

Chapter 181

Lucas was lost for words for a while, and he looked a little helpless.

He then turned to look at Jessica's cold face and changed the topic. "I'll drive you back."

"Don't worry. I'll take a taxi. It will be here in five minutes."

Jessica gave Lucas no excuse to keep her. "Mr. Thomas, we have divorced, but your sister still hates my guts. She has been making trouble for me time and time again. I am not good-tempered. I will deal with those who schemed against me, so I don't need your oral support."

Lucas looked at Jessica as she turned around, and his golden eyes darkened. "Jessica," said Lucas.

Hearing Lucas' voice, Jessica stopped, but she did not look back.

She didn't lie to Lucas. She had called for a taxi, and it was almost here.

"Do you feel nothing for me now?"

Jessica was stunned for a moment. She didn't expect Lucas, who had always been cold – hearted, would ask such a question.

Jessica turned to look at him, her eyes dim in the night. "We're divorced."

Lucas and Jessica were separated by a few meters. In the dim light, Lucas could see a faint sorrow in Jessica's eyes.

Suddenly, Jessica's phone rang. She looked down at her phone. The call was from the driver.

She answered the phone as she walked out of the park. "Hello."

"Miss Hall? I'm at the entrance of Griffith Park. Where are you now?"

"Okay, I'll be right there."

Jessica hung up the phone and walked toward the park entrance.

Jessica fastened her steps.

However, she had only taken a few steps when her hand holding the phone was suddenly pulled by the person behind her. Jessica subconsciously lost the grip of her bag.

Turning around, Jessica discovered that it was Lucas.

She frowned. "Lucas, what on earth do you want?"

"Jessica, you've had feelings for me for so many years. Can you really say that you don't love me any more?"

Lucas still held her wrist, not letting her go.

When Jessica heard Lucas' words, she lost her calmness and suddenly became a little agitated.

She looked at Lucas fiercely and said, "You are right. Loving someone can be a habit hard to get rid of. I can't control my feelings, but I can control my behavior."

"What if I tell you I love you, too, Jessica?"

Jessica had never imagined that one day Lucas would confess his love to her.

They had been divorced for almost a year, but Lucas suddenly told Jessica that he loved her.

Did Lucas think he was acting in a TV drama?

Jessica quickly recovered from her shock. She forcefully broke free from his grip, took her bag on the ground, and ran without looking back.

Soon, Jessica saw the taxi she had called for.

Jessica opened the door and got into the car as if she was grabbing her last hope. "Sir, please start the car now. Thank you."

Then Jessica turned to look outside the window. Lucas was trying to catch up, but he couldn't.

Jessica felt that it was funny.

She had divorced Lucas for a year, and he suddenly confessed his love to her.

What a joke.

But why did she feel a little melancholy about such a ridiculous thing?

Fifteen minutes later, the car stopped in front of her apartment.

Jessica thanked the driver and pushed open the car door.

Just as she entered the elevator, the phone in her bag rang.

Jessica paused for a moment. She wiped the corner of her eyes and answered Hannah's call. "I'm home."

"Are you alright, Jess?"

Hannah was still in the bar. It was noisy, so she couldn't hear Jessica's voice. Since Jessica was taken away by Lucas, Hannah had been worried.

"What can possibly happen to me?"

The elevator door opened.

Hannah snorted. "I'm afraid that bastard Lucas will attack you."

Jessica smiled, "Although Lucas is a jerk, he won't hit a woman."

"That's good." Hannah sounded relieved.

For a moment, Jessica wanted to tell Hannah that Lucas had just confessed his love to her. But it felt too unreal for her. She was not sure if she was drunk.

Then Jessica thought of Olivia, and her flipping heart cooled down again.

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Jessica returned home and washed up. Then she lay in bed.

What Lucas' said tonight and before they got divorced constantly appeared in Jessica's mind, intertwined,

She remembered a young boy's shirt blown by the wind eleven years ago when she got unconscious.

It suddenly occurred to Jessica that she might not have noticed Lucas over and over again, or even fallen in love with him, had Lucas not been the person who saved her that day.

But there was no if. During those three years, Jessica always remembered that day when she wanted to give up

She always believed that Lucas was a gentle person despite his cruel face.

However, she ended up divorcing Lucas before Lucas revealed his tender heart to her. They had been divorced for a year, but Jessica suddenly knew that Lucas loved her.

Jessica flipped over on the bed, her tears streaming down uncontrollably. She was never a sentimental person and had hardly cried since her childhood. Jessica didn't even cry when she divorced Lucas.

During their three-year marriage, Lucas' terrible attitude made Jessica doubt herself. Jessica couldn't figure out what she had done wrong, or where she could improve.

She couldn't figure out why Lucas, who used to be warm and kind, had shown her all his indifference and cruelty in those three years.

When Lucas expressed his love tonight, Jessica felt surprised that Lucas would one day respond to her affection for him.

The next morning, Jessica rubbed her forehead, a little tired.

After a night's rest, she restored her strength and got soberer.

Her last night's fragility was only temporary. Jessica got up and pulled open the curtains, facing the soft sunlight outside the window.

Jessica understood that one confession couldn't fix the relationship between her and Lucas.

The obstacles of Olivia, Justin, and the Thomas family still existed.

Lucas' apathy was not something that could be amended just by an apology. Besides, the spoiled girl Olivia was still going against Jessica.

Jessica arrived at the company and turned on her computer to check the email.

Recently, Jessica had a few projects on her hands. When they were completed, the LA branch of the Hall Group would earn a few hundred million.

“Miss Hall.”

Hearing the knock on the door, Jessica looked up and rubbed her neck. “Come in, Wendy.”

Hearing her permission, Wendy walked in. She looked at Jessica and placed the documents in her hands on the table. “Miss Hall, I want to talk to you about the purchase of the Sandoval Group. At present, we have acquired 40% of their shares, holding the same percentage of shares as the Davison Group. Do you want to discuss this with Mr. Davison before the final acquisition?”

Wendy expressed her intention quite subtly. As long as Terry gave Jessica one percent of the shares, Jessica could become a major shareholder of the Sandoval Group.

Jessica understood what Wendy meant. Although one percent of the shares didn’t mean much to the Davison family, it represented their attitude,

Jessica wasn’t too willing to ask for help from Terry. It was her own business, after all.

What’s more, if Terry helped, she owed him another big favor.

Jessica thought about it and asked, “Then who has the remaining 20% of the shares?”

Wendy was stunned. She pursed her lips and remained silent for a while. Then, she said, “The Thomas Group”

Jessica instantly understood why Wendy wanted her to ask for Terry’s help.

Jessica tapped on the table with her finger and then looked up at Wendy. “Okay, I’ll think about it. You can go back to work now.”

“Yes, Miss Hall.” Wendy nodded and left Jessica’s office.

Jessica didn’t think for too long. She had just run away from Lucas a little awkwardly yesterday. It was n’t wise to discuss with him today about purchasing the Sandoval Group shares.

She decided to negotiate the cooperation with the Davison Group. It was not necessary to look for Terry. After all, Terry was not the CEO of the Davison Group yet.

Without the consideration of any particular relationship, Jessica could offer five times the price to purchase that one percent.

After making up her mind, Jessica picked up her backpack and left the office.

She had just walked out of the company when she saw Lucas standing by the car.

She slowed down her pace, hesitated for a moment, and walked over.

“Who is Mr. Thomas looking for?” A polite smile appeared on Jessica’s face.

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"I'm here for you." Lucas immediately frowned. He didn't like it when Jessica talked to him in such a polite manner.

"I'm sorry. I still have something to do today. Excuse me." Jessica smiled and was about to leave.

"Then I'll give you a lift." Lucas raised his hand to check the time on his watch and then pointed to the car next to him

Jessica raised her eyebrows and said casually, "No need. It's out of your way."

"You didn't even tell me where you were going. How do you know I wasn't on the way?" Lucas' low and charming voice carried a hint of grievance.

Jessica felt a little helpless. Couldn't Lucas see that she was refusing him?

Jessica said with a smile, "I'll repeat, there's no need. Mr. Thomas, aren't you busy? Don't you need to spend time running the Thomas Group?"

Lucas' eyes darkened. He was just about to say something when Wendy walked out of the company and came to Jessica.

Wendy glanced at Lucas, then turned her head and hurriedly said to Jessica, "Miss Hall, I just received a call. We have purchased 10% of the Sandoval Group's shares."

Jessica raised her eyebrow. "So, I'll have to invite Mr. Davison to dinner again?"

"No, Miss Hall," Wendy whispered to Jessica, "It's Mr. Thomas who agreed to sell us 10% of his shares."

Jessica sighed and Wendy quickly found an excuse to leave.

Lucas gently curled his lips into a smile.

He handed the document in his hand to Jessica.

Only then did Jessica open the equity transfer agreement in her hand. It had Lucas' signature on it.

She looked up at Lucas, "Why would Mr. Thomas sell the shares of the Sandoval Group to me?"

Lucas frowned slightly. He knew that perhaps Jessica never believed he would treat her well.

"You said yesterday that you wouldn't let go of the person who set you up."

Jessica looked down at the signature, a little dazed.

She remembered Olivia and the time when she and Lucas just got a divorce.

Jessica returned to her senses. Her eyes dimmed as she put away the agreement and looked up at Lucas. "Thank you, Mr. Thomas. I will ask Wendy to make the payment to the Thomas Group on time."

"No need. It's a contract of gift." Lucas stood next to Jessica and smelled the familiar perfume.

Jessica's likes and dislikes seldom changed. She even still wore the same perfume as before.

“Why are you giving me a gift? What is your purpose?” The smile on Jessica’s face faded as she thought of Olivia

She thought Lucas might be trying to talk her into letting Olivia off with the ten percent of shares.

In fact, Jessica wouldn’t do anything to Olivia.

After all, the Thomas Group and the Hall Group were both among the wealthiest and most famous companies in LA. There might still be a lot of cooperation between them later on,

Jessica wouldn’t hinder the future business development just for personal grudges.

But Lucas acted so generously just to protect Olivia, which upset Jessica a little.

She also didn’t know why, though.

They had divorced each other, and Jessica knew that Lucas cared more about the Thomas Group than her.

“Don’t think too much about it. You don’t owe me anything.” Lucas looked down into Jessica’s eyes, finding that he could read a few of Jessica’s emotions through her eyes.

He continued, “If I have to say why... I just hope you can fulfill your intention more smoothly.”

“Mr. Thomas, since you know what I want, aren’t you afraid that I will cause trouble for your sister?” Jessica let out a cold snort.

“I won’t stop you no matter what you want to do to her. I’ve been busy with work all these years, and Olivia is spoiled. I can’t let her continue like this.” Lucas paused and then said, “I am going to send her to Europe. There is also a branch office there. She’ll start from being an ordinary employee.”

Jessica raised her head in surprise and looked at Lucas. “Is this your own idea?”

“I have asked Vincent to make preparations. I will arrange for a reliable assistant to check on Olivia in Europe. Olivia won’t be given any special privileges. If she can’t become the general manager, she will never come back.”

“I...”

Before Jessica could finish her words, Lucas interrupted her.

“I know you don’t believe me, but it doesn’t matter. You can understand what I think from what I’ll do.”

Lucas turned around and got into the car, leaving the Hall Group.

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Jessica looked at Lucas from behind as he left, and she was unable to come back to her senses for a moment

Lucas’ decision was unexpected to her, and Jessica even forgot to express her mockery

She had been married to Lucas for three years. She knew that Lucas was a man of his word.

Jessica became curious if Lucas could succeed.

After all, it was not easy to send Olivia away from the Thomas family.

Jessica returned to her senses and turned towards the entrance to the Hall Group building.

Lucas had given the shares to her, so she did not need to go to the Davison Group for further negotiation

As soon as she returned to the office, she immediately asked Wendy to contact all the current shareholders of the Sandoval Group for a shareholder meeting.

Terry had noticed Jessica's move the moment Jessica started to purchase the shares of the Sandoval Group

Therefore, when he received a call, Terry was not surprised that a shareholders' meeting was to be held.

Jessica did not go to the Hall Group the next morning. Instead, she asked Wendy to drive her directly to the Sandoval Group

As soon as she got out of the car, Terry and Lucas arrived at the Sandoval Group.

Meanwhile, Tony Sandoval, the chairman of Sandoval Group, was waiting at the company entrance.

Tony couldn't help but feel a little nervous when he suddenly had to welcome the heirs of three wealthy families in LA to his company.

"Mr. Thomas, Mr. Davison, Miss Hall, welcome."

Tony and the executives came forward to respectfully greet them.

Lucas nodded indifferently, not in the mood to talk to them.

"Good morning, Miss Hall." Terry saw Jessica in a simple suit in the elevator. He smiled and greeted Jessica

Jessica was in a good mood. She smiled and replied, "Good morning, Mr. Davison."

Lucas, who was standing behind them, subconsciously frowned.

When the elevator reached the top floor, Tony stepped out of the elevator and stood at the entrance waiting for the guests to come out.

After Terry came out, Jessica followed him out.

She had just stepped out of the elevator when she heard Grace's voice.

Grace learned from her father Tony that there was going to be a shareholder meeting today and that Terry would be there, too,

So she specially came to the company to see Terry today.

She immediately smiled and came up to Terry. "T, what a coincidence."

Jessica paused for a moment when he heard Grace's pretentious cute voice and smiled indifferently. She was about to leave when Grace spotted her.

"Miss Hall? Why are you here?" Grace's voice revealed a hint of dissatisfaction.

Jessica turned her head to look at Grace. She smiled and said in a mocking tone copying her words, "Miss Sandoval, what a coincidence."

"You!" Grace got angry at Jessica's mockery in front of Terry.

The gentleness on Grace's face disappeared. She looked at Jessica with a sullen look and said, "This is my company. We didn't invite you here. You try to stay with Terry all the time. Don't you think you're too clingy?"

The smile on Jessica's face faded. With a sneer, she said, "Today is the shareholder meeting of the Sandoval Group. Can't I attend the meeting as one of the shareholders?"

"When did you become a shareholder of our company?" The look on Grace's face turned grim. "Jessica, you only relied on the Hall family to establish your reputation in LA. Don't pretend to be a successful career woman, okay?"

"Mr. Sandoval, please ask the unrelated people to leave." Lucas glanced at Grace and looked at Tony, annoyed.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Thomas." Tony quickly apologized and signed Grace to be silent.

Grace clenched her fists tightly, her face sullen.

She ignored Tony's look and stared at Jessica, thinking Jessica must be a shameless bitch who gain profits by seducing Terry and Lucas at the same time.

Grace raised her chin and mocked Jessica, "So you have Mr. Thomas to back you up. Why do I remember that you have been kicked out by the Thomas family?"

When Jessica heard this, there was not the slightest anger on her face.

Instead, she revealed a mocking smile.

She raised her head to look at Grace.

Jessica said in a cold voice, "Miss Sandoval, you probably don't know that it was me who asked for the divorce first."

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Jessica's words upset both Lucas and Grace, whose faces turned sullen.

Lucas didn't like it when Grace brought up their divorce again in public.

Grace, on the other hand, was angry because Terry hadn't even glanced at her.

Just as Grace was about to lose control of her anger, Jessica slowly asked, “Miss Sandoval, are you targeting me because of Mr. Davison?”.

Grace glanced at Tony. She quickly calmed down after a moment of panic.

Grace felt that there was no need to hide her true feelings in front of her father.

“Good. So you know that. The Thomas family just abandoned you. Is that why you are so eager to ride on Terry’s coattails?”

Jessica sneered and ignored her.

“If only what you said was true. I would be so honored. It’s a pity that Miss Hall has been rejecting me all the time.” Terry chuckled and added.

“T!” Grace’s face turned pale when she heard Terry’s words.

Terry even laughed at himself to help Jessica.

“Miss Sandoval, I hope you can respect me. We are not that close. You should stop calling me T.”

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Terry stood there with a cold expression. He glanced coldly at Grace, without any sympathy or affection.

“Shut up!” Tony roared at Grace because he couldn’t bear it any longer. And then, he glared at Grace and said through his teeth, “Get the hell back home. Is Miss Hall someone you can afford to offend?”

“Daddy, why are you so servile to her? We can do well without the Hall Group’s investment, too. Give her back the money for the shares.”

Tony had always doted on Grace, so Grace hardly saw Tony lose her temper. At that moment, she felt a little wronged and pulled Tony’s arm.

“What do you know? Miss Hall is now our biggest shareholder!” Tony angrily got rid of Grace.

“It seems that Miss Sandoval doesn’t want our meeting to go smoothly. Anyway, I’m just here to notify you of something.”

Jessica looked at Grace, who was stunned on the spot. She curled her lips into a smile. She gently tucked a strand of hair behind her ear, and then looked at Tony and the other executives. “From today on, Tony Sandoval will be dismissed from his position as the chairman. The business of the Sandoval Group will be reported to my assistant, Wendy. The company’s business needs restructuring and I will inform everyone after some evaluation.”

Grace stood still and felt a chill rise from her feet and envelop her entire body.

She looked at Jessica in astonishment, unable to say a single word. Her palms and back were covered in a cold sweat.

Grace's gaze fell on Tony. Tony looked awkward and defeated. He glanced at Grace with some resentment and disgust that she had never seen before.

Jessica stood aside, satisfied with Grace's constantly changing expression. Wasn't Grace relying on her family to be a bully? How dared Grace find faults with her?

Grace was no longer a rich young lady after Jessica deprived Grace's father of the chairman.

Thinking that Grace would have to face Tony's anger, Jessica felt that revenge could be a good idea.

Jessica left after announcing her decision about the Sandoval Group. Lucas and Terry followed behind her, wanting to say something, but Jessica didn't want to talk to them.

By the time Lucas and Terry walked out of the company, Jessica had left in a car.

"Mr. Thomas, you're so generous." Terry stood next to Lucas and chuckled when he found Lucas kept looking at Jessica's car.

Lucas frowned, looked at Terry, and said coldly, "You don't have to beat around the bush."

"I wasn't mocking you. Did you ask the senior Mr. Thomas for permission before giving Jessica ten per cent of the shares? I think he must be surprised that you've made such an impulsive decision." Terry shrugged indifferently.

"Since I am the CEO of the Thomas Group, I have the right to make any decision about the company." Lucas turned to look ahead and said, "I'm not like you, who are still protected by Mr. Davison. You are idle every day and only know about pursuing women."

"Then I hope that I can win the beauty's heart this time," Terry said with a smile, not angry at all.

"Keeping dreaming!" Lucas sneered and then walked to his car. He opened the door and sat down.