotte, let's go..." Louis got the cue and began dragging Charlotte into the car.

"Louis, what are you doing?"

Charlotte felt rather displeased, but with the bigger picture in mind, she eventually complied. Glaring at Zachary, she uttered, "Zachary, you'd better give me a proper response tonight!"

Zachary frowned at her and did a shooing gesture.

The moment Louis got on the car, he urged the driver to get going.

Screech!

Just as the car left the courtyard, the gates opened, and Spencer emerged with Henry in his wheelchair.

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As they watched the car speed off in the distance, Henry's expression darkened. "Who was the woman who spoke just now? How arrogant!"

"Someone from Lindberg Corporation," Zachary replied curtly.

"How preposterous!" Henry was enraged. "She was so rude and insolent the other day at Northridge, yet she dares come knocking on our door? The sheer audacity of that woman! Spencer, go run a background check on that woman!"

"Understood!"

"There's no need for that." Zachary immediately cut him off. "She's Danrique Lindberg's sister and the second-largest shareholder of Lindberg Corporation."

"I knew it! It's no wonder that she's obscenely rude!" Henry snarled.

Giving Zachary a scathing look, he then ordered, "Let me tell you this. Don't let her off so easily just because she's a woman. The next time she tries something like this, you're going to fight back on behalf of the Nacht family!"

"Yes, I understand." Zachary nodded profusely and even gave him words of reassurance. "Please don't worry. I know how to deal with people like that. I won't let it happen again."

She won't be able to act that arrogant once she marries me...

"Good." Henry nodded, feeling satisfied with his answer. "By the way, why is Louis with someone from Lindberg Corporation?"

"She wants to network with him..." Zachary gave a vague answer. "That's why I've been so caught up with work these days. I've been dealing with this matter."

"Louis gets swayed easily. And given his pure-hearted nature, you really need to have a good talk with him." Henry furrowed his brows deeper. "I'll make a call to Robert later. We mustn't let Louis get scammed. It'll hurt our family's reputation too if something happens in our own district."

"There's no need for that too." Zachary immediately tried to stop his grandfather. "I'll take care of the matter. Calling Robert might put Louis in trouble. He might even be forced to go back."

"Alright, then. I'll leave it to you. Now, go get some breakfast first," Henry said.

"Okay."

With that, Zachary began pushing Henry back into the house. He heaved a sigh of relief silently. That was close. If he had come to the courtyard just a minute earlier, he would have seen Charlotte.

He had just avoided a confrontation that would stir drama simply because Spencer could not move as quickly due to old age.

However, he knew that he had to get Henry to move elsewhere as soon as possible.

During breakfast, Henry continued to chide Zachary about being more caring toward Cynthia and spending more time with her.

He also preached to him about how the Lindberg family had to be treated as rivals. "The worst that could happen is our families confronting each other in the open. And that's fine. Let us compete under public scrutiny and see who wins!"

As Zachary listened on, he could not help but frown. While Henry had always been a cautious businessman who always had the bigger picture in mind and never employed extreme tactics, he seemed particularly hostile toward the Lindberg family.

It was evident that the conflict between the two families was deep-rooted and almost impossible to resolve.

After breakfast, Cynthia brought up the three little ones during their conversation. Henry immediately told Spencer that he would be going back to take care of his great-grandchildren.

That decision worked in Zachary's favor, and he saw them off.

As he watched Henry's car exit the hot spring resort, Zachary exhaled deeply, finally relaxing his shoulders. However, when he turned around to discover Cain and Kyle standing there, his brows furrowed once more.

It seemed that he could not let his guard down just yet.

Guess I have to keep up the act with Cynthia...

What an old, cunning fox!

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After sending Henry off, Zachary decided to visit Louis.

Before leaving, he spoke to Cynthia. "Have a good rest at the hotel. If you feel bored, just get someone to give you a tour of the area. The scenery here at Ashenville Garden is spectacular."

"Alright. Don't worry about me." Cynthia smiled as she gestured to Zachary.

Zachary left a few subordinates behind to look after her before hurrying off with Ben, Marino, and his other subordinates.

When they arrived at Charlotte's villa, Louis was still having breakfast. Zachary walked over, sat down, and began digging in without even saying a word.

"You didn't have breakfast?"

Raising an eyebrow, Louis called for a maid to give Zachary some cutlery to use. He also got them to bring the breadbasket, which Zachary adored.

It was almost as if he had forgotten about wanting to cut ties with the very same man for trying to steal his woman away just the day before.

Zachary was famished—he had not eaten anything since the previous night.

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"How long have you been starving?" Louis frowned at him. "Don't tell me you haven't eaten anything since last night?"

"What else do you expect?" Zachary rolled his eyes.

"O-okay. Help yourself." Louis felt a little guilty. "I should have arranged a meal to be sent to you."

"Where's Charlotte?" Zachary asked.

"She's in her room. I'll go get her." Just as Louis was about to get up, Zachary grabbed his arm and said, "Let's talk first."

"Okay." Louis sounded nervous. "If you think that her addition would negatively affect your profit, I can..."

"You know that's not what I want to discuss with you." As Zachary looked Louis in the eye, he could almost feel his head throbbing. "I've come to regret doing business with you... You know, with that brilliant mind of yours..."

Zachary sighed deeply.

Meanwhile, back in her room, Charlotte's expression was downcast, and her gaze was sharp like a knife.

Lupine, Morgan, and the others were kneeling before her with their heads hung low, not daring to make the slightest noise.

"So, you're saying that Louis called him over?"

Moments ago, Lupine conveyed the events that transpired the night before to her. "What were you two doing? Why didn't you stop him?" She demanded.

"He broke in even though I pointed a gun at him. He simply couldn't be stopped," Morgan explained, looking at the floor.

"I tried my best, but Mr. Nacht shoved me away really forcefully. When I got back on my feet, he had already gone into the bathroom and..."

Lupine dared not finish her sentence.

Charlotte stiffened. It was obvious that Zachary had seen her completely naked the night before.

"It was an emergency, and we tried our best. You were hurting all over. Even though Mr. Nacht acted a little rough, he did those things to save you..." Morgan continued softly.

"Acted a little rough?" Upon hearing those words, Charlotte furrowed her brows. "What do you mean by a little rough?"

"He was sitting by the bathtub while holding your arm so that Dr. Langhan could give you an injection, but you struggled too much. Dr. Langhan even fell over, so Mr. Nacht could only..."

Morgan blinked tentatively, unable to go on.

"Say it!" Charlotte growled.

"In the end, he entered the bathtub, mounted over your body, and pressed your wrist down so that Dr. Langhan could give you the jab..."

Morgan's voice was barely audible, but Charlotte caught every single word.

Her face turned as pale as a sheet.

"I wanted to rush over, but Louis stopped me. You might have misunderstood Mr. Nacht. All he wanted was to save you. He wasn't trying to take advantage of you," Lupine explained.

"Yeah. You were hitting him and kicking him all over. In the end, you even bit his neck, causing him to bleed, but he held it in..."

"What did you just say?" Charlotte cut Morgan off. "I bit his neck?"

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"Yes." Morgan nodded slowly. "You were quite rough with him as well. I was actually a little afraid that you would injure the artery in his neck. That would have ended badly."

"You almost bit off a piece of his flesh, but he tough through it and kept silent as Dr. Langhan gave you the injection," Lupine added.

"When you finally calmed down, he immediately covered your body with a towel and carried you out of the bathroom before placing you onto the bed. He was also kind enough to tell us to dry your hair and get you changed..."

As Morgan recalled the melodramatic scenes that had unfolded before her the previous night, she turned a little more emotional. "To be honest, I was quite touched by the things that he did for you."

"Me too. It was at that moment that I realized that his feelings for you were no joke..." Lupine quickly chimed in.

"Which side did I bite?"

Charlotte seemed to be really bothered by Zachary's injuries.

She clearly remembered seeing a bandaged wound on Gigolo's neck when she woke up that morning. However, she was unsure if it was a bite mark.

"The right." Lupine sounded firm. "I remember how he was on top of you and restrained your limbs. You couldn't move, so you bit his neck on the side facing me. I'm very sure of it..."

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Charlotte furrowed her brows. Gigolo's wound is also on the right side.

It can't be...

Knock! Knock! Just then, one of her female bodyguards entered the room, saying, "Ms. Lindberg, Mr. Nacht is here. Sir Louis is asking for your presence."

Coming back to her senses, Charlotte made her way out.

Back in the dining room, Louis was looking rather apprehensive. "Is this really the way to go?"

"Either make her quit, or listen to me." Zachary was unyielding.

"Fine. But please remember to tell her that this is your idea, okay?" Louis mumbled.

"Why are you so scared of her?" Zachary stared at him with disdain.

"He's not scared. He simply knows how to treat others with respect."

Charlotte suddenly appeared in the dining room, sounding haughty and displeased.

Turning around to look at her, Zachary began scrutinizing her with an ambiguous but sharp expression, as if he was trying to read her mind.

"You're trying to say that I don't treat you with respect?" Zachary raised his eyebrows.

"Well, Mr. Nacht, you had always been the most stuck-up man on the planet." Charlotte shrugged. "But since I can't do anything about that, I'll just be the bigger woman."

"Hah..." Zachary chuckled. He had to admit that Charlotte's debate skills had improved greatly after two years of training.

Whatever he threw at her, she would counter it with ease.

Furthermore, she could even turn the tables on him. Her gusto and wit were quite remarkable.

Sometimes, doing business is all about responding to the situation with speed and having a strong aura.

"So, how is it?" Charlotte sat down on the sofa opposite the dining table, tilting her head up as she stared at Zachary. "Have you two come to a final consensus?"

"I'll let you embark on this project with us, but on one condition." Zachary smiled at her nonchalantly. "You'll have to gain the support of the sports industry of Erihal!"

Frowning, Charlotte glanced at Louis.

He immediately looked down with a nervous look.

"Aren't you being unreasonable? The other partners are simply putting their money into the project, so why do I need to fulfill an extra condition? Moreover, as the largest investor, what support have you even garnered for the project?" Charlotte expressed her doubts angrily.

"Well, about that... In the initial stages of the project, he had actually gotten a company in F Nation to support it. That's a feat even I can't accomplish," Louis replied gingerly.

"Then, what about the other investors..."

"The other investors have contributed the same amount of money as you in the project, yet they only hold a third of the shares you have." Zachary cut her off. "Do you think that's fair for them?"

Charlotte found herself at a loss for words. Even though the other investors dared not protest against her joining the project in fear of the forces behind her, she knew that she was doing real business, so she needed to prove her capabilities.