

Always Been Yours Chapter 1341

Once Tessa arrived home, exhaustion was the only thing she felt. Since nothing seemed wrong with her body, she stopped worrying. She continued training for two more days.

Suddenly, she realized her legs started aching really badly. Hiss She gently massaged her thighs, but she could not help frowning as the pain turned into agony.

It felt like her leg was not recovering and was instead getting worse. Her physical therapy sessions during the day felt so much more strenuous than before as if she was under a lot of pressure.

That evening, after Tessa coaxed Gordon through dinner and into bed, she rested on the bed and gently kneaded her legs. To avoid waking him up, she was biting her lip the entire time to endure the discomfort radiating through her legs.

When Nicholas entered the room, he found her face covered in a thin sheen of sweat while her skin looked rather pale in a sickly way. “What happened?” he asked.

“Nothing much. My exercise schedule was changed a few days ago. My legs are so sore from the new routine.” She then smiled at him in an attempt to reassure him.

How could he not worry, though? He immediately frowned. “Since you don’t feel well, you should rest tomorrow. Don’t push yourself too hard.”

“Okay.” Tessa nodded in agreement. Even if he had not told her to rest, she had planned to do so anyway. In spite of her agreement, he was still worried about her. He waited until she fell asleep before contacting Edward.

“Investigate the situation around Tessa’s physical therapy sessions. Why was her treatment plan suddenly changed? Show the new plans to other doctors and have them check for problems.”

“Yes.” Edward hung up soon after. The next morning, Nicholas woke up early and thoughtfully helped Tessa to get ready. After enjoying breakfast with his family, he then headed to work.

Soon after he arrived at the office, Edward entered Nicholas’ office with a knock on the door.

“The investigation you requested last night is done, Mr. Sawyer. Dr. Clayton, Madam Tessa’s primary doctor, was given a chance to go overseas for professional development at the last minute. Hence, he wrote down a treatment plan that she could use later. However...”

“What is it?” Nicholas stared at Edward as he asked.

“There’s something wrong with the plan,” Edward answered honestly. “I asked the other doctors last night. Everyone said the plan was unreasonable as it pushes her to exercise for too long. It would injure the nerves and affect her ability to walk later.”

As expected, Nicholas’ face darkened into an extremely ugly look as soon as Edward said that. It was evident someone was scheming against Tessa.

“Have you contacted Dr. Clayton yet?” His eyes shone with a cold gleam. The sight made Edward jump as he hurriedly said, “The doctor changed his contact number after leaving the country.”

“Go to the hospital and talk to the director then!” Nicholas’ voice was deep as he snapped out the order.

Edward did not dare dally a moment longer and immediately went away to contact the hospital and request the doctor’s latest contact number.

Soon, he was able to contact Dr. Clayton.

When Dr. Clayton knew why Edward was calling him, he was shocked. “Mr. Jackson, has there been some misunderstanding? I never gave Madam Tessa any new exercise plans. I have always set her physical therapy sessions at the basic 30 minutes.”

After hanging up, Edward immediately told Nicholas what Dr. Clayton said. Nicholas’ handsome face darkened once more when he was done listening. This time, he was absolutely sure someone was targeting Tessa.

“Ready the car. Bring me home.”

He would overlook nothing concerning Tessa’s health and safety. After ten or so minutes, the two men arrived back at Dynasty Gardens. The dark face on Nicholas’ face and his abrupt return had Tessa worried. “What happened?”

Standing beside him was Edward who was perceptive enough to step forward and explain everything. What she heard stunned her.

She never imagined someone at the hospital would wish harm on her and use such a despicable method to achieve their goals. Then, Tessa heard Nicholas angrily asking, “Who gave you the new plan?”

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“A nurse gave it to me.” Tessa told the truth. Nicholas narrowed his eyes and coldly barked out, “We’ll go to the hospital.”

Soon, their entire group arrived at the hospital. Nicholas pushed Tessa in her wheelchair into the hospital director’s office. They surprised the director with their arrival, and he hurriedly stood up to greet them..

“Mr. Sawyer, Madam Tessa, what brings you here?” “Someone is hurting my wife right under my nose. How can you ask why I am here?”

Nicholas’ entire body was radiating with murderous rage as he stared at the director. His words shocked the director, ‘Someone is trying to hurt Madam Tessa?’

Nicholas ignored him and turned to shoot Edward a look, though. Edward nodded and left the office. Soon, he found the nurse Tessa described and had the bodyguards capture her.

The nurse was terrified. She had seen nothing like this before. “Who are you? Where are you taking me to?”

She shouted and screamed in panic, but she was unable to get away from the bodyguards. Soon, she was dragged into the hospital director’s office.

She was confused and dazed when she saw Nicholas, who had a frosty aura lingering. around him, and Tessa inside the room. Tessa rolled her wheelchair forward and questioned the nurse, “Who bribed you into hurting me?”

“Madam Tessa, has there been some misunderstanding? Why would I hurt you?”

Realizing what was happening, the nurse hurriedly shook her head in denial. “I don’t even know you. No matter how brave I am, I would never dare hurt you.”

Tessa frowned. From the panicked look in the nurse's eyes, it did not seem like she was lying. "Did Dr. Clayton really tell you to give me the exercise routine from the other day?" Tessa asked.

"Yes. It truly came from Dr. Clayton."

The nurse fervently nodded. From the sound of her voice, she was on the brink of tears.

However, Tessa immediately retorted, "You're lying. I have already contacted Dr. Clayton. He said he never set any new routines for me."

"Impossible. That's what the doctor said to me when he handed me the paper. He said Dr. Clayton gave him the task but had to ask me for help because he didn't have time himself to do it."

The nurse's eyes were wide with disbelief as she defended herself. When Nicholas and Tessa heard that, their faces darkened.

The director's heart sank. He turned to the nurse and questioned, "Which department is that doctor from?" "I don't know, but I remember what he looks like."

The nurse then described the doctor's appearance.

Once she was done, Edward left the room to investigate without waiting for an order from Nicholas. However, the investigation showed that no such person existed in the hospital.

A while later, he reported back to the office. "That man doesn't exist in the hospital."

"How can it be?"

The nurse had shouted in disbelief. Nicholas ignored her and coldly stared at the director, ‘Well?’

The director broke out in a fit of cold sweat and instantly announced that the nurse would be fired for being careless in her duty. However, that was not the end of it.

Nicholas was radiating with an oppressive and terrifying aura because they did not find the culprit. Tessa looked quite upset as well.

The director was trembling and covered in cold sweat as he stood there. It was then that Edward returned to the office with the bodyguards.

During the time the nurse was being fired, Nicholas had gestured for Edward to sneak into the hospital’s CCTV control room to find all relevant footage from the day of the incident.

“Sir, we did find the man in the surveillance footage, but he had intentionally avoided all cameras as he moved. Thus, in every frame we found, we were unable to get a clear view of his face. We would occasionally get a glimpse of his face, but it would always be his side profile.”

Edward immediately reported the results of his investigation. Nicholas was furious. “Since when is a hospital under the Sawyer Group a place where an impostor can enter as they please?”

His cold voice was like a sharp blade stabbing straight into the director’s heart. The director’s legs began to shake in fear. Before he could speak up and apologize, Nicholas announced his punishment.

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“This mistake in supervision is negligence on your part. From now on, you will be demoted to vice president, Nicholas declared. The director had no choice but to accept his punishment.

Once everything was settled, Nicholas led Tessa out of the hospital. He still ordered Edward to continue hunting for the impostor.

On the way back, Nicholas held Tessa’s hand and solemnly said, “Before we find the mastermind, I want you to have your physical therapy sessions at home.” “Very well.”

She nodded in agreement. She knew he was doing it because he was worried that she would fall for another scheme.

“It’s great to hear you agree with me,” he continued. “I’ll have Edward hire a doctor and nurse from the hospital later. They will be in charge of your physical therapy at home.”

Naturally, she had no objections to that. While they did not cause a commotion at the hospital, the Sawyers still knew about the matter since the director was demoted to deputy director.

When Stefania and Tobias found out what happened, they immediately drove over to Dynasty Gardens that very morning. “Are you all right, Tessa?”

Stefania turned to Tessa in concern right after arriving.

Tessa sweetly smiled in response to Stefania’s sincere concern. “I’m fine. We found out about it so early that there was no lasting damage done.”

“That’s good. I was terrified when I heard about it.”

Stefania patted her chest with fear still lingering on her face. Seeing that, Tessa renewed her attempts to reassure Stefania. Even after calming down, Stefania could not resist getting angry once more.

“Just who did it? Who would be so evil as to think of such a plan to destroy Tessa?” she asked. “We must thoroughly investigate this,” Tobias declared. He had said that to Nicholas.

Nicholas’ eyes gleamed with a frigid glare as he nodded. “Don’t worry. I’ll get to the bottom of this.” He would never forgive anyone who dared to think of laying a hand on Tessa. Later on, Kieran, Timothy, and Sabrina arrived.

“Why were you three together?” Tessa asked out of curiosity. “We bumped into each other at the door.”

After Timothy said that, he got to the point and worriedly said, “I heard someone at the hospital was after you, Tess. Did you find them?”

Kieran and Sabrina were staring at her in worry as well. “Are you okay, Tessa?”

“Were you hurt?” Warmth filled Tessa’s heart when she saw just how many people were worried about her. “I’m fine, You don’t have to worry.”

After reassuring them, she then briefly summarized what happened at the hospital. Timothy’s face darkened when he heard someone had swapped out Tessa’s rehabilitation plan.

Sabrina sensed his rage and tugged his hand. “Don’t worry. With Nicholas around, no one would be allowed to bully Tessa.”

Her reassurance calmed him down, and his face was not as unpleasant as before. “I would like to help with the investigation.” “Okay. I’ll help you.”

She smiled brightly at him. The sweet aura of romance lingered around them. Tessa was internally ecstatic to see Sabrina and Timothy acting so affectionate. It appeared their relationship was doing quite well.

Good to see Timothy finally in love with the right person. Just then, Kieran said with a dark look on his face, “Since we have not found the mastermind behind the scheme targeting Tessa, I recommend Tessa bring a few bodyguards with her whenever she leaves home.

Also, we should reinforce the security of our homes. We don’t want the culprit turning their attention to someone else since they can’t get to Tessa while she’s here.”

Nicholas and Timothy nodded in agreement. Suddenly reminded of something, Timothy pulled out two exquisite boxes from his messenger bag. One of them was handed to Tessa. “This is for you, Tessa.”

“What is it?”

Tessa opened the gift box to find a watch lying within. It looked so intricate with a diamond-encrusted watch face yet featured a rather high-tech design. She immediately fell in love with it at first sight.

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Kieran took a liking to the watch as well, but he did not have the nerve to snatch something out of Tessa's hands. Thus, he turned to stare at Timothy with a look of curiosity.

"Which brand did you order this from? I want to order one too, Kieran asked. "I didn't order it from anyone. This is a new product developed by my company."

Timothy smiled as he explained. He looked quite proud of himself as well. 'Don't be underestimated by its size. It's not just a watch. Inside it is the best GPS tracker and has plenty of hidden features including audio recording, an altimeter, a thermometer, and a barometer. There are over thirty functions in that watch. It cost us a lot during research and development.

He then handed the remaining gift box to Gregory.

"For technical reasons, we have only produced two watches. If Tessa and Greg encounter any danger in the future, we could immediately detect it, find them, and rescue them."

Everyone was shocked by the end of his speech. Tessa was stunned as well. She never expected her younger brother to develop something so amazing.

Gregory only understood half of what was said, but that did not stop him from worshipping his uncle. "Thank you, Uncle Tim. I'll keep it safe."

With the box held in his hands, Gregory looked up at Timothy with a wide grin on his face.

Gregory's cute face had Timothy's heart melting. Timothy reached out and ruffled Gregory's hair. "I specially made this watch for you. Keep it close, and don't lose it."

Gregory obediently nodded.

Kieran was observing Gregory's watch the whole time. It was smaller than Tessa's, but its quality still looked amazing and still had a very high-tech design; it was exactly the type of design he loved. How he wanted that watch.

"Timothy, when is your company launching the product? I want one too." Timothy had a reply ready at the tip of his tongue.

However, Nicholas spoke up first as he saw a business opportunity in the watches. "How come you never mentioned this project before?"

Timothy turned to look at Nicholas. The thoughtful look on Nicholas' face made him smile. The manufacturing price is quite high. It has over thirty functions; something that has never been seen before in the current market."

Both Kieran and Nicholas nodded in agreement. While there were smartwatches with GPS trackers on the market, there was nothing as powerful as Timothy's design.

Timothy then continued, "I was keeping it a secret before because I wasn't sure if it would succeed. I only received the news and the prototypes two days ago about its success."

"I say, you sure are good at keeping secrets. For so long, Nicholas and I never heard a single word out of you about this. Were you going to keep it a secret if something didn't happen to Tessa?"

Kieran shot Timothy a look of faux dissatisfaction.

"No way, Timothy hurriedly explained. "I planned on bringing the prototype to Nicholas as soon as I got my hands on it. I did not expect this incident to happen at the same time."

“In that case, let’s talk in the study room.” Nicholas then turned to Tessa and said, “I’ll be upstairs talking business with Timothy. I leave the others to you.”

Naturally, Tessa nodded in assent. In the study room, the three men sat down on the couches. After tea was served, the servants soon left the room, closing the door behind them.

It was only then that Nicholas spoke up. “Tell me your original intentions and core thought process in designing this watch.”

“The first burst of inspiration was what happened with Gordon. The incidents with Tessa only made the urge to create this stronger. I thought that if Tessa has something like this, I would immediately be able to find her no matter what happened to her, and she might be rescued quickly.”

Timothy continued to explain his motives for designing the watch. At the start, Kieran was nodding along happily. After all, he was involved in the inspiration for the watch’s research.

By the end of Timothy’s explanation though, Kieran was so speechless that he could not grumble any longer. As expected, the world of someone with a sister complex was incomprehensible to other people. Still, he was curious. “How did you package so many functions into this?”

“At first, I was thinking it was fine as long as it could call the police, have GPS tracking, and other commonly seen functions. Later on, I thought that since we had included so many functions in it already, why not add a few more?

That’s when I started to work with the company’s research team. If it succeeds, it will be a groundbreaking innovation that would be the next mark of our technological advancement.”

Timothy sounded extremely passionate near the end of his speech. Kieran and Nicholas did not look too excited, but they thought Timothy’s idea was very mind-blowing as well.

That tiny watch actually had so many functions, and it was a smartwatch; just the mere thought of it was enough for them to realize just how very difficult technologically the research must have been.

However, that was exactly why it was a business opportunity. After a few moments of silence, Nicholas said, “In that case, the watch’s manufacturing cost is quite high. It won’t be suitable for mass manufacturing.”

Timothy did not deny that. After all, his company had spent over a million dollars just to make those two watches.

“If we cut out a few of the functions and keep the essentials, would it reduce the cost of production? It wouldn’t make it any less powerful either.”

“You’re right. Since this is a prototype, we wasted quite a lot of materials by mistake. That is the reason for its high cost. The company is familiar with the technology now though. There won’t be any mistakes, so the cost would be lowered.”

Timothy nodded in agreement. Happy with Timothy's agreement, Nicholas declared, "Since this is possible to manufacture, Sawyer Group will invest about 150 million dollars into this product."

Kieran and Timothy were shocked. The two of them were still excited by the prospects of the watch though. Hence, the three men continued to discuss for another 30 minutes before settling on a first proposal draft.

Sabrina and Tessa did not know anything about what the men were talking about. They were all in the living room, playing with the kids.

Stefania and Tobias had argued quite a few times about who should be holding Gordon. Sabrina and Tessa just watched and laughed.

When it was near noon and the three men had yet to leave the study room, Sabrina could not resist grumbling to Tessa. "As expected, all men are workaholics. We promised we were coming over to spend some stuff with you."

"It's fine. I'll have a servant call them down for lunch later." Tessa smiled in reassurance. She then continued, "It's good for them to be like this. It shows they are ambitious in their career. It is an opportunity for Timothy."

She might not be business-savvy, but she knew anything that Nicholas liked was definitely something amazing. Sabrina did not think so though.

She wrapped her arms around Gordon before affectionately wiping at his tiny nose. "Gordon, don't be like your daddy and Uncle Tim. I want you to grow up like Gregory and be a kind and caring boy. Isn't it great to be affectionate and loving?"

Naturally, Gordon did not understand what she was talking about. Nevertheless, he still stared up at her with a curious look in his eyes. Tessa watched as her son kept staring at Sabrina.

His black beady eyes would follow her the entire time; he looked so very animated and cute. "Gordon, this is Aunt Sabrina. Isn't she pretty?"

Perhaps it was because he heard his mother's voice, but Gordon suddenly started giggling. "Hehehe..."

His clear laughter and innocent grin melted the hearts of every adult in the room.

"The baby really likes to play favorites," Stefania jealously grumbled. "The moment he hears his mother's voice, he just laughs forever. I spent so much time trying to make him smile just now, and he just refused."

Tessa's smile spread wider when she heard that. Sabrina could not resist teasing the baby in her arms upon hearing that. "Do you like Mommy the most?"

She turned Gordon around so that he was looking at Tessa. At nearly two months old, Gordon was very familiar with Tessa's presence. He immediately began to laugh louder while his arms and legs danced in the air.

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Sabrina thought Gordon's reaction was extremely cute. Especially since the baby looked cuter and more beautiful by the day.

One could say that he had perfectly inherited every good quality Nicholas and Tessa had "Oh, why are you so sweet? I really want to bring you home"

She could not resist dipping her head down to kiss Gordon. "What a very cute baby. I wonder how many hearts you'll break when you grow up."

She internally sighed as she said that. The Sawyers' genes were just out of this world. Ever since she got to know the Sawyers, she realized there was not a single person in the family who grew up looking plain.

Tessa giggled when she heard that. "If you like kids that much, hurry up with Timothy. That way, you can have one of your own."

"Tess!" Tessa's sudden urge for Sabrina to get married made her embarrassed. Even so, she could not resist fantasizing about her future child with Timothy.

Our baby should be just as cute.

After all, both she and Timothy were very attractive people.

As if reading her thoughts, Tessa winked at Sabrina, smirked, and said, "Don't worry. With your and Timothy's genes, the baby you'll give birth to will be very cute."

Sabrina's face instantly went red when she heard that. She stomped her foot in embarrassed rage. "If you keep teasing me, Tess, I'm going to ignore you."

"Okay, I'll stop." Tessa was cheerfully chuckling when she said that though.

Suddenly, Gregory looked around as if a thought had struck him and excitedly declared, “I’m going to marry a girl as pretty as Mommy when I grow up.”

Tessa burst out laughing once more when she heard Gregory’s confident declaration.

She was laughing so hard that her stomach ached, She lovingly pulled Gregory into her arms and kissed him fiercely. “You’re an outstanding kid, Sweetheart. You’ll definitely find a beautiful and loving wife.”

‘I will continue being outstanding and find a girl as pretty as Mommy. Then, I’ll be as good to her as Daddy is to Mommy.’ Gregory’s eyes shimmered as he gazed up at Tessa.

His childish words made everyone around him burst out laughing again.

Stefania joined in on the teasing as well. “I didn’t know Greg had such mature thoughts for one so small. You’ve started looking for a bride already.”

“That’s not true! I’m just saying I want to marry a girl as pretty as Mommy when I grow up.”

Gregory’s cheeks were red as he hurriedly tried to explain his thought. He looked so cute and vulnerable that it made the adults want to tease him even more.

Thus, they began to “gang up” on him. The living room was soon filled with laughter and Gregory’s protests. Later on, when Kieran, Nicholas, and Timothy left the study, they were greeted with this happy sight.

“What are you guys talking about? Everyone’s laughing quite hard.” Nicholas was walking over to Tessa as he asked that.

Tessa glanced up at them and grinned. “You’re done with your talk.” Nicholas nodded and pulled her into his arms. Timothy had walked over to Sabrina as well.

Now, Kieran was the only one sitting alone. Stefania chimed up just then. “We were teasing Greg. He has already started thinking about a wife at his age.”

“I have not! I just said I want a girl who’s as pretty as Mommy. I am not looking for a wife!”

Gregory’s cheeks were still flushed red as he protested once more. He then threw himself into Nicholas’ arms. “Daddy, Grandma is being mean. She keeps twisting my words. Aunt Sabrina and Mommy won’t help me.”

He had been hoping to seek reassurance from Nicholas and did not expect Nicholas to refuse to help him as well.

“It’s not a bad idea to find a bride now. Once you’re an adult, I’ll marry you off. Then, Mommy and I can have our own space.” “You-meanie! I will not leave Mommy!”

Gregory was exasperated. He had not expected Nicholas to have such wicked ideas. The others in the room were laughing hard from hearing the father-son duo argue.

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When the group had enough fun teasing. Gregory, it was almost time for lunch. Tessa made everyone stay for the meal. Lunch was a grand feast. As their family did not abide by the rule to be silent when eating, the room was filled with great cheer.

The men preoccupied themselves with talk of work and finances while the women discussed fashion and music. The meal was over an hour later.

Kieran and Timothy left right away as they had work waiting for them back in their offices.

On the way back, Sabrina recalled how long the men had spent in the study talking, and could not resist asking, “Is work going to be very busy after today?”

“Probably. Nicholas plans on investing 150 million into the smartwatch project.” Timothy told her all about their discussion’s result, holding no information back. She was stunned. “150 million?”

“That sounds a lot, doesn’t it?”

In his eyes, she looked so very cute with her mouth gaping open and bulging eyes. If he were not driving and they were not in a place he could just stop the car, he would be kissing her by now.

Oblivious to his desires, she dazedly nodded while sighing with envy on the inside. Nicholas is spending 150 million on a single project. As expected, the Sawyers are extremely rich.

Her thought might be showing on her face though as Timothy chuckled and said, “Nicholas is investing so much in us because he has high expectations for our project. We have to put our all into it.”

“You’re right. I’ll be there working right beside you.” His words snapped her back to her senses, and she turned to look at him with eyes blazing with motivation.

Back at the Dynasty Gardens. Tessa had also found out about Nicholas’ plan to invest 150 million into Timothy’s project. “Will this be a risky venture?”

She worriedly looked at Nicholas. He chuckled and pulled her into an embrace. “It won’t be. Trust me.”

She frowned, still thinking he had invested too much in the project. “You don’t need to consider my feelings.”

In her mind, Nicholas only invested so much because of her.

“Don’t overthink it. It has nothing to do with you. Anyway, Timothy is very talented. He is worthy of my trust and money. I would have invested in the project, even if it were anyone else.”

He tried to persuade her once more.

It was only then that she stopped doubting him. She smiled and nodded. “That’s good. I was worried you were only supporting Timothy because of me. I wouldn’t want you to do that.”

The favoritism he heard in her voice made him smile brightly. Then, her soft voice rang out once more.

“I don’t expect any of you to earn a lot of money. I just want my dearest family members to be happy. Still, I will support you if that is what you want to do.”

She then turned to look at Nicholas with her arm eyes as her hands deftly straightened up his clothes. “Don’t go overboard with work though. Please take care to rest and sleep.”

He looked down at her petite form as she continued to mutter her worries. His heart had melted into a puddle by now. “With you around, I can’t even bear to go back to work.”

He held her hands as he sweetly said that. And it made her heart race. Embarrassed, she coyly retorted, “Who taught you to be such a flatterer?”

“I don’t need to be taught.” He smiled as he wrapped his arms around her once more. No matter how he looked at her, he was utterly besotted with her. His eyes darkened.

Ignorant of the change in his expression, she continued to urge him to take care.

Perhaps it was because she had just stepped out of the shower, but under the dim lights, her fair skin looked rather flush while the scent of her body wash lingered in the air.

Her pink, plump lips opened and closed, making his skin tingle with an itch.

“Honey.” He suddenly spoke up, interrupting her. His voice was deep and hoarse with a seductive drawl. It sounded so pleasant that her ears nearly went numb.

“What is it?” When she looked up, her eyes immediately met his deep eyes.

The two of them stared at each other. Her bright and innocent eyes were like a spark that destroyed all of Nicholas’ control. He swooped down to kiss her.

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Nicholas wrapped his arms tightly around Tessa as if he wanted to merge with her. When Tessa was pregnant, unwell, and unable to walk, he only wanted her to be safe and sound.

Even though she was not back to full health yet, there were some other things they were allowed to do. Thus, Nicholas did not want to hold back any longer after having restrained himself for so long.

The air in the room grew hotter and steamier. Tessa limply leaned against Nicholas. She did not know how much time had passed before he finally let go of her with a harsh pant.

His throat bobbed up and down as he stared down at his sensual wife. He immediately picked her up and carried her to the bed.

Her cheeks were burning bright red by the time she was placed on the bed. As she watched him lean down, she knew what was about to happen next.

His hoarse voice whispered into her ear, "Can I?"

She knew what he was asking about and nodded. The next thing she knew, kisses were raining down on her skin. Despite her embarrassment, Tessa still surged up to meet his lips.

The night was destined to be filled with passion. It might be due to how long he had suppressed the urge, but Nicholas could not resist wanting her right after their first round tonight.

In spite of how brightly his passion burned, his behavior would be considered quite restrained..

She was still recovering, after all. He was holding back, worried she might not be able to handle it. Otherwise, he would never have let the night end so early.

“How do you feel?”

With his arms wrapped around her, Nicholas gently asked to make sure Tessa was still well. By then, she was so exhausted that she could no longer keep her eyes open. She drowsily nodded without thought.

He looked down at her with love and joy shimmering in his eyes. He then carried her into the bathroom to be cleaned. When they walked out, Tessa was already falling asleep in his arms..

She did not wake up, even when Gordon woke up crying for milk. It was Nicholas who had to feed him. It was clear to see just how exhausted she was from their exercise.

The next morning, Tessa still had to wake up early as she had physical therapy sessions. There were so many moments that morning when she wanted to stop and just laze around.

However, for the sake of shortening her recovery period, she gritted her teeth and pushed through. Half an hour later, she was done with her routine and beside herself with exhaustion.

The nurse watching swiftly walked over to help her up. “Let me help you back to your room, Madam.”

Tessa did not refuse her help and allowed the nurse to help. After Tessa returned to her room, she told the nurse, “I’ll be resting for a while. Please make sure everyone keeps away in the meantime.”

The nurse nodded. Tessa soon fell asleep in a nap. Meanwhile in the President’s Office at the Sawyer Group.

Nicholas was conveying an order to Edward. “Go to Finance later and tell them to transfer 150 million to me. I’ll need it in a few days.”

“150 million?” Edward was shocked by the amount.

Since Nicholas never planned on keeping the project a secret from his closest confidante, he explained, “Tessa’s brother invented a multifunctional smartwatch. Its potential is great, and the technology developed is far ahead of anything currently on the market. It is our chance to further solidify our place in the electronics sector.”

“Understood. I will notify Finance right away.”

Edward’s eyes sparkled with trust in Nicholas.

However, Nicholas immediately called him back and said, “Have someone keep an eye out at the lobby in the next few days. When Timothy comes, there’s no need to tell me. Have him be brought straight up.”

“Yes.” Edward nodded and walked away. Timothy did not know anything about the conversation happening in the Sawyer Group office though.

He was busy going through his paperwork at his desk while finishing up the project proposal with the planning department. Just then, Sabrina walked in with a dark look on her face.

“Mr. Reinhart, Mr. Quinn from Prospera Group is here to see you.” “Prospera?” Timothy was surprised by the name.

Prospera Group was considered one of the top companies in the country. More importantly, they had always been Sawyer Group’s competitor.

Sabrina nodded. “Would you like to meet with him, Mr. Reinhart?” She knew as well about the competition between Prospera Group and Sawyer Group.

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“Did Mr. Quinn say why he’s here?” Timothy asked. “He did not. He merely said that it would be your loss if you do not talk to him.” After a pause, Sabrina recited to Timothy exactly what she heard.

He chuckled. “My loss?” Before she could say another word, he stood up from his chair. “Let’s go see what Prospera Group wants.” He strode out of the office.

She dazedly stared at him for a moment before running to catch up with him. She thought he would immediately refuse. She had not expected him to actually agree to meet with Mr. Quinn.

In a bright and airy meeting room. Timothy and Harper Quinn exchanged a few polite niceties before sitting across each other on the couches.

After sitting down, Timothy discreetly observed the man who was considered the best after Nicholas.

Harper looked to be around 25 years old. He was handsome, yet there was an eerie softness to his face that made him seem rather menacing. “Mr. Quinn, what are you here for?”

“Nothing much. I only wish to discuss a collaboration with you, Mr. Reinhart.” Harper smiled in a seemingly harmless and kind manner.

He also thoroughly analyzed the man who made Nicholas reconsider his opinion..

Timothy naturally sensed his gaze, but he pretended to not have and calmly asked, “What do you wish to talk about?” “I hear you developed a new watch. That is what I would like to discuss.”

Harper went straight to the point. Timothy frowned and shot him a suspicious look. As the watch involved the company's core technology systems, only the most important individuals in the company knew about it.

How did Harper find out about it?

Timothy might be puzzled, but that did not stop him from immediately refusing the offer. "The company has already signed a contract with the Sawyer Group about the project. We do not need another investor."

Harper was not surprised by the answer. After all, the Sawyer Group and the Reinhart Enterprise were practically the same these days. "In that case, I do not mind if you just sell me your core systems."

Timothy nearly burst out laughing in anger. when he heard that shameless proposal. Just as he was about to reject the offer, Harper spoke up.

"Don't say no just yet. I'll offer 75 million as long as you sell me your technology."

He paused, then languidly continued, "I know you've spent a lot of energy and effort into the systems, Mr. Reinhart. People would say I'm being very generous for making such a high offer."

"Since you know I developed it with my team, then you should know just how important those systems are to me." Timothy's voice was cold as he spoke.

However, before he could finish speaking, Harper interrupted him with a raised eyebrow and said, "Ah, you think the price I offered is not high enough?"

"Wrong. No matter how much you offer, I will never sell off any of my systems since it would affect every system in the company."

Timothy bluntly rejected the offer once more. It made Harper's face twist into an unpleasant look. "The price is negotiable. Please reconsider your answer."

“I’ve told you; I will not sell you anything regardless of the price you offer.”

Timothy remained firm in his rejection.

Harper’s eyes were filled with intense dissatisfaction at how obstinate Timothy was. “Would you really not reconsider your answer, Mr. Reinhart? I come with great sincerity.”

Everyone could hear the threat and warning hidden in his voice. Anger immediately flashed across Sabrina’s face. She had been silently watching the whole time.

Does this person wish to force us into a collaboration? The same thought struck Timothy as well, and his eyes turned icy cold.

“I do see your sincerity, but this is a matter of first come, first served. I do not plan to sell any of my technological systems anyway. You were destined to fail in your endeavor today.”

Timothy then stood up and smoothed away the non-existent wrinkles from his jacket before politely saying, “I have a meeting to attend soon and cannot stay any longer. Miss Gulliver, please see Mr. Quinn out.”

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“This way, Mr. Quinn.” Sabrina stepped forward and politely gestured at where Harper was expected to go. Harper’s face immediately darkened. Still, he did not say anything.

He merely stood up and took a few steps forward while staring at Timothy with dark eyes. With a faint smile on his lips, he said, “Good luck to you, Mr. Reinhart.”

He then left the room. Timothy paid no heed to him and returned to his office. Moments later, Sabrina knocked on his door and walked in. “He has left, Mr. Reinhart.

Despite her attempts to hide her worry, it still showed on her face when she spoke. Timothy noticed the look on her face and pulled her over to the couch. “Why do you look so worried? Are you scared?”

“I am a little worried. Harper Quinn is not a good man, and he’s especially narrow-minded and spiteful.”

Sabrina nodded and continued to explain her worries. “I’m worried he’ll try some other tactic after we reject him. You have to be very careful from now on. That person would do anything to get what he wants.”

Timothy was surprised to hear her say that. “You know Harper?”

“I don’t personally, but I have heard of him.”

She shook her head as she explained. One should keep one’s friends close, and one’s enemies closer; Timothy had her tell him every rumor she heard.

“The worst incident I can remember is when Harper took a liking to a plot of land. For some reason, another company bought the land instead. However, in a few days, a murder happened on that land. Things kept happening. People said it was

cursed, so no one dared to work on that plot of land because they were afraid they might die.

Later on, the family investigated the rumors and murder to find that Harper was the mastermind behind everything. They did not have any proof though, so they had to swallow the loss and give him the land essentially for free.”

Sabrina told him everything she knew. When she was done, Timothy had a basic understanding of Harper. It was evident that Harper was an unscrupulous man who thought the end justified the means. “I understand. I’ll be careful.”

His eyes then darkened. “It looks like we have to tell the planning department to work faster. We must settle this collaboration with the Sawyer Group before Harper can do anything.”

Sabrina wholeheartedly agreed with that. As long as they were business partners of Sawyer Group, Harper would have to hold back no matter how strong he was. “I’ll go tell them to hurry now.”

She was about to leave when Timothy pulled her back. “That’s actually not important right now.”

“What?” She had asked without thinking. When she saw the cold look on his face, she immediately realized what he meant.

The smartwatch was a project only the core members of the company knew about. Logically speaking, Harper should not have known about it.

It was clear that someone was selling company secrets. Sabrina sat back down and analyzed the situation. “Only a few people know about this. It’s easy for us to find out who did it.”

“It is easy, but we cannot be too obvious about our investigation. There are too many people watching. Henry is a blabbermouth. He would say anything the

moment he takes a sip of alcohol. The only one I can trust is you. I plan to let you handle the investigation. Can you do it?"

Timothy looked at her with a solemn gaze.

Sabrina nodded without hesitation. "It is my duty to share your burden. I'll investigate this and find out just who was bold enough to sell out company secrets!"

"Thank you."

Touched by her declaration, Timothy held her hands. She smiled and shook her head. "We will harshly punish the culprit once we find them. We cannot tolerate traitors in this company."

The two continued to chat for a while before she left his office to investigate the traitor. However, when it was time to clock off, Sabrina had yet to find the person who sold them out. That-brought her mood down.