

## Chapter 76 Forcing Her to Submit

After that, Calista didn't wait for Lucian's reply and blocked him immediately.

It was rush hour right now and she couldn't hail a taxi so she planned to just stay at a nearby hotel for now. She had spent the entirety of today looking for a new house and packing so she was exhausted.

Suddenly, there was a beep and a black car stopped by her side. Calista turned and the window from the passenger seat of the car rolled down to reveal Paul's handsome face.

"Calista, what are you doing?" he asked.

"I'm moving. I had originally had an appointment to sign a contract at 6:00 PM but the landlord went back on his word all of a sudden," she replied truthfully.

She wasn't afraid to show him all the bad parts of her life. 1

"What about you? What are you doing here?" she asked.

In front was a hospital and the entire street was filled with old food stalls. What's more, was that the roads were also narrow and filled with potholes.

It was obvious that this wasn't a place that Paul would frequent.

"I went hiking with a few friends and just got back ... why

don't you get in the car, I can't stop here."

He didn't give Calista any time to refuse and unlocked the trunk of his car to place her luggage inside.

"Where are you going? I'll send you there."

Calista had checked online and found that the nearest hotel was almost 3 kilometers away and it would take too much time and energy for her to drag her luggage all the way there so she got into the car.

"Any hotel will be fine," she replied.

Paul asked as he drove, "What's wrong with your previous house? Why do you want to move?"

"It was alright but Lucian is petty and I don't know how he did it but he managed to force my landlady into selling my unit."

Just talking about him made her grit her teeth in annoyance and she continued, "So, I went searching for a new house and I was just about to sign the contract but that bastard ruined it again!"

Paul was rendered speechless. There was probably no one brave enough in this world to use the words 'bastard' and 'Lucian' in the same sentence.

He couldn't help but smile as he replied, "That's just the way Lucian is. All he wants is for you to submit to him."

His tone was certain. He had been friends with Lucians for many years now and knew his personality well.

However, it made sense for him to be so cunning in his line of work but it seemed excessive to use such tactics of a mere woman.

Calista couldn't care less about what Lucian wanted. He had practically forced her to be homeless!

"So I should just submit to him because he wants me to? I'm not his mom. I don't need to cater to him all the time!"

Besides, he was the one at fault in the first place.

Paul turned to look at her. Calista was staring straight ahead and her red lips were pressed together in a thin line. Her already charming face looked even more lively now that she was upset.

He pressed his lips together and turned his attention back to the road before cautiously suggesting.

"I have a few apartments under my name not far from here. If you don't mind, you can live there first and move when you find another house."

Calista considered his offer. She knew that there was no way that she could find a house in the next few days.

If she moved to a hotel, she could still be forced out again by Lucian. After all, he was not below playing such dirty

tricks on her to get his way.

Though she didn't want to bother Paul, he was her best option right now. To Lucian, she was disposable but Paul was not. As such, Lucian would never deliberately make things hard for him.

"Thank you. I'll make sure to pay my rent as well."

Paul didn't care about the money but since Calista offered, he didn't refuse either. The car stopped at an apartment building and Paul pointed to a nearby street.

"That street is filled with restaurants and there's also a shopping mall at the end of the street. The only thing is that you can't cook in the apartment."

Calista didn't mind. She was always busy at work and her work required her to use her fingers and hands a lot. As such, her fingers often hurt too much for her to make dinner after work.

Paul took her to the 27th floor. This was a high-end apartment so there were only a few units on each floor.

Paul didn't live here but he would hire cleaners to maintain the house every week. As such, the house was very neat and tidy.

"There's unused bedding in the closet that you can use."

"Thank you," Calista said gratefully.

They were both alone in a house, and Calista was also a married woman so Paul took his leave very soon.

"Go ahead and settle in. I'll be going first and if there's anything you can just give me a call. I'll give you the cleaner's number later but if you don't like strangers in your house, you don't have to call her."

"Paul," Calista called before he left, "You've helped me so much, let me treat you to a meal. If you've already had dinner, we can reschedule as well."

Paul smiled.

"Let's go! I'm starving after all that hiking."

Because she was treating Paul to a meal, Calista chose a restaurant that was befitting of his status. It was a seafood buffet and it cost over 300 dollars per person.

The both of them had just walked to the counter to pay for their meal when they heard a woman's voice from behind them.

"Calista!"

Calista immediately recognized that voice and her mood soured.

She was just about to turn and leave the restaurant but Nikolette grabbed her hand, "Calista! What a coincidence!"

Though her words were addressed to Calista, her gaze was

directed at Paul. She blinked at him coquettishly as she purred, "Paul ..."

She had waited for Calista's reply for a few days now. She had asked Calista to help her set a date with Paul but not only did she not do so, she didn't even give her a way to contact her.

However, it seemed that she and Paul were a fated pair after all. Capeton was massive but she still managed to meet him! If that wasn't fate, she didn't know what was!

Paul looked at Calista in confusion as he asked, "Who is this?"

"She is my dad's daughter from his second wife. Pick-Me Everhart."

Paul was rendered speechless at that introduction while Nikolette was fuming. However, Calista's face remained expressionless as she introduced her which made it seem as if that was her name.

Nikolette smiled stiffly as she said, "Paul, don't listen to her, she loves to crack jokes like this. My name is Nikolette. I just returned to the country a while ago and we met at the exhibition hall."

She turned to Calista and glared at her and mouthed, "Do you still want your mom's inheritance?"

After that, she turned her attention back to Paul.

"Though we had different mothers, we both have had a close relationship growing up so let me treat the both of you tonight!"

Seeing that Calista wasn't saying anything, Paul pulled out his card, ready to pay for the meal. However, Calista pulled his sleeve before motioning to Nikolette.

"All right. Pay for the meal, then."

Paul didn't know what to do and said uncomfortably, "Calista, I'm a man. I can't let a woman pay for my meal."

"If you're so loaded with money you can donate it to those in need. Since she said it was her treat, she should pay for the meals."

In the end, Nikolette ended up paying for their meals.

"Paul, since I paid this time, you should pay for my meal next time!"

Their meal cost a few hundred dollars so no matter how she looked at it, she was at a loss even if he treated her to a meal in the future.

Nikolette stared dreamily at Paul and her eyes sparkled with innocence. Once she had decided that she liked someone, he was all that mattered to her and how she was looking at Paul was enough to stroke any man's ego.

"Paul, I met you a while ago at the exhibition hall and Calista



has said that she had wanted to introduce us to each other. I had thought that she was just joking but I didn't expect her to introduce us tonight!"