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"Scarlet, Ren greeted as he undid the buttons of his suit due to the warm temperature in the house. Removing his outerwear, he revealed the dark-colored vest and white shirt underneath it. They defined his enticing waist line perfectly whereas the long pants were covering his long and slender legs.

"Have you eaten?" asked Scarlet caringly.

"Yeah. He seated himself opposite her with a slightly helpless expression. "I've just received news that Richard has hacked into the dark web and obtained a lot of information. I think he's going to take action on his own."

"What?!" Color drained from her face and her eyes reddened. "He hasn't given up, has he?"

"Scarlet, why don't we just let him join the mission?"

'Is there any other way to dissuade him?" She still held onto the hope that her son would not join this mission, for the worry that he might lose his rationality and risk his life inst to kill the person whom had murdered his father. It would put him in danger too.

"There's nothing we can do to stop him for now. I've met Old Master Lloyd and he wants Richard to make his own decision. He won't intervene."

"He knows Richard best. It's useless to stop him. Scarlet sighed before looking at her brother. "Ren, please help him."

Knowing exactly what she meant by that, he nodded. "I'll do everything in my power to help him."

"And one more thing-Richard has a girlfriend. You should transfer him to another department, so he won't have any mission abroad. He can at least stay in the country that way."

"Leave it to me.' Having said that, he smiled. "He got himself a girlfriend?"

She cast her gaze onto him. "Look. Even. Richard is dating. Don't you think that you should make some effort? Work is important and so is marriage."

"I'm busy with work. It's not the time for that yet." It was a downright refusal.

"There you go again." Scarlet then showed him the pictures. "This is her. Isn't she pretty?"

He took a closer look at them, "Hmm, She 1S.

Suddenly, she thought of something as she announced, "I wanna invite her to the dinner party this Friday."

Meanwhile, a sleepless Angela was tossing and turning in the quiet bedroom. It was as if the suppressed feelings she had for Richard were surging in her like a waterfall, pushing her timid heart forward.

Some emotions grew stronger the longer they were smothered; like a fettered beast, they would pounce out of the cage abruptly once they seized the chance.

Lying in bed, she took her phone and tried to rein back her emotions after which she ended up dialing the man's number.

A couple of seconds later, his husky voice rang into her car. "Hey."

The tranquility in her heart rippled. "Are you home yet?"

"Hmm. I just entered my room."

"Oh. I'm just asking. I'm glad that you're home now. Bye!" Angela was too shy to talk to him any longer. It was like she missed speaking to him so much.

"Are you free tomorrow? I'll buy you a meal," Richard inquired in a low voice.

"I gotta go to my mother's company for a shareholder meeting. It's compulsory for me to join them, but I can dine out for lunch."

"Great. I'll pick you up in the afternoon."

"I'll drive myself there. We can't let my mother see you."

"Why? Am I not presentable enough?" He huffed.

She chuckled, "It's not like that."

At the thought of her mother's comment of him, she was at her wit's ends although it was just her mother trying to comfort Jennifer.

"What are you doing?"

"I'm in bed and I'm going to sleep," she answered honestly.

"Do you miss me?"

"Nope," denied Angela.

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"But I do," confessed the man suddenly, "Why?" she questioned back in embarrassment.

"What do you think?" He countered.

"Well, I don't know!" She did not answer on purpose, but it was hilarious to her by how the conversation was revolving around such childish questions.

"I'm going to shower." As soon as he blurted those words, the rustling sound of clothes could be heard from the other side of the line.

"Are you taking your clothes off?" Angela could not help voicing out her curiosity.

Richard hummed sexily before asking,

"Wanna see?"

"See what?" She could not understand.

"We can make a video call, so you can look at my body. He offered without any charges."

Her breathing became slightly heavier. "Richard Llyod, cut it out."

Where did his cold attitude and composure go?

He let out a chuckle. "Okay, I'm going into the bathroom now. I'll let you see it some other day."

In actuality, Angela could imagine his body vividly without taking a look at it. It was not like she had never sneaked a few

peaks in the base back then.

"Alright. Sleep early. Good night." She then terminated the call before sprawling on the bed. Her stomach churned with

mixed feelings as she was feeling sorry toward Annie. Although the engagement had been called off, she could not get over it just yet.

When the morning came, Angela woke up and picked a stylish yet feminine coat to go to the company with Daphne.

Today, Daphne would announce the news of Angela taking over her position in the shareholder meeting. In hindsight, she replaced her usual demeanor with solemnity.

During the meeting, everyone treated her politely while masking their doubts in their gazes. After all, she was too young in their eyes.

The billion-worth company was bestowed to a twenty-five-year-old woman; a sheer blunder in a significant decision-making would incur a massive loss.

Even so, their notions did not go unnoticed by Angela. Despite the pressure, she was full of confidence; despite her tender age, she had more time to learn and improve.

When the meeting was coming to an end, she took a glance at the time; it was 11:18AM. She looked at Daphne, who was still speaking, and was already on tenterhooks as she looked forward to the lunch date with Richard.

"Okay. Angela, please give us a word or two." Daphne cast her gaze onto Angela.

She rose to her feet and flashed a smile at the shareholders who were sitting along the long table. "I'm very pleased to be here and it is my honor to be able to take over my mother's position. For the following days, I hope you can believe in me, support me, and acknowledge me. Thank you."

Daphne stared at her daughter with contentment. She was aware of the doubtful attitude of many shareholders toward Angela's takeover, but she would definitely help her from behind the scenes in order to consolidate Angela's position.

"That marks the end of today's meeting. You may disperse."

Angela let out a silent sigh of relief. When she rose from her seat, Daphne called her, "Angela, let's have lunch together somewhere else."

"But, I have plans with my friend."

"Nevermind, then." Daphne nodded approvingly, for her daughter was expanding her social circles.

Angela exited the entrance to see a black SUV parked at the opposite street. Akin to a belligerent wild beast, the huge and black vehicle was as formidable as its owner.

She alternated her gaze from left to right before approaching the passenger seat gingerly to enter the car.

The man, who was on the driver seat, watched every single one of her expressions and amusement was evident in his eyes. Her course of actions appeared adorable to him.

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After hopping onto the passenger seat, Angela breathed a sigh of relief before turning to face the man who was cladded in a black sweater. It seemed like he loved this kind of black sweater that fit his body perfectly. It displayed his handsome and neat image of a tough guy. Angela was crazy over his fashion sense as well.

"Did I keep you waiting?" She brushed her hair to one side and smiled at him..

"I arrived not long ago." Richard reached out his hand to the back seat to grab a bouquet of flowers for her. "This is for you."

It was then she was stunned for a moment. I didn't know this side of him. They're roses! I thought the word 'romantic' was never in his vocabulary!

With a sweet expression, she accepted the lovely flowers as it lightened her mood.

"Did you pick them yourself?" She sniffed the flowers while asking him.

"Hmm, I picked them one by one and asked the staff to arrange them into a bouquet."

The image of Richard selecting the flowers intently in the florist's amused Angela and rendered the bouquet in her hand more precious.

"Where are we going?" she asked.

"You'll find out once we arrive there." He left her hanging. There was a smile on his ever rigid countenance, which indicated how happy he was at the moment.

Therefore, she did not sound him out and decided to just follow him. Regardless of where they were heading to, she would be happy as long as he was by her side.

It was not until they entered a top-notch restaurant did she realize that Richard had reserved a place at the most expensive restaurant in the city.

It pained her at the thought that he was going to spend a lot of money on this meal. After staving seated, she whispered.

"You don't have to buy me a meal at such a pricey place. I don't mind any other places."

He propped his chin with his hands as he smiled at her. "Are you worried that I can't pay for it?"

"I just don't want you to splurge your money on me."

"But I just wanna give you the best." His scorching gaze fixated on her.

Feeling the honey-sweet happiness springing up in her chest, Angela pursed her lips before showing her lovely smile. She often felt giddy by the man's unreserved affection.

Then, she noticed the other table that was filled with four girls, who seemed to be from rich families. They kept peeping at Richard with the two of them laughing intentionally in order to draw his attention,

Angela was very familiar with their little ploys. She could even count how many times they peeked at the man before her.

Richard was indeed a popular person with admirers swooning over him, which made her wonder, Was he really single before he met me?

She honestly felt that he was quite ant easy target since it took her less than two months to win his heart.

Plus, the advances Angela made were no brainer; would it not take a shorter time for him to be taken if there was a better player?

She left the table to go to the restroom and by the time she returned to her seat, there was a beautiful girl standing next to their table, flirting with Richard.

Angela's eyes narrowed dangerously. It was unpleasant to have someone else coveting her possessions.

"Miss, please do not disturb us. My boyfriend and I are trying to enjoy our meal here." She stared at the girl with at warning gaze and crossed arms.

Unperturbed, the girl smiled and returned to her seat. Obviously, Angela was just a small fry to her.

Angela sat down, but her eyes zeroed in on that girl, who reciprocated with a provoking expression.

Meanwhile, Richard was pleased to see her being jealous, yet his heart ached ast well. The girl approached him to offer a drink, but before he could make any response, Angela was back

The girl at the next table, who was crossing swords with Angela in mute, realized that he was looking at her. Instantly, she made eyes at him to seduce. him while endeavoring to piss Angela off.