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- The person sent an audio recording to Kathleen.
- She clicked into it.
- "Samuel, you're the best. I like you so much."
- "Nicolette, I love you too. You're so alluring."
- "Samuel, I want to stay together with you forever. I want to be your legitimate wife and have your children."
- "I want to be with you too. I'll make Kathleen donate her bone marrow to you. I've already had it arranged. Don't worry."
- "Samuel, try harder. Give me more pleasure."
- "Sure. I'll satisfy you."
- Thud!
- The phone in Kathleen's hand fell to the floor.
- Her face was pale, and her whole body was trembling.
- He said everything had been arranged. Does he really plan to force his way through? How can they be so shameless and still think about my bone marrow while making out? How can Samuel be such a jerk?
- Kathleen could not believe he was the man she had loved for the past ten years.
- Devoting her heart to the wrong person, she had never felt this disgusted.
- She calmed herself down and picked up the phone again.
- She sent a message to the other party: Who are you?
- However, that person already blocked her.
- The sole purpose of the sender was to make her listen to the audio recording.
- The sender probably did that out of a good intention to inform her of the affair between Samuel and Nicolette.
- Or perhaps, that person was Nicolette, showing off to Kathleen.
- Regardless of who that person was, Kathleen was disgusted.
- Since the sender already blocked her, she would not add that person's contact too.
- She saved the audio recording so that she could use it as evidence in the future.
- The next day, Kathleen headed downstairs to eat after she woke up.
- Looking at her, Wynnie asked, "Samuel wasn't home last night, was he?"
- Kathleen nodded.
- "This kid." Wynnie was displeased.
- "I suppose it's because of all the work in the company. Besides, the Macari residence is a little far from the company, so he stayed in the condominium," Kathleen explained.
- Wynnie looked at her with an ambiguous gaze.
- How long is she going to cover up for Samuel?
- "I'll give him a call later," said Wynnie.
- Kathleen hesitated before replying, "Mom, forget it. He's really busy recently. It's time to do the quarterly report again. He won't maunder in the hospital even if he's free."

- Samuel was always busy at the end of every quarter.
- Kathleen was aware of it, and she had figured out his pattern.
- The busier he got, the more intense he made out with her.
- Fully refreshed, he would then go to work.
- Unfortunately, the person he wanted to make out with had now changed to Nicolette instead of her.
- She should probably be thankful to Nicolette, as she was no longer the outlet for him to vent his emotions.
- Wynnie pondered for a moment and fell silent.
- Did Kathleen think that I was not going to make the phone call after what she said?
- Wynnie went straight to the hospital instead.
- She walked into Nicolette's ward.
- As expected, Samuel was in there.
- Nicolette was acting coquettishly. "Samuel, feed me."
- "Don't you have hands?" Wynnie crossed her arms. "Might as well chop your hands off if they're useless."
- "Mom, what are you doing here?" Samuel frowned.
- Wynnie looked at him in rage. "You were wearing this outfit yesterday."
- He's still wearing the same clothes right now. It seems like he indeed spent the night here.
- "I've just arrived here from the company. I'm planning to get myself changed at home later," Samuel explained calmly.
- He was not lying.
- After arguing with Kathleen, he headed straight to the company.
- He was occupied with work until seven o'clock in the morning and came to the hospital only after Nicolette called him.
- "Samuel, you're my only son. I've been respecting your decision ever since you were young." Wynnie's voice was stern. "For twenty-six years, the only thing I've interfered with is your relationship with this woman."
- "Mrs. Macari, I know you don't like me, but..." Nicolette uttered in a low voice.
- "Shut up! What right do you have to speak in front of me?" Wynnie interjected coldly.
- Aggrieved, Nicolette lowered her head.
- She did it on purpose to make Samuel feel sorry for her.
- "Nicolette, you don't have to play any trick. Didn't you do that just so Samuel would take pity on you?" Wynnie exposed Nicolette. "Let me tell you something too. Since I've stopped you two from getting together back then, I'll keep it the same way! I'd rather Samuel stays single for his whole life than allow you to set foot in the Macari family!"
- Nicolette bit her lips.
- "Mom, that's not what Nicolette meant." Samuel frowned.
- "Samuel, I understand women better than you do." Wynnie said coldly, "Since you've decided to be together with her, Kathleen's destined to get hurt. Kathleen is a pitiful child. Since her parents passed away, there's no one by her side for her to rely on and

seek justice for her. I'll call the shots for her today. Get a divorce with Kathleen, and stop torturing that poor kid. I'll convince your grandma."

- With that, Wynn timer turned around and left.
- Samuel grimaced.
- Did Mom come here just to tell me this?
- Nicolette was delighted to hear what Wynn timer said.
- If Wynn timer is going to decide on the divorce between them, I can forgive her for scolding me like that just now.
- "Samuel, we can finally be openly together." Nicolette teared up in joy.
- Samuel stared at her. "Eat first. I'll go have a look."
- He did not know why Wynn timer suddenly agreed to him divorcing Kathleen.
- He turned out to be somewhat not used to it, as he thought everyone in the family was against it.
- Thinking about it, he felt like going back to see Kathleen.
- Kathleen wanted to return to her room after finishing her meal, but Diana called out to her.
- She went up to Diana. "Grandma."
- "Come here. Take a seat." Diana patted the bedside.
- Kathleen walked forward and sat down. She asked softly, "Grandma, are you feeling better?"
- "Much better." Diana held Kathleen's hands. "Why are your hands so cold?"
- "Probably because I'm scantily clad. Grandma, I'll put on extra layers later. Don't worry," replied Kathleen.
- Diana looked at the young woman with pity in her eyes and heaved a long sigh. "Katie, Nicolette is back, isn't she?"
- Kathleen froze.
- How did Old Mrs. Macari know about it?
- "Katie, nothing could be kept secret forever. There are some things that you can't hide from me." Diana spoke faintly, "Back then, Nicolette's mother was a vixen who muddled things up in Jadeborough, and so many people had hated her. Everyone's also aware of what kind of person Nicolette is, so I knew it once she's back."
- Kathleen pursed her lips. "Grandma, I'm not hiding it from you on purpose."
- "I understand. You're thoughtful and afraid that I might pass out again." Diana sighed. "But I've made you suffer."
- Kathleen cried easily. Hearing what Diana said, she burst into tears at once.
- She was aware that everyone doted on her, which was why she did not want to cause any unnecessary trouble.
- Diana's heart ached when she saw Kathleen crying. "Katie, I was foolish. I thought you'd be happy after getting married to Samuel. However, I found that you're actually suffering in the Macari family by marrying Samuel. I was the one who forbade Samuel from marrying Nicolette and also the one who forced you into marrying him. You keep quiet

even when you feel wronged because you don't want me to worry. I've promised your parents to make you happy. Now that you're not, I feel extremely guilty."

- "Grandma, don't put it this way," Kathleen said with her reddened eyes, "You dote on me and want me to officially become one of the Macari family so that everyone will dote on me and love me. I know too well about that."
- Diana patted her head. "How can you be so sensible?"
- Kathleen was crying.
- "Katie, I won't be selfish anymore. I agree to the divorce between you and Samuel," Diana stated solemnly.

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- "Do you mean it?" Kathleen did not expect Diana to agree.
- Staring at Kathleen's delicate and soft face, Diana replied, "Yes, I do."
- Why is she so happy when she mentions getting divorced from Samuel? She used to like him so much. What happened to her feelings? That brat! What exactly has he done to make Kathleen so disappointed?
- Holding Kathleen's hand, Diana said reluctantly, "You'll always be my Katie even after you're divorced from Samuel. Don't be a stranger."
- When Diana took Kathleen to the Macari residence, the latter was only twelve years old.
- Diana's son and her daughter-in-law had been very busy all these years.
- Samuel had already started taking over some company works at a young age.
- As a result, they were so busy that none of them had time to accompany her.
- Over the years, Diana only had Kathleen by her side. Therefore, she did not feel that lonely.
- She watched Kathleen grow up from a little girl to a young woman.
- From Diana's perspective, Kathleen was a kind, gentle, adorable, and good-tempered person. Furthermore, Kathleen had a courteous demeanor.
- On the other hand, Samuel was the opposite with his foul temper. Diana thought only Kathleen could make him happy.
- She felt that such a cheerful and lovely young woman like Kathleen would be a good match for her grandson. She wanted them to get married when the time came.
- Even though the two were not involved in a romantic relationship, Diana was hoping that they would develop feelings toward each other down the road.
- Alas, Diana never thought that she would get blindsided by her grandson.
- I can't believe Samuel likes Nicolette, the daughter of that shameless vixen.
- Diana was not an unreasonable person.
- After all, the children born to a mistress had no way to change their past.
- However, Nicolette's mother, Elena, was simply too lazy.
- At that time, Elena relied on her beauty to hook up with many wealthy sons of the prestigious family in Jadeborough.
- Diana was infuriated by her promiscuous life.

- Luckily for Diana, her son resisted Elena's seduction. Therefore, she did not lose sleep over this matter.
- However, some of Diana's old friends were not so lucky.
- Elena had either seduced their sons or ruined their daughter's marriage.
- It was only after she gave birth to Nicolette that everyone could breathe a sigh of relief.
- Diana found out that Elena was determined to marry into the Yoeger family.
- However, Frances Schott, Nicolette's grandmother, was a fierce woman. She threatened to end her life if Elena was allowed to join their family.
- In the end, Frances got her wish granted.
- Elena continued her debauched lifestyle for a few more years before passing away due to a serious illness. Jadeborough was finally at peace.
- However, before Elena died, she sent Nicolette to the Yoeger family.
- Veronica Burke, the wife of Zachary Yoeger, could not tolerate Nicolette. Nevertheless, she came from a prestigious family. Hence, she never treated her husband's illegitimate daughter harshly.
- To everyone's surprise, Nicolette inherited Elena's scheming personality.
- The former embarrassed Veronica during a banquet many years ago.
- After suffering in silence, Veronica decided not to play nice anymore. Her attitude toward Nicolette changed overnight.
- Since you've already given me a bad name, why do I care anymore?
- Nicolette's father, Zachary, tried to interfere on a few occasions.
- Nonetheless, Veronica paid him no heed and continued to do as she pleased.
- She had lost faith in her husband for a long time.
- Still, Veronica knew that they would not get divorced that easily. Her family had a strong collaboration with the Yoegers. Hence, she could not terminate her marriage with Zachary.
- Veronica did not intend to live a miserable life anymore. She vowed to enjoy herself if Zachary dared to go out and fool around again.
- Most importantly, Frances decided to turn a blind eye to this.
- From that day onward, Zachary did not dare to fool around with other women anymore.
- Even though Nicolette was not as vicious as Elena, she was also a person who would not stop until she achieved her goals.
- Nicolette knew that the Macari family was the leader among the four prominent families in Jadeborough.
- That was the reason why she clung to Samuel for her dear life. She wanted to ride on his family's coattails.
- Still, Diana would never let Nicolette succeed.
- Even if Kathleen and Samuel are divorced, I'll never allow Nicolette to join our family.
- "Grandma, I'll always be there for you for the rest of my life." Kathleen pouted while putting her arm around Diana's neck.
- Diana beamed with joy upon hearing her promise.

- At that moment, Maria walked over and announced, "Old Mrs. Macari, Mr. Macari is back."
- "Let him in," Diana ordered coldly.
- "Right away." Maria immediately turned around to call for Samuel.
- "Grandma, I'll leave first. It's better for you guys to have a conversation without my presence," Kathleen suggested.
- "All right." Diana nodded in agreement.
- With that, Kathleen got up and left. She met Samuel outside.
- Seeing Samuel's haggard and weary face, Kathleen recalled the voice recording she heard last night.
- It made her feel disgusted.
- She could not help but look at Samuel with a hint of contempt.
- Without sparing Samuel another look, Kathleen walked off in huge strides.
- Meanwhile, he entered Diana's house with a gloomy expression.
- "Grandma, are you looking for me?" Samuel asked in an icy tone.
- Looking at him nonchalantly, Diana said, "Samuel, do you think that I'll die soon because of my old age. Is that why you're trying hard to fool me?"
- "Grandma, what are you talking about?" Samuel frowned in confusion.
- "You didn't even dare to inform me that Nicolette has returned, right?" Diana retorted in a low voice.
- Samuel furrowed his brows. "Grandma, who told you about this?"
- Diana snorted loudly. "Ha! You must be thinking that it was Katie who snitched on you, right?"
- Samuel remained silent.
- "Don't you dare pin everything on Katie! Do you honestly think that I'm oblivious to everything that's happening around me since I can't leave the house or get out of bed?" Diana fumed.
- "No, I didn't." Samuel frowned.
- "Listen carefully. I have my sources outside. I know exactly what you did with Nicolette," Diana warned in a chilling tone.
- Looking at her, Samuel clarified, "Grandma, I didn't do anything with Nicolette. We're innocent."
- Samuel was not lying at that moment.
- The only woman he had touched until now was Kathleen.
- "I don't want to hear about this. Let me ask you a question. Do you want to marry Nicolette?" Diana probed sternly.
- Samuel replied decisively, "Yes, I do."
- "You should know very well that I will never agree on that. Besides, I know what you are planning. You wanted to wait until I die so that no one will prevent you from marrying that woman, am I right?"
- Once again, Samuel did not reply her.

- “Great! You’re getting more rebellious by the days!” Diana could not help laughing mockingly at herself. “Let me warn you first. As long as I live, I will never allow her to marry into our family. Do you know how Old Mrs. Yoeger prevented Nicolette’s mother from joining their family?”
- Samuel naturally remembered it.
- “Samuel, Katie is a very nice woman. It’s you who don’t know how to cherish her. I can only say that you’re not worthy of a woman like her. She deserves someone gentle and loyal. That man is definitely not you,” Diana said dejectedly.
- Samuel was displeased by his grandmother’s frank remark.
- “Okay, then. I agree to your divorce with Kathleen,” Diana uttered impassively.
- Samuel grimaced with shock. “Grandma, what did you just say?”
- “You heard me right. I allow you to divorce Kathleen.” Diana raised her voice as she became more annoyed. “What? You must be on cloud nine, right?”

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- However, Samuel was not overly delighted upon hearing that.
- He never expected that Diana would agree to him divorcing Kathleen.
- “But there are conditions to this.” Diana was strategizing. “After you divorce Kathleen, you have to give her half of your company’s shares, and you can’t marry Nicolette. If you insisted on marrying Nicolette, then you’d have to give Kathleen the remaining half of the company’s shares. But you can’t resign or leave the company. You’d have to stay in the company. It’s like you’re working for Kathleen, understood?”
- Samuel was rendered speechless.
- “Kathleen has been married to you for three years. Think about all her youth and the devotion she has invested in this marriage for the past three years. Do you know how much you’re indebted to her?”
- Samuel felt that the conditions set by Diana were ridiculous.
- “What if I don’t agree to those conditions?” Samuel asked coldly.
- “Why on earth would you not agree?” Diana challenged Samuel. “Or that Nicolette is after your money after all, and she wouldn’t want to marry you if you became broke?”
- Samuel furrowed his brows. “Nicolette is not a gold digger. She likes me for who I am.”
- “Ha!” Diana snickered. “Then go ahead and tell her that and see which option she’d go for.”
- Samuel’s expression remained calm.
- “Katie has been visibly haggard lately. I wouldn’t want to see her being tortured by you and Nicolette anymore. That’s why divorce is the best option.” Diana stared straight into his eyes. “Just now, when I said I agree to you divorcing Katie, she was delighted.”
- Delighted?
- Ha, looks like she can’t wait to get rid of me.
- “Let’s just divorce. Quickly. I can’t wait to see my Katie smile again.” Diana urged Samuel. “You’re a man, so act like one. Just do it.”

- Samuel felt a tearing pain in his head.
- Why did Grandma and Mom have such a huge change in their attitude all of a sudden?
- "Settle the divorce within three days. Do you hear me?" Diana reminded Samuel. "Katie had already promised me that she would still have me as her grandma even after the divorce. I have nothing to lose. I'll merely lose one granddaughter-in-law and gain one more granddaughter. Who knows, I might even have another grandson-in-law in the future!"
- Samuel was at a loss for words again.
- "All right. All right. Take your time to think this through in the coming three days." Diana waved her hand. "I'm tired. You should go now. I get upset whenever I see you now."
- Samuel felt dejected.
- He felt as if his own mother and grandmother were no longer on his side.
- They had both sided with Kathleen as if Kathleen were their own.
- Samuel turned around and walked out of the room.
- At the same time, Calvin walked in.
- "Dad?" Samuel furrowed his brows. "You're back? Aren't you supposed to be delayed for two days?"
- "I've missed your mom and decided to come back," Calvin said coldly. "You don't look well. What happened? Did your grandma scold you?"
- "No." Samuel paused. "Dad, were you switched at birth?"
- Calvin furrowed his brows. "Why wouldn't you think if you were the one switched at birth?"
- Samuel was rendered speechless.
- "Did your grandma scold you because of Katie?" Calvin asked.
- "Grandma agreed to me divorcing Katie," Samuel said in a low voice.
- "Really?" Calvin asked excitedly. "Your grandma has finally thought things through."
- "So, Dad, are you supportive of my divorce from Katie?" Samuel asked in a low voice.
- "I am not supporting you. I am merely supporting Katie." Calvin said in a cold voice. "Nicolette is back, and you still have a thing with her. Katie would not be happy about it, so you two might as well get a divorce."
- Samuel felt strange that everyone agreed to him and Kathleen divorcing each other.
- What's going on?
- "Dad, did you all collude with one another, thinking that if everyone appeared to agree to our divorce, I would wonder what's going on and refuse to divorce Katie?" Samuel felt that this was a trap.
- Calvin snorted. "Do you think we would do such a thing? If your theory were true, what would happen if you and Katie really divorced each other? We wouldn't achieve our objective, would we?"
- Samuel remained silent.
- "We just can't bear to see Katie being so unhappy. If being with you upsets her, it'd be better for you two to break up," Calvin said coldly. "Son, I just hope that you won't regret

this decision. There's no turning back. You'd better think this through before making any decision."

- Samuel replied coldly, "What if I haven't thought this through?"
- "Then that means you don't like Nicolette that much," Calvin said matter-of-factly. "If you really love Nicolette very much, why would you hesitate then? The fact that you hesitated means that perhaps the person you're in love with has changed."
- Changed?
- Samuel's eyes darkened.
- Calvin took out some stuff from his luggage. "Give this to Katie. This is the gift I brought back for her. The rest are for your mom and grandma."
- "Nothing for me?" Samuel asked.
- "No, you don't deserve any gift," Calvin replied in disdain. "You're making me lose a daughter-in-law. Why would I give you any gift? You should be happy that I didn't give you a slap."
- Samuel held the box in his hand and asked, "What's this?"
- "A snow globe. Katie is a big fan of collecting something like this. Don't you know?" Calvin asked in a cold voice.
- Samuel shook his head.
- He did not know about this.
- "You've never brought back any gift for Katie whenever you went on a business trip?" Calvin looked surprised.
- "Never," Samuel answered.
- "Hmph." Calvin snickered. "Why on earth did Katie fall for a sc*mbag like you?"
- Samuel was speechless once again.
- "I really have nothing more to say to you." Calvin held a box in his hand and went to see Diana.
- Samuel clutched the gift box in his hand and walked upstairs.
- He went to the bedroom and saw that Kathleen was sitting in front of the desk with a laptop, a tablet, and a sketch board.
- What is she doing?
- He placed the gift in front of her. "Dad is back."
- "Dad is back?" Kathleen was delighted. "He brought this back for me?"
- "Mm." Samuel furrowed his brows.
- "I'll go downstairs and thank him in a while." Kathleen unwrapped the box impatiently and took the snow globe out.
- The snow globe contained a Christmas scene; the red and green hats each contained a cute little doll.
- The meaning behind the gift was obvious.
- She knew that this symbolized the good wishes from the family.
- Shortly after, she placed the snow globe on the desk.
- "You like this sort of stuff?" Samuel asked, his brows furrowed.
- "Yes, why not?" Kathleen picked up a pen and started drawing on the sketch board.

- Samuel took a deep breath. "Today, Grandma and Mom both agree to our divorce. Even Dad agrees to it."
- "That's surprising," Kathleen said indifferently. "So, do you agree to it?"
- "Grandma said that if I were to divorce you, I'd have to give you half of my shares. I'd also have to agree that if I marry Nicolette in the future, I will give you my remaining half of the shares, and I'm not allowed to leave the company. I'd have to stay on and work for you," Samuel said emotionlessly. "Grandma really dotes on you."
- "Why? Mr. Macari, are you reluctant to part with your shares?" Kathleen asked in a cold voice. "I thought you were determined to marry Nicolette. People like you have no issues with doing shameless things. It must be true love then. Mr. Macari, it shouldn't be a problem for you to sacrifice for true love, right?"
- "What do you mean by 'people like us'?" Samuel grabbed her chin, his palm cold. "Didn't you say you don't want all that?"

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- "Samuel, I didn't want it back then because I used to like you and thought that asking you for money would sully our relationship." Kathleen looked at him aloofly. "However, I've figured everything out. No matter how well I do, it would still seem like a crime to you. So, I've decided it would be better to stick to negotiating with you about the benefits instead. Any talk about love and feelings is a nuisance."
- She could finally see things clearly, so her heart no longer felt in as much pain as before.
- Although Samuel had become a part of her life and that it would pain her to cut him out of it, she had no choice but to do so, for he had become a festering wound within her.
- If she didn't cut him off, she would eventually die.
- Samuel huffed. "A nuisance?"
- "Yes. Anything unnecessary would be a nuisance," Kathleen said coldly. "So, are you going to divorce me or not?"
- "No," Samuel answered harshly.
- "No? Why so? Have you perhaps fallen for me?" mocked Kathleen.
- "Don't think too highly of yourself, Kathleen." Samuel's tone was frosty. "The only reason I don't agree with the divorce is that you have yet to agree to donate your bone marrow to Nicolette."
- Kathleen looked at him expressionlessly. "I'll never donate it. We'll just maintain this stalemate. I'm not the one who's in a hurry to get a divorce anyway."
- In fact, neither she nor the Macari family was in a hurry.
- It was Samuel and Nicolette who needed things to speed up.
- "What is your reason for not agreeing with the donation anyway?" Samuel grabbed her wrist. "You'll get everything as soon as you agree with this! However, you just won't! Kathleen, are you—"
- Kathleen looked at him very anxiously.
- Could he be suspecting that I'm pregnant?

- "Are you still in love with me?" asked Samuel coldly.
- Kathleen pursed her lips into a thin line.
- This man sure knows how to make people feel uneasy.
- "No. I just no longer like you anymore." Kathleen held her gaze low. "Samuel, I want to divorce you, but I'll never donate my bone marrow to her. If you don't agree with my decision, we'll just have to settle things in court."
- She was worn out.
- All she wanted was to leave everything behind her.
- "Are you planning to file a lawsuit against me? Sure. As you wish." Samuel chuckled mirthlessly all of a sudden.
- "Samuel, I don't want things to get to that point." Kathleen's voice was soft but hoarse. "Besides, you should also be aware that our relationship will be made public if we choose to take matters to court."
- Our relationship will be made public?
- Samuel retorted in disdain, "So be it. Let them know about it."
- With that, he entered the shower.
- Kathleen took a deep breath while wearing a look of defeat.
- She and Samuel were stuck in a vicious cycle.
- As long as she wouldn't donate her bone marrow, Samuel wouldn't agree to the divorce.
- While she hoped for a divorce, she didn't want to donate her bone marrow to Nicolette because she was pregnant.
- This is so tiresome.
- Standing under the showerhead, Samuel was taking a hot water shower.
- He had a lean and fit figure that made him look good no matter what he chose to wear.
- At that moment, his mind was filled with images of Kathleen.
- She was crying in some of them, while in others, she was smiling. There were also those in which she was devastated, as well as those in which she was annoying him in an aggressive manner.
- He wondered why he had such vivid memories of her.
- When he saw her getting out of Federick's car the previous night, he was burning with envy.
- He had done a background check on Federick.
- It was revealed that Federick was divorced and had custody of a daughter. He also ran a publishing firm.
- Not only was he even-tempered and very understanding toward his employees, but he also had a good reputation among his peers.
- Despite all that, why should Kathleen marry a divorcee with a child?
- He got out of the shower after he was done.
- Kathleen was still sitting in front of the table, focusing on her drawing.
- She was in comfortable casual clothing, while her hair was tied together and draped over her left shoulder, making her look like a cute woman who would fit well in the household.
- Samuel walked over to her before picking her up from the chair.

- "What are you doing?" Kathleen was startled as she started getting nervous.
- He just showered. Could he be...
- She was forced to sleep with him last time, but she had no desire to go along with him this time.
- Nicolette had slept with him, so he is impure now.
- "Why are you so nervous? I won't eat you." Samuel wasn't being very empathetic.
- "We can have negotiations about anything. However, we're on the verge of a divorce, so we'll act accordingly, and you're not allowed to touch me!" Kathleen bit her soft lips.
- I'm not allowed to touch her?
- "Do you seriously think you have a say in this?" Samuel asked indifferently.
- "I'll call for help if you force yourself on me. We aren't in our condominium. If Grandma hears me, she'll assume that I'm being mistreated by you. She wouldn't just stay out of this." Kathleen pursed her lips into a thin line, her voice soft but emotionless as she spoke.
- "Kathleen, have I ever laid a hand on you?" Samuel had a morose look on his face.
- How dare she make such claims?
- "I bet you're on the verge of committing it." Kathleen was being bold. "Anyway, we should refrain from all forms of intimacy. We're on the verge of a divorce, so you'd better show some restraint."
- Samuel smirked. "What if we don't go through with the divorce?"
- Don't go through with the divorce?
- "This is merely a temporary state of affairs. All you need is for me to donate my bone marrow to Nicolette. We would've been divorced long ago if it wasn't for this," stated Kathleen in displeasure.
- "What if I insist on not getting a divorce?" Samuel stared at her face, a flawless piece of art that was as smooth as silk.
- Is there a secret to maintaining her skin in such a great condition? But it also goes to show how fragile she is. Any slight bumps would leave an obvious bruise on her skin. That would be an unfortunate sight.
- "Then we'll just maintain this stalemate." Kathleen gave up on struggling. "The worst-case scenario would be Nicolette dying as we allowed this to drag on."
- Samuel's face fell.
- Kathleen got out of his arms to tidy the hem of her dress while standing aside. "Samuel, you'll be able to be with Nicolette openly if you divorce me. Otherwise, your relationship would never flourish. Aren't you afraid that this might end up as the biggest regret of her life?"
- Samuel was unfazed.
- "You don't have to threaten me using my uncle. I've forgiven enough. Although I've been your wife for some years, nobody, aside from a select few, knew that we're married." Kathleen was feeling aggrieved. "You knew a lot of the staff in Goodwill Hospital are my parents' former colleagues. Although they aren't aware of our relationship, have you

thought of the possibility that they might know of it one day, and what their reaction would be?"

- She was on the verge of tears. "From the beginning till the end, all you ever did was try winning me over with money, for you had assumed that money would be what I was after. Either that or you threatened me using my uncle. You had never put yourself in my shoes, even for one second. It was unfortunate that I put my trust in the wrong person. I just don't get why it is so hard for me to have a divorce. If you don't agree to the divorce, I can't be blamed for making a huge fuss out of it."
- "What do you plan on doing?" Samuel looked at her coldly.
- "I will announce publicly that I'm your wife, whereas Nicolette is the mistress. Why don't you guess how she might react?" Kathleen tried to threaten Samuel as well.
- However, Samuel snickered. "Sure. If you feel like making your identity public, why don't you attend a ball with me tonight? You can make your announcement by then. What do you think about that?"
- Kathleen sensed that he was plotting something. "I won't go. I'll just publish a post on Twitter."
- "I bet you just don't have the courage to come with me, you coward!"

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- A coward? Me?
- Rage crept onto Kathleen's pretty face as anger simmered within her. "You're the coward! Divorce me if you have the guts to!"
- "No, I won't." Samuel was unsympathetically persistent. "You will not make mention of the subject ever again."
- "So you're still not agreeing with the divorce, right?" Kathleen picked up his phone before handing it to him. "Call Nicolette and tell her you're not getting a divorce, assuming that you even have the guts to do so."
- An ominous look fled across Samuel's gaze.
- "You don't have the guts to make the call." Kathleen put his phone down with an aggrieved expression on her fair face. "The only reason you insist on not divorcing me is that you're trying to force me to donate my bone marrow! I will never do that! Now that Grandma knows about this, I will have her be the judge. With her stepping in, you will have to divorce me!"
- With that, Kathleen left the room.
- This is infuriating! Why is this man constantly going back and forth? Why is it so hard for me to get a divorce?
- Meanwhile, Samuel stared at the phone she discarded on the bed with a chilly look on his face.
- She sure is getting bolder by the day, but I just don't feel like divorcing her.
- Now that the other members of the family had agreed on the divorce, he was no longer in a hurry, so he decided to maintain the stalemate.

- Kathleen strolled around in the courtyard, for she didn't want to be in the same room with Samuel.
- It felt suffocating to her.
- Wynnie arrived home by noon.
- Because she and Calvin shared a great relationship, the two of them were constantly seen together, which was something Kathleen admired.
- Moreover, Calvin was a great husband indeed. He would bring Wynnie anything she liked whenever he returned from a business trip.
- Sometimes, he would create romantic scenarios to help preserve their love.
- Despite having a great father like Calvin to set an example, Samuel picked up nothing from him.
- Calvin made some cake which he cut a slice from and offered to Wynnie before offering another slice to Kathleen.
- "Come, Kate. Don't you like strawberry cake?" Calvin handed the slice of cake to her. "You can have all the strawberries on it."
- "Thank you, Dad." Kathleen was astonished by his kindness.
- "You don't have to thank me," said Calvin.
- "Why did you offer Kate such a huge slice? Women nowadays have to keep a slim figure. By doing this, you're essentially forcing her to finish the whole slice," Wynnie reminded.
- However, Calvin countered, "Kate isn't fat. Women shouldn't always talk about going on diets. It's not good for your health. Keeping a moderate figure is fine enough. You don't need to feel anxious about it. Instead, have more confidence in yourself."
- Wynnie shrugged in defeat.
- Kathleen smiled demurely. Dad really is a great parent. I'm so lucky to have in-laws like them. But why do I just have to have such a sh*tty husband?
- "Eat up, Kate. I'm heading to the law firm now." Wynnie stood up.
- "Darling, are you seriously going to work now?" Calvin tracked Wynnie with his gaze.
- "I wouldn't have needed to come back home during noon if it wasn't for you," Wynnie complained. "There are a lot of tasks that I still need to tend to at the law firm, so I have to leave."
- "Come home earlier," suggested Calvin, unwilling to part with her. "I'll cook your favorite dishes."
- "I know. You're making such a fuss. You don't look like the president of a company at all." Despite saying so, Wynnie was beaming.
- "You'll always be the more dominant one when we're together." Calvin blinked.
- "Since you said so, you'd better take care of your son. He has done something to cross me," Wynnie demanded.
- "Worry not. I promise to beat the crap out of that brat." Calvin rubbed his hands together.
- "All right then. I'm leaving now." Wynnie was in a hurry to get back to work.
- Calvin stood up. "Hold on, Darling!"
- Wynnie turned around. "What is it?"

- Calvin walked up to her to hold her arms before leaning in to kiss her on the lips.
- All of a sudden, Kathleen felt like she had lost her appetite.
- "Hey, our daughter-in-law is watching!" Wynn timer chided, flustered despite her usual domineering personality.
- Calvin smiled. "She's our daughter, so it's all right."
- "Hmph!" Wynn timer huffed before wheeling around to leave.
- Calvin turned to the side to check on Kathleen while smiling kindly. "Is the cake nice?"
- Kathleen nodded.
- "It's great that you like it. Tell me if you ever feel like having it again." Calvin sat down, which made Kathleen anxious a little.
- Although Calvin was mild-mannered most of the time, he exuded a mysterious and domineering aura that befitted his prominent status.
- It was just that he rarely showed that side of him to his family, so Kathleen rarely saw that side of him as well.
- However, she couldn't help but be reminded of the distance between them whenever she saw photos of Calvin in magazines, in which he wore a stern expression.
- "I heard you've been quarreling with Samuel," Calvin inquired calmly. "Did he bully you?"
- "No. I suppose that doesn't count as bullying." Kathleen pursed her lips.
- "What would count as bullying if not an affair?" Calvin consoled. "Kate, you can't consider the fact that he had an affair as being in the right just because he doesn't love you. He should be held accountable. Your marriage is both legally and morally binding. No matter how the two of you got together and ended up getting married, you're both responsible for your marriage."
- Kathleen bit her lip lightly. "Yes, I'm aware of that."
- "I know you aren't responsible for this. What wrong could you have done? You just allowed Samuel to do as he pleased because you loved him too much. Kate, you have nothing to fear. You're Samuel's legal spouse and also have our support. Go and confront the third party if that's what you feel like doing. Wynn timer, my mother, and me; none of us are afraid of Samuel," Calvin advised seriously, which touched Kathleen.
- Why are they all so nice to me?
- "Dad, I know Samuel and I would never be able to return to how we used to be ever since we laid things out in the open," said Kathleen in dejection.
- "Do you mean you've made up your mind to file for divorce because your relationship will no longer be what it was?" asked Calvin solemnly.
- Kathleen nodded. "I don't want to hide anything from you, Dad. Samuel did something unforgivable, so I don't think I can tolerate him any longer."
- Calvin frowned. Something unforgivable? Could it be that he and Nicolette have... That brat!
- "So, I would like to file for divorce, Dad." Kathleen's lashes fluttered as she lowered her gaze. "But Samuel doesn't agree to the divorce."
- "I heard from Wynn timer that you and Nicolette have matching bone marrows. Am I right?" asked Calvin coldly.

- Kathleen nodded.
- Calvin finally grasped the situation. "Did he threaten not to divorce you if you do not donate your bone marrow to Nicolette?"
- Kathleen nodded even harder.
- Calvin scoffed inwardly.
- D*mn, this brat sure knows how to plot. Other than forcing her to be a bone marrow donor, he might have ulterior motives for refusing to divorce Kathleen.
- "Kate, I've spoken to your grandma about this. You have our support, so we won't try to convince you to change your mind about the divorce." Calvin paused for a moment. "I'll help you think of something."
- Kathleen blinked in astonishment.
- Is he serious?