The screeching noises caused by the friction between the tires and the ground had been ear-piercing, but Alex did not send any of his men after him.

Here on this land, anyone who was remotely of status had tortured Jane with the full intention of killing her, and Jane did not even say anything to protect the eighteen year-old young woman from earlier. However, she tried everything she could to protect the elderly man just now, and that was enough proof that the old man in his seventies did no harm to Jane.

Alex looked Jane in the eyes and pulled her back into his arms. "He has helped you before, has he?"

Jane sneered. "No one has helped me here in White Ocean City, Alex Poole. Taking the eighteen-year-old young lady from earlier as an example, it's true that she had given me a piece of bread before, but it was nothing but their leftovers from a few days ago. Don't read too deeply into it. No one has treated me with kindness. I

t. No one has treated me with kindness. I simply think that if my death is inevitable, then why drag another innocent down with me?" She paused for a moment and lowered her head, and her tone became much calmer than earlier. "I saw that you intended on burying those people who had tortured me for two nights and a day alive, but I don't understand why. If I'm going to die anyways, at least let me die knowing what's going on, will you?"

She paused again before chuckling sarcastically at herself. "Whatever. Why a m I even saying this? You wouldn't agree t o what I say anyways. Do whatever you want with me. It's all whatever."

With that said, Jane turned away and refused to look at Alex, her eyes even struggling to focus as she did.

Alex held onto her even tighter. "How can I make you believe what I'm saying, Jane? Twenty days ago, when I was leaving Bay County, I was really hoping that you and Noah would live happily ever after. I was really going to hand over all of my

really going to hand over all of my
business to Sebastian and stay by your
family of three for the rest of my life. The
only thing I failed to think of was that
Lily would hurt you. It's my mistake,
Jane. It's my mistake and I've blamed
myself ten thousand times for it. Because
of my carelessness, you have suffered so
much and it has even caused the man you
loved most to die. Allow me to apologize t
o you, okay, Jane?" Alex tried to convince
Jane painstakingly.

She looked at him. "You are spending all this effort in telling me these things simply to make your wife Lily happy."

"..." Just as Alex was struggling to find a way to explain himself to Jane, Garrett suddenly called out to him from behind.

"Master Alex, you should come see this."

Alex was still holding onto Jane at the time. He could not bring himself to let go, under the impression that she was too weak to stand on her own without him holding her. He was enraged the moment Garrett called for him and turned to stare daggers at the man. "What's so

daggers at the man. "What's so important that you can't make the call??"

"Master, it's best that you come see this," Garrett insisted.

Alex could only set Jane back down and went toward Garrett alone. "You have a death wish!" he said.

Garrett whispered into Alex's ear and Alex suddenly came to realize something. "Thanks!" he said to Garrett formally. He then turned and went back to Jane and just as he had his arms raised, ready to pick Jane back up, his phone rang out of the blue.

He took it out and answered impatiently, "Hello, who's calling??"

A woman's voice came through the other side of the line distinctly. "Alex, I am calling to ask if you have found Jane. If you haven't, you shouldn't even come back! If you dare to come back, I'm going to kill you!"

Jane beamed at the voice as tears started rolling down her cheeks. Her lips were quivering as she blurted out, "Sa--

calling to ask if you have found Jane. It you haven't, you shouldn't even come back! If you dare to come back, I'm going o kill you!"

Jane beamed at the voice as tears started rolling down her cheeks. Her lips were quivering as she blurted out, "Sa-- Sabrina?"

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GET IT

Sabrina, who was on the other end of the line, was resting for her pregnancy at home. She had been two months pregnant by then. The need to take care of Zayn and Aino throughout the years she had been on a run had caused Sabrina to work any job that came her way, to the point where she would not turn down the most exhausting and difficult work that the men at the construction site refused t o take. During the time when she had just given birth to Aino, she worked in the mud to fix the roads in heavy rain. She did not sleep for a day and a night, and for that, she earned an overtime salary of two thousand dollars. The money was enough to buy medicine for Zayn and a month's worth of baby formula for Aino.

Sabrina was extremely happy at the time. When she arrived home, Zayn was so worried for her that his eyes were reddened from the urge to cry.

"Sabbie! Keep this up and you will never b e able to give birth to another child again! "he scolded her furiously. "he scolded her furiously.

Sabrina did not care. "That's fine, Zayn. I don't intend on getting married anyways, let alone have another child with a different man. Why would I need to give birth to another child? It's okay."

She had not cared about it six years ago, but six years later, her relationship with Sebastian had blossomed with such certainty that the two tried every possible way to have another child. However, despite their efforts for over a year, Sabrina had not succeeded in getting pregnant.

Both Sabrina and Sebastian knew distinctly that the reason behind it was how damaged Sabrina's body was.

Sebastian would always comfort her, saying, "It's okay if you don't get pregnant. We already have Aino anyways."

Neither had expected for her to get pregnant after a year and a half.

The doctor had emphasized to Sabrina at

their first visit to the hospital, "Your body is weak and will struggle to keep the babies. You must be cautious if you wish to keep them. No extreme sport activities or working overtime. Consume your meals on time and make sure that your diet consists of nutritious ingredients. Be careful not to be exposed to temperatures that are too cold or too hot, and do not get too tired or angry."

All the advice had Sabrina snorting in frustration, but then the doctor added, "I f you don't have much to do, it would be best for you to stay in bed for the first five months of your pregnancy; it would be ideal for the fetuses."

Because of the doctor's advice, Sebastian would get Sabrina to lay down on the bed whenever there was a chance. On top of that, he even got Aino to stay by her side to keep Sabrina happy.

Indeed, everything was going smoothly in Sabrina's life lately. She worked mostly from home. Ruth, the assistant that she had trained personally, worked hard and had become independent. Apart from that Sabrina's mother also came to visit.

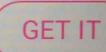
had become independent. Apart from that, Sabrina's mother also came to visit very often, bringing different food for Sabrina every day. Because of that, Sabrina had gained weight and grown lazier. She started sleeping a lot, and often struggled to wake up, so much so that she had forgotten to follow up on the matter concerning Jane. It was also because of the fact that Jane had not called her for a long period of time and Sabrina did not have Jane's contact in hand.

It was not because she was a bad friend to Jane.

Sebastian about twenty days ago to hand over all business to Sebastian so that he could go back to the northeastern region t o watch Jane in silence. In Sabrina's mind, she felt that it must be a sign that Jane was doing well. At the very least, she had found true love and she had Alex watching out for her behind her back, so i t was unlikely for her to encounter any sort of danger. However, her bubble had been shattered just moments ago when

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been shattered just moments ago when
she received a call from Alex's
subordinate, Garrett.

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Garrett was speaking rather quickly with only a few words to conclude the situation. "Mrs. Ford, I don't have much time to explain, all I can say is that Ms. Sheen isn't doing so well. Master Alex is trying to take her back. She can't keep straying out there any longer, but Ms. Sheen isn't willing to follow Master Alex home, mainly because of how hurt she was from his actions. Mrs. Ford, could you please help to speak to Ms. Sheen? Tell her that this is all for her own good. She is already five months pregnant..."

He blurted it all out within a minute, but Sabrina managed to catch it all because she was such a skilled person.

"Okay. I understand. I'll call them right now," she said without hesitation. After hanging up, she did not waste another instant to call Alex immediately.

For the past three to four months, Alex had kept searching for Jane. Sabrina could sense his feelings and guilt. There

was a time when Sabrina wanted to explain it to Jane, but then she thought about the fact that Jane had found her true love, and gave up on saying anything in the end.

However, at that very moment, Sabrina had to convince Jane to follow Alex home for Jane's sake. Through the phone, Sabrina could hear Jane crying and was soon in tears herself.

"Jane..."

"Sabrina, I'm sorry. I had money a while ago, and I wanted to pay you back. But I was thinking that I could do so after I settled down. Once business at the restaurant Noah and I opened had stabilized, I was going to tell you the good news and pay you back your money. But I've never imagined that..." Jane explained in tears.

"Jane, I can tell that you are upset. Tell m e what happened. Believe me, I can help. N o matter what happens, I can help you, Jane!" Sabrina said gently.

Jane's voice was becoming increasingly

hoarse, just like a long-lost child who had just run into her parents. She was no longer scared or numb.

"Sabrina, I..." she said helplessly, "My lover... My lover is dead."

"..." Sabrina could not say a word as sharp pain pierced through her heart.

After a pause, she anchored herself to comfort Jane, "What happened? How did Noah die?"

"It was Alex Poole!" Jane gritted out in rage. "This demon and his fiancée worked together to kill my lover!"

"Don't cry, Jane. Tell me slowly. What's going on?"

Jane continued to explain everything that had happened during that period of time t o Sabrina, as though she was making accusations at an unforgivable sinner.

"Damn that Lily Parker!" Sabrina exploded in fury at Jane's words. "She better not ever show up in front of me, or I'm going to stab her to death!

"Alex, too! That demon!" Jane sobbed.

"Alex, too! That demon!" Jane sobbed.

"..." Sabrina hesitated for a split second before sighing, "Jane, I... I must tell you something, Alex... He regrets his actions the day after chasing you out, and he threw Lily Parker out the next day."

Jane froze. "Wh--What did you say?"

"Alex broke up with Lily the day after you left. Lily found people to beat her up in rage out of being abandoned by Alex. She felt humiliated. After that, Yvonne, Ruth and I had beaten Lily up because of what she did. Truth is, starting from the day after you left, Alex had been looking for you, but he simply couldn't find you. The first time you were found, you were set free by one of Alex's subordinates and so the two of you did not cross paths. When Alex found you the second time, you had already found a man you loved. He couldn't bring himself to destroy the happiness you two had found and came back alone. Jane... Everything I said is real. Alex has done nothing but look for you for over three months. He isn't there t o ruin you. The reason he was looking for un has always been to bring you back

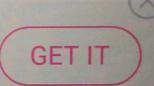
you for over three months. He isn't there to ruin you. The reason he was looking for you has always been to bring you back.

Jane, come... Come back with Alex. You can't keep suffering out there anymore."

Sabrina tried her best to convince Jane.

Jane lifted her gaze, with tears blurring her vision, and looked at Alex. "Are... Are you really not here to kill me?"

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Alex was visibly relieved. "Of course not, Jane."

Just like a twenty-year-old young man who had just gotten his first crush, he was so happy that he showed her a big grin, showing his yellow teeth. He had not brushed his teeth for days. He looked a bit gross and smelled.

"Jane, come home with me. Look at you, you are five-months pregnant now and your belly is only going to grow bigger. Come home with me and be my queen. I will take care of you from now on." Alex looked at Jane in an expression as though he was trying to impress her. He did not even bother to ask whether Huron and Lenny had done anything to her. It did not matter. Even if Jane had been tainted b y those men, it did not matter. He did not ask because he did not want her to get hurt again. He simply wrapped his arms around Jane and studied her swollen belly. He felt extremely happy. He was going to have a child. From then on, he was going to become a father, just like Sebastian. Would his child be a little girl a

Sebastian. Would his child be a little girl a s witty and willful like Aino, who would dare to hit even her own father?

Completely immersed in his fantasy, Alex muttered, "Jane, let's go home..."

However, Jane pushed him away with determination.

"Jane..."

She simply stared at him blankly. "What about...my mom?"

Alex immediately smiled and said, "Jane, I've already sent someone to pick Noah's mother up. She will be here soon. I promise I will admit her to the finest retirement house in the future. We will take care of her for the rest of her life."

"Oh..." Jane murmured carelessly. After a brief moment of silence, she asked another question in a robotic tone, "You are really not here to kill me or toy with m e, just like Sabrina said?"

"Jane, I'm human. You have been with me for seven years. Have you ever seen me hurt ordinary people? I will never treat hurt ordinary people? I will never treat people who have nothing to do with me cruelly, not to mention you, who has stayed by my side for almost eight years."

11 11

"Jane, your man isn't blood-thirsty or perverted, so I'm not toying with you. Everything that happened in the past two weeks has been Lily's schemes."

Jane's head bowed a little lower. "So you want to take me back and live happily ever after?"

"Of course! I will only marry you in my life. You won't fit into a wedding dress during your pregnancy, but once you give birth, we are going to have the wedding of the century. I will make you the happiest bride on earth. The love you will receive from your husband from now on will not be any lesser than what Sebastian is giving Sabrina."

Jane smiled. The way the smile appeared o n her pale little face had sent Alex's heart into excruciating pain.

After she finished smiling she said in a

After she finished smiling, she said in a hoarse voice, "I guess I'm luckier than Sabrina. She was found by Sebastian after running for six years, and it only took three months for you to find me. Before running away, I couldn't manage to go from being your pet to becoming your wife after being with you for seven years, but I'm going to become your wife after running for three months and being found by you? Alex, is this... Are you giving me the carrot after you give me the stick?"

11 11

"You were the one who chased me out. It's you who has caused me to suffer so much. My lover died because of you. Are we supposed to just let all that go, just like that? Alex, you're human, but so am I. I've said so before, I've made up my mind the day you chased me out from your place without saying anything. I will never go back with you."

"You won't forgive me, Jane?"

"Would you? Would you have forgiven me? Let's say I cheated on you and stole all

"You won't forgive me, Jane?"

"Would you? Would you have forgiven me? Let's say I cheated on you and stole all your money. Once I got bored of that man and suffered the consequences, I then came back to you and said Alex, come home with me, I will be a good wife to you from now on."

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