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"Ms. Zimmer, hold on. This is my name card. Call me after you wake up. I'm sure you know very well that there's no one I can't find in this world," Larry said in an icy voice.

Of course the woman grasped the meaning behind his words, but the dominance in his tone only served to further pique her interest in him.

"Alright. I'll call you immediately after I wake up." She gently patted Larry's back and left.

Staring at the woman as she made her way into the villa, a hint of disdain flickered across Caspian's features.

"Larry, I don't think that woman is as simple as she looks," he warned.

Indeed. It's only our first meeting, but the way she carried herself in conversation makes her seem like a woman who has seen a lot in life.

After barely a few minutes on the road, Larry's ringtone blared through the car.

Glancing at the unknown number flashing across his phone screen, the man furrowed his brows and immediately declined the call.

However, the caller was persistent. Larry felt like his phone would ring forever if he didn't pick it up.

"Hello?" A hint of impatience laced Larry's voice.

"Oh my, Mr. Norton. What's the matter with you? You were the one who gave me your name card. Why didn't you answer my calls earlier?" Jessica drawled in a lazy tone.

lt's her.

"My apologies, Ms. Zimmer. I thought you were asleep," Larry explained in a low voice.

In fact, he had already guessed that Jessica was the one calling. He simply hadn't felt like answering it.

"Now, now. Are you saying I can only call you after I wake up? That won't do. I'll miss you." Larry felt nauseated by her suggestive words.

Here we go again. Caspian sighed next to him while shaking his head.

What's wrong with women nowadays? Why do they keep pestering a man who clearly has a wife and child? First, it was Gabriella. Now, it's Jessica Zimmer! It never ends, does it? Worried, Caspian drummed his fingers on the steering wheel as he drove.

"Alright, Ms. Zimmer. You should get some rest now. I have some matters to attend to, so it's not a very good time for us to talk," Larry hinted.

Jessica was no fool. Of course she could hear the underlying meaning in his words, so she ended the call after conversing with him for a while.

This man is really interesting. Jessica stared at the ceiling as she lay in bed, a sly smile forming on her lips.

"Where are we headed to, Larry?" Caspian queried.

"Back to the company. We'll look for other potential manufacturers," Larry replied curtly.

"But, Larry. I thought we already ... "

"Keep looking. I want to find an even more suitable one!" he commanded with a frown. If possible, he wanted to refrain from interacting with other women.

Truth be told, he had two strings to his bow. However, he couldn't recklessly give up either party before everything was confirmed.

"How's it going?" he asked Caspian with a serious expression.

"I've found one, but the boss is a very difficult man. He isn't all that interested in collaborating with domestic companies, so I think it might be a long shot," Caspian swiftly replied.

Larry had heard about a foreign manufacturer with strict requirements for its partner companies. It was precisely because of the company's failure to reach an agreement with them that prompted the shareholders to relentlessly search for domestic manufacturers to partner up with instead. At that time, Larry hadn't taken over Norton Corporation yet.

Larry's eyes shone with resolution. "We must seal the deal with them. Him alone as our partner will be more than enough."

"Then what about Jessica Zimmer? Should we stop following up with her?" Caspian asked curiously.

"No. We should still establish a good relationship with her. Before we can collaborate with a foreign manufacturer, we should first have a good relationship with the local people in this business." Larry sat down on the sofa beside him and lit a cigarette as he spoke.

Surprise flashed across Caspian's face when he saw this. In the past – unless he was really worried – Larry seldom smoked. Seeing how he just expertly lit the cigarette, he probably smokes every day now, doesn't he?

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"Larry, don't smoke so often. It's bad for your body," Caspian advised out of goodwill.

"It's fine. Don't think about such petty things and just focus on your work. I want all the information there is on that manufacturer. Find out every single detail," Larry ordered.

Meanwhile, Jessica was tossing and turning in bed, unable to fall asleep. All she could think about was Larry.

What is he doing now? I acted frivolously on purpose during our first meeting. Would he misunderstand? She frowned, a thoughtful look taking residence on her face.

You know what? I'll just give him a call now.

In the office, Larry was sitting at his desk, busy looking through some documents. Although his phone had been ringing on the sofa for quite some time, he didn't look up once.

In the entire company building, his office was the only one with the lights still on. The security personnel by the entrance yawned sleepily, eyes struggling to stay on guard.

"Hey, isn't Mr. Norton leaving yet?" one of them asked in a hushed voice.

"Don't you know? Mr. Norton has been working overtime every day recently. He sleeps in the office every night," another security guard answered.

"It must be hard on him. Here he is, working so tirelessly, yet his wife had the audacity to go out with another man. I can only imagine how he feels."

"Watch what you say. Mrs. Norton loves Mr. Norton very much, and vice versa. Don't listen to all those baseless rumors."

Both security guards began gossiping by the company entrance.

Ever since news of Joan and Caiden shopping together spread in Norton Corporation, it had become a hot topic the employees discussed in their free time. Of course, they made sure to do it when Larry wasn't around.

A short distance away, Joan was carrying a paper bag in her hand. When she heard the two security guards' discussion, her expression turned slightly awkward.

Even the security guards know about this. How could he not misunderstand the situation?

He's probably too busy. That's why he hasn't had the time to confront me about it.

Or does he trust me that much? Joan bowed her head, her eyes gleaming with conflict.

After straightening her clothes, she resumed her stride.

"Mrs. Norton."

The security guards gave her a small bow in greeting.

"Thank you for your hard work." With that, Joan walked past them.

In the office, Larry kept massaging his temples, trying to keep himself awake, but he still ended up sprawled on the desk.

Joan entered his office without knocking and noticed that he had fallen asleep on his desk.

Look at how tired this man is. She picked up the blanket from the sofa and gently draped it over him.

Ding!

When Joan heard his phone ring on the sofa, she immediately went over, thinking of bringing it to Larry, but right before the screen went dark again, she saw something she shouldn't have.

It was a message from Jessica, and its content was thought-provoking.

I must've gotten it wrong. Larry would never betray me! Joan mentally reassured herself.

After placing the paper bag on the table, she glanced longingly at Larry but eventually turned to leave in the end.

Well before Larry woke up the next morning, there was already another person in his office.

No wonder he didn't answer any of my calls or reply to my messages. How could he have heard his phone ring from so far away? Jessica slowly picked up the phone from the sofa to look at it. I knew it. He didn't read any of my messages.

Right then, Larry pried his eyes open and grunted as he thumped his fist against his stiff shoulder.

"Oh, you're awake, Mr. Norton," Jessica teased.

Larry was completely caught off guard, but he immediately schooled his features into neutrality.

"Why are you here?" he questioned in a calm voice. CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR TELEGRAM CHANNEL FOR FAST UPDATES <u>https://t.me/NovelsFuns</u>

Why? To see you, of course. I've never fallen in love at first sight, but there's always a first for everything.

You should feel honored, Mr. Norton. Jessica smirked at the thought.

"Is there something you need from me?" Larry raised his head to level their gazes.

"Can't I come just because I want to? You seem to find me annoying, Mr. Norton." Jessica sounded him out purposely, trying to push his buttons to get a reaction out of him.

Rather than finding her annoying, Larry merely didn't wish to see her. To be more precise, he didn't wish to see her so regularly.

Larry didn't mince his words. "If it's a work-related issue, we can sit down and have a proper discussion. If it's a private matter, however, I'm afraid I can't entertain you. I'm very busy right now."