

Always Been Yours Chapter 146

Chapter 146 I Miss Miss Tessa

It was still hard for her to pry her eyes away from him.

Roselle's eyes were sparkling as she stared greedily at Nicholas.

The latter frowned impatiently and asked coldly, "Miss Gingham, what are you doing here?"

Roselle gave him a slightly aggrieved look. "I've been waiting for you here all afternoon. I heard that Greg had an accident, and I was so worried that I couldn't eat, so I hurriedly came to see him. But, Andrew said Dynasty Gardens doesn't allow outsiders to enter. Nicholas, we've known each other since we were young. Am I considered an outsider? Besides, I really just came to see Greg. I'm really worried about him. Just let me see him. As long as I see that he's okay, I'll leave."

Nicholas responded indifferently, "He's fine. There's no need for that."

With that, he walked in, his legs slender as ever.

The bodyguards once again blocked Roselle from entering.

Staring at his retreating back, Roselle angrily bit her lips. After stomping her sore legs on the ground, she got into the car and drove off.

After Nicholas went into the house, Gregory dropped the things in his hand and ran toward him.

He looked at his father with some hope. "Daddy, did you see Miss Tessa today? Did she say when she's coming?"

Nicholas shook his head. "Her injury hasn't fully healed yet. We'll have to at least wait until her injury is healed before she comes."

"But, I miss Miss Tessa so much."

Gregory blinked, looking aggrieved. "Daddy, since Miss Tessa can't come to us, can I go and see her? I just want to take a look at her."

"No." Nicholas immediately refused.

Tears filled Gregory's eyes in an instant, and he was a little puzzled. "Why not? I won't disturb her. I'll just stay at the door and take a look. I'll leave after seeing her."

Nicholas was silent for a moment. "Not for the time being. When I'm free, I'll take you to her."

"Daddy, you're so mean! All you do is lie to me!" Gregory went upstairs in a huff.

Feeling helpless, Nicholas could only follow Gregory upstairs and try to reason with him.

At Silverscape Residence, Timothy didn't stay on campus because Tessa was recuperating at home. He went to school and came back on time every day to take care of his sister.

During the meal, Timothy hesitated for a moment before proposing, "Tess, now that we have money, why don't we move and stay in a better place?"

Tess had such intentions too. Before this, they had to live in this rental apartment because they had no choice.

Back then, after they were evicted by the Reinharts, Timothy still had to go to school and get medical treatment, so they couldn't afford to live in a better house.

Moreover, the exploiting Reinhart Family didn't know that they were living in a place like this. Even if they knew, they would look down on them, so it was fine.

Now, it was different. They had sent Silas to prison, and they even cheated them of five million. Needless to say, the Reinharts would come looking for trouble.

So, they had to move out as soon as possible.

Tessa smiled. "Okay, then I'll be responsible for looking for a new place."

"I'll have to trouble you with that, Tess. Don't worry about the cost. My software can sell very well. We have money now." Timothy returned her smile.

Seeing as her brother had said this, Tessa was relieved. She lifted her hand and touched Timothy's head. "You're all grown up and can really support me now."

Having been praised so suddenly, Timothy felt so embarrassed that his ears turned red, but he was still delighted. He pursed his lips and smiled.

"Tess, you should focus on recovering now. When you're well, you can focus on chasing your dreams. I won't let you have any worries. In the future, I'll be able to take charge, and I plan to establish my own company too."

Tessa was happy to hear this. "I knew that you were outstanding. You're only a sophomore, but you're already so capable. No doubt, you'll have a great future. When the time comes, I'll go and help you look for an office space. If you need anything, just tell me. I'll fully support you."

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Timothy was still a little embarrassed. "Thank you, Tess. Let's eat."

He had long made this a goal of his, but he was always too embarrassed to say it. Now that he had told his sister, he got her support.

Feeling happy, he ate another bowl of rice.

After they were done eating, Tessa was about to help clean up the dishes, but her brother stopped her. "Tess, don't do these heavy jobs. Leave these to me. You can go back to your room and rest."

Tessa smiled. "Okay, thank you."

After she returned to the room, the smile on Tessa's face slowly faded.

Although talking about the future with Timothy just now made her happy, she still felt a little lost.

Before this, she joked that she wanted her brother to support her, but she was just joking. How could she possibly let him have so much pressure?

My brother has his own goals in life, but ...

Regardless whether it was last time or now, playing the violin was her biggest dream, and she didn't want to give up on the chance to stand on stage.

She was dissatisfied.

She finally got the position, but now, she had to hand it over to someone else.

It wasn't easy for her to be seen amidst the dense crowd, but before she could step out, she was kicked back in again.

It had been so many days since the incident, but no matter how she convinced herself, she still couldn't accept it.

This kind of mood made her feel like someone was choking her heart and lungs, as if a stream of air was blocked in her airway, unable to pass through.

Early the next morning, after Timothy went out, Tessa dressed up and walked out the door.

With her head clouded with worries, she called for a car and left the residence, not noticing the Maybach parked on the side of the road.

Nicholas, who was in the Maybach, couldn't help but frown when he saw her leaving.

What is this woman doing? Her injury hasn't healed yet, but she's already running around.

He said to Edward in an impatient manner, "Drive. Follow her."

There were a lot of questions in Edward's heart. President Sawyer is following Miss Tessa instead of going to work in the office this morning. What's going on?

However, he didn't dare to ask too much. His hands and feet reacted one step faster than his brain as he immediately obeyed the order, weaved through the traffic, and followed her.

Ten minutes later, Tessa got out of the car that had stopped in front of the orchestra's office building and walked in. Edward asked, "President Sawyer, do we still have to follow her?"

Nicholas was silent.

Edward knew what he was thinking, so he parked the car and waited for Tessa to come out.

After entering the building, Tessa went to the manager's office and found Trevor. "Mr. Oswald."

"Tessa? Why are you here?" Trevor was taken aback when he saw her.

Tessa took a deep breath. "I want to participate in training. I want to go on stage. I promise that my performance will not go wrong. Please give me this opportunity."

She thought a lot about it last night, and she still felt that she couldn't miss this opportunity.

"Mr. Oswald, my situation isn't that serious now. Let me go on stage. There won't be any mistakes. I promise!"

She immediately picked up the violin in the office. "I can prove it to you."

Trevor was stunned for only a second, and he instantly grabbed the violin from Tessa's hand. "Tessa! You're going too far. Wake up. Don't you want to play the violin in the future?"

"Mr. Oswald, just let me perform. Really. I'm almost completely fine now." Tessa's voice softened, but her eyes were fixed on Trevor.

Since he was being stared at like that, Trevor's heart softened, and he answered softly, "It's not that I don't want to give you a chance. It's also for your own good. Don't you remember what I told you that day? Tessa, you're still young. You're only in your twenties now. Do you know how many people only get famous in their thirties and forties? You're already doing well at your age, so don't rush this."

Tessa didn't answer but just stood there.

Trevor didn't know how else to comfort her, so he could only pat her on the shoulder. "Hey, you're young. You have to know how to settle down. Go back and recuperate. There will always be opportunities.

"Alright." Tessa nodded, feeling a little lost.

"Yo, you're here, Tessa?" At this moment, a sharp female voice rang out.

Tessa turned and saw that it was Queenie Myers.

At this moment, Queenie was wearing the custom-made outfit of the assistant concertmaster as she sashayed over to Tessa.

When Tessa saw the outfit, her eyes felt as if they had been pierced, and they turned a little red.

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Queenie patted her on the shoulder. "Tessa, it's really a pity that you can't go on stage this time. There's no other choice. The team can't be without an assistant concertmaster, so Mr. Oswald let me take up this position. I don't mean to take your place either. But don't think too much about it, and don't be discouraged. You're still young, so it's not a big deal for you to lose this opportunity. In the future, there'll be more opportunities for you to get famous. Don't forget that you're the youngest and most talented person in our orchestra. You have to recover from your injuries. It'll be the same when you come back after your injuries are healed."

After she spoke, the corners of her eyes were slightly pinched upward, and she was looking provocatively at Tessa.

Queenie had always held a grudge against Tessa. She had always been the focus of training in the orchestra, but ever since Tessa came along, everyone's attention had been taken away.

Later, even Trevor highly regarded this newcomer.

After the previous assistant concertmaster left, the team had been trying to select a new one. Tessa was a few years younger than her, so judging from seniority, she should have no problem winning.

However, she never expected that Trevor would give the position of assistant concertmaster to a young, immature girl.

She had long held in her anger toward this decision, but it had already been decided, and it wouldn't help no matter how much trouble she caused, so she could only endure it.

Who would've thought that at this moment, God would open his eyes and let Tessa suffer such a serious injury, resulting in Queenie getting back the position that was rightfully hers.

How could Queenie not feel prideful?

Tessa forced a smile, not bothering to argue with Queenie, knowing that she was just looking for trouble.

However, Queenie obviously didn't want to let her go, so she said, "By the way, I heard that you have a backer. That's pretty amazing. Why don't you just go on and live a pampered life? You don't have to suffer like this."

Trevor frowned when he heard this.

He bit his tongue when he heard the first few sentences, but she had gone too far with her following remarks.

Feeling extremely displeased, Trevor reprimanded her. "That's enough, Queenie! Are you so free that you can mingle around here and chat? Aren't you going to go practice?"

Queenie grunted coldly, then cast Tessa a sideways glance before strutting out of Trevor's office.

Tessa was at a loss. She could still carry on fighting if she hadn't seen the outfit, but now, she truly didn't have a chance anymore.

Trevor had already selected someone who could replace her, and there was no space for another assistant concertmaster in the team.

Seeing Tessa's desolate appearance, Trevor sighed softly. "Don't take her words to heart. You're responsible for your future. Don't stop here. Your future is promising."

"Thank you, Mr. Oswald."

Tessa nodded. "Then, I'll head back now."

After walking out of the office building, Tessa couldn't help but let loose the tears she had been holding back

She walked to the roadside and sat down by the stone pier. She didn't have anything in mind anymore; she just wanted to have a good cry.

When Nicholas saw Tessa walking out in a daze and sitting by the roadside while crying all alone, he reckoned he knew what the purpose and result of her trip was.

Her negotiations with Trevor must not have ended well.

However, he didn't approach her either. He just sat quietly in the car and silently watched the woman.

Squatting by the roadside aside, Tessa cried for a while. When her phone rang and she saw the caller ID, she stopped the tears from rolling.

She raised her head and took several deep breaths, then fanned her tearful eyes and cleared her throat. She even tried to pull up the corners of her mouth.

After she was done with this series of actions, she pressed the answer button and asked with a slight smile, "Tim? What's the matter?"

Timothy replied, "Nothing's wrong. My classes will be over in a while, so I wanted to ask what you'd like to eat. I'll go buy groceries later, then I'll go back to cook for you."

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Tessa smiled. "You don't have to do that because I'm not at home now. Didn't I say I was going to move? I'm looking at houses outside now. Sigh, it's really difficult to find a house now. I don't think I can go back at noon, so I'm just going to eat something here. You don't have to come all the way back as well."

Her words were impeccable, so Timothy didn't doubt it, and he even felt more distressed for her. "Well, don't work yourself too hard-there's no hurry to find a house."

Tessa nodded. "I know. I heard your class bell ring. Go back to class, you."

After hanging up the phone, Tessa wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes and let out a deep breath-she felt that it was definitely not that easy to lie.

If she talked for a little while longer, she would have definitely been found out.

However, she didn't exactly lie that much. For things like moving, it was always better to rip the bandaid off and move fast rather than drag the matter on.

Soon, she began to browse the listings on the website and found a property agent's phone number. "Hello, is this Springfield Residence? I'd like to take a look at the property. I just want to check with you if you are free to do it later."

After making an appointment, Tessa slapped both sides of her face to make herself seem more awake, and then she went to the side of the road to take a taxi.

When Edward saw that she was leaving, he turned to look at Nicholas. "President Sawyer, are we still following her?"

Nicholas paused. "Go and make some arrangements to give her the apartment in Regal Gardens. Set whatever rent price, but don't tell her it's mine."

Edward was startled when he heard this.

This apartment in Regal Gardens was in close proximity with the Sawyer Group. Not only was the security system there one of the best, but every aspect showed that it was in an extremely high-end community.

Occasionally, when Nicholas could not go back to Dynasty Gardens because of overtime work, he would rest there.

So the last thing Edward would have expected was for him to rent this apartment to Tessa now.

However, when he thought about it again, since Tessa suffered such a serious injury in order to save Gregory, it was only appropriate for him to compensate her with this.

Fortunately for Nicholas, he only occasionally stayed there, so there weren't any obvious signs of him living there yet, and it was almost impossible to tell if someone or anyone had lived there.

He nodded. "Alright, President Sawyer. I'll make arrangements now."

Once Tessa found the agency, they immediately received the news from Edward and took her directly to Regal Gardens. "Miss Reinhart, take a look. Are you satisfied with this place?"

This apartment was well-decorated, and it came with everything one could ask for in a rented house it was estimated that the owner was a minimalist who was very capable and not cumbersome at all.

When Tessa took a look at the furniture in the house, she found that they were of good quality as well.

The whole apartment looked low-key but luxurious-it definitely did not look cheap at first glance, so Tessa hesitated. "Can I know how much the rent is here?"

The agent replied, "So it's like this... The owner of the house is now abroad. To be honest, he just doesn't want the house to be idle, and he doesn't really care about the rent. It's not expensive at all-it's only 2,000."

The agent seemed calm, but he was clamoring in his heart, This house is worth way more than just, 2,000!

As an experienced property agent, he felt that this was too cheap a rent for such a place, and when he heard the price, he felt his heart drop.

He was really distressed that such a good house was going for such dirt cheap rent.

However, not only the property agent, but Tessa was also stunned as well. She couldn't believe her ears, and looked up and down the apartment again. "How much did you say the rent was?"

The agent gritted his teeth and replied again, "2,000, miss."

Tessa was really confused. "In such a location, forget this apartment-other apartments with normal renovations would cost at least 4,000 rent a month. Look at this decoration. It is only 2,000?"

“Yes, Miss Reinhart, 2,000.” The agent twitched the corners of his mouth as he spoke.

Tessa still couldn't believe it. “Tell me honestly: Have people died here, or are there other problems?”

The agent was dumbfounded for a moment. “Of course not. This house is in very good condition, and I guarantee that it is absolutely safe-there is no such situation as you said. Also, as I've mentioned previously, the owner is not short of money. He just doesn't want the house to be idle. I brought you here because I find you a nice person. If you don't want it, I'll rent it to someone else.”

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Tessa thought about it again. Well, she was an atheist, so she didn't believe in God, let alone spirits and ghosts, so she wasn't afraid of them at all.

Now that she had stumbled upon such a good unit, why would she bother to find other options now?

Moreover, there were office buildings near this place. If Timothy wanted to start a company in the future, he could also settle here as well.

Getting to and from work would also be much more convenient.

So, she didn't think about it anymore and just decided. “Okay, let's sign the contract. I can pay the rent now.”

During dinner in the evening, Tessa talked about the house.

Timothy was also a little surprised after hearing about the location and seeing the photos taken by Tessa.

“Wow, Tessa, good work! You're one for one! I didn't know such a good thing would happen to us one day.”

Tessa also smiled. “I know, right? The agent told me that it was a new property to rent, and I was the first one to see it. Such a coincidence, isn't it? I signed the contract-let's move out tomorrow.”

Timothy naturally wouldn't say anything to object, so he nodded. “We'll pack up in a while and prepare to move, then.”

At Dynasty Gardens.

After Edward received the news from the agency, he came to report, “President, Miss Reinhart and her brother have already settled on Regal Gardens, and it is said that they will move in tomorrow.”

Nicholas nodded. “Got it.”

The next morning, Timothy didn't have to go to class, so he called the moving company first thing in the morning.

As soon as Silas arrived at the apartment, he saw the pair of siblings moving in full swing and was stunned. “You two-where are you going?”

When Tessa saw Silas, she instinctively hid Timothy behind her. Her eyes met his, and she replied coldly, "It has nothing to do with you where we are going. What are you doing here?"

Silas opened his mouth and wanted to criticize Tessa's attitude, but he held back, and his eyebrows even became kinder. "Why? Can't I come and see my son and daughter?"

Tessa snorted coldly. Without answering, she wanted to go back to the house to continue packing her luggage.

"You don't have to speak so coldly to me. I'm only here to talk to you two this time," Silas followed behind Tessa and said.

When Timothy heard this at the side, he couldn't help but sneer and said, "We don't seem to have anything to talk about. Am I right, Tess?"

Tessa also nodded. "Yes. Mr. Reinhart, we are busy and have nothing to talk to you about. You should go back."

Silas was annoyed by her formal words which were not respectful at all, and his face became colder at the moment.

When he thought of his purpose of coming here which had not been achieved, he gritted his teeth to suppress his anger and instantly changed into the character of a loving father.

"I know the two of you are doing well now, and you look down on the Reinhart Family. I believe you know that our family is currently not doing well. Of course, I know that you have no reason to help us, but I still hope that you will help the family out because, you know, blood is thicker than water and everything..."

When she heard the phrase 'blood is thicker than water', Tessa only felt like laughing.

When he chased the penniless orphans and their mother out of the Reinhart family, why did this phrase not appear in his mind?

When the two of them were living on the streets and when Timothy's leg was injured, why didn't they hear him say that blood was thicker than water?

Now that she heard him mention this again, she thought he was simply too shameless!

Tessa snorted coldly. "We no longer have anything to do with the Reinhart Family, and since you have signed the agreement, let's just end this matter between us. You should go back, Mr. Reinhart."

Although Tessa's rejection was expected by Silas, his expression changed. "Tessa, you can't say that." He put on a pleading look again. "I ask for nothing else. I just hope that Tim can lend me 10 million. As long as you can help the Reinhart Group get through this, I will definitely pay it back."

"I know what I did to you both before, but we also compensated for it, didn't we? We gave you a house and paid you 5 million dollars and even your mother's dowry. We don't owe you anything anymore, so you don't have to look at me with such vengeful eyes."

Tessa replied coldly, "I hope you can understand that the apartment was originally left to us by my mother. Besides, my mother's dowry was hers by her name, so it naturally had nothing to do with the Reinharts. As for what you said about the 5 million, that was what you owed us in the first place. You kidnapped us both for merely a project, so this was the price you should pay. If there's nothing else, Mr. Reinhart, you can leave."

After Tessa finished speaking, she stopped paying attention to Silas.

Immediately, the short-tempered Silas was irritated. "Okay, Tessa. I'll remember this."

After he finished speaking, he left immediately.

In the Reinhart Residence.

"How did it go? Have you gotten the money back?" When Amber saw Silas coming back, she hurriedly stood up and asked anxiously.

Silas' anger from the meeting with the siblings had not subsided, and he said with a sullen face, "Those b*stards-they wouldn't give me the money."

"What do you mean?" The light of hope in Amber's eyes disappeared instantly, and her face grew cold.

Silas told Amber about his conversation with the siblings.

After listening to him, Amber slammed the table angrily. "Would you look at that! These are the ungrateful brats you've raised! You even begged them like that! Oh... what should we do now?"

Originally, due to Silas' imprisonment, Reinhart Group's stock price plummeted, and it didn't improve for many days.

Right now, even the company's shareholders were clamoring to cash out their shares.

Besides, the employees in the company had also found a way out and were planning to pack up and leave at a moment's notice.

Reinhart Group was now basically scattered, and whatever they had wouldn't be able to support the company for long.

When Silas heard that Timothy had sold his software to Sawyer Group at a high price, he shifted his target to the siblings immediately.

Tessa had always been prone to be suggestible when dealt with gently, so Silas bit the bullet and went to her, with the intent to play the warm and loving father.

He just didn't expect that Tessa was not the girl who she used to be. Now, she knew not to play along with any of his approaches anymore, and even knew how to negotiate with him and refuse him when she saw fit.

When he thought about this, he suddenly lost his temper and threw the teacup in anger.

“Dad, Grandma, what are you fretting about now? Who said we can’t do anything about it now?”

Sophia heard this when she just got home and was instantly invested.

“Dad, what were you begging her for? Why didn’t you come and ask me instead?”

When Silas heard this, his eyes lit up. “What do you mean? What can you do?”

“I’m guessing you don’t know that Tessa’s hand is broken, right?” Sophia raised her eyebrows.

Silas thought about it carefully. Tessa really didn’t really lift any heavy objects, and she was always only holding small things, as if she had no strength. “What’s wrong with her hand?”

“The cousin of one of my classmates is in the same orchestra as Tessa. According to her, something happened to Tessa, so she lost her hand strength and was now kicked out of the orchestra.”

Silas couldn’t help but frown when he heard this. “What does this have to do with saving the company?”

A merciless light gleamed in Sophia’s eyes. “Dad, do you remember the arrogant master of the Finch Family, the one who wanted to have a marriage of convenience with our family? Their family hasn’t stopped thinking about it until now. Anyway, since they just wanted one of us, we should just grab Tessa and bring her directly into the room of the young master... And once everything is said and done, she could only go through with it. After all, isn’t it just 10 million? It’s nothing to the Finch Family. As for the siblings, they are both disabled anyway; what else can they do? It’s her honor that Young Master Finch fancies her, so she should thank us.”

Silas was all too familiar with the young master of the Finch Family, Eric Finch; almost everyone in Brentwood had heard of his name.

With the thought that his family name had some weight in Brentwood, he did as he pleased from his childhood to adulthood, which even got him the moniker of a playboy-no one could tell how many girls had been ruined by him.

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That was why Eric had yet to settle down till now:

The matter of his marriage worried the head of the Finch Family.

For such marriage of convenience, forget the rich families-even girls from ordinary families had been scouted by them, but none of them were willing to marry him.

The Finches long knew that the Reinhart Family was in trouble, and they even looked for the Reinharts many times before to offer to help them get through the tough times.

However, because the Reinharts were too reluctant to let Sophia go through with it, they did not agree to the proposal.

But Tessa was different. She was Silas' daughter, but she was so ignorant to him. After all, he had put on his kind face when he went to borrow money from her, but she still refused to give him face, so he figured he should present her to the Finch Family as courtesy as well.

Now, it was time to teach this disobedient brat a lesson.

She's such a brat. After all these years of living off the Reinharts, how could she not make any contributions to the family?

Sending her to the Finch Family would be the best use of her.

After making up his mind, Silas thought about it again. No, it might not be possible.

Tessa was no longer the obedient child she used to be. Now that she had someone backing her, she was bold and fearless, so how could she listen to him and leave the Sawyers to go to the Finches?

He frowned and said, "Isn't there someone backing Tessa? If the Sawyers find out about this, then we will be done too..." As if Silas had thought of some unpleasant memory, he shook his head again and again. "No, no. If I mess up and get caught again, I'm afraid I won't see the day of light again."

Amber also said, "Yes, Sophia, your father finally came out of jail, and your mother is still inside. Plus, we won't get any benefit by sending her to them. No matter how capable the Finch Family is, in front of the Sawyers, they are just a bunch of nobodies. We can't go through with it."

"Oh, what's the matter? When the time comes, and everything between Tessa and Eric is done and dusted, do you think Nicholas will still want her? Who would want to take in a 'used' person? He'll probably want Tessa to disappear by then. When it comes to that, how would he help that b*tch to deal with us? Besides, Tessa is just bluffing using the Sawyers' status. Once she marries Eric, she probably won't have a chance to cause trouble anymore, and we can get the money. Isn't it killing two birds with one stone?"

Silas and Amber were still a little hesitant, but their greed shone from deep within their eyes.

Sophia waved her hand impatiently. "It's alright. Since you guys don't have the guts to do it, I'll do it and get the money when the time comes. Dad, don't forget to thank me then."

Tessa Reinhart, your good days are over! You robbed me of what was rightfully mine. You dared to covet my properties, so I will make you pay the price now!

As Sophia thought of the treatment Tessa would suffer, a vicious smile flashed across her face.

She continued, "Okay, leave this matter to me. If there's nothing else, I'll go upstairs."

After returning to her room, Sophia found Eric's mobile phone number and dialed it directly. "Young Master Finch, it's me, Sophia."

Eric, who was on the other end of the phone, seemed to be in some entertainment center. The singing and charming laughter kept ringing on the other end of the line. He laughed and said, "Yo, Miss Reinhart, to what do I owe this pleasure?"

Sophia smirked and said, "Didn't I say to introduce someone to you the other day? Before, I showed a photo of my sister, Tessa. Do you remember her? She will be waiting for you at the Monarchy Clubhouse tomorrow."

Eric's eyes lit up. "Okay! If this goes well, I'll give you whatever you want."

He had always loved drinking and beauties in his life, and ever since he saw the photos of Tessa, he had been coveting her.

She was a natural top beauty, and she was definitely many times better than those pointed-chin and big-eyed beauties who were the product of plastic surgery.

Now that the beauty was delivered to his door, he didn't see any reason to not accept it.

"Thank you. Have fun, Young Master Finch." Sophia smiled.

After hanging up the phone, she couldn't help laughing.

It was her that the Finch Family took interest in before, but with her standard, how could she marry such a person? Hence, she was sending Tessa instead.

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Unexpectedly, after such a long time, Eric still fancied that bitch, Tessa, and just in time, she could do him a favor in this regard.

As long as she follows Eric, Tessa will never be a problem again.

Even if she could still end up alive, she wouldn't be in a great state. Everyone knew that whoever that got tangled with Eric would not have any good ending to them.

At that time, even if she could find Nicholas, he would most likely despise her and wouldn't even get close to her-he might even have long forgotten her by then.

Who would want this waste of a woman?

At that time, by Nicholas' side, there would only be her, Sophia Reinhart!

What an impeccable way to kill two birds with one stone.

She imagined that in the future, she would be with Nicholas, and Tessa would be wagging her tail and begging for pity. Ah, what a joyful time it would be.

Having said that, how could she even get Tessa to go to the clubhouse in the first place?

It would definitely be impossible if she were to tell her directly. After all, Tessa was not that stupid to leave Nicholas, who was a big fish, for Eric.

If she said she was the one that wanted to meet her, it was obvious that Tessa would probably not even answer the call from her.

That's it! Timothy Reinhart! Yes, there is also that crippled little guy!

Couldn't she just let him 'call' her?

Sophia thought about it, and then began to call someone. "William, I'm Sophia Reinhart. I heard that you and Timothy are in the same class, right? Oh, I called to ask you for a favor-can you get his cell phone for me? Okay, thank you. Next time, I will buy you a grand meal."

The next evening, after Timothy got out of school, Sophia got his mobile phone and immediately got someone to crack his password.

Sophia turned Timothy's phone around her fingers, and the corners of her mouth curled upward slightly.

Now that everything was ready, all that was left was to call Tessa at night.

She didn't believe that Tessa, who had always loved her brother, would disregard her brother's safety and let him stay in the clubhouse instead of looking for him herself.

At that point, Sophia already couldn't wait to see Tessa's helpless, miserable appearance.

As soon as it got dark, Sophia found someone and called Tessa with Timothy's mobile phone. "Hello, is this the sister of the owner of this mobile phone?"

Tessa, who was tidying up in her new home, was slightly taken aback when she received the call. "Who are you?"

"I'm a waiter at the Monarchy Clubhouse. Your brother got drunk in our clubhouse. Can you come and pick him up?"

After that, the man hung up the phone.

This left Tessa looking at her phone in surprise.

Tessa knew her younger brother best. He had always been obedient and sensible, and he spent almost all of his time studying. Besides, he usually had no other activities aside from school.

After all these years, she had never once seen him drink alcohol.

Why would he go out and get drunk all of a sudden?

Moreover, before he went out this morning, he also said that he would go look at office buildings in the evening after school, so he would be back late.

Anyone could lie to her, but Timothy wouldn't.

If he really went to drink, he would definitely tell her...

However, this was indeed a call from his cell phone-there was no doubt about that.

If Timothy really was drunk, she couldn't just let him stay at such a dodgy place all alone.

The incident happened so suddenly, and Tessa didn't have much time to think about it, so she went out immediately to find him.

At the Monarchy Clubhouse.

When Tessa arrived, she immediately went to the waiter at the counter. "Hello, I'm here to look for someone. He's a tall, thin, quiet-looking boy named Timothy. You just called me to say he was drunk and told me to pick him up."

The waiter was stunned and replied, "I'll go and ask around for you."

Then, a foreman came and nodded to Tessa. "Hello, I'll bring you to him now."

Tessa followed him into a room and found a plump person in the room-there was no sign of Timothy.

The look in the man's eyes made her very uncomfortable. She looked around to make sure she didn't see Timothy, and said, "I'm sorry. I think I've entered the wrong room."

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After speaking, Tessa wanted to leave the room and planned to ask for the foreman again. The man in the room said, "You're Tessa Reinhart, right? You are in the right room."

Tessa's footsteps stopped, and she looked back suspiciously. "Then where is my brother? I'm here to pick him up."

The man didn't answer, but the way he leered at Tessa became even more unscrupulous. This figure, this face... She is much prettier than in the photo.

At first, she thought that Sophia was deceiving him, and that she had photoshopped the photos to deceive him, but he really didn't expect the Reinhart Family to have hidden such good stuff from him.

He was so fascinated that he looked at Tessa from head to toe and said maliciously, "The eldest lady of the Reinhart Family really doesn't fail to fascinate me. Not bad-you suit my taste very much."

Immediately, Tessa was disgusted by his look and his rude words, but she held herself back and continued, "I'm sorry. I just came to find my brother. Where is he?"

"Your brother? Well, it's not a big deal for me to be your 'brother' this once." He picked up the glass, took a sip of alcohol, and said, "But, sis, do you really not know who I am?"

Tessa frowned a little unhappily. How could this person's words make me so uncomfortable? However, she wasn't sure whether Timothy was here or not, so she couldn't just leave. She endured the disgust and said, "If my brother isn't here, then I'll take my leave first. Sorry for bothering you."

Eric couldn't help but laugh when he heard this. "Wait. Miss Reinhart, aren't you too ignorant? You don't even know me? Who doesn't know about my family in Brentwood? Go and ask around, will you? Who doesn't know me? I'm the young master of the Finch Family."

Tessa's face immediately turned cold at the mention of that. The story about her brother being drunk in a clubhouse was all a lie. She was set up!

She had naturally heard of Young Master Finch's reputation, but she had never seen this person in real life. Now that she met him finally, she could see how disgusting he actually was.

Immediately, Tessa knew that she shouldn't stay there any longer. Without even bothering to say goodbye politely, she wanted to escape from this place quickly, so she immediately turned around to go out

To her dismay, before she reached the door, two bodyguards directly blocked her way. They were like an iron wall. No matter how she pushed, they didn't budge an inch. Tessa's face instantly fell.

At that point, she could feel the man behind her getting up and walking toward her with a sinister smile. She panicked, but she quickly reacted and turned her head back with a force of composure. "Young Master Finch, I didn't mean to offend you. I apologize to you if I've bothered your fun here, but what do you think you are doing?"

Eric smiled as his greasy hand touched Tessa's chin. "Since you know you've bothered me, how can you not make it up to me? And isn't it obvious what I'm doing?"

Tessa gritted her teeth and turned her head away to escape his touch. "What are you doing?!"

"Tessa Reinhart, stop acting dumb. I'm giving you face by even indulging you, but your sister, Sophia Reinhart, received 5 million from me as your dowry, so you are mine tonight," Eric said with a smile.

When she heard Sophia's name, Tessa immediately realized what happened. So Sophia was the one behind all these!

Tessa let everyone from the family go at first, but she actually unknowingly fueled the arrogance of these shameless people!

Nevertheless, the current situation didn't allow her to regret her actions. What she had to think about now was how to get out of this hell of a place and find Timothy. With that in mind, she put on an extremely gloomy expression and said coldly, "If that's the case, you should be looking for whoever took your money and made a deal with you. This has nothing to do with me." She gritted her teeth. "Please have your people get out of the way, or I'll call the police."

However, the bodyguards at the door were unmoved. They remained firm like a wall, unmoved by her words, and they sneered at her remarks instead.

When she saw that they wouldn't move, she was so angry that she took out her mobile phone and was about to call the police. However, before she could unlock her phone, Eric snatched her phone away. "Even if you call the police now, it's useless. Tonight, no matter what, you will be mine, little beauty. Don't struggle, lest you get hurt."

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After throwing Tessa's phone to the bodyguard, Eric immediately tried to hug Tessa.

Having never encountered such a scene, Tessa was suddenly frightened by such a big plot twist, so she quickly ducked and ran in the other direction.

At the same time, there happened to be a wine bottle on the table. Tessa went over to pick it up and smashed the glass bottle directly.

Before Eric could get to her, she held the wine bottle in front of her, facing Eric. "I am warning you don't come any closer."

Eric scoffed when he saw that. "Wow, I didn't expect that the quiet Miss Reinhart has such a bold and intense personality."

He looked Tessa up and down again. "However, you being like this only makes me like you more; you know that? I don't know if you know this, Miss Reinhart, but men have a desire to conquer. The more you struggle, the more I can't resist the urge to conquer you. What are you afraid of, anyway? There's no harm in being with me. Don't listen to the nonsense outside. I know how to show good love."

At this point, Tessa's face was already pale. "Stop talking nonsense. Let me go, or I will"

"Or you will?"

Eric sneered and looked at the bodyguards again. "What are you still standing around for? Tie her up and send her to my room at once! If I don't get to enjoy myself today because of you... Just you wait and see what would happen to you. Go!"

Upon receiving the order, the bodyguards stepped forward.

There were many of them against Tessa. She was so frightened that she didn't know who to attack, and she waved the bottle randomly. "You! Don't you dare come near me! Otherwise, I'll call for help!"

Her words not only did not scare the group of people, but the other party who was at a greater advantage even took the wine bottle from Tessa's hand directly.

Several bodyguards even started to grab her.

Tessa was shocked and angry. She struggled desperately, but as she managed to escape one grip, another would appear to hold her down. No matter how much she tried to escape, she couldn't get rid of them.

Even her wound was reopened, and a burning pain shot through her body.

Outside the room.

"President Sawyer, I wish us a pleasant cooperation in the future. My apologies for any inconvenience caused today. Next time round, we will have a better chat in another place," a man said to Nicholas.

Nicholas nodded lightly. "Stay. I'll see myself out."

He never liked these kinds of places. After staying at places like this for a long time, the smell of cheap perfumes made him feel a little nauseous.

He came here today to talk business. After he was done, he got up right away and didn't want to stay any longer. Right then, he got up and was about to leave.

As soon as he reached the door of the room, he saw a group of black-clothed bodyguards noisily surrounding a woman while walking forward in a mighty manner.

The woman seemed reluctant and was still struggling, forcing the bodyguards to stop and adjust their pace as they planned to just drag her upstairs.

The woman in the room took advantage of the bodyguards' halt in action and began to call for help.

However, her voice was too low, and all kinds of loud noises were mixed together, making it difficult to hear what she was saying.

This kind of thing was very common here, and it was also some unknown little fetish of some frequent-comers here. There were many different tricks and roleplays done here, and this was probably a new one.

Nicholas was not interested in any of these, nor did he want to pay attention to it.

After just taking two steps, he heard a very familiar voice. His footsteps paused, and his brows frowned slightly.

When his escort beside him saw this, he also quickly stopped, thinking the noise disturbed the man.

He hurriedly explained, "President Sawyer, these are all tricks played by kids these days. If you think this is too noisy, why don't you just wait in the room, and we'll leave later?"

Nicholas nodded. It shouldn't be her, he thought.

According to what he knew about her, it was impossible for her to come to such a place.

However, since the voice was all too familiar, he still looked in that direction, and through the gaps between the bodyguards pushing and shoving, he could clearly see the person inside.

It's really her-Tessa Reinhart!