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Words failed Charlotte. She wanted to say she was afraid she would lose him. She wanted to tell him she thought he would really leave her.

She wanted to let him know that she would rather be the one who died, but ultimately, she remained silent.

"Seriously, Charlotte, you're such a cold-blooded person." Zachary was disappointed.

He dipped his head and bit her shoulder.

"Ouch!" Charlotte shrieked. She tried not to struggle for the fear of hurting him. She lay there without putting up a fight and let him have his way.

Zachary did not let go until he tasted blood in his mouth. "Is it painful?"

"Yes."

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A satisfied smile curved on Zachary's lips. "Good. Then you'll remember me forever."

Charlotte looked up at him, her gaze complicated. Zachary had already lost some weight before this. His jaw and cheekbones became more prominent because of his sickness, but he looked more worn out now. She could even see the red veins in his eyes.

"Why did you save me?" Charlotte asked.

"I don't know. It's a knee-jerk reaction. I shouldn't have risked my life for a heartless woman like you," Zachary replied, ruffling her hair.

Charlotte laughed. A tear rolled down her cheek when her eyes curved into a crescent shape.

She did not want him to see her crying, so she buried her face on his chest and quickly collected herself, but none of her actions went unnoticed by Zachary.

He knew she cried. He knew she was moved, but actually, he did not do it on purpose to win her over. It was like a reflex for him to save her.

She had always been his and it was only natural for him to protect what was his, so there was no motivation or reason why he saved her, but Zachary did not tell her this.

He patted her on the shoulder. "You're hurting me," he said softly as if he were comforting a child.

Charlotte smiled and moved her head instantly as she wiped away her tears. She wanted to get off the bed but he pulled her into his embrace. "Stay here. I'm so tired."

"Alright." Charlotte did not move further but slept beside him. She felt safe beside him. His scent and his warmth felt like home to her.

All their grievances, painful past, and resentment melted away.

Charlotte simply wanted to stay by his side. She wanted time to stop so they could stay this way forever.

Zachary was still weak after the surgery and he fell back asleep in no time.

Charlotte, on the other hand, could not sleep a wink. he looked at her quietly as he slept, just like how a simple girl would admire her lover. That was how Charlotte used to be.

In his sleep, Zachary felt her gaze drilling through him and he opened his eyes. Their eyes met and he kissed her.

Charlotte was taken aback. She wanted to push him away, but her hands hesitated when she touched his chest. She did not want to hurt him.

The kiss was soft and loving. Charlotte could even taste the blood in his mouth from the bite earlier on, but she followed his lead and let him kiss her.

Zachary turned and pressed against her as their kiss intensified.

He started running his hands down her body but stopped immediately when he felt pain in his wounds.

He rested his forehead against hers and smacked his lips.

"Charlotte…" he called her name.

"Yes?" Charlotte let down her defense.

"You have to bear full responsibility for my injury," he said, grabbing her chin, "You have to take care of me until I get well again."

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Zachary did not sound like he was making a request. It sounded more like an order.

Usually, Charlotte would put up a fight and disagree with him, but this time, she just nodded and caved. "Yes. I will take care of you."

"Good."

Zachary pulled her into his embrace and dozed off peacefully.

I should've known this is the easiest way to bring her back to me…

Charlotte snuggled in his arms without moving, listening to his heartbeat. His heartbeat sounds normal. I think he's healthy. I'm probably thinking too much.

She could finally shake the worry off.

Over at the door, Ben stopped Lupine just before she knocked on the door.

"What are you doing? I'm sending Ms. Lindberg breakfast."

"I don't think she wants any breakfast now," Ben replied, moving aside and tilting his head, signaling at Lupine to look at the couple herself.

Lupine cocked her head and stood frozen.

Zachary and Charlotte were resting together in the bed, just like how couples in love usually did.

It seemed like they really did not need to eat anything.

"Just leave them be."

Ben pulled Lupine away and gestured at the subordinates to stay outside.

"I should be happy for them, but I don't know why I feel so unsettled," Lupine said.

"Why?" Ben was curious. "I've been hoping for this day all this while. Didn't you say you wanted them to get back together as well?"

"Yes…" Lupine wanted to say more but did not. "It's nothing. I just want Ms. Lindberg to be happy."

Then, she left.

Ben looked at her as she walked off, unable to understand what was in that head of hers. She clearly said she wished they got back together. Why did she change her mind?

What is she thinking exactly?

Lupine went over to the staircase and sat down, eating the breakfast she bought for Charlotte alone. Her heart became heavier as she ate away.

Back then, she was so frustrated looking at Charlotte hiding her true feelings about Zachary, but now that they patched things up, Lupine was worried about Charlotte.

What if he dies? What will become of her?

Charlotte would probably get over it faster if they did not reconcile. She would go through his death easier if she were not as invested in the relationship.

Now that she has opened up to him, it will be insufferable for her if anything happens to him. This kind of pain is unbearable for her.

Lupine sighed at the thought.

Meanwhile, Ben was secretly happy that Zachary and Charlotte had finally mended fences. He saw this accident as a blessing in disguise for the two.

He quickly called Bruce and shared the good news with him. He also told Bruce that Sean probably knew where to find Francesco.

"I'm glad to know they're back together," Bruce said tritely, "As for Sean, of course, I'm aware that he might know where Francesco is. I've thought of contacting him, but he's disappeared together with Danrique. There's no getting hold of him at all."

"For real?" Ben was shocked. "I thought Lupine has always been in touch with Sean?"

"Really? Then there might be something we don't know," Bruce conjectured, "From what I know, Sean has gone missing together with Danrique, but it's possible that it's all a show to hide something from everyone else."

"Are you implying that Sean did not go missing at all and that he's still contacting Ms. Lindberg?" Ben made a bold guess. "Does this mean Danrique is not actually dead? Is all this just a trick to beguile everyone?"

"Probably, but I still can't trace them. We might need to get some information out from Ms. Lindberg. You need to think of a way to do that."

"Alright. I know what to do. Mr. Spencer's here, I need to hang up."

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Ben ended the call hastily and went over to greet Spencer.

"What is all this? Why didn't you tell me about what's going on?" Spencer glared at Ben.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Spencer." Ben lowered his head guiltily. "Everything happened too quickly. Mr. Nacht's condition is stable now, so we didn't call you."

"What do you mean by 'stable', huh? What's the situation now?'

"He lost too much blood and he fainted. He already woke up in the morning. He's just asleep now."

"Let me see him," Spencer said. His men pushed him toward the ward.

"Um, now might not be a good time, Mr. Spencer," Ben said slowly.

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"Why can't I go in?" Spencer frowned.

Ben looked around and bent down to whisper in his ear. "Ms. Lindberg is inside."

Spencer was taken aback when he heard that. He asked his subordinate to push him closer and he opened the door slightly.

When he saw the couple resting through the small crack, his expression became serious and he closed the door after that. He looked at the door for a bit and left quietly.

"What happened exactly? How did he get injured?" Spencer finally spoke when Ben was sending him off.

"Well…"

"I can see through all your lies, so you'd better tell me the truth," Spencer warned, "I'll get to the bottom of this if you keep it from me."

Ben knew there was no getting away, so he gave an honest account of everything.

"Again?" Spencer was indignant. "These two are just not meant to be."

"I've already sent some men to look into this. Don't worry. You can't blame Ms. Lindberg for this too. Mr. Nacht protected her because he wanted to. What matters most is now things are back to normal between the two of them," Ben said carefully.

"It's still too early to say if this is a good thing," Spencer said with a sigh, "You take good care of him. Let me know if something happens."

"Sure thing, Mr. Spencer."

When Ben got back in, Raina was already there with a few other doctors. "How's Mr. Nacht?"

"He woke up already. He seems okay so far."

"Why didn't you call me?" Raina ran over to the ward.

"Hey, wait…"

Before Ben could say anything, Raina had already opened the door. She was stunned when she saw Charlotte and Zachary on the bed together. She immediately stepped outside and closed the door behind her. "Why didn't you tell me earlier?"

"I was about to tell you, but you went in already…"

"Ben!" It seemed like Zachary was awakened by the commotion outside.

"Yes," Ben replied instantly, going into the room.

"I don't want anyone to disturb us for the next half an hour."

"Understood."

Ben gestured at all the men to retreat.

Back in the room, Charlotte was awakened too. She rubbed her eyes as she got up, avoiding the wounds on Zachary's body.

"You're not going anywhere." Zachary stopped her and pulled her back into his arms.

"They are still waiting outside."

Charlotte felt bad. She knew Raina was here just now. Zachary needed to get his wounds checked.

"Let them wait."

Zachary turned and put his forehead on Charlotte's, rubbing his nose against hers.

"Zachary…" Charlotte saw his slender face and felt an urge to ask him about his health.

"Yes?" Zachary's lips brushed against her cheek as he spoke.

"Um…" Charlotte changed her mind. "I think you should really let the doctors come in."

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Charlotte knew Zachary was intractable. He would never show his vulnerability before his family.

He would not breathe a word even if she asked. It would only bother him further, so Charlotte decided to just swallow her question.

"Alright. I'll let you off the hook this time." Zachary let her go reluctantly.

Charlotte got out of the bed and pulled on a cardigan before going over to wash up. She changed into a new set of clothes and came over to help Zachary wash up.

She had never taken care of other people. The maids at home saw to it that she did not need to lift a finger to take care of anything at home in the past two years, but it felt so natural for her to attend to Zachary.

Zachary's heart warmed looking at her. It reminded her of the days they spent together. Everything was so blissful and now there was finally a chance for them to resume their relationship.

"All done." Charlotte wiped Zachary's hands clean and headed for the door.

"Good morning, Ms. Lindberg."

Ben, Raina, Lupine, and the others greeted her the moment they saw her coming out from the ward.

"Come on in," she said.

"Yes." The tree headed in. Ben went over and stood beside Zachary while Raina checked on his wounds.

As for Lupine, she went next to Charlotte and reported back on her work. "The private jet is ready. It's ready for takeoff at two in the afternoon.

"Noted." Charlotte nodded.

"I want to go home if there's nothing else to do at the hospital," Zachary said.

Raina was concerned and tried changing his mind. "This is not a minor wound, Mr. Nacht. It'll be better to stay for a few more days. I know that Southridge has a hospital as well, but their equipment and facility are not as extensive. It's better to stay at this hospital. We'll be able to offer the best care in case…"

"In case?" Zachary cut her short impatiently, "There won't be any emergency. There's no need to be paranoid."

"But…"

Raina hushed when she met Zachary's fierce glare.

She looked at Ben beseechingly for help, but to her dismay, Ben did not object.

"Alright. I'll make the necessary arrangement."

Raina knew all hope was gone.

"Great," Zachary said, turning toward Charlotte. "Get over here."

Charlotte's brows stitched looking at him. Seriously. He's showing his true color just when he's getting better.

"What do you want?" she said begrudgingly, going over.

Zachary pulled her hand. "You're moving back home."

"What?"

"I was injured because of you. You have a price to pay."

Charlotte wanted to refute, but she knew there was no good reason for her to reject him.

"What about the kids?" This was the best excuse she could give.

"They're coming back as well," Zachary said. He wanted the whole family reunited. The thought of having the whole family back together put a smile on his face. "I can still read them bedtime stories even though I'm sick."

"I mean the three girls. We can't just leave them in Northridge."

"It's true that they are a handful, but they're adorable. Bring them along." The smile on his face deepened.

"What?" Charlotte knew Zachary was fond of children. He knew how to deal with kids well, but still, those girls were his enemy's children.

There was no way he would want to be under the same roof with them all the time.

"They are very playful. It'll be difficult to control all of them in one go. What about you go home and rest first. I have something to do for the next few days. I'll drop by your place after that."

"Where are you going? You're not leaving." Zachary's grip tightened around her hand.