On the street outside the window, Petra was holding Cindy. The two were talking and laughing as they walked toward the mall from across the street.

I wondered how the two of them met each other. Seeing how close they were, I thought they looked just like mother and daughter. However, when I mentioned Xander's mother previously, Cindy looked as though she did not know anything.

However, I was never a nosy person, so I ignored these things and got ready to g o home after seeing that it was getting late.

"Let's go?" I asked Xander.

He could barely hold himself up, and

after beckoning the waiter to pay the bill, he staggered to his feet. He looked like he was about to fall. I hurriedly went over to hold him and asked worriedly, "Can you still walk?"

"I'm okay." He waved and staggered outside. With how much his body was swaying, it was dangerous to leave him be. I had no choice but to step forward and support him with my body as we walked forward.

We walked with much difficulty and I was finally able to get him in the car.

I wanted to drive him back to Petra's place but he refused to and asked me to take him back to Regal Villa.

"When did you buy a house in Regal Villa?" I was curious because I had never heard him mention it before.

"You never take the things I say seriously." Xander lay at the back, sounding both aggrieved and sad. I felt dejected because I did not remember when exactly he told me about this.

Soon, the car arrived at the address that Xander had mentioned. It turned out that his house was in the same row as mine but mine was halfway up the mountain, whereas his house was on top of the mountain. That meant he would pass by my house whenever he drove up and down the mountain.

Why had I not encountered him before, though?

After ringing the doorbell for a very long time, an old man walked out. A butler, perhaps. After thanking me, he helped Xander inside.

Xander was a person who largely kept t o himself, so apart from his agent, he did not have a single assistant beside him. Thankfully, though, there was someone to take care of him at home. I was extremely worn out after leaving Xander's house and really hated the fact that I still needed to drive. Hence, I was ready to head straight to bed right after returning to the villa.

When I was done parking the car and about to enter the door, I saw plumes of smoke outside the door. Someone was smoking outside my house and I did not even notice it when I came in.

Worried, I walked toward the side of the door and when I grew closer, Theo's tall and sturdy figure came into view.

He stood there in silence, staring at me with a cold and menacing gaze.

I frowned. Why was he smoking outside the door?

"Where did you go?" he asked with a cold voice and stern tone.

"I went to have dinner with a friend."

Seeing that it was him, I set my mind at rest and turned around to walk into the house.

He walked over and grabbed my hand with a tight grip. I frowned in pain. "You're hurting me."

"What kind of friend is he that you needed to personally send him back?" Having said that, he pulled me into his arms and I was completely at his mercy.

It turned out that he had been standing outside the door when I drove past earlier. It was too dim at the time so I did not notice him.

Seeing how quiet I was, he was even more displeased. He clenched my chin and said in a deep, hoarse voice, "Who i s he that he's even making you drink alcohol when you're pregnant?"

The alcohol scent on my body was probably left behind by Xander when I was holding him up just now. My chin

was hurting from his grip. I peered into his eyes and groaned. "It's none of your business."

He clutched my chin harder and said in a cold voice, "Wanda Lane, whose business is it if not mine? Is it the business of that backup you just found? Well, dream on! I'll not let another man raise my son."

His voice was extremely chilly, and the expression on his face was intimidating. His distinct facial features were contorted in anger, and his pupils were so dark that they looked like an abyss. There was also a hint of viciousness on his face.

Although I was afraid, his words made me even angrier. I pushed him away and screamed, "Do you think everyone has wandering eyes like you? Sparing n o one and preparing a bunch of backups for your entertainment?" I ignored him after saying those words and went upstairs, locking the door from the inside. After that, I went to bed.

I had not been sleeping well lately and suddenly wanted to sleep tonight.

I was half-asleep when I felt as though someone was walking around my bed. They seemed to have covered me with a blanket before sitting on the edge of the bed, staring at me. Then, they got into the bed and hugged me tightly. I could hardly breathe because of the tight embrace and tried to open my eyes to see but I could not no matter how hard I tried.

In a daze, I simply stopped struggling and forced myself to sleep.

The next day when I woke up, it was already sunrise and Miss Woods reheated my cold breakfast for me.

I looked around me but did not see Theo.

"Mr. Grant went to the company early this morning and told me not to wake you up. He wanted you to sleep more. You would want to sleep more when you're pregnant. When I was pregnant, I would sleep for 15 hours a day and still thought it was not enough..."

Miss Woods started yammering about her previous pregnancy. They said that a person loved to nag when they grew older and loved talking about their younger days. Time was unforgiving. Miss Woods was slowly growing old too.

After having breakfast, I went to the company. Heidi told me that the director had confirmed that everyone would be leaving tomorrow, which meant that I would have to go on a business trip tomorrow.

"Should I come with you, Ms. Wanda?" Heidi asked, looking at me.

"It's fine. Stay here and prepare the first draft of the acquisition report. I'll come back and revise it." There were too many people in the director's team and my presence was already considered redundant, let alone Heidi's.

I bustled about with work the entire morning and when noon approached, I received a text from Mason to meet at lunch. He wanted me to take the medicine he had prescribed for me.

I agreed since I needed the medicine for my business trip.

When I arrived at the address Mason sent me, I learned that Theo was here too. However, he ignored me and sat there without speaking. His entire being was engulfed in a dark and gloomy aura.

I ignored him too and sat down at the table across from him. I said to Mason, "Dr. Lynch, I'm going on a business trip for a few days. Will it be okay to bring these medicines with me?"

Theo's gaze darkened but he still did not say a word.

"You're going on a business trip? Is it for a shoot?" Mason asked.

"Yeah, it's an outdoor shoot so I have t o go along." Theo took a bowl of soup from the waiter and placed it in front of me. I did not refuse and took a sip. It tasted pretty sour and quite suited my taste. It seemed to have been specially ordered for me.

"Where will the shoot take place?"
Mason asked while placing some
refreshing dishes in front of me.

Theo's already grumpy expression grew even darker and sullen. The chilly aura exuded from his body caused the air pressure around us to drop.

"The South Sea," I responded succinctly.

"You have issues with digestion and sleep, so remember to take this medication with you. Take it with water every morning and evening. It'll relieve your symptoms." Mason darted a glance at Theo and said with a smile, "Don't worry, this will not affect the fetus in any way."

"Thanks." I lowered my head to finish the soup, saying no more. As Theo had a gloomy countenance the whole time, I was not able to eat my meal peacefully. I took a few bites before making an excuse and leaving.

Nothing much happened in the afternoon. I spoke to Cecilia on WhatsApp for a moment and told her that I had already seen a doctor and received my insomnia prescription. Only then did she stop nagging me and promised to come back earlier.

Theo was not around at night. Miss Woods made a table full of nutritious food again. I felt like I had turned into a pig recently because I was eating all the time.

After dinner, I went back to my room and sat alone on the balcony, gazing at the moon. There was a flash of inexplicable disappointment. My heart felt empty but I did not know why.

It was normal for Theo not to be home

and I should have long gotten used to it. However, I was constantly worried about losing him and it made me really tired.

I sat on the balcony the whole night. Seeing that it was nearly two in the morning and thinking that I would still have to go on a business trip tomorrow, I forced myself to lay down.

When I finally drifted off to sleep, my phone started ringing. I rejected it irritably but the other party refused to give up and called again.

I rejected it again but the other party gave me another call. This happened a few times, which made me tremendously irritated. I finally picked up the phone and screamed in a fit of anger, "You'd better have something urgent to say or I'll f*cking teach you a lesson."

The other party was clearly startled to

hear me curse and did not speak for a very long time.

"Speak," I ordered impatiently.

"It's me, Wandy. What happened to you? Why do you sound so terrifying?" Xander's cautious voice rang out.

Xander? I checked the time. It was four in the morning. Was this guy sick in the head?

"It's you? What's up?" My voice was still full of indignation.

"I just wanted to tell you that we should probably get ready to leave for the flight at five o'clock." Xander sounded somewhat wronged.

"Five o'clock?" Heidi had told me that we were going on the trip today but I forgot to ask her the specific time.

I quickly got up. It would take half an hour to get to the airport from here. I might be late if I did not hurry.

"You should go and wash up first. I'll come and pick you up." Xander immediately hung up the phone after saying those words as though he was afraid of being scolded by me again.

My head was dizzy and I felt very uncomfortable. However, I still forced

myself to get out of bed and wash up.

I finished packing in no time and went out. Xander was already waiting outside the door.

We drove all the way to the airport.

Thankfully, we were not late. However, as I did not have enough sleep, I felt extremely uncomfortable and dryheaved for a long time before I finally felt a little better.

"Where are the rest?" When we were about to get on board, I realized that there were only two of us.

"They will board the plane at night."

"Are you out of your mind? Why did you wake me up so early, then?" I was already in a bad mood because I did not have enough sleep and the current situation only made it worse.

"I was hoping to go over earlier to familiarize myself with the location and discuss shooting ideas with you. I know you haven't slept well, so you can rest once we board the plane later.
You're an adult now. I can't believe you're still so irritable in the morning."
Xander dragged my luggage and pushed me forward.

I knew that he was only giving excuses. Discuss shooting ideas, my foot! That was the director's job. However, since I was already here and about to board the plane, there was no way I would just go home like this.

I pulled a long face without a word.

After boarding the plane, I asked the cabin crew for a blanket and continued t o sleep. Xander was in high spirits. He put on a pair of headphones and began watching movies.

When the plane landed, Xander nudged me awake and urged. "Let's go. We can continue to sleep after we reach the hotel."

The way he said it sounded really strange.

Without thinking much about it, I followed Xander dazedly and walked out of the airport. The car he rented in advance was already waiting outside. It took us straight to the hotel by the beach.

The ocean view here was really beautiful, but the stifling hot weather made it hard for me to indulge in it. I went straight to my room.

Xander set the luggage down and said to me, "I've ordered our meals and they'll be delivered in a while. Have some before you rest. Don't starve yourself since you're pregnant. It won't be good for the baby's development."

He was rarely serious and thoughtful. It was quite hard for me to get used to it.

After several hours of journey from morning to now, I was actually quite hungry. I nodded slightly. When we walked through the door, my initial plan was to head into another bedroom. However, thinking that we were about to have our meal, I just followed Xander.

Although I was famished, I felt full after taking only a few bites.

When I was done eating, I took the medicine Mason prescribed me. Seeing that Xander was still eating, I dragged my luggage to another room to rest.

"Your luggage is heavy, just sleep here.
I'll go to the other room after I'm done
eating," Xander said, looking at me.

He had gotten a suite. I nodded unabashedly before pushing my luggage into the room and closing the door. I lay on the bed, thinking that I should probably shower after Xander left and go to bed after that.

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However, I fell asleep in no time at all.

When I woke up again, I was covered with a blanket. I checked my wristwatch and it was already six o'clock in the evening. I did not expect myself to sleep this long.

It seemed that Mason was worthy of his name as a distinguished doctor. His prescription worked like a charm.

At this moment, there were sounds of faint coughing coming from the living room. I froze and got up to walk out. Xander was sitting on the floor with a script in his hand, reading it seriously.

It seemed that he had not gotten any rest and had been reading his script here the whole time. I never knew how serious he was about his work before.

As he was too lost in reading the script, he did not notice me standing there even after a very long time. I opened my

mouth and said softly, "You're still young, there's no need to work so hard. Take care of your health."

He was startled when I suddenly spoke. After some time, he patted his chest and said, "You scared me to death. I was reading a script for a ghost movie."

I rolled my eyes at him. Did he take me for a vengeful ghost when it was still during the day?

He took off his glasses and massaged his glabella. "I've received quite a few scripts recently and want to pick a nice one as soon as possible so that I can return the rest, lest I delay other people's work."

A person's success would not be accidental. Take Xander, for example. In the eyes of the media, he was an uninhibited man, which gave others the impression that he was careless and had a lack of purpose in life. No one knew that behind closed doors, he was actually a hardworking and considerate man.

I did not speak more and took the initiative to sit at the farthest end of the sofa. Scripts were supposed to be kept confidential, so I avoided looking at them.

Xander stood up and stretched himself before lying on the couch in exhaustion.

"Why don't you go and have some rest first? I'll call you when the director is here." I could not bear seeing him like this.

"It's okay. I'll just take a nap. My friends are treating us to dinner tonight. Let's go and cadge a good meal," he said with his eyes closed.

"What if the director and crew arrive?" Xander had mentioned that they were taking the flight at night so they must b e arriving any time soon.

"They have things to do today so they'll only come over tomorrow. We'll go and have fun tonight before starting work tomorrow."

"Xander!" I used the magazine in my hand to hit him in anger. This brat! It turned out that he had deceived me to come over one day earlier.

"I'm so tired. I'll take a nap. I haven't slept in 24 hours and can't hold on anymore." Having said that, he picked u p the cushion on the sofa and covered

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his head.

I knew that he was avoiding me on purpose so I chose to ignore him.

Things had already happened anyway, and getting mad was not going to help with my current predicament.

Just as I was feeling bored, Cecilia texted me: [My dear, I'm ready to go home. Do you want any presents? I'll bring them home for you.]

[No, I'm on a business trip in the South Sea at the moment. We can go shopping together when I get back.] I had no particular request in terms of materialistic things, nor did I clamor after foreign products as much as others.

[You're in the South Sea? I'll take a flight there, then. We can go back together after that. Send me the location.] Cecilia wanted to come over a s soon as she heard that I was in the

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South Sea.

I had just sent her my location when I received a call from Mason.

"Where are you?" His voice was indifferent as ever.

"On a business trip! Didn't I tell you?" I answered, finding his question ridiculous.

Mason sighed before continuing, "I know you're on a business trip. Which hotel are you at? I'm going to the South Sea tomorrow. Let's meet up for lunch."

It turned out he just wanted to have lunch together. I breathed a sigh of relief and told him my hotel's address. I hung up the call after agreeing to meet him tomorrow.

Xander was sleeping soundly, and the air-conditioning in the room was quite low. I took a blanket and covered him with it. Seeing that it was still early, I

got ready to take a shower.

I initially wanted to take a shower in another room, but I could not find the room card no matter what. Seeing that Xavier was in a deep sleep, I went straight into the room.

He was sleeping anyway. Plus, with the doors in between and the locks, it was not going to be too awkward.

I felt relaxed after the shower and much more refreshed. I blew dry my hair, and when I walked out after changing my clothes, I saw Xander talking on the phone with groggy eyes.

He spoke in a hoarse voice that sounded like he was still asleep. "She's in the bathroom. Call back later."

Unsure what the other party said, he answered, "Sleeping."

It was only then did I realize he was holding my phone. Astonished, I rushed over but it was already too late. The call had already ended.

"Why did you answer my phone?" I snatched my phone and checked the call history. Sure enough, it was a call from Theo.

"You spent such a long time in the shower, I couldn't go in to find you.
Your phone kept ringing and I was so annoyed so I just picked it up," He sat up and said without a single concern.

I broke into a sweat and quickly dialed back, but the other party had already blocked me.

"What did you guys talk about?" I looked at Xander, my tone sounding unfriendly.

"We didn't say anything. He asked where you were and I said you were in the bathroom. He then asked me what I was doing so I replied that I was sleeping. I was just telling the truth. Is

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there something wrong with that?" He looked innocently at me.

I gritted my teeth and said, "Nope, there's nothing wrong with that at all."

This would surely cause a misunderstanding.

However, what else could I say? Was I supposed to punch him? I guess I could only blame myself for leaving my phone behind.

Though after thinking about it, it was not a big deal. This was not the first time Theo had blocked my number.

I put my phone away and saw Xander sitting there in a daze. I asked, "Aren't we going for dinner? Are you going to meet your old classmates like that?"

In a day, not only had he grown a stubble but his hair was also unkempt from just having woken up. I wondered what his fans would think of him when they saw how untidy he looked.

Upon being reminded, he got up to go t o the bathroom and quickly came out looking like the same shining star he had always been.

It was important to dress up regardless of whether one was a man or woman.

I walked out of the hotel with Xander and hailed a cab to a nearby estate,

where there were separate cabins. Each of them was spaced far apart with maximum privacy.

His former classmates were pretty considerate people as they had chosen this place to eat so the fans would not discover them.

I thought this was a reunion at first and there would be a lot of people, but it turned out that there were only three.

Xander introduced us to each other.

Only then did I learn that they were his university roommates.

Wine was inevitable at a men's party. The men spoke and drank, gradually growing tipsy.

"So, are you still single? Say, you're such a capable man yet you don't even have a woman beside you. Others will pity you if they learn about this," said one of the male classmates while looking at Xander.

"You know how loyal Xander is. Do you remember the first semester of freshman year? He got himself drunk and started crying, forcing us to find his crush. How could we possibly know who his crush was? When he sobered up the next day, he wouldn't tell us her name no matter what. Since then, he has become completely unreachable. No opposite gender dared to come three feet close to him."

•••

All the men except Xander were excited to talk about the past. He glanced at me and drank his wine in silence. It was rare for him to be silent.

I did not know that Xander was actually so loyal. It was hard to tell from how he normally behaved.

The dinner continued late into the night. The men were drunk, and Xander had completely passed out.

As the only person who had not drunk, I hailed a cab for each of them according t o the addresses they told me. I then got the attendants to put them in the cars.

The cab pulled over in front of the hotel's entrance. Xander was still asleep and I had to exert a lot of strength to drag him out of the car.

This idiot! He was clearly bad at drinking yet was always drinking a lot. He had been drunk twice in two short days. Was he trying to torment this pregnant lady like me?

I looked at the unconscious Xander, then at the long distance from the street to the hotel's entrance. I let out a long sigh. I was itching to just leave him at the side of the road.

However, I could not bring myself to do it in the end. I lowered my head and placed Xander's arm across my shoulder. I walked forward with much

difficulty while supporting him.

One step, two steps, three steps... My waist could hardly straighten from the pressure.

At this moment, my phone rang. I stopped in my tracks and let Xander lean against me as I pulled out my phone.

It was a call from Mason. "I'm going to meet a friend tomorrow afternoon.

Let's meet up at night."

"Sure, give me a call when you're free.
I'll probably be here for a few days—"

As I spoke, Xander's arm slipped from my shoulder and his hand unconsciously grabbed onto the clothes in front of my chest. Shocked, I instinctively pushed him away.

I used a lot of strength to push him. Xander, who was completely passed out, was caught off guard and fell

straight to the ground. The back of his head knocked the ground so hard that it let out a muffled sound.

Dumbfounded, I quickly bent down to help him up as I asked anxiously, "Are you okay?"

He opened his eyes with much difficulty and glanced at me before closing them again. No matter how I called out his name, he would not budge.

I was frightened out of my wits. He had fallen very hard just now. Would he suffer from a concussion? Not knowing what to do, I helplessly took him in my arms.

"Call the ambulance," someone beside me shouted.

It was only then did I come back to my senses and pull out my phone in a fluster. I called the ambulance.

Soon, Xander was sent to the hospital.

After a series of checks, the doctor said that he had a mild concussion but they could only know the details after he sobered up tomorrow. He would have to stay in the hospital overnight for observation.

"He hasn't woken up. Is it very serious?" I was very worried. I would be in trouble if anything happened to his brain.

"I don't think so. He's not awake yet because he's still drunk. As for the specifics, I can only tell you when he wakes up tomorrow." The doctor left after saying that.

The nurse came in and hooked up a drip for Xander. It seemed that I could only spend the night in the hospital.

The next morning, Xander finally woke up.

"How do you feel? Does your head hurt?
Do you know who I am?" I immediately asked, afraid that he would lose his memory after a fall just like in the movies.

He looked around him first, then slowly turned to me. There was a strange look i n his eyes. He asked in a daze, "Where a m I? Who are you? Why am I here?"

No way, did he really lose his memory? I stepped back, frightened out of my wits. My tears started falling uncontrollably.

After a very long time, Xander laughed and said, "Alright, alright. You can't even take a small scare, huh? Why do you cry so easily? Weren't you really tough when you pushed me last night?"

It turned out that this idiot was only tricking me.

Furious, I wiped my tears away and went over to punch him in the chest. "You're really something, huh? Is it fun to trick me?"

"Ouch, it hurts." Xander covered his chest and groaned exaggeratedly.

I ignored him and said, "When the doctor checks on you later and finds

nothing wrong with you, I want you to get your *ss up and go back. I can't believe you made me worry about you for the whole night."

"Were you really worried about me, Wandy? Ah, you should've pushed harder so you would take care of me for the rest of your life." Xander laughed in an unruly manner.

"Who said I pushed you? You were the one who fell down because you had too much to drink. I was just kind enough t o bring you to the hospital," I explained. Since he was fine, I did not want to carry this responsibility any longer.

"Really? But I clearly remember someone pushing me to the ground." His charming eyes were filled with smiles. He continued, "As a woman, you should be brave and take up your responsibility. Take responsibility for pushing me."

"Uh, you should lie down. I'll go and get the doctor." Since my excuse did not work, I had no choice but to escape.

"If there's anything wrong with my head, I'll stick with you for the rest of m y life." Xander's laughter roared out behind me.

Thankfully, the doctor did not find any problems after checking and allowed us to proceed with the discharge procedures.

On the way back to the hotel, Xander was constantly complaining about his speedy recovery. He also kept saying that he should stay a few more days in the hospital for observation.

I ignored him and went straight to the hotel. My morning was gone just like that.

Cecilia called me at noon and said that she had already arrived in the South Sea. However, due to jet lag, she needed to catch up with some sleep. After agreeing to go shopping together tomorrow, I told her to get a good rest.

In the afternoon, the director and the crew arrived. We first held a meeting in the hotel that took a few hours. When everything was ready, we planned to officially start the shoot tomorrow. In order to celebrate the smooth and successful start of the shoot, I decided to invite everyone for a good dinner.

The whole crew added up to about ten people. In order to keep this a secret, I booked a private room in the hotel.

Just as the crew was having a lot of fun during the meal, Cecilia called me and said, "My dear... Come and look... at the night... view..."

Cecilia sounded drunk on the phone as her speech was slurred. Cecilia had said she needed to catch up on some sleep because of the time difference, did she not? Why did she go to the beach and get wasted?

"Why did you go to the beach this late a t night, Cecilia?" I quickly asked in an anxious voice. I heard that it was unsafe to be at the beach here at night.

"Hehe... To see the night ocean view. Are you coming or not?" Cecilia was laughing innocently on the other end of the call.

"Send me your location and stay there. Don't even take one step, you hear m e?" I was anxious, afraid that she would run away.

After hanging up the phone, I picked up my bag and was ready to leave when Xander pulled me aside. He whispered, "Everyone's having fun now. You're the boss, it won't be good if you leave just like that. It'll affect the shoot."

I found myself in a difficult position.

Indeed, I was the one who suggested this gathering tonight. If I left early now, it would be too rude of me. After thinking about it, I pulled out my phone to call Mason.

"What's up?" On the other end of the call, Mason's voice was calm and indifferent.

"Doctor Lynch, can you do me a favor? I can't leave right now but my friend's drunk and alone at the beach. Can you take her back to the hotel for me? I don't know who else to ask," I pleaded with him in a low voice.

Mason was silent for a while before humming a soft reply.

I quickly sent him my address and thanked him profusely.

Chapter 97

For the rest of the time, I was on tenterhooks and could only laugh at everyone's jokes half-heartedly. I only breathed a sigh of relief when Mason sent me a text: [She's back in the hotel.]

I called Cecilia but her phone was off. She had probably fallen asleep. She would normally sleep when she was drunk.

As we had to work the next day, dinner ended early. I slept as soon as I got back to the hotel room, mainly because I did not rest well in the hospital last night. Besides, Dr. Lynch's medication was effective, so I had been sleeping very well the past few days.

I slept through the night. The next morning, Xander knocked on my door and said that he wanted to take me for breakfast on an island.

I did not understand why he had to make breakfast seem so sophisticated and was also surprised that there was actually a place called 'Breakfast Island'. It was said to be an island dedicated to the world's various special breakfasts. One could only get there with a boat.

I gave in. How could one be so fussy when it came to eating breakfast?

I did not want to go at first, but when I remembered that Cecilia was drunk last night, I thought it would be nice if I could take her out to have something to eat. Hence, I pulled out my phone to give Cecilia a call.

The phone rang for a very long time before I finally heard Cecilia's groggy and languid voice, "Who's this?! Why are you calling me this early in the morning?!"

This brat was probably still hungover from being drunk last night. I yelled, "What do you mean early in the morning? The sun is already up. Get up! I'm taking you to have a special breakfast."

Cecilia responded lazily, "Send me the address and I'll go later."

"Hurry up. I still have work to do later."
I was about to hang up when I heard a
deep and low voice of a man from the
phone. "You're awake?"

Was there a man in Cecilia's room? No way, she was drunk last night, right? How could she still have the energy?

"You brat. What did you do last night? You'd better be honest with me," I deliberately lowered my voice and questioned her.

"Uh, I'll tell you later." Cecilia hung up the phone after saying that. Just look at how guilty she sounded!
She must be hiding something from m
e. I suddenly recalled what had
happened last night. I had asked Mason
to pick her up, and Cecilia was the type
who could no longer recognize anyone
after getting drunk. Could it be...

I broke out in a cold sweat in fear. I quickly found Mason's number and called him. If Cecilia did anything inappropriate to Dr. Lynch, then I would be the culprit.

The phone rang a few times before

Mason picked it up. I quickly asked, "

Where are you, Dr. Lynch?"

"Outside. What's wrong?" Mason's voice was crisp and clear from the phone. He did not sound like he had just woken up, nor did he sound like the man from earlier.

I was instantly relieved and said awkwardly, "Hehe, nothing. I just wanted to thank you for helping me last night by buying you breakfast."

"Forget breakfast. I still have things to do. Let's meet up for dinner when I'm free!" Mason declined my invitation.

After making sure that he was not with Cecilia, I was relieved. We exchanged a few polite words before hanging up the phone.

"What do you mean by this, Wandy? Do you hate having breakfast with me that much?" Xander voiced his displeasure a s soon as I hung up the call.

I looked up at him in confusion and asked dazedly, "What do you mean?"

"Look at yourself! We're just having breakfast together yet you're calling all your friends to come along. Am I that bad?"

I laughed aloud. What a childish man. I ignored him.

We arrived at the beach, and a speedboat was already waiting to bring us to the sea.

We passed countless islands along the way, each with a special name to attract tourists. One of them was called 'Outlying Island', which looked particularly beautiful.

Unfortunately, it seemed to be a private island that was not open to the public.

"Look, that's such a beautiful island." I pointed at Outlying Island and told Xander to look.

Xander glanced at it and said mildly, "Islands are all the same. What's so nice about that one?"

"It's not the same. That island doesn't only have a unique appearance but the houses on top of it were renovated in a unique way as well. If it were open to the public, it would definitely attract a lot of tourists," I said in excitement.

"Looks like you not only share similar appearances but also preferences,"

Xander said mildly without a single expression on his face.

"What do you mean by that?" His words left me baffled.

"My mother and her friend bought this island. They've been working on it for three years now and will probably open it to the public soon."

Chapter 98

Looking closely at the architectural style, it did reflect Petra's style a lot. This woman was truly capable. Not only that, but she had such a great eye for investment too. It was no wonder she was able to squeeze into the rankings of the top three richest.

Speaking of Petra, I could not help but recall the topic about her daughter during dinner last time. I asked, "Your mother has been searching for her daughter, right? How is it going?"

"I don't know. That's her daughter. It has nothing to do with me." Xander's eyes narrowed slightly. He was seemingly reluctant to talk about this. I zipped my mouth tactfully. Since ancient times, there would always be plenty of rumors about aristocratic

families, and the Nietzsches were not spared.

The speedboat quickly arrived at
Breakfast Island. Xander asked me what
I wanted to have and I casually said
Japanese food. There was no way I was
going to come this far to have hotdogs
and milk, right? Therefore, he brought
me to a small building with the word '
Japanese' written on the signboard.

On the side of the road, an old man making cotton candy caught my attention. I did not expect to see this here.

I had lost many childhood memories of mine, but I remembered cotton candy. Each of us would hold one while playing on the country roads.

Due to time constraints, I said to Xander, "Go ahead and order some food. I'm going to buy cotton candy."

"How old are you now? Why are you

still so childish?" Xander left while shaking his head.

I walked up to the old man and looked a t the cotton candy, reaching out to take i t. All of a sudden, a pair of broad hands was quicker than me and snatched it away.

"Sir, can I have two more?" The distant yet familiar voice rang out beside my ear.

I was astounded, thinking that I was probably dreaming. However, the goosebumps on the back of my neck were proof that I was not dreaming and this was real. Although I was uncertain when it started, every time Tyler appeared, I would instinctively have goosebumps all over my body because of fear.

The sunlight overhead was glaring, but my body was encased in ice. My breathing became uneven, and my body began to tremble.

Standing behind me, his low and terrifying voice rang out once more. " We're finally meeting, Wandy."

He spoke very slowly in a deep voice.

However, it sounded like a beating drum in my ears that went all the way into my heart and soul, leaving me suffocated.

I froze on the spot, too afraid to move.

"Wandy, is this how you're going to react to our long-awaited encounter? You're making your brother sad and disappointed." He continued to speak unhurriedly in my ear. His voice sounded like a demon in the night to me, causing my heart to tremble.

I closed my eyes, and after a very long time, I finally stopped my body from trembling. I abruptly turned sideways, running toward Xander. I chose the most wretched way to run. I did not have the guts to look back and see if Tyler was following me.

I ran up to Xander and pulled him, saying in a trembling voice, "Take me away, hurry."

"What's going on?" Although Xander did not know what was going on, he still pulled me with him and we ran to the beach.

"Don't ask, don't speak. We need to leave immediately." I hugged myself. The coldness that lingered in my heart had not dispelled.

Soon, we took the speedboat back and I called Cecilia with trembling fingers. "Cecilia, we must go back to Salt City immediately."

"What's wrong?" Cecilia was anxious to hear me like this.

"Tyler, he's here." My voice trembled uncontrollably at the mention of his name.

Cecilia was startled and quickly said, "W e need to go to the airport this instant.

Let's meet up there."

Xander frowned at me and asked, "What exactly is happening?"

"I'll explain it to you next time. Help m e inform the director that I have to go back to Salt City." I ignored Xander after saying that and hailed a cab back t o the hotel to pack my luggage before rushing to the airport.

Cecilia was already waiting for me at the airport and bought the latest flight back. We boarded the plane at lightning speed. On the way back, we clutched each other's hands, wordlessly giving each other strength.

A few hours later, the plane landed in

Salt City and we hailed a cab back to Cecilia's house. When we entered the house, we locked ourselves in the room and after making sure that there was no one outside the door, we finally breathed a sigh of relief.

Cecilia slumped to the ground weakly, her body trembling nonstop. She was even more afraid of Tyler than me. I walked over and hugged her tight, patting her back gently to console her.

"What should we do, Wandy? What should we do? Why don't we leave this place immediately and run away again." Cecilia grabbed my shirt and said in despair.

Chapter 99

"It's useless. If he's bent on looking for someone, then there's no one in this world he can't find." I knew Tyler all too well. The only reason we had been safe all these years was that Tyler had promised not to come look for us.

Although he promised that, we had met by chance. It meant that we were still fated in life and he would not let us off the hook anymore.

Initially, I thought that we would not meet again if he did not come and look for us. However, the surprise had caught us unprepared.

"What should we do? What can we do?" Cecilia clutched her head, tears streaming down her face like broken beads. I embraced her tightly, and my heart was in turmoil. I did not know what to do next.

We did everything we could back then to run away from him. I was sure he would not let us go after this encounter.

"Why must he do this? It's been six years and I was so close to forgetting everything about it. Why is he still appearing in our lives..." Cecilia finally broke down and cried her heart out.

This was the first time in six years that she cried.

I hugged her and shed silent tears. I always thought that we would not see him again. This surprise encounter had made both Cecilia and me flustered. We were caught completely unprepared.

"Wandy, go and find Theo for help.
You're carrying his child. He won't let
Tyler take you away." After Cecilia was

done crying, she grabbed my hand and said anxiously.

"Calm down, Cecilia. It's late now. It'll be even more dangerous to go out at this hour. Let's talk about this tomorrow and get some rest first. I'll go find him tomorrow." Cecilia reminded me that I was now Mrs. Grant, no longer the loner Wanda I once was.

Perhaps Theo might be able to help us for the sake of his child.

It took me a long time to coax Cecilia to bed, but even so, neither of us slept well that night.

Due to fear, Cecilia kept having nightmares the whole night; as for me, I had insomnia again just as expected.

When it was dawn, Cecilia finally fell into a deep sleep.

I silently got up from the bed and hailed a cab back to the villa, preparing to beg Theo for help. I must not let Cecilia and myself go back to living that kind of life no matter what.

However, I was locked out of the villa when I arrived.

The villa's main door was locked and I could not unlock it no matter what.

Someone must have changed the lock. I called Theo's number but my number was still blocked.

This made the fear in my heart rise tremendously. Not knowing what was going on, I stood dazedly in front of the door for a very long time before going t o the company.

As soon as I stepped into the company, I felt countless eyes staring at me. When I approached, everyone looked away and pretended to be busy. When I walked farther away, I could hear whispers behind my back.

This strange and unusual atmosphere

made me even more helpless and anxious than I already was. I trotted all the way back to my office and closed the door before breathing a sigh of relief.

What was wrong with everybody? Was Tyler here already? I was afraid the more I thought about it. I checked every corner of the office carefully.

When Heidi came in, I was on the ground checking the floor.

"What are you looking for, Ms. Wanda? Do you need my help?" Heidi said immediately after seeing what I was doing.

"It's nothing." I got up. My knees were a little sore from kneeling and the pain did not ease up even after I massaged them for a long time.

Heidi helped me to the couch. "Did something happen?" Not only was everybody acting weird today, but even Heidi's gaze was a little odd.

"You don't know yet?" She looked at m e in astonishment, incredulity in her eyes. •

I shook my head blankly.

"You and Xander made it to the first spot on the list of trending hashtags last night. The news is still really popular right now. Although the PR team handled it immediately, Xander is too popular so it's hard to suppress the news..." Heidi did not continue and lowered her head with her lips pressed together.

My heart dropped with a thud as I quickly fished out my phone, only to realize that my phone was off because I forgot to charge it last night.

From the moment I met Tyler, I had been in constant fear and had no time to watch the news.

"Show me your phone," I reached out and said to Heidi.

She handed her phone to me and I tapped into Twitter to take a look. Sure enough, 'Xander Met Up With A Mysterious Rich Madam At Night' had made it to the first spot on the list of trending hashtags.

Chapter 100

I clicked in to see the contents and it was full of photos of me and him from the moment we took a plane to the South Sea at midnight; when we entered the hotel together and spent a whole day together; when we went out t o have dinner together; when we had our arms around each other's shoulders after returning to the hotel...

In short, from the photos that were released, anyone who saw them would think that we were meeting in secret and had even booked a room in the hotel. This was evidence that we could not refute. We were completely indefensible.

The only good thing about this was that the media had not revealed my name, maybe because they were afraid of Theo. The photos did not happen to capture my face directly, and they were mostly shots of my back. However, those who knew me well would know that it was me.

Moreover, there were comments saying that Xander had a sugar mommy. There were also people saying that Xander had won the competition last time because someone was helping him in secret. Some netizens speculated that it was me.

News about a popular star having a sugar mommy would no doubt be eyecatching. However, not only would this news irk his new fans but also hurt the hearts of his many die-hard fans. I thought of the 60 million fans Xander had. Perhaps many of them had already unfollowed him out of despair.

My heart sank to the bottom. I remembered repeatedly reminding
Xander not to be involved in a scandal.

Unexpectedly, not only did he get himself involved in a scandal but it was also with me.

I finally knew why Theo changed the lock. The misunderstanding only deepened when I recalled the time Xander answered a call on my phone. My head was about to explode.

Heidi had already charged my phone for me. As soon as I switched my phone on, Xander gave me a call. When Heidi saw me answering the call, she closed the door and left.

"Wandy, there's a scandal about us. Did you see it?" Xander sounded excited on the other end of the call. It felt as though he had been looking forward to i t for a very long time.

"I just saw it," I replied listlessly.

"I think the photos are pretty nice. The only drawback is that the headline is a bit too much. How can they call you a madam? Although it's true that you're a madam, you look more like a young lady from the photos!"

Xander spoke with the same playful tone. He did not take the news seriously at all and was even commenting about the photos. His excitement made it seem as though he was gossiping about others.

I massaged my sore glabella and said, "You're the cause of this scandal. Think of a way to take the news down or all the effort we've put in will go down the drain."

Xander fell silent for a moment, and his tone went back to normal as he said, " I'll handle it."

"Mm, we'll either hold a press conference to explain it or release a statement via the studio. Regardless of which, we need to explain it clearly. The sooner the better. Make sure no more trouble crops up," I reminded him.

This matter was too hard to deal with. If we did not solve it as soon as possible, then I feared that the netizens would drag me into it. If that happened, it would only be a matter of time before they found out that I was Mrs. Grant. That would no doubt affect Grant Corporation's image.

The only way to clear the misunderstanding was for Xander to come forward. Although he had signed a contract with Nectarine Entertainment, he owned his own independent studio. It was not appropriate for Nectarine Entertainment to bypass the studio and release a statement themselves.

As for Theo, I had to explain it to him as soon as possible to clear the misunderstanding.

I did not know when Tyler would come t

o Salt City. I must seek Theo's help and protection. I would die if I had to go back to living that life.

Compared to staying alive, nothing else mattered.

I thought about it and got up to go to Theo's office.

It was cold and dark as usual. Keith was not outside the office, which made the place seem even lonelier.

I knocked on the door. Theo's low and attractive voice came from inside. "
Come in."

I gently pushed the door in. He had his head buried in work. His neat and short hair, sharp and distinct eyebrows, as well as sexy lips, paired well with his perfectly carved face.

It had been days since we last met and he seemed much more handsome now.

Looking at him from above, I could feel

my heart beating wildly. I remembered how I felt the first time I saw him. My heart had throbbed the same way.

He looked really serious when he worked and did not even look up. I stood there in silence.

"How are things being handled?" After a while, Theo asked. He probably thought I was Keith.

"Theo..." I spoke hesitantly.

He was stunned. His bland countenance was suddenly frosty as his entire being exuded a stern aura. He looked up at m e, his bottomless pupils tinged in frost.

"Uh, I can explain about the hashtags.
There's a reasonable explanation for every single photo you saw. Many things happened in between. The photographer deliberately published those photos to cause misunderstanding," I quickly explained, ignoring his sudden change o

f countenance.

He raised his brow as his features grew even colder. He asked in a deep voice, "I s there also a reason why you were sleeping together?"