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Both Jackson and Sharon were taken aback and hesitated for a bit before opening the box.

"An antique snuff box?"

"And a painting by my favorite artist!"

The two of them exclaimed, unable to believe their eyes.

Jackson was a smoker but hadn't been able to afford decent tobacco since the downfall of the Blackwood family.

On the other hand, Sharon was born into a family of scholars, and she would've dedicated her life to art had she not been burdened with managing the household after marrying into the Blackwood family.

As such, the two of them were touched to tears when they saw the gifts.

Sebastian shot them an indifferent glance and said, "These aren't the most expensive ones out there, but I assure you they are definitely authentic. Please

feel free to keep them if they are to your liking. You may think of it as compensation for my neglect over the years."

His words sent mixed feelings into everyone's hearts once again.

Jackson and Sharon decided to accept the gifts in the end, and Sasha waited till she was in the car with Sebastian before asking, "Where did you buy all that? The Lux Tower? I didn't see you buy anything there, so when did you buy it?"

Sebastian shot her a quick glance before shifting his gaze back to the road ahead. "I didn't. I lied about that."

"What? Where did you buy that stuff from, then? Those looked pretty expensive, and I could tell they were really touched by it! How much did it cost you?"

Out of all the questions she asked, the last one was the most important one.

"Two hundred thousand, duh! That's all you gave me, remember? Good thing my friend gave me a discount, or that stuff could've easily costed over three hundred thousand! You should be glad we got it for a fairly cheap price!" Sebastian replied.

Sasha nearly fainted on the spot when she heard that.

Two hundred thousand is fairly cheap? Has he forgotten the fact that he's no longer the filthy rich president of Hayes Corporation? Right now, he's nothing more than a freaking penniless man being kept by me!

Noticing the angry look on her face, Sebastian pursed his lips and said cautiously, "D-Did I overspend, Darling? I'm sorry, I've gotten so used to that extravagant lifestyle that I forgot you're the only one supporting the family right now... How about I start looking for a job tomorrow?"

"What did you say?"

His words hit Sasha like a truck.

Does the great Sebastian Hayes want to look for a job? What kind of job could a man like him possibly get? He's my most precious sweetheart, and I would rather spend all of my hard-earned money on him than have him work under someone else! A king like him shouldn't have to serve anyone, and I will do everything in my power to make sure of that!

"That won't be necessary! I own a company, remember? We'll just work together and make it as powerful as Hayes Corporation!" she declined his suggestion and transferred another five hundred thousand into his bank account.

What a silly woman!

A smile formed on Sebastian's face when he saw how goofy she looked.

The kids were fast asleep by the time they arrived at the village later that night, and they retired to bed shortly after taking a quick shower.

"Sebastian, I... Mmph..."

Sasha could barely get a word out before Sebastian climbed on top of her.

"Can you change the way you address me?"

"W-What?"

"Call me Honey... Or Sebby." Sebastian's voice went really low when he said the last word, nearly driving her insane from how sexy he sounded.

Sebby? That was how I used to address him back when I was five! But then, a lot had happened, and he forbade me from doing so after that. Is he seriously asking me to call him "Sebby" again?

With that in mind, Sasha burned bright red instantly.

Her eyelids fluttered as she stared deeply into his eyes, and the words slipped out of her mouth before she even realized it. "Sebby..."

Sebastian felt as if a surge of electricity shot through his body upon hearing that. Unable to hold himself back any longer, he leaned in to give her a deep and passionate kiss on the lips.

The two of them soon fell asleep after a wild night in bed.

In the middle of the night, Sebastian was woken up by a noise coming from outside the bedroom. It was really faint, but he had a sharp sense of hearing and could tell there was a fight going on outside.

Who could it be?

He opened his eyes immediately and covered Sasha up with the blanket before climbing out of bed.

"Mr. Hayes!"

"Karl? What are you doing here?"

There was a cold glint in his eyes when he opened the door and saw his bodyguard covered in blood.

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"I followed these guys here. Mr. Hayes, did something happen during your trip to the city today?" Karl asked while tossing the items he took from them onto the floor.

A syringe filled with anesthetic, a coil of rope, and two silenced pistols with an intricate design... Are these men here to kill me? No, Solomon wouldn't dare go that far just yet. Besides, he should know he doesn't have what it takes to kill me!

Sebastian narrowed his eyes at the thought of that.

"Wait here," he mumbled as he went into the bedroom and returned moments later with a folder in his hand.

"What is this?" Karl asked.

"Share transfer agreements from Peter and a few other shareholders. He came to see me today and gave these to me, but I refused to accept them. Little did I know, he handed them over to Sasha instead," Sebastian replied while staring furiously at the documents like he wanted to rip them all to shreds.

"What will you do next? Things aren't looking good at the office. Remember how you had me do some digging on Sinch Enterprise the other day? Well, I found something rather fishy about that company!" Karl said after a brief pause.

Sebastian shot him a glare. "Fishy? How so?"

"While it's true that the company was founded by a Jetroinian, Solomon had become the person in charge at some point in time. According to my sources, he was the adopted son of Tanaka Ichirou," Karl replied while sending him a file he had stored in his phone.

"Adopted son?" Sebastian was shocked when he saw that part in the file. "Yancy Young brought Solomon over to the Wand family when he was eight. When she passed away, Sasha's mom, Heather Blackwood, helped raise him until he was eighteen. How on earth did he become the adopted son of some Jetroinian guy? Could it be that Solomon came across this guy when he was studying abroad?"

Karl shook his head. "No. According to our investigation, Solomon has only been in contact with Sinch Enterprise within the past two years. In other words, this took place while he was still in Clear."

Sebastian went silent after that and simply glared coldly at the file in his hand.

Looks like this Jetroinian guy is the one we should really start looking into, then...

"Arrange for someone to investigate this guy."

"Yes, Mr. Hayes."

Karl's eyes lit up immediately.

Oh, my god! Mr. Hayes finally going to do something about the company!

However, that feeling of excitement didn't last long as Sebastian then handed him the folder and said, "Give this back to Peter."

"Huh? But... What if Madam finds out?" Karl refused to give up without a struggle.

"What are you talking about? This has nothing to do with Sasha."

"I mean, she must have her reasons for keeping it a secret from you. Wouldn't she get mad if she wakes up and finds out that you gave this to me without telling her first?"

Seeing no response from Sebastian, Karl continued, "As such, I think you should discuss it with her before making this decision. After all, it wasn't easy for you two to get back together!"

This bodyguard sure has gotten a lot bolder, talking to me like this... It pisses me off, but I have to admit, he does have a point.

Noticing the bulging veins on Sebastian's forehead, Karl knew it was his cue to leave. "Will that be all, Mr. Hayes? If not, I'll be taking my leave now! Oh, right, almost forgot... Have you really gone bankrupt? If I recall, you have two limitless credit cards with you, right?"

"Get lost!" Sebastian shouted angrily.

Karl took off as quickly as his could carry him, and the village fell into silence once again.

Sasha woke up the next morning with no clue as to what happened the night before.

Her gaze fell upon the folder she had kept inside her handbag as she dragged her exhausted body out of bed, and she furrowed her brows wondering what she should do with it.