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### Chapter 151

“Moon has her reasons for that, and I am in no position to divulge anything,” said Xante. Jeremy chuckled coldly. “Seems to me that Newmoon Group isn’t sincere in accepting Holden Group’s project. No pressure, then.”

As he said that, he placed down the coffee cup and stood up immediately after. Meanwhile, Corinne could hear the entire conversation from inside the lounge. Jeremy sounded incredibly dissatisfied, and she knew that his patience was always limited.

If he left, then they would stand to lose the 150-million-dollar project!

As Corinne was frantically finding a way to handle it, she saw a pile of equipment in the corner of the lounge. Aaron was the one who had bought them, and there seemed to be something like a gas mask in the pile.

“Mister Jeremy, please wait!”

Jeremy, who had walked to the door of the office, stopped when he heard the voice and slowly turned around to look over. His charming eyes narrowed when he saw who it was.

Xante turned her head to look in the direction of the voice and was stunned by what she saw.

“Why is our boss...dressed like that?”

Corinne had changed into Xante’s clothes in the lounge, and she walked out of the lounge with a gas mask on her face.

She went straight to Jeremy and changed her voice by raising it several pitches higher, saying. “You wanted to meet me, didn’t you, Mister Jeremy? I’m Moon.”

Jeremy frowned slightly and looked at her skeptically.

Tommy had a dumbfounded look when he saw her. “Why did Moon arm herself with that sort of protective equipment? Is she trying to imply that Mister Jeremy is noxious or something?”

Corinne explained self-consciously, “I’m sorry, Mister Jeremy. I’ve been having severe skin allergies recently, and my face is breaking out like crazy. I wouldn’t want to be an eyesore, so I can only meet people in this gab. This is why Miss Xante mentioned that it’s not convenient for me to meet clients. I hope you don’t mind me dressing like this while discussing work matters with you.”

Jeremy nodded slightly and said curtly, “I don’t mind. Your fashion sense is of no interest to me.”

Corinne bowed politely. “I’m very thankful for your understanding, Mister Jeremy.”

Xante then walked over with a smile and said, “Since Moon has decided to be present with us, would you be happy to sit back

down now, Mister Jeremy? What happened earlier was clearly a misunderstanding. Do allow us to show our utmost sincerity to you!”

Jeremy sat back down again, with Corinne sitting between him and Xante.

Jeremy went straight to the point and asked directly, “Miss Moon, I’m curious as to the source of your inspiration for the Crescent Building.”

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The Crescent Building was actually round, but the color of the glass on the outer wall created a three-dimensional crescent shape that made the whole building appear crescent-shaped to the naked eye. It retained that shape even when seen from all directions and angles.

It was a very beautiful building that left an unforgettable impression in the minds of those who laid eyes on it.

Corinne explained, “The moon fascinates me, and the new moon-which represents the beginning of everything and symbolizes the future-takes the shape of a crescent too...”

Jeremy watched as she talked eloquently about her creative inspiration and felt a subtle feeling in his heart that led him to look at her in a more appreciative and inquisitive light.

After she finished speaking, he pondered over what she said and asked, “Have we met somewhere before, Miss Moon?”

Corinne became flustered right away and immediately denied it. “Of course not. I would’ve remembered meeting such a handsome and charming man as yourself, Mister Jeremy!” Jeremy stared at the eyes behind her gas mask and felt that it was very familiar somehow. His gaze left Corinne feeling increasingly nervous, and she immediately interrupted him, “May I ask if you have any thoughts on the architectural design of the new office building?”

Jeremy regained his senses and said in a deep voice, “I won’t propose anything so as to allow you free artistic rein, but the design mustn’t be too unconventional.”

Corinne nodded. “Thank you very much for putting trust in me, Mister Jeremy. I hope our cooperation will be a smooth and fruitful one.”

The conversation had come to an end, and Jeremy got up to leave after looking at his watch. Corinne heaved a sigh of relief.

Xante got up to see off their big client, but as soon as she opened the office door, she saw Sherlyn raising her hand as if to knock on it.

Sherlyn’s eyes lit up when she saw Jeremy. “Why are you here, Mister Jeremy?”

As soon as Jeremy saw Sherlyn, however, his first thought was to raise his eyes and see if Corinne was behind her. When he

saw that Corinne was nowhere to be seen, he asked in a cold voice, "What are you doing here?" Sherlyn replied softly, "Newmoon Group wanted me to endorse their new product, so I left to get an introduction of that product.

Mister Xante here held my assistant in the office to explain some things to her, so I'm here to look for her!"

Jeremy narrowed his eyes sharply. "Corinne's here?"

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The smile on Sherlyn's face froze when Jeremy did not even react to her enthusiastic explanation. His expression was stern and indifferent, which came off as intimidating.

Sherlyn did not try to force a conversation with him, so she eased some of her embarrassment by turning to ask Xante. "Where

is my assistant, Miss Xante? I need her to carry something for me!" Xante seemed to have a bad feeling about how the situation

was developing, but she adjusted her gold-rimmed glasses calmly and said lightly, "Your assistant has just left, Miss Sherlyn."

Sherlyn frowned in dissatisfaction. "She left?! Where the hell did she go? How dare she run off without even waiting for me to come back!"

Xante smiled politely and said indifferently, "I'm not privy to that, I'm afraid."

Sherlyn was already pissed that Corinne was requested to speak in a private discussion, and that anger only escalated when

Corinne just left without saying a word. She immediately took out her cell phone and called Corinne to question her.

Xante wanted to stop her from doing so, but it was too little too late.

Soon, Corinne's head-pounding ringtone began to blare from inside the office. "I'm not afraid, I'm not afraid... To take a stand, to

take a stand... It's been a ride... Everybody..."

Sherlyn was taken aback and asked strangely, "My assistant's cell phone is ringing from inside your office, Miss Xante. She's still in there, isn't she?"

Xante's expression fluctuated a little, but she covered it up with a professional smile. "Your assistant has left, Miss Sherlyn, but it sounds like she forgot to bring her cell phone with her."

Jeremy had an enigmatic expression as he remembered Moon the architect from earlier-behind that

gas mask was a pair of familiar eyes. He seemed to realize something as his pupils contracted slightly. He then turned and

headed back into the office so he could confirm his suspicions.

Upon seeing that, Xante moved forward to block the door and looked up at the client who was about one head taller than her.

"What's the matter, Mister Jeremy? Did you forget something?"

Jeremy had a solemn gaze as he said coldly, "I have another idea regarding the Holden Building's design plan, and I'd like to speak to Moon about it.

Xante adjusted her gold-rimmed glasses and said with a smile, "Let me know your idea, and I'll convey your request verbatim to her."

Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "Moon is inside across the door, so why is there a need for you to be my messenger? You seem wary of me going in there again. Are you trying to cover something up?"

A stern expression flashed through Xante's eyes and she smiled again. "Please don't get the wrong idea, Mister Jeremy. What can I possibly be hiding from you? Moon is our group's premier architect, and you're well aware that she's currently suffering from some severe allergies. Her doctor has told her to rest more and avoid overworking. If she collapses, she won't be able to complete your project, Mister Jeremy, and the sole factor that makes our Newmoon Group stand out from others will be lost too! As a boss who shows empathy to their employees, my only hope is that Moon will be able to get as much rest as possible, and that means refraining from bothering her when it can be helped."

Jeremy was unmoved, and his posture suggested that he was still insistent to go in. "I'm only going to head in there to speak briefly with Moon, and I won't disturb her for too long. Please move aside, Miss Xante." The impatience in his eyes was boiling over, and it took every fiber of being in him not to break the door down.

Xante frowned and stood firm in blocking the door. "Mister Jeremy, I hope you'll-"

During that stalemate, Corinne's crisp voice came from the far end. "I'm here, Sherlyn!"

As soon as Corinne's voice was heard, Jeremy and Xante-who were both in a stalemate-looked over at the same time.

Corinne walked leisurely from the corridor on the left side of the office and even covered her mouth to yawn.

Aaron, the vice president of Newmoon Group, was walking by her side.

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Aaron was a handsome man, while Corinne was a beautiful woman, and they made for a rather attractive pair.

A look of gloom and envy flashed across Sherlyn's eyes when she saw Corinne walking side-by-side with Aaron, Newmoon

Group's vice president. She was forced to be friendly to Corinne in front of three big shots, but she still asked in a rather

insinuating tone, "Where did you run off to, Corinne?"

Corinne came over and replied earnestly, "I went to look for the restroom but couldn't find it. I bumped into Mister Aaron here and asked him to lead me there."

Sherlyn glared gloomily at Corinne, then turned to Aaron before saying politely, "Mister Aaron, I'm really sorry that my assistant caused you trouble."

Aaron curled his lips into a smile. "It was no trouble at all. I just happened to be on my way to the restroom too, so I might as well help her out."

Sherlyn smiled dryly, and she was quite displeased that Corinne was able to run into Aaron all by herself.

Corinne asked obediently again, "You're back already, Sherlyn? Did you already get an idea of the new product?"

Sherlyn could not be bothered to answer Corinne's question and thought to herself, 'Why is a puny assistant asking so many

questions?! She then turned and looked at Xante with a smile. "Miss Xante, I've already understood the product. May I ask when we'll be able to sign the contract?"

Xante's expression had returned to normal, and she said in a professional tone, "This cooperation must be finalized with the agency. A celebrity cannot sign a contract by themselves."

Sherlyn smiled. "Not a problem! My manager will come over later in the afternoon to discuss the details with you!"

Xante nodded. "Sure. You may ask for Mister Luke when you bring your manager over in the afternoon."

"Sure thing, thank you!" Sherlyn was glad to have secured the ambassadorial role, but at the same time, she made a point to ask, "Oh, about my new movie..."

Xante's lips twitched. "I'll consider investing in the new movie if the response to your ambassadorial advertisement is positive."

"Thank you, Miss Xante, I promise I won't let you down!" Sherlyn exuded confidence as she made that vow. "I'll leave you to your affairs right now and return with my manager later in the afternoon."

Xante responded with a soft grunt and did not show too much politeness to her.

Sherlyn turned around and glanced at Corinne in disgust. "Let's go!" Corinne said, "Wait! I need to get my phone. I left it there!" "Go get it then." Sherlyn's patient-sounding words masked her impatience. Had there not been anyone else around, she would have scolded Corinne for being a lazy donkey who did naught at her job. Corinne walked right past Jeremy without even bothering to look at him. She went around him, pushed open the door of the president's office, and strutted right in. She walked to the sofa inside the office's lounge, grabbed her cell phone, and put it in her pocket. On the sofa at one side, 'Moon' wore a gas mask and sat there with a laptop while typing busily, as if recording something down. Outside the door, Jeremy's tall body stood there and he glanced coldly into the office. When he saw 'Moon' and Corinne appearing in the same place at the same time, his eyebrows furrowed, and the gloominess in his eyes dissipated gradually. Xante turned to look at Jeremy and said with a smile, "It appears that Moon hasn't taken her rest yet. I won't stop you if you wish to speak to her, Mister Jeremy." Jeremy glanced back coldly and said, "That won't be necessary anymore." Following his comment, he immediately turned around and brought Tommy away. Upon seeing that Jeremy had left, Sherlyn bid goodbye to Xante and Aaron respectfully, then urged Corinne to walk faster just so they could catch up with Jeremy and take the same elevator with him. As soon as the elevator closed after Corinne and Sherlyn went in, Xante frowned worriedly and asked Aaron, "What happened? How did Corinne manage to escape?"

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Aaron sighed helplessly and said, "She crawled out of the office window and came in through the restroom window. It's that simple."

Xante frowned even more. "But this is the thirtieth floor!"

Aaron shrugged and said, "My rock-climbing gear is still in the lounge, and it just so happened to come in handy. It's not difficult for her at all, considering the kind of skills she has."

Xante took off her gold-rimmed glasses and massaged her eyebrows. "And who's that in the office?"

"Your secretary. The boss told her to put on the mask, change into her clothes, and just sit there to act like she's busy."

"... How very smart!"

Aaron narrowed his eyes thoughtfully. "Why do you think the boss is so averse to Jeremy discovering that she's Moon?"

Xante glanced at him and reminded, "She has her reasons. It's not our place to make any guesses."

Aaron stroked his chin and thought for a while. "I can hardly believe that Jeremy isn't attracted to her at all. I'm going to test him!"

Xante had a look of disgust. "What do you mean, test him? Don't cause trouble and make our boss angry!"

"Relax, will you? You'll hear my good news soon!" Aaron waved his hand with a smile and rushed to the elevator.

Inside the slowly descending elevator, Jeremy asked, "Have you had lunch yet?" His voice was deep and magnetic, and it was capable of making a person flustered when it resonated through the sealed space.

Sherlyn, who was standing next to her, was overwhelmed by his flattery. Her cheeks turned red as she replied shyly, "Not yet.

Have you?"

Jeremy's expression was dull and distant, making it hard to tell who he was talking to. After all, apart from the two of them in the elevator, there was only Jeremy's secretary and her assistant Corinne. Sherlyn merely assumed that Jeremy was asking her.

However, he did not immediately respond to her, and it felt to her that he was being distant.

Sherlyn thought for a while, then took the initiative to say, "How about you let me treat you to lunch if you haven't eaten yet?"

Consider it an apology on behalf of my assistant after she scalded you last night."

He did not respond right away either, and he glanced at Corinne, who was standing at the corner of the elevator. She swiped her

phone with a nonchalant expression on her face and did not even bother raising her head.

Jeremy's eyes were gloomy, and after a moment of thought, he answered, "Sure."



Sherlyn was overwhelmed with emotions the moment he agreed to her invitation. Things could not have gone any better for

Sherlyn when Jeremy agreed to have lunch with her. After all, his willingness showed that he had a good impression of her.

There would be no reason for him to agree otherwise!

At that moment, Corinne looked up and said rather consciously, "Can I request some time off for the rest of the day? I'm a little tired, and I feel like going home to rest."

Sherlyn had just been thinking about how Corinne's presence would be such a nuisance, so she could not be happier when

Corinne wanted to leave. She agreed without the slightest hesitation, Okay. You can go home and rest. I'll let you have time off for the remainder of the day."

Corinne had long anticipated such a result and was not at all surprised when it turned out the way she predicted. She nodded with a smile and said, "Thank you!"

Jeremy frowned. 'That d\*mn girl is making it very clear that she doesn't want to have lunch with me!'

"Wasn't Miss Corinne going to make it up to me for scalding my hand? Why isn't the offender coming along?"

Sherlyn was stunned, embarrassed, and dumbfounded. She hurriedly explained, "Mister Jeremy, my assistant wants to go home and rest, so I don't think it's necessary to force her. I'll make amends to you on her behalf..."

Jeremy sneered. "There doesn't appear to be any sincerity at all in making amends, so just forget about the lunch then."

Sherlyn panicked. "No! I'm sincere! I swear!"

As she said that, she pulled Corinne over again, and lectured, "Corinne, you scalded Mister Jeremy yesterday, and you should take responsibility for that! You need to come with us for lunch and give him a proper apology! You still have time to go home and rest after your meal!"

Corinne frowned and pursed her lips reluctantly. "Fine!"

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Jeremy narrowed his handsome eyes at Corinne and had a subtle smirk on the corners of his lips.

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The elevator doors opened, and Jeremy strode out with his hands in his trouser pockets.

Tommy followed closely behind.

Sherlyn dragged Corinne out and chased after them for fear that Jeremy would leave and forget. that they were supposed to

have lunch.

“Miss Carew! Please wait!” After hearing someone calling her all of a sudden, Sherlyn stopped and turned her head to see that

Aaron-vice president of Newmoon Group-had rushed out of the elevator on the other side and looked at her with a smile on her face.

Sherlyn turned around confidently and asked with a smile, “Mister Aaron! Why did you take the effort to come all the way down

and look for me? Is it about the ambassadorship? Is there anything else you need to explain?”

Aaron glanced at her only briefly and looked directly over her at Corinne. “I’m not here for you. I was looking for that Miss

Carew.”

The expression on Sherlyn’s face froze, and she forced a smile while saying, “Oh... Why are you still standing there, Corinne?

Mister Aaron wishes to speak with you!” She had a gloomy look when she turned around and called Corinne.

Corinne came over with a puzzled expression and looked at Aaron warily. “What’s wrong, Mister Aaron?”

Aaron suddenly stepped forward and walked toward her with a suggestive smile on his face.”

There were too many employees

upstairs earlier, so I didn’t have the nerve to ask, but... May I ask if you have a boyfriend?”

Corinne frowned. ‘What in tarnation is this guy doing?’

Without waiting for Corinne to answer, Aaron fervently added, “Can you give me a chance to win your heart if you don’t?”

Corinne’s lips twitched and looked at Aaron as if he had some kind of mental illness. ‘Did you take. the wrong medicine or

something?”

Before Aaron finished, he said again, “To be honest, I fell in love with you at first sight, and I hope you’ll give me a chance to get

to know you better!”

Beside them, Sherlyn was stunned speechless, and she was so angry that her insides were burning as she was gnashing her

teeth.

'F\*cking hell! Why is it always Corinne? How can a useless assistant be a vice president's love at first sight?!

Corinne frowned slightly and forced a dry smile while saying, "Let's talk someplace else, Mister Aaron." She walked past him right away and went into the distance.

Aaron smirked subtly as he turned around and followed Corinne a little further away. However, he could clearly sense a cold gaze staring at the two of them from afar.

After walking far enough, Corinne asked him, "What's going on, Aaron?"

Rather than answering her in a proper manner, he deliberately raised his voice and said, "Thank you for giving me a chance!

Here's my business card. My personal number is on it. I'll be waiting. anxiously for your call later!" After saying that, he stuffed his

business card into Corinne's hands, then opened his arms and hugged her forcibly. He then ran off after hugging her and got on the elevator, leaving Corinne in a daze.

'Did he suddenly get some kind of mental illness?' Corinne thought to herself. She had a befuddled look as she turned around,

and that was when she came into contact with Jeremy's dark eyes.

His expression was unreadable, and he was staring at her coldly.

Aaron's confession led Sherlyn to roll her eyes angrily and grit her teeth. However, she comforted herself with having invited

Jeremy for a meal together and immediately put a smile on her face as she turned and asked in a soft voice, "What shall we have for lunch later, Mister Jeremy?"

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"Anything's fine." Jeremy's cold tone suggested a clear disinterest in having lunch, though he did not refuse outright.

Sherlyn did not think much of the man's cold attitude and was so beside herself with excitement that she was able to have lunch with a man of Jeremy's status.

"Let's go to The Wild Bites. They serve some really good food there!"

The Wild Bites was one of the best high-end restaurants in the city, and the price was very expensive too. Sherlyn would never

be willing to have a meal there if she was not treating a big shot like Jeremy to a meal.

Jeremy acknowledged her decision expressionlessly and turned to walk toward the lobby entrance.

As Sherlyn followed Jeremy, she turned around and called out angrily to Corinne, "Hurry up!

Don't waste any more time! Do you expect Mister Jeremy to wait for you?"

Corinne frowned helplessly and hastened her footsteps to follow up. Since Aaron had picked them up when they came and

Corinne did not drive over, it was logical for them to take Jeremy's car to the restaurant together.

Sherlyn could not have been happier to ride in Jeremy's luxury car. When his special assistant walked over and opened the rear

door of the luxury Mercedes-Benz, Jeremy did not get in just yet and stood to one side as if he was waiting for someone to go in first.

The sight of that made Sherlyn's heart throb and she could not help but make assumptions based on his actions. She walked

over gracefully and said, "Aren't you going to get in the car?"

Jeremy glanced at her, and said faintly, "After you."

Sherlyn's heart began beating wildly and she was overcome with a burst of joy. She had not been reading too much into his

gesture after all, because it was his intention all along to wait for her to get into the car first.

Jeremy was such a gentleman to

her! Cold-hearted men like him clearly did not show their gentlemanly side to every woman, yet he was willing to make way for

her to get in the car first. That could only mean one thing-Jeremy was somewhat attracted to her!

"Thank you, Mister Jeremy!" Sherlyn accepted the man's kindness with a coquettish smile and got into the car before quietly

waiting for him to sit next to her.

To her surprise, Jeremy did not get in at all and turned his head to look at Corinne who was waiting at one side. When he saw

her standing still, he lowered his gaze and said coldly, "Get in the car."

His tone resembled that of a parent admonishing a child.

Corinne pursed her lips. "Okay..."

After Corinne got into the car, Jeremy finally bent down and got in too. Sherlyn thought that she could sit next to Jeremy, but her

excitement and anticipation all came for naught and she was utterly displeased with that development. Her anger continued to

intensify as she looked at

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Corinne sitting between them, but since she could not lose her temper right there, she relieved her anger by secretly reaching

out to pinch the flesh just behind Corinne's waist and twist it hard to relieve her anger.

Corinne was not prepared for that at all, and she hissed while wincing in pain. Her first instinct was to dodge and lean to the

other side, but In doing so, she ended up bumping right into Jeremy's chest.

He raised his arm to support her shoulder and lowered his eyes to ask in a low voice, "What's wrong?"

Corinne immediately realized what had happened and wanted to avoid him like the plague, but he continued to hold her shoulder

firmly. 'What is he doing? Let go, d\*mn it! Didn't we agree that we'll pretend not to know each other in front of Sherlyn?"

Sherlyn was even more upset when she saw Corinne getting so close to Jeremy. She gritted her teeth and reminded with a

smirk, "What are you doing, Corinne? Don't take up so much space on Mister Jeremy's side! Move over here!"

Corinne glanced at the hypocritical instigator, Sherlyn, and then looked up at Jeremy to say, "I'm sorry, Mister Jeremy. I felt a

sharp pain earlier, and I didn't mean to do that..." As she spoke, she even winked at him to try and remind him not to forget his

promise to her.

Jeremy remained silent for about two seconds and finally raised his hand to let go of her shoulder.

Corinne immediately moved back to her original position and unconsciously rubbed the pinched area on her lower back. Every

movement of hers was captured by Jeremy's sharp vision, and he narrowed his eyes as he watched her calmly.

Once Corinne sat back properly, Sherlyn no longer dared to pull any tricks on her for fear that it would have the unintended result

of causing Corinne to take the opportunity to lean on Jeremy.

Sherlyn was beyond angry. 'You're such a shameless little b\*tch, Corinne! You take every single chance to get close to men!"

The Wild Bites, the restaurant that Sherlyn chose, was situated in the city center and was only a 10- minute drive away. When

they walked into the restaurant, the server led them to their table.

Sherlyn stood up gracefully once more and said, "Go ahead and order, Mister Jeremy. I'll be right back after I go to the restroom,"

Jeremy nodded casually, and his indifferent eyes barely glanced at her for a second.

Sherlyn then turned to Corinne and said, "Come and keep me company, Corinne!" Her request to Corinne was merely an excuse

to avoid allowing Corinne to seduce Jeremy in her absence.

Corinne nodded indifferently and got up to follow her.

Inside the restroom, Sherlyn looked in the mirror and touched up on her makeup, and through the reflection in the mirror, she

stared in disgust at Corinne who was standing at one side while carrying her bag. She

sarcastically remarked, "You can dream

on if you think that Mister Jeremy will be attracted to a country bumpkin like you just because Newmoon Group's Mister Aaron

was blind enough to fall for you!"

Corinne had a bored look on her face, and her lips twitched as she said, "I didn't think of that at all."

Sherlyn closed her makeup powder case and turned her head to warn fiercely. "You'd better! I advise you to be a little more

aware of your actions!"

Corinne, however, felt that Sherlyn was being unreasonable and raised her eyebrows. "What are you trying to say, Sherlyn?

When have I not been aware of my actions?"

Sherlyn took out her lipstick from her makeup bag, twisted it open, and applied some on her lips. She then snorted coldly.

"Haven't you noticed that Mister Jeremy has a sour expression whenever he sees you? I'm guessing it's because he's still super angry after being scalded yesterday!"

Corinne felt helpless. "I asked for some time off today so I don't need to have lunch with him, but you insisted that I come!"

Sherlyn stared at her in disdain and said angrily, "I only asked you to come so you can show your sincerity and apologize to

Mister Jeremy, but that doesn't mean he wants to see you all the time! You just need to hide in here and pretend that you can't

join us because you have diarrhea. You're only allowed to come out of here when I call you.

Having you ruin Mister Jeremy's appetite is the last thing I'd want!"

Upon hearing that, Corinne made an 'OK' gesture in agreement and said, "Sure! Not a problem!"

She could not have been happier when she got the chance to stay away from Jeremy. Had Sherlyn not asked her to tag along,

she would be midway through her nap at home by then!

After Sherlyn was done touching up her makeup, she grabbed her branded bag from Corinne and stuffed the makeup bag into it.

Before she left, she threatened her, "Do as you're told, and stay put in here. Don't you dare go back to the table, or else!"

Corinne nodded earnestly. "Okay, I understand."

After Sherlyn left, Corinne walked out of the restroom too. Although she was not interested in going back to the table and

interfering with Jeremy and Sherlyn's lunch, she did not want to stay in the restroom and bear with the smell either.

She went to a quiet stairwell to call Aaron and ask what his 'confession' was all about,

Aaron picked up the phone within seconds. "Do you miss me so soon?"

"Miss you?" Corinne's lip twitched briefly as she said that.

Before she could continue her sentence and say the phrase 'as if', she heard a man asking,

"Who are you on the phone with?"

It was none other than Jeremy, and Corinne was startled by his question.



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As soon as Corinne snapped back to her senses, she turned around to discover that Jeremy had appeared behind her at some point and was staring at her gloomily.

Corinne felt an inexplicably strong chill down her spine, and she subconsciously ended the call. "Just a friend!" she replied curtly and placed the cell phone back into her pocket.

Jeremy raised his hand and spread his large palm in front of her. "Give me the phone." He was acting like a high school principal

who was doing his rounds and wanted to confiscate a student's cell phone.

Corinne froze for a moment and frowned unhappily. She felt that he was making a mountain out of a molehill, but she did not

want to argue with him there. After giving his request a bit of thought, she took out her phone and handed it to him.

Jeremy took the phone and tried to swipe it open, but as soon as he saw that the screen was locked, he said coldly. "What's the password?"

Corinne refused. "This concerns my privacy, and I have the right not to tell you."

Jeremy narrowed his eyes. "Why do you look guilty?"

Corinne responded confidently, "I'm not!"

He raised the phone in his hand menacingly and said in a more serious tone, "If that's the case, then there's no reason for you not to tell me what the password is."

Corinne thought to herself, 'How in the world can someone act that natural when demanding to look at another person's cell

phone? He's so unpredictable! Does he think he's some dictator or something?

She could not stand his domineering attitude any longer and glanced up at him with a stubborn gaze. "I'm not telling you!"

Jeremy's jaw tensed up, and there was not much patience left in his eyes.

It was rare for him to encounter individuals whom he had little control over, especially when it came to women. Despite that, the

little girl in front of him did not seem to take him seriously at all. Though she sometimes appeared docile and obedient, the only

reason she did so was to avoid trouble. Furthermore, she was also too lazy to deal with the situation.

Most of the time, her eyes were vapid and vacuous, lacking any obedience, fear, or concern for him! However, it was precisely

because she frequently compromised and cooperated to avoid a heated exchange that her sudden refusal appeared out of the

ordinary. 'What is she hiding in her phone? Why is she so afraid of me looking at it?'

Her increased refusal made him even more curious to know who she was calling so secretly.

“I’ll ask you one more time, Corinne. What’s the password?” Jeremy’s big hand forced her to look up, and he almost seemed to be threatening her.

Despite being forced to look up, Corinne did not give in. Though she was being threatened by him,

she smirked tauntingly and suggested, “Why don’t you take a guess? I’ll tell you if you’ve got it right!

The blue veins on Jeremy’s forehead were starting to bulge out. I really wish I could just strangle this damn girl to death right now!

Out of the blue, her phone rang at that moment Aaron had called her back.

Startled. Corinne immediately reached out to grab the phone, but the man lifted his arm high and prevented her from reaching it

no matter how hard she tried

Corinne frowned and said, “Give me my phone back, Mister!”

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Jeremy merely glanced coldly at Corinne. As he held her cell phone up high, he slid his long thumb across the screen and accepted the call before putting it on speaker.

Aaron spoke gently from the other end of the line and said, "Why did you hang up on me all of a sudden when you called me earlier?"

Corinne was speechless.

Jeremy stared at the guilty-looking Corinne. "Is this the friend you spoke of?"

Corinne did not respond to him. "We're friends and he's my subordinate, but it's just not that convenient to tell you!"

Luckily for her, she did not save Aaron's number, or Xante's for that matter. She had long committed them to memory, and as

long as Aaron did not let anything slip about their relationship, Jeremy would be none the wiser as to her long-standing friendship

with Aaron. "Why aren't you saying anything, Miss Corinne? Where are you? Should I come and look for your right now?" Aaron

asked earnestly and enthusiastically once again.

Jeremy's handsome eyes narrowed and he slowly retracted his raised arm to lower the cell phone to face level. He then said

coldly, "She's already married. His tone was very flat, but it was thunderously strong and laden with a possessive intent that so perfectly emphasized his supremacy.

Aaron then asked in a surprised voice, "What?! Who are you?"

Jeremy gave a cold, three-word reply, "I'm her husband."

Aaron remained silent for a moment and his tone sounded very hurt as he said, "No! That's impossible! I won't believe it!

Where's Miss Corinne? I want to hear her say it!"

Before he could continue to ramble on, Jeremy pressed the 'end call' icon and did not want to listen to it anymore.

He lowered his face and threw the phone back harshly to Corinne. He smirked and said, sarcastically, "I didn't know you were

this impatient. Were you that eager to call him back?"

Corinne's lips twitched. "It's not what you think! What Mister Aaron said to me in the lobby of Newmoon Group was super weird,

and I didn't understand what he meant by that. I only called him back to ask if there was some kind of misunderstanding..."

Jeremy pursed his lips and said with a sneer, "He just told you in public that he fell in love with your at first sight. Is that so

difficult to understand? Do you still need to call back to confirm that? Am I supposed to believe that you simply want to ascertain

what he meant by that? You're better off being honest with me and telling me if you wish to take things to the next level with him.

Or perhaps you'd prefer to do one better and get into a relationship with him right away?"

Corinne felt suffocated. "I'm not. I didn't..."

Jeremy's big and rough hand squeezed her jaw tightly and forced her to look up at him again.

How many times do I need to

remind you that you're my wife right now, and you're not allowed to

have any private interactions with other men!"

Corinne felt uncomfortable with her face grabbed like this, and she could not break free from his strong grip either. She frowned

annoyedly and said, "You're overthinking, Mister. I'm not that kind of person! And besides, we're not even true husband and wife.

By forcefully demanding to check my cell phone and answering a call without my permission,

you have seriously violated my

right to privacy! Even if we're a real couple, we'd get divorced sooner or later if you're always so suspicious about every little

thing!"

Jeremy kept quiet.

Corinne felt that her jaw was about to be crushed by him. "It hurts..."

Jeremy's pupils trembled, and he frowned before letting go of her.

Corinne rubbed her sore jaw and felt that she should not take any argument with him too far.

After all, there were more than two

months left before her deal with him would end, and there was no

way for her to hide from him during that period because she had to face him every single day.

Furthermore, Sherlyn was still waiting for him to have lunch together, and she might notice that something was amiss if Corinne

did not calm Jeremy down and have him go back to the table for lunch.

"Forget it. I admit that I was wrong. I'm sorry!" She lowered her little face and compromised resentfully.

Jeremy was startled for a moment, but when he saw her aggrieved appearance, his anger reduced by half in an instant. "Good.

Now where were you wrong?"

Corinne curled her lips and said, "I was wrong for making that call. I should've waited three months because by then, I won't be

Missus Holden anymore, and you have no control over what I do anymore."

Barely moments after Jeremy started to cheer up again, his expression swiftly darkened.

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Corinne went on to say, "Honestly, you've never believed in me at all! You asked Tommy to make arrangements for my job just so you could keep me in a place that you can control. That way, you can always know what I'm doing and whether I cheated on you, right?"

Jeremy stared at her with a dark and gloomy gaze. For the time being at least, he was noncommittal over her remark.

"I'm just a passer by who will exist for only three months in your magnificent life, Mister. Please don't try to control me! If you don't believe in me, I can always swear to you!"

After saying that, Corinne raised her hand firmly and vowed, "I, Corinne, swear to God almighty, that I'll never do anything out of

line and cheat on Mister Jeremy Holden. May lightning strike me and kill me if I go back on my promise!" After swearing

categorically, she placed her hand down and headed for the direction of the door.

Just as she put her hand on the doorknob and opened it, Jeremy's big palm pushed it shut from behind.

"Did I say you could leave?"

Corinne frowned. 'What else does he want from me now that I've sworn to uphold my promise to him?' She said angrily, "Aren't

we don't yet? Don't be such a jealous little wimp!"

'Jealous little...wimp? Jeremy frowned coldly as if he heard the most ridiculous and inane sentence ever. He then leaned close

to her ear and chuckled softly. "Me? Jealous? Do you think I'll get jealous because of you? In my eyes, you're just a kid who's still wet behind the ears!"

"But you're a big grown man to me!" Corinne yelled out in anger, but she soon realized that it sounded a little inappropriate and

wanted to take it back. Alas, there were no take-backs when it came to one's words.

If all else failed, she just had to retreat.

She pulled the door hard and tried to run, but his hand was firmly pressed against the metal door and she could not pull it open.

She felt a warm and ticklish breath behind her ear, and Jeremy's deep voice resonated in her ear canal as his lips nearly touched

her ear. "Hmm? What did you just say?"

"Nothing!" Corinne wanted to leave the stairwell as quickly as she could, but she was unable to open the door at all. Her

shoulders were then held by the man again, and her body was forcibly turned around so she was facing him.

At that moment, the girl's face was flushed with embarrassment due to the slip of her tongue. Her eyes flickered, and she could

not bring herself to look directly at the man in front of her. Jeremy's gaze fell on her shy little face, and he saw her slender and thick eyelashes fluttering slightly. Her facial features were as beautiful as a painting, and her face was like a flower about to bloom. It should not have come as a surprise that there were plenty of men who wanted to hit on her. After all, she was quite charming. She earlier said that there were two months and seven days left, and the fact that she remembered so clearly was an indication that she had been keeping track of time religiously. 'Since when have my emotions become so easily influenced by her? I can't stand to see her in contact with other men, and I feel unhappy-restless, even simply because other men seemed to favor her.' She accused him of saying that he wanted to control her, but if that were truly the case, he did not need to lock her up at all because he could know her whereabouts at any time with the snap of a finger. He arranged a job for her because he knew that she did not want to idle her days away. Instead of letting her be subject to hardship by other people, it would be better for her to endure hardship under him. 'This d\*mned girl misconstrued my kindness as malice!'