

Chapter 41 Redemption in the Arms of Henry

Crystal walked out of the villa.

As the rain intensified, a thick veil of mist descended upon the world. In the dim glow of the streetlights, the ground glimmered with a lustrous sheen of water.

Crystal walked numbly in high heels on the cold and rainy night. She continued to walk until her heels had worn her feet raw, and bright red blood streamed down her fair skin.

It hurts so *much*...

Inclining her head slightly, she let the icy raindrops pelt her face.

Loving *Robert Sloan* is *my curse!*

Her feelings for him had transformed into pure hatred. Rather than spending the rest of her life seeking revenge, she would rather die alongside him.

Tears welled up in her eyes but in the frigid night, they seemed insignificant. She slowly crouched down and allowed the rain to cleanse and wash away her pain.

Just then, a tall figure with a black umbrella appeared over her, enveloping her in its shade.

Crystal lifted her face and saw that the person was none other than Henry.

He was dressed in a suit that made it seem like he had just left a formal event, emanating an air of sophistication and charisma. His eyes bore into hers, and the intensity of his gaze caused her heart to skip a beat.

It's Henry again! Why does he always show up when I'm at my most vulnerable? And why do I feel this sense of redemption every time I see him?

"Miss Winters, I've been looking for you all night." Henry's deep and husky voice was more captivating than the melody of a cello.

Crystal looked up at him as he reached out his hand to her.

However, she remained frozen in place, and her body was stiff and unresponsive.

“Poor thing.” He sighed softly.

Without hesitation, he bent down and lifted her into his arms. Although her drenched clothes had seeped through his attire, neither of them seemed to be bothered.

Henry’s body was warm, and it took a moment for Crystal to snap out of it.

They were so close to each other that her face was nearly buried in his neck, and their posture was so intimate that it made her feel like she was losing her sanity.

She wanted to struggle as she felt uneasy.

However, his hoarse voice cut through her thoughts. “Don’t move!” he rasped.

Then, he gently placed the umbrella handle in her hand. His hand was so warm that she had the urge to escape, but he wouldn’t allow it as he quickly enclosed her soft palm in his scorching grip.

Crystal stared at him in a daze, and her tempting lips were slightly parted.

Henry lowered his head and pressed his lips against hers, and they passionately made out in the rain.

As the rain gently poured down, it seemed as though there were only the two of them left in the world. Although Crystal initially resisted his kiss, she was no match for Henry’s dominance and the fiery passion that he unleashed upon her. Her heart was slowly tamed by his skilled and irresistible kiss.

The black umbrella fell to the ground and was carried away by the wind.

Unable to resist any longer, she wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him back. Her desperate demeanor seemed like a sacrifice to Henry, and the sounds of their passion caused her to blush and her heart to race.

At this moment, no words were needed as both of them understood each other’s hearts.

Robert was no longer important.

Henry took Crystal to his luxurious apartment located in a bustling area. He looked at her wet clothes and pulled out a black shirt from the wardrobe before passing it to her. “Go take a shower and change your clothes, Wear this shirt for now, and I’ll have my secretary bring some new clothes over tomorrow morning.”

At 24 years old, Crystal was not so naive that she failed to recognize the situation at hand.

After silently taking the shirt from Henry, she glanced up at him.

She was surprised but also relieved when he grabbed a bathrobe and headed to the guest room. This gave her the chance to finally catch a glimpse of his bedroom.

Henry had a preference for modern art with a touch of heavy metal. The cool and austere style of the bedroom reflected his strong personal taste, featuring furniture in a deep shade of gray that harmonized with the black bedsheets and curtains.

Crystal bit her lip lightly and went to the bathroom. When she came out, she was only wearing his shirt.

Henry stood at approximately 6 feet tall, and his shirt was so oversized that she could wear it as a nightgown. The loose fit of the shirt complemented her skin tone, and as she moved, her beautiful and slender legs peeked out from beneath the hem.

When Henry entered the room to grab some files, he was greeted with this scene and his Adam's apple bobbed involuntarily.

Chapter 42 Crystal Is With Me

Crystal's body trembled slightly under Henry's gaze.

Then, he handed his phone to her and said, "Give your aunt a call. She's probably worried about you since your phone has been off all day."

Crystal took the phone and whispered her thanks before making her way to the window to call Anna.

Anna expressed concern regarding Crystal's situation with Robert and proceeded to ask some probing questions, leaving the young woman feeling tongue-tied as she anxiously bit her lip.

Just then, a slender hand reached out and took the phone. Henry's voice was gentle as he greeted, "Hi, Madam Anna. My name is Henry Miller and I'm a lawyer. Just wanted to let you know that Crystal is with me right now."

Crystal was both surprised and shocked.

She never expected that he would be willing to reveal their relationship. *Does he even know what he is doing?*

Not only Crystal but even Anna, who was on the other end of the line, was also dumbfounded.

Anna pinched herself hard, making sure that she wasn't dreaming.

Am I really speaking to Henry Miller, the brother-in-law of that jerk Robert?

Anna was left speechless as Henry effortlessly explained the reason for Crystal being with him.

As the call came to an end, he turned to Crystal and instructed, "Go to the kitchen and make some ginger tea for yourself. Drink it and go to sleep. I have some things to take care of," he said as he walked toward his study.

Crystal gently tugged on his sleeve and murmured, "Henry."

He turned around to look at her.

She hesitated before speaking up. "I made... a promise... to Robert."

Henry's expression darkened as he spoke slowly. "I thought you had made a choice when you came back with me."

With that, he extended his hand and lightly rubbed her forehead.

"There will be *nothing* between you and Robert."

After he finished speaking, he walked into his study. Crystal mulled over Henry's words repeatedly and later realized that he was likely making an exception mainly for Melora's sake. Robert would only give up on her if she ended up with Henry.

With that thought in mind, she felt a sense of relief.

After that, she walked into the kitchen to prepare some ginger tea. Henry's kitchen was like a display unit, and she doubted if he had ever used it before. However, when she opened the fridge, she found it well-stocked with a variety of meats, eggs, and dairy products.

Then, she took out some ginger and brewed two cups of ginger tea, reserving one for him.

In the study, Henry was on the phone. When Crystal arrived at the door, he didn't avoid her as he made a gesture for her to come in.

After entering the study, she placed the ginger tea on his desk. Just as she was about to leave, her wrist was abruptly grasped as he pulled her gently onto his lap.

While he continued talking to Jake on the phone, his other hand was not idle. She finally succumbed to his teasing as she leaned against his shoulder and nibbled it lightly.

Henry's black pupils fixed on her and a spark of fire danced within his gaze.

Suddenly, Jake mentioned Crystal on the other end of the line.

Henry chuckled lightly in response. "She's here with me right now. Do you want to talk to her?"

Jake was taken aback for a moment before he teased playfully, "Wow, Henry! You're quite the speedster, *eh?* If Seth finds out, he'll be weeping at home."

"He's stronger than you think." Henry brushed it off with a few words.

After that, he quickly finished the call and received a few more documents, all of which were related to John Winters' case.

When he had a little break, he quickly gulped down the ginger tea and told Crystal to go to bed before him since he still had some tasks to attend to.

Meanwhile, she didn't make a scene by asking to sleep in the guest room as she was well aware of what he wanted from her.

After entering the master bedroom, she carefully lifted the thin blanket and lay down. In the dim light, her skin looked translucent against the black sheets.

Crystal couldn't help but feel a little nervous, wondering when Henry would come to bed.

Will he come back at all?

Chapter 43 The Untainted Crystal

Crystal was exhausted.

No matter how she tossed and turned, she couldn't fall asleep at all. Every time she was drifting off to sleep, she would feel a strong pair of arms wrapping around her body, while a man softly whispered her name, "Crystal..."

She suddenly woke up in shock.

In the dimly lit bedroom, only a ray of moonlight shone through the crack in the curtains, casting a hazy and surreal glow.

Crystal sat up and lightly touched her face.

It wasn't a dream.

She was in Henry's place and was sleeping in his bed.

The bedroom door opened quietly as Henry came in after finishing his work. As soon as he entered, he saw Crystal sitting on the bed, looking bewildered like a pitiful little puppy.

He gave up on turning on the lights and sat by the side of the bed while gently stroking her soft long hair. Why aren't you asleep yet?"

Following his hand, Crystal obediently leaned against his shoulder.

Henry knew what she wanted to ask as he whispered in her ear, "I've already made *the* necessary arrangements just now. I'll take care of it tomorrow morning and if everything goes well, he should be released on bail."

Crystal was grateful beyond words.

Without saying anything, she simply wrapped his neck.

Henry, being in his prime, didn't feel the need to restrain himself. Hence, everything happened naturally as he guided her in a passionate embrace, while they exchanged kisses that seemed to last an eternity.

Since it was Crystal's first time, she was somewhat nervous and didn't know where to put her hands and feet.

Her body also trembled uncontrollably.

However, the more she was like this, the more Henry was aroused.

Just as both of them were getting lost in the heat of the moment, Crystal frowned and let out a small cry of pain.

Breathing heavily, Henry leaned in close to her ear and asked in a whisper, "What's wrong?"

“My heel is blistered and it hurts,” she replied in a quivering voice.

With his hand cradling the back of her head, he looked down at her. Fearing that he would be upset, she hugged his neck tightly and softly mumbled, “It doesn’t hurt anymore.”

Henry chuckled lightly

After that, he tenderly nuzzled his nose against hers and his voice became hoarse as he murmured, “Miss Winters, are you more impatient than I am?”

Crystal blushed so much that she was as red as a tomato.

Henry refrained from teasing her further and turned on a bedside lamp, which cast a soft yellow glow that illuminated their faces and allowed them to see each other’s expressions.

She hastily grabbed a sheet to cover herself.

He chuckled upon seeing that. “Are you shy? If I had known you were a little innocent girl who doesn’t know much about these things, I wouldn’t have dared to make a move.”

Henry’s words were playful, but he had no idea that she truly had no experience with men.

Crystal watched his back as he got out of bed to retrieve the first aid kit for her.

He had an impressive build with lean muscles enveloping his tall and sturdy frame. His build was sleek and had just the right proportions.

Before he returned, she quickly put on a shirt.

After a brief moment, Henry came back with the first aid kit, and Crystal was sitting on the edge of the *bed*. “I can take care of it myself,” she muttered.

However, he held her back. As he crouched down, he grasped one of her feet before applying the medicine.

Crystal felt uneasy.

In this relationship, she felt that there was no need for him to be overly kind or attentive to her.

Henry looked up and instructed, "Don't move."

Sensing her thoughts, he gently explained, "I don't like to pressure anyone. When we're together, we're equals, and what I really want is for us to be thoroughly pleased in the relationship."

His words were utterly flirtatious.

Crystal contemplated asking him about his previous experiences in relationships like this but found the question lacking in interest as they were not officially a couple.

Although Henry did not say it explicitly, she knew that their relationship would come to an end when he grew tired of her.

I should be grateful to him for preserving my dignity at my most miserable moment, she thought.

Chapter 44 Do You Like It?

Crystal hugged Henry's neck and kissed him, either out of gratitude or due to his innate charm.

+5 Bonus

His intense gaze caused her body to flush with heat, and she mustered her courage to ask, "Do you want to keep going?"

Suddenly, he leaned in.

As Henry advanced, Crystal retreated until she was forced to lie back and barely propped herself up with her hands.

She didn't dare to look at him and lowered her gaze, her long eyelashes casting delicate shadows under the lights.

Henry took her hand and placed it on his handsome face, inviting her to feel it.

"Miss Winters, do you like it?" he asked.

Crystal widened her eyes and blushed uncontrollably.

Henry nudged her nose with his own and confidently said, "When we're together, it's hard to tell who's taking advantage of whom. You seem pretty eager if you ask me."

"It's not true! I just want to go to sleep," she muttered as she snuggled under the covers.

Henry looked utterly disappointed.

Truth was, he had been busy for several days and was already very tired. It was just that he was stirred by the sight of Crystal in a black shirt when he came in. However, he didn't feel like continuing anymore after the interruption.

With that, he packed up the medical kit and joined her in bed. As he wasn't used to having someone else in his bed, he simply dragged her into his embrace and intertwined their hands.

Crystal was trapped in his arms and didn't dare to move at all.

She initially thought that she wouldn't be able to fall asleep. However, with the steady sound of his heartbeat, she quickly drifted off.

That night, she had the best sleep she had had in recent days.

When Crystal woke up, it was already 8.00AM,

She sat up abruptly and noticed that Henry had already gotten up. He stood by the bed as he tied his necktie, exuding a mature and handsome look in his deep blue shirt and gray trousers.

Seeing that she was awake, he commented, "I'm going out later. You can go home and pack your stuff during the day. I'll come to pick you up in the evening."

"Isn't it better for me to come over when you need me?" she asked softly.

Henry smiled faintly. "It's more convenient to stay here."

Considering his busy work schedule, it would have been a hassle for him to go out and pick her up every time he felt like seeing her.

Crystal didn't object any

further.

At this moment, faint sounds of someone doing the chores and the aroma of food drifted in from outside.

She was a little surprised.

As Henry looked at her expression, he explained, "It's Marie. She comes over every morning for four hours to prepare breakfast and clean up. It won't affect our daily life."

Crystal nodded.

Then, she got out of bed to help him with his tie.

Her fingers were dexterous as she tied the tie beautifully.

Henry couldn't help but ask, "Did you always help Robert with his tie?"

At that, her heart stung for a moment.

It wasn't Robert. She often helped her *dad* with his tie and got the practice in. On the other hand, Robert didn't like her touching him and he always kept his distance.

"Henry, can we not talk about him in the future?" Crystal softly protested.

Without saying anything else, he pointed to the paper bag on the bedside table. "Jamie sent this over early in the morning. There's a set of undergarments in there along with the clothes. Try them on."

Crystal felt a blush creeping up her cheeks as she refrained from pondering what Jamie might be thinking.

Seeing her reaction, Henry lightly pinched her cheek and murmured, "Are you feeling shy again? When it comes to the matters of the heart, nobody's going to judge."

After he finished speaking, he walked out of the bedroom.

With a blush on her face, Crystal took the clothes and made her way to the bathroom to change. To her surprise, every piece of clothing, including undergarments, fit her perfectly. The thought that Henry had provided the accurate sizes made her even more embarrassed.

Meanwhile, in the spacious dining room, Henry sipped coffee while reading the financial morning news.

In addition to his law firm, he had other business ventures, most of which were managed by professional teams and did not require much of his attention.

Just then, Crystal came out of the bedroom.

He looked up at her for a while before complimenting, "They look pretty good on you."

Chapter 45 I've Changed My Mind

Crystal also felt that the long dress suited her perfectly as soon as she tried it on. She sat down and praised the secretary. "It's because Jamie has good taste."

Henry remained silent.

The housekeeper, Marie, brought in breakfast as she stated, "Miss Winters, I didn't know that you were coming. We'll have to make do with this today. Let me know what you would like to eat, and I'll make it for you tomorrow morning."

Crystal preferred a simple breakfast. However, being a guest at Henry's house, she acknowledged that Marie was his hired housekeeper.

Therefore, she had no reason to boss her around.

She smiled lightly and murmured, "This is great."

At that, Marie breathed a sigh of relief. *I get the feeling that she's quite easy to get along with.*

Rubbing her hands together, she then hurried back to the kitchen to resume her work.

Meanwhile, Henry folded his newspaper.

He glanced at Crystal, who was sipping her milk with her head down. It was clear that she came from a middle-class family as she ate in a gentle and cultured manner, without any hint of pretense or affectation.

At once, he found her pleasing to the eye.

In contrast, he had been born into a life of privilege and his handsome appearance had attracted numerous women throughout his adult years. With discerning taste and high standards, he wasn't interested in the innocent and inexperienced women that other

men might keep around to satisfy their desires. For him, compatibility and a woman's background were essential factors to consider.

Crystal's looks and personality had captured Henry's heart, to the extent that he was willing to live with her.

Obviously, Crystal was oblivious to these thoughts. She took a sip of her milk and then thought it over before deciding to inform him, "I lost my other jobs, but I still have my classes with Sophia. I have one tomorrow night."

He did not object, but lightly asked, "So you really like the piano? I've heard you play well. Why didn't you further your studies?" Given her family background, it wouldn't have been an issue.

She only smiled faintly.

The truth was that Crystal had thought about it before. She had been offered admission to the Royal Academy of Music in the Kingdom of Brundela and had even packed her bags, but Anna strongly opposed it. Crystal was the child that Anna had raised with great difficulty, and the latter couldn't bear to let her go.

Anna had never had children of her own, and she felt a strong sense of possession toward Crystal.

After a month of tug of war, Crystal decided to stay in Barnwood.

Her teacher expressed deep regret and said, "Crystal, you are the most talented student I have ever seen. It's such a shame that you're not pursuing advanced studies and have instead chosen to become a teacher."

Crystal felt that there was no need to tell Henry about these things since this was her own life.

Henry noticed that something was amiss with her expression and was about to say something, but his phone chose that moment to ring.

It was a message from his father.

'Henry, there's a lead on the daughter that Mr. Quinn has been searching for all these years. Keep your schedule open when he returns from abroad.

David also sent a picture.

It was a pink diamond necklace.

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Henry looked at the picture and felt that he had seen it somewhere, but he couldn't recall exactly where it

was.

Just then, Jamie called, so he exited the album.

Jamie was efficient and had already arranged the release of John Winters. All that was left was for Henry to sign off on the paperwork.

With that, he ended the call.

Then, Henry said to Crystal, "I'm going to the detention center. Go home and wait for my news. You should be able to see him today."

Crystal was very grateful to him and whispered her thanks.

He picked up his coat and stood up gracefully. She changed her shoes before walking him down the stairs,

As they reached the ground floor, a luxurious black car came into view.

Jamie was waiting by the car and nodded respectfully at Crystal upon seeing her. “Miss Winters.”

Crystal also nodded in response.

Henry opened the car door and got in. With his handsome looks and refined manners, he exuded an air of elegance and nobility.

She suddenly remembered what he had said.

Crystal, it's hard to tell who's taking advantage of whom between us, isn't it?

At this moment, she couldn't agree more with his words.

She watched as his car drove away. Just as she was about to go upstairs, her phone rang.

It was a call from Robert.

After a moment of hesitation, she decided to answer the call and softly uttered, “Robert, I've changed my mind.”

Chapter 46 Don't Regret It Later, Babe

Robert refused to believe Crystal's words. “What about your parents? Are you just going to sit by and watch them go to jail?”

However, Crystal saw no point in explaining. Instead, she kept it vague. “I'm not going back to your villa anymore. I'll send the key back to you.”

Robert could feel his heart lurch at her statement.

What made her suddenly change her mind? Before he could ask further, she ended the call.

Robert called his secretary, a shadow darkening his expression. “Find out how John Winters is doing lately.”

The secretary immediately did as she was instructed. Five minutes later, the secretary reported to him in a shaky voice, "Mr. Sloan, John has appointed a new lawyer. I'll keep digging."

"There's no need." With that, Robert ended the call.

He decided to pay a visit to the detention center. *Who dares take the case without my permission? I'll prove to them it'll change nothing.*

Robert quickly opened the car door and drove toward the detention center. The injury on his waist hadn't healed and his movements only opened the wound, causing blood to redden his bandages. However, he paid no mind to it.

Twenty minutes later, he parked his car outside the detention center. Upon getting out of his car, he saw a stunning man walking out of the building with people surrounding him.

It was none other than Henry Miller.

The branded suit Henry wore made him look noble and unapproachable.

The group was descending the stairs as the executives around Henry humbly talked to him.

Jamie was present as well. She smiled at the rest. "It seems like we must part here. I appreciate everyone's effort in this case."

The others smiled upon hearing that.

After all, they were dealing with a Miller. They had to show him a certain amount of respect.

Henry kept a polite distance as he shook hands with them to bid farewell. After he turned on his heel to leave, the group exchanged a smile. One of them began, "We have finally met the tyrant of the lawyer industry. He is indeed a miracle!"

The others agreed with him.

Henry was handsome, wealthy, and influential. That made him the subject of envy for many.

Robert clenched his fists as he watched the scene unfold.

So, it's Henry who took the case!

Robert deliberately chose to strike when Henry wasn't around Barnwood. He didn't expect Henry to return earlier than planned. *Henry shouldn't have cared about Crystal. She's just a plaything to him!*

Robert hated this feeling.

He watched Henry, the chosen one, walking over to him.

To his surprise, Henry only patted him on the shoulder with a small smile, looking as if nothing happened. "Melora told me you're injured and I was just about to visit you. Now that you're here, I'm glad to see you're all right. By the way, I'll see you at home for lunch later."

Robert nodded with a blank expression.

Henry chuckled and lit a cigarette. He slowly took a drag from it before walking toward his car.

He brushed past Robert on his way.

All Robert could feel was overwhelming pressure from Henry when the latter walked away. Throughout their interaction, Robert did not bring up Crystal at all.

However, he didn't need to ask. He was confident that Crystal had submitted to Henry.

Once Henry's car drove out of view, Robert took out his phone with a blank face and dialed Crystal's number.

He gritted his teeth when the call was connected. "I know what you did, Crystal."

On the other side of the line, Crystal calmly answered, "I don't see a problem, Robert. It's merely an eye for an eye."

"Good for you, then! There's no problem at all!" Robert sneered. "However, don't regret it later, babe."

Crystal hung up on him without a word.

At that moment, her phone buzzed. She checked it and found a new message from Henry. 'Mr. Winters has been transferred to Genesis Hospital. You and Mrs. Winters should visit him later. He can return home once he's better.'

Crystal read the message longer than she should have until tears clouded her vision.

At that moment, she finally felt alive again for the first time.

Chapter 47 She'll Listen as Long as She Loves Him

After Crystal hung up on him, Robert took his anger out on his car with a punch.

Damn it, Crystal Winters! It feels like I don't even know her anymore.

Crystal's response put Robert in a bad mood even though he refused to admit that her attitude had a huge impact on him.

She's just a woman that got away. She means nothing to me.

Robert didn't visit the hospital to patch himself up. Instead, he drove to a club that he frequented for business affairs. It was an exclusive club that only served influential customers.

After asking for a private room, Robert began to drink in broad daylight..

The manager accompanied him. After a few drinks, he prompted, "Did you fight with your girlfriend, Mr. Sloan? Otherwise, you wouldn't drink in the morning. What happened? I was told the daughter of the Miller Family is crazy about you."

Robert/reclined the leather couch. He cast his dark eyes down as he processed the manager's words. "Crazy about/me?"

The manager poured him another glass of wine with a winning smile. "A woman will listen to her man's words as long as she loves him."

Robert finished half of the glass without a word.

A few moments later, a faint smile finally graced his lips. "Does it mean she no longer loves him if she stops listening to him one day?"

“That’s impossible! Mr. Sloan, you’re more charismatic than you think. Women will *stay* for you,” the manager flattered Robert.

Now that he found Robert was troubled over a woman, he summoned a girl to the private room.

She was young and innocent.

“She’ll accompany you throughout your stay, Mr. Sloan.” The manager kept it vague.

At first, Robert wanted to reject the manager’s gesture. However, he was stunned when he locked eyes with the girl.

The girl with a pure look resembled Crystal, especially in her side profile. He went into a trance as he pulled her toward him and whispered, “Crystal?”

The manager took the hint and walked away, leaving the luxurious private room to them.

The girl was a female escort, so she was good at pleasing a man. She took the initiative as she wrapped her arms around his neck and kissed him. The kiss aroused Robert and he pushed her onto the couch.

After that, the pair silently enjoyed the afterglow.

Robert casually asked, “What’s your name?”

The girl sweetly helped him to get dressed as she replied, “Crystalline.”

Robert shot her an alluring smile before commenting, “That’s a good name.”

Crystalline blushed at his comment. She put her arms around him as she purred, “Mr. Sloan, when will you come again?”

Robert lit a cigarette and took a drag from it. “We’ll see.”

His answer disappointed her. She was gauging his reaction to see whether he would keep her or not. After all, he was very passionate and kept repeating the same name a few moments ago.

She knew he saw someone else in her, but she didn't care. All she wanted was a big shot to depend on.

Meanwhile, Robert was in no mood to deal with the woman. He immediately left the club after that.

After getting in his car, he checked the time on his watch. It was 11.00AM, which meant it was time to have lunch at the Miller Residence. A shadow fell on Robert's handsome face at the thought of seeing Henry.

Much to his surprise, Henry wasn't home when he arrived at the Miller Residence.

Melora got downstairs with her phone and sweetly addressed her parents, "I wonder why Henry is so busy. He agreed on coming home for lunch, but it's almost 3.00PM already!"

Robert clenched his fists. *Oh, I'm well aware of the reason.*

Even so, he kept his composure as he played chess with David.

Melora took a seat beside him and murmured coquettishly, "Please don't get angry. Henry doesn't mean
it."

Robert smiled at her. "I won't."

David was very pleased with Robert's character. Glancing at his precious daughter, he teased, "Robert isn't as restless as you, you know. He can't do business with that attitude."

Robert gently put an arm around Melora. "She's a considerate girl."

His words coated Melora's heart in honey. Just as she wanted to answer, she leaned toward him and sniffed his shoulder. "Robert, why do you smell like perfume?"

Chapter 48 Calling Crystal Right in Front of Robert

Robert's lips twitched at her discovery as he pondered, *I must've gotten it from the club.*

In the end, he smiled at her before lying with a straight face. "I went to the hospital this morning to have my wounds dressed. I might've gotten it from the nurse."

Melora pouted as she picked her nails and threw a tantrum. "The nurse must be young and beautiful! You must be happy that she helped you to dress your wounds!"

He chuckled before pinching her cheeks. "You don't need to get jealous of her."

Truth was, she loved him wholeheartedly and wasn't doubting him at all. After a few soothing words, she forgot about the incident as she leaned against his shoulder with a wide smile.

David performed the next move on the chessboard while reminding her, "You need to be more reserved as a girl."

Parents knew their children the best. Besides, Henry also reminded them that Melora was too trusting and could easily get manipulated by Robert.

However, David had a different opinion. Since Melora was a pure girl, he thought a prudent man like Robert would do her good.

Crisis *resolved*. Robert curled his lips in victory.

At that moment, Julia approached them with a smile. "Let's get started without Henry. They've served up the dishes."

Melora helped Robert to his feet before happily linking arms with him.

David and Julia exchanged a smile.

The four ate in a relaxed atmosphere. Robert was good with his words, and he captured the Millers' hearts with that.

After lunch, Melora dragged Robert back to her room upstairs.

As soon as she shut the door, she closed the gap between them and kissed him. She intended to take it further.

However, he was injured. Besides, he had slept with another woman this morning and didn't have the stamina to deal with Melora at the moment. More importantly, he wasn't in the mood. Thus, he returned her gesture with a few kisses before pulling away,

He teased her in a hoarse voice, "How about we wait a few more days, hmm?"

Melora blushed at his words.

She wrapped her arms around him tightly and let his smell calm her thoughts. "I wish you could take a shower to remove the perfume, but since it's from a nurse, I'll let you off the hook this time."

Robert's eyes darkened at her innocent words.

The pair took a nap in Melora's bedroom.

The noise of the car engine downstairs woke Robert. It *must be Henry*. He gently cast Melora's arm away and slid out of the bed. Walking over to the balcony, he looked down.

It really is him.

It was a hot afternoon. Henry had removed his suit jacket, showcasing his dark blue button-up and trousers. He was speaking to his phone right beneath where Robert stood.

“Yes, I’m at the Miller Residence. I’ll pick you up at 5.00PM. You should get your things ready.”

Robert’s body tensed as he eavesdropped on their conversation. He had a feeling that Crystal was on the other end of the line. *Is Crystal moving in with Henry?*

At that moment, Henry raised his head and saw Robert on the balcony. The men locked eyes with each other.

Henry chuckled at the sight before gently talking into the phone, “It’s nothing. I just saw someone know. I have to go. You don’t have to pack everything. We can buy them on the way.”

After that, he ended the call.

Robert was boiling in anger after he heard the conversation and saw Henry’s expression.

Meanwhile, Melora had also woken up. She approached him and embraced him. Tipping her head upward, she attempted to kiss him. However, Robert paid no mind to her gesture. “Henry is home. Let’s go down to greet him.”

Even though Melora was naive, she could tell he was distant. She couldn’t help her disappointment, but Robert noticed it and comforted her.

When the pair showed up in the living room, Melora was smiling again.

Henry was reading a magazine on the couch when she threw herself into his arms. “Henry!”

He pinched her cheeks and teased, "Be careful. Robert might get jealous if you still follow me everywhere."

"He won't." Melora hugged Henry's arm and purred, "Henry, didn't you say you had a few projects on hand last time? I think you can entrust them to our people instead of the outsiders."

Henry glanced at Robert and shot him a knowing look.

"You just can't wait to become a Sloan, can you? I'm sad."

"Henry, pretty please?" Melora tried again.

Chapter 49 Robert Is Persistent

Even though Henry teased Melora nonstop, he agreed with her right away.

"Henry, you're the best!" After that, Melora attempted to break the ice between Henry and Robert. She had a feeling that the men weren't seeing eye to eye, but she couldn't quite pin down the reason.

Robert aimed to become a member of the Millers. After all, the Miller Corporation was on a far larger scale than the Sloan Group. Moreover, the family had connections everywhere, which was an unlikely goal for the Sloans to achieve.

Thus, Robert would never start a war with Henry for Crystal.

Presently, he politely thanked Henry. "Thank you, Henry."

Henry only smiled a little at Robert's words.

Then, he grabbed a magazine and read it. Melora tried her best to work her charm but he remained nonchalant the whole time.

At 4.30PM, Henry rose to his feet. "I have to go. I have things to do."

It had been a while since his parents last saw him, so they asked to stay for dinner.

“Another time. I really should get going.” Henry patted Melora’s head.

Not long after he left, Robert also took his leave.

Worried about him facing a dilemma, Melora found him an excuse and escorted him to his car. She affectionately told him, “Don’t mind Henry. He’s always been that cold to everyone.”

Robert scoffed at her statement.

Do you ever listen to yourself? What about Crystal?

He got in his car without a word and followed behind Henry’s car from a distance.

Grabbing the steering wheel, Henry glanced in the rearview mirror and found Robert’s car behind his.

He chuckled at his discovery. Instead of speeding up to throw off Robert’s pursuit, he drove at a steady pace to ensure his car was in Robert’s sight.

Half an hour later, he picked Crystal up.

He figured she might’ve visited John because he noticed her teary eyes when she got in the car.

Henry was never careful, especially toward women. However, he gently asked, “Why did you still cry after visiting your father? Do your eyes hurt?”

“I didn’t cry,” Crystal mumbled.

Henry chuckled lightly before leaning across the seat and whispering, “Are you perhaps crying because you anticipate me to make you cry later? I haven’t done anything, you know.”

She averted her gaze.

He had a wide grin on his face when he noticed her shy reaction. Before he started the engine, he looked in the rearview mirror.

He's still following, eh? How persistent.

It was rush hour, so there were many cars on the road.

When Henry's car stopped at a red light, he casually asked Crystal about John's condition, and she told him everything.

"That's a small suitcase. Are you sure you have everything you need?" He asked out of nowhere.

After pondering for a moment, she answered, "You don't have women's slippers at your place. I need to buy a pair for myself."

He only hummed a response.

He then lowered the window and lit a cigarette. He rested his elbow on the side as he held the cigarette between his fingers so the drivers behind could see that.

The traffic moved slowly. After half an hour, they finally arrived at the apartment.

Henry parked his car on the roadside.

Unfastening his seatbelt, he turned to the side and informed Crystal, "There's a home improvement retailer opposite the road. You can buy everything you need over there. I need to go to the pharmacy for a while."

After that, he took out a platinum card from his wallet and told her the PIN. "From now on, you can just use the money on this card whenever you need."

After a moment of hesitation, Crystal accepted his gesture. She got out of the car and walked toward the shop. She had no idea that the residents of Henry's apartment were regulars of this place, let alone aware that she would meet her neighbors here one day.

Meanwhile, Henry finished the rest of his cigarette and opened the door.

He went into the pharmacy on the other side of the road and took two boxes of condoms from the

counter.

The boxes were labeled with an 'L'.

He grabbed them and took out two banknotes from his wallet with a straight face before bringing them to the cashier.

The cashier was a woman in her forties. She was amazed when she locked eyes with him. She couldn't help but giggle when she scanned the items as she imagined Henry using the products on her.

Chapter 50 It's up to You

After Henry returned the car, Crystal also finished shopping.

She got in the car with her items.

Henry was curious to see what she bought. "What did you buy? That's quite a lot."

"Two pairs of indoor slippers and two bathing robes."

It was a woman's nature to shop. Even if it was the most normal household item, they couldn't help but stop by and check on them.

Henry glanced at the bag. "You want us to share the items in the same color as a couple?"

Crystal blushed. "That's not true! It's just that everything in your house is white..."

She cleared her throat and changed the topic. "Did you get what you wanted?"

Henry's eyes turned darker with lust at her words.

He scrutinized her longer than he should before taking out two boxes from his pocket at a teasing speed. He put the boxes on the dashboard. Crystal immediately regretted asking when she saw the description.

Why did I ask? Henry has wilder thoughts than he looks. He looks like a serious man from the outside but is very open in private.

She couldn't help but think, *Does he need to use them a lot?*

Henry's car rolled to a stop in the apartment's parking lot. Robert, who had been trailing behind, could no longer follow him. He stopped the car outside and waited in the car to gather his thoughts.

He had been following Henry since they left the Miller Residence. He witnessed Crystal getting in Henry's

car.

He saw her walking into the household shop as if she was Henry's wife.

He had also watched Henry buy two big boxes of condoms.

Does he plan to make a move on her tonight?

Robert slammed his fist on the steering wheel, making the car horn of the black sports car blare. The pedestrians turned in his direction and accused him with angry looks on their faces.

However, he paid no mind to his surroundings.

All he knew was that he lost Crystal. *She could* be lying on *the same bed* with Henry *right now* and *he's doing everything* he wants to her.

On the other hand, Crystal was unaware of the silent competition between the two men.

She returned to the apartment with Henry. Right after she set her things down, she heard him mention,

“The helper is not around at night, so you should prepare some dinner for us. Something simple will do.”

Crystal had zero ideas about how a kept woman worked, let alone whether she needed to be in charge of preparing meals. However, she was grateful for Henry's help. Thus, she was willing to do anything for him.

She was a good cook. The food was simple but delicious, and it amazed Henry.

At the dinner table, he took a few bites before looking at her. “They taste good.”

“Thank you.” Crystal sat opposite him as she ate her portion of dinner. Since he looked like he was in a good mood, she told him, “I'm going to Mr. Murray's place to tutor Sophia later.”

Henry frowned at her words.

He indeed agreed with it earlier. However, he wasn't too happy to learn she was leaving for work before she even settled down at his place.

Besides, he bought condoms.

Even so, he pretended to not be bothered by her words. “You can take a cab first. I'll pick you up once you're finished.”

Crystal didn't want to trouble him, so she suggested something else, "I can take a cab back."

Henry didn't insist.

After all, they didn't have to stick together judging from their relationship.

After dinner, he went into the study to deal with his work.

Crystal cleaned up the dishes and did some cleaning around the house. After everything was settled, she found Henry standing *at* the door to the study with a mug in his hand. He watched her with a thoughtful expression.

He casually remarked, "You're a hard worker. I almost thought I brought a cleaner home."

Crystal wasn't naive. She could tell he was angry from his tone.

She obediently walked over to him before tiptoeing to kiss him on his lips. "I'll be right back and make up for your loss."

He took a sip of coffee and teased, "*Oh?* What do you have in mind, Miss Winters?"

Crystal blushed again at his implication. Mustering her courage, she purred, "It's up to you. I'm all yours."

Henry watched her with a scrutinizing gaze.

At last, he chuckled before giving her permission. "All right. You can go now."

He then returned to the study deep in thought. *That's good. It's boring if a woman is only good in bed. Crystal's refreshing attitude is rather welcome.*