

# Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 356 - 360

Myra's rare show of her more dominant side amused Tony. Turning his palm over to hold her hand, he commented, "Who else should I look at if not you?"

Blushing, Myra retracted her hand and then glared at him. "Drive! You're setting a bad example for the other employees if you're never on time!"

That finally shut him up, and he started the car engine before driving off. Halfway through their journey, Estelle gave Myra a call, which she picked up without hesitation. "Is something the matter, Estelle?"

"Myra, it's me!" The voice that came through didn't belong to Estelle.

As soon as Myra heard that voice, her face fell. She could also hear Estelle fretting over the phone. "You b\*stard, Sean Chase! I'm warning you! You'd better return my phone, or else I will get the security guards to chase you out!"

"Listen to me, Myra! What happened to the Green Palms Project isn't what you see on the surface. It's not just a financial deficit, but someone has been deliberately targeting it! I've spent an entire day tracking down the culprit. Do you know that Tony Hart is behind Stark Group's predicament? Myra, I already told you that you shouldn't believe in that man! This time, I have proof that I can send you right away to show that I am telling the truth! This time—"

"I already know what's going on behind the scenes of that project." With a frown, Myra gave a cold reply.

Sean was panting heavily as he spoke, but when he heard her calm response, he seemed to be momentarily startled. However, he quickly went on to say, "But Tony—"

"Tony already informed me about his actions beforehand." Myra pulled her lips into a thin line before cutting him off once again. "Sean, I don't want people to know about this, so I would appreciate it if you could destroy the evidence you hold."

"Myra—"

“Other than that, I hope you will not interfere with things between me and Tony in the future. And stop harassing me by calling me.” With that, she hung up.

When she turned to meet Tony’s gaze, she saw that he gave her a once over before asking with a smirk, “Who is the popular girl now?”

“I don’t want these kinds of attention.” Myra waved her hand as she spoke. Sean had really outdone himself by sneaking into the film set to snatch Estelle’s phone just so he could give her a call. By this point, Myra really didn’t know what she could say about this. Upon hearing what Myra said, Tony chuckled. Although he was fairly certain that Myra wouldn’t go back to Sean, her reassurance still came as a relief for him.

Back in the film set, Estelle snatched her phone back from Sean, who was stunned to the spot. Begrudgingly, she spat, “Sean Chase, consider this a warning! Don’t disturb Myra’s life! She currently leads a life that is much happier than she ever lived! Tony can provide her with everything that you couldn’t give her by thousands of folds! You were the one who ditched her back then, so it’s too late for you to get her back now!”

After that, she gave the security guards beside her a look. Rather awkwardly, one of them told Sean, “Sorry, Mr. Chase. The set isn’t open to the public today.” They were being courteous by citing that as a reason, as they couldn’t afford to offend either Estelle, who was a famous celebrity, or Sean, who was the director of a company.

Abruptly, Sean smiled in a self-deprecating manner. Without even looking back at Estelle, he walked forward. Is Myra happy? She sure seems to be. I have seen her make all sorts of expressions while she was with Tony. She smiled at him, stared so lovingly at him, and joked with him, but she never seemed to be in despair or pain, which was how she felt when she was with me. But all I want to do is make it up to her. If she is willing to return to me, I will do everything I can to earn her love... With his hands by his sides, he clenched his fists while treading forward.

This time, Cameron seemed to be serious about what he said. After getting someone to clear out Rachel and Kris’ belongings in Stark Residence, they got a call that informed them to take everything away.

Initially, Rachel was still baffled by his actions, as she assumed what happened last night between them was nothing more than an argument. Although both of them said some harsh words, she thought Cameron’s anger would subside after the night. Therefore, she didn’t expect him to be so merciless in his actions.

The fact that Kris and her were kicked out of the house without good reason riled Rachel up. When she thought of the predicament they were in, she gave Cameron a call. However, he didn't bother to pick up even after Rachel called him using another number.

In the end, she went to his company in hopes of being able to catch him there, but the registrars who had always been nice to her were determined to not let her in. With a resigned look on her face, one of the registrar told her, "Madam, please don't put us in a difficult position. It's hard to find a job nowadays. President Stark already warned us that anybody who dared go against his order will be fired."

Rachel had no way to counter that, because she always made sure to establish her image as a kind and understanding person, but she never expected it to turn out to be a hindrance to her in the matter. When she was on her way back to the hospital, she saw the merciless statement that the Waltons issued, which pointed out that the engagement between the Waltons and the Starks was annulled because of Kris' acts of indecency.

There was still space to maneuver around last night's incident if nobody exposed the truth. Besides, nobody actually confirmed that Kris wasn't pregnant with Gideon's child; all they had were rumors. Nonetheless, the statement issued by the Waltons could easily link Kris to the woman who had an affair even though they didn't make a direct accusation.

Kris is still so young! Who will marry her after such a scandal breaks out? The Waltons had gone overboard! she thought. Not only did none of them go visit Kris when she was in such a weakened state, but they were actively trying to destroy her. They totally forgot how Kris had helped them when they just arrived in Bradford City.

Other than that, they also took back the benefits they promised with the project of Central Square. When Rachel gave Shelly a call, the latter pushed her away with words of mockery. When she finally got back to Kris' ward, she told Kris everything. It turned out that Kris already got a grasp on the situation, as she already called Cameron, Gideon, and even Edward, but none of her attempts worked.

All of a sudden, she realized that to Cameron, she was nothing but an effective weapon against Myra, and at the same time, Gideon was using her as a handy chess piece. Now that things had turned out like this, they had both decided to give up on her. She used to fantasize about gaining something through them, but it was all for nothing.

With her phone gripped tightly in her hand, Kris instructed her mother calmly, "Mom, file for a divorce with Dad by citing irreconcilable differences."

Startled, Rachel replied, "Kris, this is only temporary. When your father's anger subsides, we will—"

"We will only be repeating the same cycles even after his anger subsides. Mom, Dad will never give us any of the company's shares before he dies. I have evidence of his affair. This time, we will force him to give up some of his shares to us through legal means. Of course, if he isn't willing to give us that, he will have to accept us back into the family like VIPs." Kris gritted her teeth.

She used to willingly carry all the burden that her father put on her in hopes of one day gaining his shares. After more than twenty years though, she came to learn that someone as sly as Cameron would never easily give up on his power while he was still alive.

"What? Kris, what did you just say?" Rachel's face blanched as she nearly stumbled over.

"Mom, it's all my fault. I was afraid to break your heart, so I didn't tell you that Dad had an affair." Kris bit her lip. In reality, she didn't hide the truth out of concern for her mother, but because Cameron offered her money back then to have her keep it a secret.

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Back then, Kris was still feeling jealous at Myra for getting a car, so she accepted Cameron's offer without hesitation. From her point of view, someone as prestigious as her father would undoubtedly have a few mistresses. As long as those women stuck to themselves and did not affect her mother's status within the family, she was willing to turn a blind eye to their affairs. It was also out of concern for her mother. After all, Cameron never was someone who could have a leash put on him. If she irked him by blowing things out of proportion, the status of both her mother and her within the family would be endangered.

"Dad cheated on you, but he threatened me that he would chase us out of the family if I told you." Taking a deep breath, Kris clenched her fists. "I wouldn't be afraid if I was the only one involved, but I knew you wouldn't be able to take such a heavy blow, so I hid the truth from you. Mom, I'm sorry..."

"No, this can't be..." Rachel could feel her blood gushing to her brain. The man who I should have gained full possession over cheated on me? It's just like how he cheated on Jenny with me back then! She felt suffocated by the shock she received.

The only thing that she considered as a success throughout her entire life and was most proud of was the fact that she managed to claim Cameron as her own even though she couldn't compare to Jenny in all other aspects.

After that, she chased both Jenny and Myra out of the house, while she became the matriarch of the Stark Family. She even mocked Jenny to her face about the fact that Cameron belonged to her instead of Jenny, who was Cameron's legal spouse. However...

"Hahaha!" All of a sudden, she burst into a fit of hysterical laughter. No longer able to support herself, she sat down on Kris' bed limply. Regardless, her hysterical laughter went on until her eyes reddened as she teared up. Even Kris was starting to fear her.

After a long while, she suddenly recalled what Cameron told her that day. Who do you think you are? If I so wish to, I can sleep with any woman I want and get them to give birth to my baby. Then, I won't only have such an incompetent daughter!

It wasn't until then that she realized it wasn't an empty threat. In fact, Cameron might very well already have other children who were born from his affairs. She clenched her fists so tightly that her nails dug into the flesh of her palm. Turning her attention to Kris, she asked, "How long has it been since you knew about the affair?"

Kris was a little intimidated by Rachel's demeanor, but she could only deal with the situation one step at a time upon reaching that point. Biting her lip, she answered, "It has been four years—Ah!"

Smack! Kris received another slap, which made her stare at her mother in disbelief.

Rachel, on the other hand, cried and laughed simultaneously as she returned the look. "Kris, I'm your mother. How dare you lie to me about this?"

"Mom, I—"

Although Kris tried to explain herself, Rachel cut her short. "How could I not know your personality? How could I know nothing about my daughter's behavior? Back then, you bought yourself a car after you mysteriously gained an amount of money. When you told me

it was your father who gave it to you, I was surprised that someone like him would offer you so much money without reason. I assumed that his paternal instincts had somehow awoken, but alas... You took his money, didn't you?"

By the end of her sentence, Rachel held a fierce gaze. As someone who was capable of defeating Jenny, she had a few tricks up her sleeve, so it was no surprise she ended up deducing what happened back then. Even when compared to her husband's infidelity as well as the Waltons' betrayal, her daughter's deception hurt her the most.

Panic-stricken at her stare, Kris quickly tugged on Rachel's sleeve. "Mom, I was wrong; I know I made a mistake. Back then, Dad was both threatening as well as luring me in with wealth, so I dared not oppose him. Besides, I was afraid that you might be hurt by the truth. Back then, you thought you finally won Jenny in your long-standing feud by taking her man away from her, but someone else ended up snatching him away from you. I was afraid it would come as too heavy a blow—"

"Enough!" Rachel's bloodshot eyes made her look even more menacing. After casting Kris a final glance, she decided to leave the ward. "It's a shame you would treat your mother like this despite the fact that I have always been concerned about your future. You really disappoint me!" After a series of shocking revelations, she could hardly face her daughter.

Kris was starting to panic when she saw that Rachel was about to leave. "Mom, this isn't the time for infighting. I know I made a mistake back then, but you're my mother, so you will forgive me—"

"I will." Rachel had a chilly look on her face. "But not now. Kris, you have to learn who to never betray." With that, Rachel disappeared through the doorway.

Staring at the empty doorway, Kris slowly clenched her fists. She already lost everything, so she wouldn't know what to do if even her mother abandoned her. Looking at her own belly, she bit on her lip so hard that it nearly drew blood.

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Meanwhile, Tony and Myra headed to Hart Group without delay. When Tony was busy with work in his office, Myra helped Leo with a series of administrative tasks. Otherwise, she would feel bored since she had nothing else to do. Regardless of her intentions, Leo was happy that he could get a few tasks crossed off his list.

At noon, she had lunch with Tony. As she was relatively free in the afternoon, she ordered some fresh flowers to be delivered to the office. After spending a few days with Sebastian in Hart Residence, Sebastian and Lisa taught her quite a few tricks in floral arrangement, which she grew to appreciate. Since she had nothing else to do, she ordered some flowers so that she could have fun arranging them.

After arranging the flowers into three vases, she put one of them at the reception room in Tony's office, another one in the lounge, and then gave the final one to Leo as a present, which came as a pleasant surprise to him.

When she returned to Tony's office, she noticed he was wearing a grim expression despite the fact that he was engrossed in work before she left. Startled, she quickly caught on to the reason behind his mood swing. After letting out a chuckle, she explained, "I only arranged some flowers for Leo because I'm bored."

Hearing that, Tony cast his pen aside while arching his brow. "Why don't I get one on my desk?" Apparently, he was getting jealous over the smallest things.

Smiling, Myra said, "I thought you didn't like such fancy things, and that putting them in front of you would only annoy you."

After that, he beckoned at her, upon which she walked up to him obediently. Then, he reached out to loop an arm around her waist to position her on his lap. She was rendered speechless by his familiar movement. It sure seems like he's getting accustomed to doing this.

With that in mind, she decided to just kiss him on his cheek. "If you're interested, I can have the flower shop send more flowers, and I'll arrange them for you. How does that sound? I promise to make yours look the prettiest."

She knew he liked her to take the initiative. Sure enough, his grim expression melted away as he glanced at her from the corner of his eye. "Is floral arrangement your new-found hobby?"

"It's not bad. The fragrance of the flowers is comforting. Just looking at them seems to greatly improve my mood as well." Myra nodded.

Upon hearing that, he gave her a pat on the shoulder. "Go make one for me, then."

With a nod, Myra left for the reception room to order some more flowers over the phone.

Meanwhile, Tony called Leo on the company's integrated phone system. "Find me a two-storey shoplot at a quiet location. It needs to have a great view and abundant sunlight so that plants can grow. However, it doesn't have to be a spot where a lot of clients would frequent."

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Leo remained silent as he mused, Director Tony wants to set up a flower shop, but doesn't want too many clients to know the address. I guess he's doing this just to pamper Miss Myra. Although he was already used to seeing how Tony would dote on Myra, Leo couldn't help but exclaim mentally, since his past self would never have believed Tony was capable of such deeds toward a woman.

However, Leo quickly carried out Tony's orders, starting from finding a suitable shoplot. Myra knew nothing about it as she worked on arranging the flowers into another vase before bringing it out from the lounge, only to find that the atmosphere outside the lounge was different from when she left.

In fact, the atmosphere in Tony's office was slightly heavy. With a morose look, Tony held an almost hostile gaze in his narrow eyes. His features were stiff and serious when he tapped on the surface of the table with the index and middle finger of his left hand, which produced a series of light yet unnerving tapping noises. At the same time, his eyes were narrowed into slits as he stared forward dangerously.

Standing in front of him was a woman with a pale face. She was in a champagne-colored office wear that looked both formal and elegant. Her curls cascaded down her back, which gave her the allure of a mature woman. However, her body was stiff, and there was a hint of sorrow in her eyes. The woman was no stranger to Myra, as she was the director of the finance department, Ivy Jameson.

Perhaps because Tony noticed Myra's presence, he seemed less gloomy. Nonetheless, he picked up the document in front of him before throwing it onto the table in front of Ivy. In an indifferent tone, he ordered, "Redo this report. From tomorrow onward, you will start working at Springdale City."



"I won't go to Springdale City!" Having noticed Myra's presence, a hint of agony fledged across Ivy's gaze. Biting her lip, she continued to stare at the man in front of her stubbornly.

"Miss Jameson, this is the company's decision." Tony's face fell, his eyes holding a look of dismay.

"Is this the company's decision, or is it yours?" Ivy gritted her teeth before continuing, "Tony, are you transferring me because you can't change my mind? What are you afraid of? Is it because you're worried that having me around might displease her?"

All of a sudden, Ivy pointed at Myra, who was startled by her movement. Her eyes reddened as she spoke. "All I wish for is to be able to pursue you freely! Is that a crime? I didn't do anything to Miss Stark! Everybody has their freedom to love someone! I know you don't like me, but that's your problem! You can't stop me from liking you! Besides, Myra isn't a good match for you! Tony, won't you get someone else even if it's not me? Do you know what those people outside are saying about you? They say—"

"That's enough!" A chilly look enveloped his features as he glared at Ivy with his piercing eyes. Standing up, he bellowed, "Get out!"

"I won't!" Ivy finally mustered up enough courage, as she knew she would never have the chance to express her feelings again if she didn't do it now.

She had loved and waited for Tony for many years. Unlike Gemma, she would never resort to underhanded tactics, but she loved him as much as Gemma did. If it were up to her, she wished Tony would find another woman even if he didn't like her. She had no idea why he would even want someone who was a divorcee. To be honest, she didn't even get why Myra was considered better than her or any other woman.

"You were the one who was constantly providing for her! What has she ever done for you? Tony, will someone like her still be around you when you hit a low in life?" Ivy was yelling at him with a hoarse voice.

Upon hearing that, Myra clenched one of her fists. Then, she walked up to Tony while holding the vase before setting it down on the corner of his desk. After that, she began tidying up the documents in front of him which were messed up during his outburst.

"I know you've given her some of the shares of your company! On what basis does she deserve that? The shares were accumulated through generations of hard work by the Hart

Family! What has she done to deserve all that?" When Ivy witnessed what Myra was doing, she assumed Myra was just trying to make her look bad. All riled up, her face was red as she couldn't help but shout at the top of her lungs. However, nobody knew whether what she said was intended for Tony or Myra.

Tony wore a deep frown as he reached out to pull Myra into his arms, which she allowed him to. "On what basis, you ask?" With a mirthless chuckle, he answered, "On the basis that she's my fiancée, as well as the future wife of the director of this company! Would that suffice as a reason?"

Ivy was devastated by what she heard. Although she knew full well that Tony was in love with Myra, and that they would soon be married, she could still hardly accept it as the truth when she heard it from him. Staggering backward, she nearly drew blood as she dug her nails into the flesh of her palms. "Tony Hart! Don't you know what I've done for the company?!"

"Which is why you're now the finance director of our company," Tony replied without emotion.

"Finance director? Did you really think that's what I want?"

"I don't care whether that's what you want or not. All I know is that that is all the company and I can provide." Tony was wearing a stiff smile.

"That is all you can provide..." Without warning, Ivy burst into laughter until her tears rolled, staining her cheeks, which made her seem ghastly. After glancing at Myra and then at Tony, she walked up to them without hesitation before stopping in front of Tony, or rather, in front of Myra. "Miss Stark, tell me why do you like him? Just a few months ago, you were married to Sean Chase, whom you loved deeply. You even cut ties with your family in order to marry him, so why would you fall in love with Tony all of a sudden? Don't you dare make up any fancy lies to deceive me!" Ivy stared at her intently.

Upon noticing that Tony was about to speak up for herself against Ivy, Myra squeezed his hand with her own hand that he was holding, which brought a frown to his face. Then, she stated matter-of-factly, "I know you don't think I'm a good match for Tony. You even doubt my feelings for him."

As Myra spoke, Ivy glared at her as if indicating that she would make Myra pay dearly if she lied. However, Myra didn't seem to care as she wore a nonchalant smile. "I know that there

are things that you will never believe in no matter how I phrase them. And I never thought of giving you any promise or explanation. My relationship with Tony only has to do with us. If we like each other, we don't care how people perceive us. Because I like him, and I know he likes me, I will never give up on our relationship. Will you give up if you were in my shoes?"

Ivy choked on her own words upon hearing what Myra said. Begrudgingly, she glared at Tony. "I will never go to Springdale City! As I said, the fact that I like you has nothing to do with anybody else but myself! As long as you and Myra haven't married each other, I will never give up!"

"Suit yourself," Tony uttered mockingly before dialing the internal landline. "Leo, take Miss Jameson away. Her presence is unwelcomed."

Upon hearing that, Ivy's countenance shifted drastically. Soon, the door of the office was opened, and Leo entered with a blank look on his face while looking at Ivy. "Let's go."

Ivy looked hurt. Seeing that she wasn't about to leave, Leo reached out to drag her away. He held her in a tight grip, so her wrist was bruised when she cast his hand away as soon as they got out through the door.

"Ivy, why can't you just accept the fact that the director doesn't like you romantically?" Leo grabbed her hand again when he noticed she tried to barge in again.

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"Let go of me!" With abandon, Ivy seemed resolute about whatever it was that she was going to do. "Leo, you know how I feel! Sebastian already announced that their wedding will be held next month! What should I do if that happens?"

As she went on, a look of grief shrouded her features. "How could he treat me like that after I spent all those years chasing after him? Is my effort throughout the years all for naught?"

Leo didn't let go of her hand. There was a fleeting pain in his gaze when he noticed how hurt she was. Regardless, he only stated aloofly, "There never is a reason for things like this. Director Hart had always made himself clear, nor had he ever given you false hope. You

know full well that he was the one who bestowed our positions in the company to us. Not anybody could just walk in and get to this position. We only had a chance because he gave us one. Have you forgotten how he helped you when you were bullied by your cousin's family? Now that he will be getting married to Miss Stark, you should let go and give him your blessing."

"Let go and give him my blessing?" Ivy froze on the spot before her whole body began trembling. "Let go and give him my blessing... Let go and give him my blessing..." While repeating that single line, she wore a look of grief.

After spending all those years chasing after Tony, she couldn't possibly just let go and give him her blessing now. However, she also recognized that he transferred her away after she only bad-mouthed Myra a little. It was apparent that she had no place in his heart, whereas Myra managed to quickly steal all of his attention when she wasn't looking. He even disregarded their many years of friendship for Myra's sake.

"Leo, can't you help me?" She wheeled around all of a sudden to look at Leo. Before that, he already led her to a nearby pantry, and also passed her a piece of tissue.

After taking the tissue from him, she stared at him with a maniacal gaze while holding his hand. "Please help me! You have spent so many years working beside Tony, so he trusts you the most! All you need to do is pull a few tricks to drive a wedge between Tony and Myra, which will quickly grow into an irreconcilable difference. After all, they only knew each other for such a short while, so they won't be able to tolerate each other as soon as they notice each other's flaws. Then, they will part ways!"

Ivy spoke as if she'd found a way to salvage the situation. With bloodshot eyes, she held Leo in a death grip without a care in the world. "Leo, we've been friends for so many years. I'm sure you'll help me out, won't you? You're the person who Tony trusts the most, so you're the only one who can pull this off!"

While watching Ivy descend into madness, Leo pulled his lips into a thin line as a look of derision glinted in his eyes. "Huh, we've been friends for so many years... Ivy, you flatter me."

"So will you help me or not?" She bit on her lip. Although Leo did nothing to indicate his feelings for Ivy, she knew all along that he fancied her. There was once when she accidentally saw a message that he wanted to send her. However, it was still in his draft box as he never sent it.

"I won't help you." When Leo noticed the drastic shift in Ivy's countenance, he couldn't help but mock himself. There was a grimness in his eyes that looked like bottomless pits as he stared at Ivy. "Even if I neglect the fact that Director Hart truly loved Myra, I will never do something to betray him after working beside him for all these years! Ivy, you should be able to give him your blessing if you are indeed in love with him, and aren't looking to claim him as your possession."

Ivy bit on her lips so hard that she almost drew blood, but she didn't even seem to notice. Great despair, helplessness, loathsomeness, and envy quickly ate away at her from the inside, leaving her in agony.

"No! I wasn't trying to claim him for myself! You know nothing! What right does Myra have to stand beside Tony? She's a useless wimp! She must have approached him deliberately! I heard Myra was fighting with her sister over family possessions, so she must be trying to use Tony! Someone like her doesn't deserve to marry Tony! It doesn't matter if Tony marries another woman, as long as it isn't Myra! Any random woman is a far better choice than Myra! Myra—"

Slap! Ivy's head turned to the side after being slapped. Standing in front of her, Leo was wearing a morose look as the veins on his forehead pulsated. While staring at Ivy, who seemed to be distorted by rage and envy, he chided her in a hushed voice, "Ivy, wake up!"

With a hand over her face, she turned around to look at Leo in disbelief. "Leo, you slapped me... Did you just... slap me?" Her feeble voice carried with it great agony and grief.

Leo had his hand that he used to slap her clenched into a tight fist. Although he wanted to pull the woman who was feeling most aggrieved into his arms, he managed to stop himself from doing so. Softly, he apologized, "I'm sorry. I was just afraid that you might have gotten a little paranoid. Ivy, Myra doesn't need anything other than Director Hart's love to be able to be with him. As long as she has that, nothing will pose a problem between them. You shouldn't be throwing all sorts of prerequisites into the mix when it comes to relationships, or else it's no longer unconditional love."

Upon hearing what he said, Ivy was momentarily stunned before falling into great despair. She shriveled like a withering plant as she hunched over. "I shouldn't be throwing all sorts of prerequisites into the mix when it comes to relationships..." she muttered. Lifting her hands, she stared at her palms. "No wonder he never even looked my way even though I put in so much effort over the years..."

She was shrouded by despair while wearing a blank look on her face. "On the contrary, Myra could amuse him greatly with even the tiniest of gestures. He never showed that side of him to me, so Myra was the only one who has exclusive access to that side of him."

Memories of the past gradually surfaced in her mind. No matter how hard she'd tried to approach him, he was always just out of reach even when she thought she was getting so close to him. But it turned out that it wasn't because she didn't try hard enough; it was just that he didn't want to give her a chance.

To other people, her exuberant youth and her deep-rooted feelings meant nothing. She was the only one who treasured them. "I see... So I'm a total failure..." All of a sudden, she laughed until tears rolled down her cheeks while her body trembled vehemently.

While observing her vulnerable side, Leo couldn't help but step forth to hold her in his arms. He sounded sorry as he spoke in a hoarse voice. "Ivy, don't be like this. There are so many other men in this whole wide world, so Director Hart isn't the only man available. As long as you look closely, there'll be other men who'll be able to bring you joy like how Director Hart made Miss Stark happy."

"But they're not Tony Hart..." Seemingly exhausted, Ivy rested her chin on Leo's shoulder as she mumbled with a blank stare.

Leo's heart spasmed at the sight of it. Yeah, there's only one Tony Hart in the whole wide world. I might never be able to get to his level even if I spent my whole life working on my success. Despite so, I want to give her happiness.

"Ivy, can you give me a chance? I've always liked you, as much as you liked Director Hart. I would like to make you happy so that you can live a cheerful and carefree life. Is that alright?" Speaking gently, he put both of his hands on her shoulder to put some distance between them before staring into her eyes.

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With an earnest gaze that indicated to Ivy his deep love and gentle desire to protect her, Leo continued to stare at her while waiting in trepidation.

Hearing his sudden confession, Ivy was stunned. Although she knew early on that he fancied her, she always feigned ignorance because she didn't want to complicate things.

She was swayed by his sudden confession, but chose to immediately push him away in panic while biting her lip. "Leo, the man I like is Tony. Even though he doesn't like me, I won't give up before he gets married." Her final sentence sounded rigid, either because she really refused to give up or she was trying to turn Leo down.

As soon as Leo heard that, his gaze dimmed. A frown appeared as quickly as it disappeared before he smiled at her. "I'm at my wits' end if you're not going to change your mind even after I did that." With that, he switched to a more serious demeanor. "Ivy, even if you're unwilling to give up on Director Hart, you shouldn't lay a finger on Miss Stark, or else..." Or else, even I will not be able to save you.

After biting on her lip, Ivy replied, "I know that. I was only venting my frustrations just now." She glanced at Leo, only to notice the deep gaze he held. Somehow, she panicked as her heart spasmed all of a sudden, which prompted her to walk toward the entrance. "But it doesn't mean I'll give up!" When she reached the entrance, she stopped in her tracks to deliver that sentence resolutely.

When Leo stared at the door that slammed shut abruptly, a bitter smile crept onto his face. So it didn't work after all. She's such a proud woman, so she wouldn't notice just how long I've been waiting for her while staying by her side.

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Back in the office, Myra looked at Tony, who was frowning. Sighing, she reached out to smooth out the crease between his brows. "Stop frowning. You look glum."

When he turned to look at her, his features smoothed out as he reached out to hold her hand before putting it by his lips to give it a kiss. While staring at her, he asked, "Aren't you jealous or angry at all?" He figured any woman would be angry after being harassed by Ivy.

Although Myra was indeed a little annoyed by Ivy's shenanigans, she didn't bear a grudge against Ivy. After some thought, she asked, "Are you transferring Miss Jameson to the branch company from headquarters?"

"Yeah." Tony gave a curt and nonchalant reply.

Myra nodded. "I see... No wonder she was so hostile toward me." Then, she glanced at the man before her. "Why did you transfer her when you approve of her abilities as the finance director? Isn't it a waste of her talents to have her work in the branch company?" she questioned. No woman who has a shred of dignity would ever tolerate such treatment.

Speechless, he stared at the woman in front of him before pinching her on the waist abruptly. "Why do you think I did all that?"

Shocked by the sudden sting, she glared at him. "Perhaps she bad-mouthed me in front of you again?"

Tony furrowed his brows together once again, obviously recalling the harsh words that Ivy spouted in front of him.

But Myra merely shrugged indifferently. "You'll never ditch me because of what she said, so she can run her mouth all she wants. She's feeling vexed by her circumstances, so you just need to let her vent. Since she's a smart woman, she'll get around it soon enough."

Unlike Kris, Gemma, or a lot of other women, Ivy was intelligent. Even though she would run her mouth, Myra believed that she wasn't as vicious as she seemed. Sometimes, we women are prone to stubbornness and overthinking, just like when I was with Sean. Regardless of everything, she ended up falling out of love with Sean, and life went on. At times, she even thought her past self was pretty laughable. Once Ivy comes to that same realization, she'll be able to start over with her life as well.

"You sure know her well." Tony gave her a side glance, obviously unhappy that she wasn't even jealous.

With a smile, she said, "I was just spouting nonsense. To be honest, I just don't want you to feel like your investment in the person who you trained over the years to be your right-hand man was a waste."

Startled, Tony let out a chuckle before pulling her into an embrace. "What should I say?" Then, he planted a kiss on the top of her head. "If she gives you any trouble—"

"She won't." She cut him off with certainty before he could finish his words.

"How can you be so confident?" While staring into her eyes, he arched his brow.



"I can sense that's just how she is," Myra said after some thought. "You've already made yourself clear, so someone as proud as her won't come to me again. It would equate to admitting that she had failed in her endeavors."

Tony rubbed her head lovingly. While he didn't usually do that, he did it naturally this time.

Then, Myra tucked herself closer to him. "Don't be angry. Go back to work. Old Master Sebastian just sent me a text, telling us to come home for dinner earlier." After that, she glanced at the vase of flowers that she brought over not long ago. "This is the prettiest one."

Tony couldn't help but let out a chuckle before sending her off to get some rest.

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There wasn't a lot to do. When Tony was finally done, it was also almost time to clock off work. Just when they were about to leave, Leo came knocking on their door with a morose look on his face. "Mr. Hart, the front desk called to inform you that President Stark is here."

When Myra heard him, she was startled for a moment before her face fell. On the contrary, Tony betrayed no emotion as he waved at Leo. "Tell him I'm not going to meet him."

Are you sure you're going to be that direct? Leo was surprised by Tony's response. However, he quickly came to realize it was because both Tony and Myra were fed up with the falsehoods that they had to put up with Cameron. Therefore, Leo left the office. Soon, Tony's phone rang, but he didn't pick up the call. Nonetheless, the call kept on coming, as if the caller would keep on calling if Tony wasn't going to pick up.

"Let me answer it." Myra reached out to fish for his phone, only for Tony to grasp and answer it before she could. "What's the matter?" He sounded nonchalant, his emotions unreadable.

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Cameron was on the verge of a meltdown this entire day. Out of the blue, Green Palms Project suffered a financial deficit which kicked up some dust in Stark Group. Other than that, it also brought up the minor issues that the Starks used to be able to cover up. The other companies reached out to help only because they didn't want to offend the Waltons, since the latter were also involved. However, it wasn't enough to solve the problem.

Cameron already brazenly gave the Waltons a call, which got him mocked. Flushing due to anger, he mentally cursed Rachel and Kris again. For lack of a better option, he could only give Myra a call, but it was apparent that Myra had no intention to pick up his call.

After some thought, he called Tony, assuming that Tony wouldn't be giving him a hard time since he was Myra's father. As his mind raced, he heard Tony's voice. Quickly suppressing his panic and sour mood, he begged humbly, "Tony, there's something that I would like to speak with you about."

"What's the matter?" Tony glanced at Myra to calm her down as he continued to deal with Cameron over the phone casually.

"I believe I have spoken to you last time about Green Palms Project." Cameron took a deep breath after that. After all, he still bore in mind the humiliation he suffered in front of them. Yet, he still had to defer to them during such a crucial moment. "Stark Group is in a complete mess now. If you won't help us, the company that Myra's mother built will be dealt a huge blow that it might never recover from."