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"Let's date."
"What! ?"
Elaine was stunned and thought her ears were playing tricks on her.
Ian looked her in the eyes and repeated, "I said, let's try to date."
Elaine was dumbfounded.She couldn't believe what she had just heard.
'Is there something wrong with his head?' However, she laughed as if she thought of something and said, "Is it because I took a stab for you, and you feel sorry for me?"
Ian looked at her but did not say anything.
Elaine shrugged and said frankly, "Honestly, you don't have to do that.I pushed you away not because I want something back in return.It's just a reflex action. You don't have to feel like you owe me anything."

After all, those feelings weren't real.

It was just a man's "compensation" to a woman, and love starting out with "compensation" wouldn't end well.

Something flitted across lan's eyes as he continued.

"I didn't mean anything either."

She was stunned.

"Are you sure about this?"

"Yeah.Do you want to try it?" he asked.

"Mr.Saldana—"

"Call my name."

Elaine opened her mouth and called his name after a short bout of hesitation, "lan." He pressed his lips and smiled.

"Yeah."

Elaine momentarily felt they were a real couple upon looking at his smile.

lan placed his hand on the back of hers.

She was stunned but clenched her hand into a fist instead of pulling it out. She could feel his temperature through the back of her

hand, and her palm was sweating.

If this went on, she was certain it would only be a matter of time before something happened to her heart.

She pressed her lips thin, and something crossed her mind.

"Don't you have something to do in Hewston?"

"I'm postponing it for two days," he replied, "I'll stay by your side to keep you company." Elaine quickly averted her gaze and smiled.

"Honestly, you don't have to do that at all."

He chuckled and said, "You're my fiance, so of course, I have to stay back and take care of you."

She did not say anything anymore. She was a bit uncomfortable with such a great improvement in their relationship.

When Lucy returned to the ward, she noticed Elaine was in a good mood. She did not mention anything else as a good mood

was required for fast recovery. She did not want her sister to suffer another blow because of this incident.

lan stayed at the hospital, taking care of Elaine for two days straight.

Even Edward had grown to like him even more.

On the other hand, Elaine felt embarrassed.

After all, h e had to carry her to the restroom and would hold her hand whenever she was sleeping.

Every morning, he would go back home and prepare breakfast for her. He slept later than her, but he woke up earlier than her.

It was very hard for her not to fall in love with him, considering how well he took care of her.

Juan had been urging lan to go to Hewston.

Before he left, he came to the hospital and kept her company for a little longer.

"Be careful when you're in Hewston."

Elaine did not want him to get injured.

Ian chuckled and said, "Don't worry.I will."

After that, he rose to his feet.

"Feel free to contact me by cell phone when I get there."

"I'm sure you'll be busy.I'm not going to bother you,"

Elaine said with a pout.

"Nope.Even though I'm busy, I still can find time to talk to you," he said, stumping Elaine.

A few ripples were raised as if a stone had fallen into a lake.

After that, Ian departed for Hewston.He had only left not long ago, and Elaine felt something was missing in the ward.

At Blackgold...

Quincy told Nolan that Ian had departed for Hewston.

"It seems like that old sly fox Juan is going to make Ian his scapegoat."

The police had been investigating the things happening in Hewston.

Most of the shareholders had withdrawn their shares overnight for fear of being dragged into the troubled waters.

Nobody was going t o take over the hot potato now.

If he transferred the shares in Hewston to lan, the latter would be the person in charge. If the higher- ups there wanted to investigate anything, they would only turn their target toward lan.

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If there were something wrong with the shares in lan's hand, he would become Juan's scapegoat.

Nolan tapped his finger rhythmically on the file as something flitted across his eyes.

"Does Juan not know the relationship between Ian and the higher- ups there?"

Quincy shook his head.

"Ian has too many fake identities and names.Even if Juan looks into it, he won't be able to find Ian's relationship with the

ministry."

Nolan chuckled.

"It seems like Juan really knows nothing about his illegitimate son.

"If he knew him well, he wouldn't have ignored Ian s o much. Considering Ian's

relationship with those people on top, he would

have been able to protect Juan if he wanted to."

Unfortunately, Juan was too arrogant.

He thought Ian was merely a "hoodlum," so he had never paid any attention to him. "Mr.Goldmann, he has picked the wrong opponent.I guess we don't need to do anything anymore this time."

Nolan closed the file and put it on the desk.

When he heard someone knocking on the door, he lifted his eyelids and said, "Come in."

Maisie pushed the door open and entered, causing Nolan to lift his eyebrows.

She put her purse on the couch and rushed toward him. She placed her hands on the desk and said, "Noles, I need to borrow

someone from you."

Nolan squinted.

"Who is it?"

Maisie pointed at the person beside her.Quincy was stunned and pointed at himself. "Me?"

Nolan leaned against the back of the chair and laughed.

"What do you want to borrow him for?"

Quincy did not know why, but he felt a little bit sad. He had a feeling that he was an object that could be borrowed here and there.

"Because I need him to run an errand for me with Saydie."

Maisie walked around the desk and went behind Nolan.She then wrapped her arms around him from behind and continued.

"Dad's birthday is around the corner.Since both of us are so busy, we need someone else to help us prepare."

When Nolan realized that she was helping to celebrate his father's birthday, a gentle smile broke across his face as he said,

"Alright. You can have him."

"But Ma'am, I'm busy as well—"

"Your boss is giving you two days off. You don't want i t?"

Maisie cut him short.

'It's no wonder this guy can't find a girlfriend"

Quincy looked at Nolan.

Nolan chuckled and said, "Go ahead.Consider it your paid vacation."

Quincy was so happy that he nearly cried.

"Mr.Goldmann, this is the first time you're being so kind t o me."

Nolan glanced at him and said.

"If you don't stop talking now, I'm taking it back."

Quincy stopped talking and exited the office as if he was worried that Nolan would change his mind.

After he left, Nolan grabbed Maisie and placed her on top of his lap.

"I'm sure Saydie is capable of completing the task herself. She doesn't need Quincy's help at all."

He scratched the tip of her nose and asked, "What are you planning to do?"

Maisie wrapped her arms around his neck, leaned closer to him, and said with a smile on her face, "Every time I see Quincy, he's

working.He doesn't even take a few days off and is turning into a robot.If we don't give him a chance to rest, how is he going to

get himself a girlfriend?"

Nolan laughed as he collected her long hair in his palm.

"So, you're going to find a girlfriend for him?"

She lowered her head and said, "I've always felt I owe them something for Cherie's death."

Nolan was stunned.

Then, he grabbed her into his arms and kissed the top of her head.

"It's all in the past, Zee."

"Noles, I wish our kids, the people around us, and we will all find happiness."

A laugh rolled out of his throat as he pressed his lips on her forehead.

"I'm sure your wish will come true."

Saydie was working on the decoration for Nicholas's birthday party.

Maisie had told her that she would find someone to help her, and she frowned when she saw it was Quincy who had come.

Quincy walked into the decoration shop and looked at the decorations she had picked. "This is it?"

"All these are for birthday parties.Do you have any problem with them?"

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Quincy burst into laughter and said, "If I was having a birthday party, I would certainly not use these decorations.Mr.Goldmann

Sr.is a guy.Don't you think these are a little bit too colorful for him?"

Saydie took a look at the decorations that she had selected.

All of them were recommended by the shopkeeper.

They told her that old people in their country liked to decorate their birthday parties with bright colors as it would bring them good

fortune.

Resting his chin on his palm, Quincy looked at her and said, "Is this the first time you're decorating a birthday party for

someone?"

Saydie crossed her arms in front of her chest and did not say anything.

Quincy was grinning from ear to ear as he patted her shoulder and said, "Don't worry.Just stand aside and watch."

Quincy went around the shops to select the decorations throughout the morning. He had grown u p in the Goldmann mansion, so

he knew what Nicholas liked.

As for Saydie, she just followed him from one shop to another.

It was said that all women loved shopping, but it was the other way round when it came to them.

The main reason was that he was meticulous.

Once he noticed a slight flaw, he would put the thing back and go to another shop. If he was not satisfied, he would continue to change to another shop until he found the right one.

Saydie would never feel tired no matter how long a fight was, but she was defeated instantly when it came to shopping.

When Quincy noticed that Saydie was not keeping up with him, he turned his head back to look at her.

"Hurry up.We might not be able to get everything by evening at this rate."

Saydie took a deep breath and sat on the bench.

Quincy laughed as if he thought of something and walked up to her with his arms around his chest.

"Are you tired?"

He had been wondering why Saydie had been exceptionally quiet today. It turned out that she was exhausted.

Saydie gnashed her teeth and turned her head sideways.

"You go by yourself."

'Tsk, what a snotty girl.But, I finally found a way to torture her!'

"No, it's not fun for me to go by myself.I just checked.We still have four or five stores that we haven't visited, so let's go," Quincy

said with a triumphant grin tugging at the corner of his lips.

Saydie lifted her head and said, "I'm not going."

"You women won't feel tired even if you go shopping for hours in high heels. How come you can't do it? What's more, you aren't

wearing high heels either."

She had never worn high heels because they would restrict her movements.

Saydie glared at him and said, "I said I'm not going."

Quincy sat beside her and said, "There's an ice cream store in this mall that's particularly good."

"I'm not eating that kind of stuff."

At that moment, a mother holding a little girl walked past them.

The little girl was holding an ice cream in her hand, and Quincy stifled a laugh when he saw her staring at the ice cream in the

girl's hand.

He rose up to his feet and turned his head to look at her.

"I'm going to buy some ice cream. Are you coming or not?"

After Quincy had queued up for a few minutes, he bought a chocolate Matcha ice cream, which was the signature flavor of the

store.He approached Saydie and handed the ice cream to her.

Saydie took the ice cream and took a bite.

The ice cream was so cold that it set her teeth on edge, and she shivered.

Quincy laughed upon seeing her reaction.

"Is this the first time you're eating an ice cream?"

Saydie threw a glance at him and said, "It's none of your business."

He threw his arms in the air as a surrendering gesture and said, "Alright, alright.It's none of my business.Shall we go to our next

stop now?"

After all, he was in a good mood today.

Following Quincy, Saydie accompanied him to a few more stores before finding the one he liked. He walked out of the store with

his hands full.

However, Saydie was gone.

By the time he found her, she was holding two ice creams in her hands.

Honestly, Saydie looked nothing different from a girl when she was not criticizing him or when she was not in a fight.

All girls had a sweet tooth and liked nice or fluffy things.

Saydie might look cold and hard to get along with on the surface, but Quincy found that there was a pure and innocent little girl

living inside of Saydie after spending some time with her.

Quincy shook his head. He did not know if he should get angry or laugh at her.

"Before you go somewhere else, can you please tell me first? Do you know how tired I am as I had to go around the entire

shopping mall to look for vou with so much stuff in my hands?"

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If someone had abducted Saydie, Maisie would certainly shred Quincy into pieces. When the thought surfaced in his head, he noticed something was not right.

'Who the hell would have the nerve to abduct her! ?' Whoever that trafficker was, they must have been tired of living.

If not, no sane people would target her.

Saydie walked up to him and took over the bags in his hand while holding the two ice creams with the other hand.

Quincy was momentarily stunned before laughing.

"Is the sun rising from the west today? You actually helped me carry my stuff."

Saydie walked in the front and said, "Since you bought me ice cream just now, I'll help you carry your stuff."

Quincy walked up to her and frowned slightly when h e saw her eating two ice creams simultaneously.

"Even if you like it very much, you can't eat it like this.You'll get diarrhea."

Saydie ignored him and said, "You're so naggy."

Walking beside her, Quincy continued.

"How can you not listen to me? Do you know that bad things will happen to bad kids who don't listen to someone more experienced than them? If your stomach hurts later, don't blame me for not reminding you."

She stopped in her tracks, turned around, and shoved those bags back to him. "Carry them yourself."

Quincy was amused.

"What? I'm just being nice and telling you the disadvantages of eating too much ice cream. How can you get angry at me just like

that?"

Saydie paid him no mind. He walked up to her and continued.

"Say, you need to control your temper. After all, you're a girl and need t o be gentle." Saydie was annoyed by his nagging, and she became furious when he said she had a bad temper. She turned around and tried

to hit him.

Quincy had anticipated this, so he took a step back to avoid her attack.

Then, she lost her balance, and one of her ice creams dropped to the floor with a plop. Saydie was stunned.

When he saw the sad expression 0 n her face as she stared at the ice cream on the floor, h e turned his head sideways, and his

shoulders trembled.

He tried to hold back his smile and went forward to comfort Saydie.

"It's okay. If you drop it, you drop it. You still have another one, right?"

Saydie grabbed the collar of his shirt and hissed.

"You're gonna pay me back!"

"Yes, yes, yes. I'll pay you back.Calm down and let go of me first."

Saydie stretched her arm forward as if she wanted him to pay her right now.

Quincy looked at himself and shook his head helplessly.

"My wallet is in my pocket.My hands are full now."

Initially, he wanted Saydie to help him carry the bags, but little did he expect that Saydie would dive her hand right toward his

pocket.

Quincy was stunned and hastily pushed her hand away.

"Wait! Stop! Stop! It isn't inside my pants! It's in my jacket!"

"Where is it?"

"Jacket!"

Quincy regretted it as soon as he finished speaking.

Most of the girls were much more refrained and wouldn't do something like this to another guy in public.

However, Saydie did not seem to treat him as a man.

When she was pulling his wallet out, her hand grazed his chest.

His shirt was thin, and the sensation caused goosebumps to explode over his skin.

Saydie was confused and lifted her head to look at him.

"Are you hot?"

After she finished speaking, she placed her palm on his chest.

She noticed his body temperature was unnaturally high and asked, "Do you have a fever? You're so weak."

Quincy did not know what to say.

He had never been s o speechless before in his life.He took a deep breath.He decided to be the bigger man and forgive her.

After all, she did not do it on purpose.

Besides, she did not understand that what she did was not right.

"Don't simply touch a man's body in the future.It's improper for men and women to touch each other."

"You were the one who asked me to take it, so I just took it," Saydie said matter-offactly.

Quincy did not know if he should get angry at her or not.

"Then you should just take it. Why are you touching me..." She harrumphed faintly. "So what if I touch you? You can touch me as well if you want."

'Will he lose a piece of meat just because I touched him? Men are so hard to understand"

Quincy was rendered speechless.

Saydie opened the wallet and pulled \$40 out of it.

Quincy thought she would only take the money for the ice cream. He had some small notes in his wallet, after all. He did not

expect that she would take \$40!

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"Does she really think I'm invisible?"

"Treat it as if I'm borrowing it from you."

Saydie shoved his wallet back into his pocket and walked out of the mall while enjoying her ice cream.

After eating too much ice cream, Saydie got a stomach ache that night and made several trips to the restroom.

While decorating their home the next day, she was absent for nearly half of the day.

When Maisie came downstairs and saw only Quincy was working, she asked, "Where's Saydie?"

Quincy laughed and said, "I guess she ate too much ice cream yesterday, so she has a stomach ache right now."

'I told her that she shouldn't eat that much ice cream, but she wouldn't listen.So it isn't my fault"

Maisie squinted.

"You brought her to eat ice cream?"

Quincy hastily explained, "That was because she was tired and refused to move anymore, so I had no choice but to buy her ice

cream.Who knew she hadn't eaten any ice cream before? She instantly took a liking to it and bought another two cones for

herself without telling me.

"Ma'am, I swear.I warned her, but she wouldn't listen."

Maisie shook her head helplessly and chuckled.

"It's something new for Saydie.She has never eaten it before, so of course, it's normal that she would like it."

Girls had a sweet tooth.

Saydie had never eaten ice cream before, so it was normal she would fall in love with it after trying it.

At that moment, Saydie appeared, her face pale.

This was her first time eating ice cream, but apparently, she had eaten too much, and her stomach couldn't handle it.

Maisie walked up to her and asked, "Are you okay?"

Saydie shook her head.

Quincy clicked his tongue and said, "See? This is the result of not listening to someone who's more experienced than you."

Saydie did not say anything back. She was not an unreasonable girl.

After all, it was her fault.

She couldn't resist the temptation.

Maisie put her hand on her shoulder and said, "If you don't feel okay, go get some rest.I'll get the doctor to come over here and

prescribe some medicine for you."

"It's okay, Ma'am.I'll be fine.My body is tough."

She did not like taking medicine as most pills had a bitter taste.

Maisie did not force her since she did not want it.She asked her to get some rest, but Saydie refused.She wanted to stay here

until they finished with the decorations.

Quincy shook his head when he saw how pale her face was.

'She still wants to act tough at a time like this?' He went to the kitchen and got a cup of warm water.He added some salt to it as

he was worried that she might get dehydrated.

As he handed the cup of water t o her, he said, "Drink some.You might get dehydrated." Saydie looked at him but did not take it.

Quincy shoved the cup into her hand.

"Take it and drink it."

Saydie took the cup and drank the water.

It tasted salty, so she frowned.

"Why is there salt in it?"

Quincy snorted.

"To prevent you from getting dehydrated.So, do you still want to eat so much ice cream again next time?"

After drinking the salt water, Saydie put the cup down.

Her stomach was cold, and she felt much more comfortable when the warm water flowed through it.

Maisie saw everything from upstairs, and a smile appeared on the corner of her lips. Both of them liked to argue on normal days, and Saydie loved to tease Quincy.

However, she knew that Saydie did not hate Quincy at all.

Saydie did not have a complete childhood.She did not have any true friends, so she distanced herself from everyone.

In the beginning, Saydie followed Maisie because of Strix's order, and she treated protecting her as a mission.

Maisie knew why Strix wanted Saydie to follow her here.

If she stayed in the Metropolis, she would never feel warm her whole life.

There was a probability that she might die as well.

She was still young, a girl in her prime.

Other than protecting her, she needed to be protected as well.

While Ian was in Hewston, Elaine would contact him from time to time through WhatsApp.

Although they did not talk much, he would reply to her messages.

After Elaine's stitches were removed, she returned to her company.

When she came out of the elevator and was on her way back to the office, she overheard the conversation of a few female

employees.

"Ms.Xavier got injured because she took a stab for her fiance.I can't believe she would do that for her man."

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