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"Yeah. He kept himself locked up in his room and rarely ate anything when he first got here, so we were really worried about him. But then, all of that changed the moment you arrived today!" Mrs. Hudson explained with a chuckle.

Sasha froze when she heard that.

He did what? Oh, right, how could I forget? He came all the way here precisely because he wanted to run away from the world! I told him I wasn't afraid of him and swore to myself that I wouldn't rub salt into his wounds, so how could I let him return to that cruel, hostile world?

"Yeah. We had a little fight, but we're all good now."

"See? I knew it! Either way, I'm glad you two managed to work things out. He looks like a really great guy, and you have no idea how much he missed you during your absence!" Mrs. Hudson said what came to mind.

If Sebastian really did lock himself in the room without eating nor drinking, how would she know that he's missing me?

Noticing the strange look that Sasha was giving her, Mrs. Hudson explained, "He once saw me giving my husband a back massage. After spacing out for a bit, he said his ex-wife had been really nice to him too. That's you, isn't it?"

Sasha froze.

Sebastian told them I was really nice to him? I've never heard him say that to me before... Wait, does that mean he acknowledges everything I've done for him in the past? I mean, I never gave him back massages, but I did write him letters for a good ten years! I've dedicated my all into loving him and protecting him since I was eighteen, so I guess I really have been very nice to him!

Sasha had a sweet smile on her face throughout the rest of the morning.

After lunch, she sat by the front door and waited for their return. It wasn't long before a familiar-looking black Bentley began driving slowly toward her.

The kids had spotted her from afar and stuck their heads out the car window, waving happily as they shouted, "We're back, Mommy!"

Sasha smiled back at them in response.

"Yes, I see you! Come on, show Mommy what you bought!"

It was still difficult for her to walk, but she was so happy to see them that she steadied herself with the doorframe and limped out of the house anyway.

The car gradually came to a halt on the lawn outside the house, and Sebastian quickly ran over to hold her steady.

"Why'd you come out by yourself like that? Do you know how dangerous that is?"

The sight of him reminded Sasha of their passionate sex earlier that day, and she found herself burning bright red instantly.

"I...I'm fine... I should try walking more during the recovery phase to speed it up. So, what did you guys buy? Hey, go carry Vivi! She's going to climb out the window if you don't!" she mumbled while giving him a gentle nudge.

Sebastian had no choice but to let go of her and carry Vivian out of the car.

"Look, Mommy! We bought so many things today!"

Vivian came running toward her with a bag full of stuff the moment Sebastian set her down on the ground.

Afraid that she would trip and fall over, Sasha quickly knelt down to embrace her as she asked, "Yeah? What did you buy?"

"It's for the bath, Mommy! Look, we bought these huge towels too!"

"Wow, that's a lot of stuff!"

"Yeah! There's one for each of us! Oh, and Daddy also bought bathtubs, one each for all of us too! They're in the trunk!"

"Look, Mommy! I've got us all a pair of slippers each! I picked them myself too!"

"Don't forget me, Mommy! Look, I bought you this rug! It's big enough to cover the whole room, so you won't have to worry about falling down again!" Ian

chimed in as well, but what he said made her feel a little awkward from being exposed.

Sasha was about to shoot him a glare when she noticed him waving at a truck heading toward them.

Oh, god... What could it be this time?

Sasha arched an eyebrow at Sebastian and asked, "Hey, Sebastian! What is it you bought that needs to be delivered in a truck?"

"Mattresses. Don't you think the beds in this house are horrible?"

He spun around and replied with a smile so bright that Sasha found herself spacing out for a bit.

Oh, my god! That's the first time I've seen him smiling so brightly!

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The truck then pulled up outside the house, and the men carried several mattresses into the bedrooms under Sebastian's instructions.

Naturally, Mrs. Hudson and the farmer were delighted to see that.

"Isn't it a waste of money to buy all this if you won't be staying here for long, Mr. Hayes?"

"It's fine," Sebastian said and didn't bother to explain himself any further.

Having regained her composure upon hearing that, Sasha ran up to them and said, "Don't worry, ma'am! We'll be staying here for quite a while, and we'll also be coming back pretty often!"

"Really?"

"Yeah, so look after these for us, okay? That way, we'd be able to use them whenever we come back!" she said while pointing at the mattresses in the bedrooms.

Mrs. Hudson agreed to it immediately.

Unbeknownst to them, a faint smile formed on Sebastian's face as he continued moving the stuff into the house.

She's right, I really don't feel like leaving this place... It's true that I came here a few days ago as a means of escape. Now that they're here with me, all I want is to stay here with them. Life in the countryside is a lot more relaxing compared to that in the city. I don't have to worry about work all the time, and I get to stay away from the hustle and bustle in the city. It's like I've come to a whole new world where I can be a different person and just spend time with my family.

Sebastian spent the rest of the afternoon redecorating the house while the kids went off to play with the children in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. Hudson got busy with their work on the farm, leaving Sebastian and Sasha the only ones in the house.

"Are you...going to use all this stuff you bought?"

Sebastian was installing a mosquito net on the kids' beds when he heard that. He turned around and saw Sasha unpacking the daily necessities he had bought.

Why won't I be using it? Does she see me as some spoilt rich guy who's allergic to tap water or something?

"Huh? What do you mean? This stuff is all I can afford to use from now on."

Sasha looked up at him in confusion. "What? Why?"

"Because I'm jobless now, remember? Without a source of income, I'll have to be a little more thrifty!" Sebastian replied with a shrug.

Sasha was so shocked by what he said that she sat there staring at him for a few minutes in silence.

Sebastian needs to be thrifty? Did I hear that right? I know he's lost his job, but he's still the heir to the Hayes family, isn't he? How could he possibly have no income? Besides, he's been the president of Hayes Corporation for so many years now! Shouldn't he have a huge amount of money saved up or something?

Unable to contain herself, Sasha blurted out, "What happened to your money, then? Where did it all go?"

"What money? All of my cards have been canceled after I resigned. For your information, all the money I spend are debited directly from the company's funds, so I'm broke now."

My god, what the hell is with this guy? I've never heard of such nonsense all my life! If what he says is true, then what would presidents of companies do once they retire?

That thought gave Sasha a really bad feeling in her gut.

"How much do you have right now?"

"I told you, I'm broke."

"Not even a single penny?"

"Okay, not that broke."

Phew... At least he isn't completely penniless!

Sasha patted herself on the chest and let out a sigh of relief. "Okay, that's good... As long as you..."

"I still have two credit cards with me, and they have a monthly quota of five million each. I made the purchases earlier with one of them, but... If we can't afford to pay the installments on the 5th of every month..."

"Give it to me! You're not allowed to use those credit cards anymore! Starting today, you will ask me for money when you need it!" Sasha shouted act him with a trembling voice.

Five million! My goodness! Does this b*stard have any idea how long it'd take me to make that amount of money?

After confiscating his credit cards, Sasha pulled out her phone and transferred two hundred thousand into his account.

"Don't waste this money, got it?"

"Got it, Darling!"

Having received the money, Sebastian not only addressed her affectionately, but also bent down and gave her a kiss.

Wait... Why does this feel like I've just gotten myself a gigolo?

They were finally done unpacking and tidying up the house in the evening. While waiting for Sebastian to bring the kids home for dinner, Sasha got a call from Sabrina.

"Well? When will you two be coming back?" Sabrina asked.

"I'm sorry, Sabrina, but I think we won't be going back any time soon," Sasha replied honestly.

Sabrina's voice exploded on the phone the moment she heard that. "What? Are you crazy? Do you even remember why you're there? You're there on a search for Sebastian, not on vacation! What do you mean you're not coming back?"

