

# In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 296

The next day, Skylar was still on leave, so she went to Wesley's house to look for Miranda. Just when she arrived at his house, she saw Eva who was on her way out to work. What a lucky day!

Eva had only started working for a short time, yet she had already got herself a new Audi Q3. The neighbors had been praising her for her outstanding achievement as a CEO's assistant.

Skylar tried to walk past her, but Eva stretched her arm and stopped her. "You're early. I guess you haven't had your breakfast, have you? Well, we don't have extra utensils for strangers though."

Skylar gave her a side-eye. "Don't worry. I'm not interested in your dishes. Shouldn't you in a hurry? You're running late. Your boss will arrive at the company sooner than you."

Tobias had departed to the company early in the morning. Sometimes, Skylar thought he was pushing himself too hard. There would never be enough time for him to deal with the endless work.

Eva curled her lips upward with a flint of glee in her eyes. "My boss is lenient with me. He won't say a word even if I don't clock in. Just mind your own business."

Eva looked at Skylar arrogantly, as if she was a queen. Eva had been receiving special treatment since she was young. She was the apple of everyone's eye. Moreover, she was selected as the monitor from primary school to high school. Not only that, she was the president of the student council in the university. Anyone would've been proud to have her achievements.

However, Skylar was skeptical about what Eva said. Tobias and Susan never bothered about little things other than the company's benefits. Eva was just an assistant. Even though they knew she was Skylar's cousin, that made no difference. Besides, Tobias knew she and Eva were not on good terms.

Holding the thought in her mind, Skylar unwittingly sized Eva up. Eva couldn't care less about it. Instead, she held her chin up and sneered.

Skylar took a look at her watch. It was nine-thirty sharp. Eva was late and nothing could change that.

After Skylar stepped into the building, she reported to Tobias that his employee was late to work.

Although she didn't work for Ford Group, she knew that it had a well-established corporate culture. Tobias was very particular about punctuality, so his subordinates had to do the same. If the employee was late to work, one-third of the salary would be deducted with no exemptions.

Eva is taking advantage of the flexibility of her working schedule. An assistant's working schedule was usually flexible as the assistant had to make adjustments according to the needs of the higher-ups. Therefore, clocking in was not compulsory and that was why Eva could be impudent and take her own sweet time.

When Skylar walked in, Miranda was having porridge at the dining table. It was a round old wooden table that looked vintage. Meanwhile, Miranda was eating from a cheap porcelain bowl. Despite that, she looked elegant like a rich classy wife.

Skylar felt relieved when she realized that only Miranda was home. It would make things easier.

If Wesley and Sharon were home, they would probably eavesdrop on her conversation with Miranda and make a drama out of it.

"Come and have some porridge." Instead of giving Skylar a warm welcome, Miranda just raised her finger and pointed at the kitchen. Skylar would have to get the porridge herself if she wanted to have some.

Skylar took a seat on the sofa and stared at Miranda. "What happened between you and Thomas Jones? What did you mean when you said 'living together happily as a family'? I didn't ask further because Tobias was there."

Skylar didn't want Tobias to know too much about her family dispute. She stayed awake throughout the night because she was afraid of having a nightmare. Three of them living

together as a family and being pretentious to one another would be the worst nightmare that she could ever imagine.

“Well, believe your eyes and ears. We’re going to marry each other again. I’m thinking if we should hold a wedding.”

## In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 297

Something is off. There’s no way the man would agree to such a ridiculous idea. Skylar questioned further, “Did you blackmail Thomas Jones to force him to divorce his wife and remarry you?”

Her question caught Miranda off guard. However, Miranda played dumb and chuckled. “What are you talking about? I am an ex-convict. How am I supposed to blackmail him? Your dad feels guilty for what he did, so he wants to make compensation.”

After hearing what Miranda said, Skylar burst into sarcastic chuckles. How can she say that with a straight face?

Thomas Jones was never a soft-hearted man. Instead, he was selfish and merciless. If he meant to compensate them, he would’ve done it years ago.

Skylar recalled her difficult childhood. She had lived a careful and frugal life since she was young. She would’ve been long dead if it weren’t for Grandma. Thomas was never there for her. He just left her to fend herself. He only cared about his new family. He brought the entire family on overseas tours and gave them everything they wanted. He even bought Avery a yacht on her tenth birthday.

Skylar’s heart ached when she recalled what the merciless man had done to her and her mother. She knew Miranda was stubborn as a mule. It seemed that she was unable to get anything out of Miranda.

Anyhow, Skylar gave her a gentle reminder. “Thomas Jones is having a hard time now. His company is in the red and it’s on the brink of bankruptcy. You, of all people, should know

that the only person who can help him is Irene Ziegler, with the power of the Ziegler family. I've told you whatever you need to know. If you keep being stubborn, there's nothing else I can do."

Miranda sneered at her statements. She didn't believe a word. A smart, successful businessman like Thomas would never let anything bad happen to his company. Even if the company had some issues, they would be child's plays to Thomas.

Although Miranda didn't give any response, her eyes were filled with determination. Right then, Skylar knew that Miranda had made up her mind and whatever she said earlier had gone down the drain.

Thomas would never divorce Irene Ziegler unless he was ready to give up his life.

However, it's Mom's choice. She's old enough to make her own decision. Skylar was done with her, for she had tried her best to talk Miranda out of it.

Miranda reached out to Skylar's hand and smiled at her. "Skylar, can you give me some money? I'm a bit tight on money recently. I need to buy a few dresses."

I gave her four hundred fifty thousand last month, yet she spent all the money in just a month! I guess I've been too harsh on myself and should've pampered myself instead.

Looking at Miranda's luxurious clothing and accessories, Skylar raised her eyebrows with a smirk on her face. "I'm penniless. Why not you get money from Thomas Jones? He's trying to compensate us for his sins, isn't he? Why are you backing off now? He can give you whatever you want. Enjoy your meal. I'm leaving now."

"Tobias can help, can't he? He's rich. I'm sure he wouldn't mind being a filial son-in-law in advance."

Skylar wasn't surprised by her mother's shameless statement.

She gave a self-mocking laugh. "You're being ridiculous. What makes you think he'll marry me?"

Skylar had given up on the thought of marrying Tobias. It was merely impossible.

Who will be my husband then?

Marriage was something beyond her reach.

## In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 298

She almost married Jeremy. If she were his wife, she could only be a housewife, taking care of his parents and children at home.

I guess I'm not that unfortunate. Luckily I made another call, or else my life would be wasted.

While Skylar was lost in her thought of marriage, Penelope called her. Penelope apologized for what happened the day before. Besides, she invited Skylar for dinner as she had an important announcement.

As her best friend, Skylar happily accepted her invitation although she had a date with Tobias that evening. Tobias was going to bring her to a nice restaurant to have some gourmet Western cuisines.

Skylar couldn't help but feel relieved after she called off the dinner. She felt stressed whenever she had Western cuisines with Tobias. The man was very particular about the ambiance and the food quality.

He always opted for a full-course meal which consisted of an appetizer, soup, main course, salad, and dessert.

The dining etiquette was way too complicated to her liking. Actually, Skylar was not very fussy about what she ate. Besides, what annoyed her the most was that she had to stay alert throughout the meal so that she didn't make a fool of herself.

That was her first time to call off a date with Tobias. His response was rather indifferent. He just hummed in response, then he ended the call.

Skylar was expecting Tobias to express concern for her, such as reminding her to get more rest. However, he would never say something like that to her.

Penelope was living a good life now. She and Skylar used to have budgeted meals together at small restaurants, but now she booked a table at a high-end Japanese restaurant for dinner.

It cost at least eight hundred per person. In the old days, they never set their foot in these deluxe restaurants.

"I'm pregnant." Penelope smiled happily as she caressed her belly. Wrinkles appeared at the corners of her eyes.

Skylar froze in her position as she was overwhelmed by the news. For a moment, she could not utter a word.

After recomposing herself, she asked, "Whose child is it? Is the man the father? Did you tell him?"

Penelope pursed her lips and nodded.

After a few seconds, she softly replied, "Not yet. I'm going to keep the baby anyway. I've placed all my hope on my baby. He's too good for me. I have to stabilize our relationship with our baby. He's going to marry me."

Upon hearing what Penelope said, Skylar started getting emotional. "Are you trying to win a man's heart with your baby? Don't be silly. What if he doesn't acknowledge that it's his child?"

Penelope condemned right away, "No, he won't do that."

After their meetup, Skylar went home early. She put on the new nightgown and waited for Tobias to come home. It was a black silk camisole nightgown with a deep V-neck. It fit her perfectly, showing her nice figure.

When Tobias came home, he was stunned by her beauty. The black silk fabric complimented her fair skin. She looked so sexy.

Tobias squinted his eyes and fixed his gaze on her amazing figure.

Skylar walked towards him while flicking her hair back from her face. "How do I look?" she asked shyly.

"Something is missing," Tobias answered indifferently. In fact, Skylar looked extremely attractive when she dressed like that.

However, Tobias always had high expectations. It was not easy to please him.

Besides, he saw through her move. There had to be a reason for Skylar to be so nice to him suddenly, most probably she had something to ask from him.

Skylar bit her lips and looked at him. "What's wrong? Do I not look sexy and pretty?"

Skylar thought she looked stunning in the nightgown.

Tobias went to the bedroom and looked for something in the cabinet.

Skylar had kept some sexy lingerie there.

He handed a demi bra and a lacy underwear to her.

After hesitating for a few seconds, Skylar took the lingerie and headed towards the room to get changed.

"Why are you avoiding me? Get changed in front of me." Tobias placed one arm over the sofa and looked at her with a mischievous smile on his face.

## In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 299

Skylar did as he said. She acted swiftly and got changed in a wink. She was so embarrassed and her face was as red as a tomato.

Her shyness made Tobias even more aroused.

However, he kept calm and whispered in her ear, "What do you want from me?"

He knew it! I shouldn't have put up such a show. He's not aroused anyway. I should've just told him instead.

Skylar regretted seducing him in a sexy nightgown.

She even rehearsed the scene in front of the mirror before he came home.

"I want to meet a person. He's your friend. Can you help me?"

Skylar was not sure how Tobias would feel about it, so she asked him carefully.

Although she had slept with him, he seemed distant to her.

Therefore, Skylar never asked him about his whereabouts or whatsoever unless he told her himself.

Before that, she had asked once but he seemed annoyed as if she had crossed the line. Since then, she would only call him and get straight to the point.

"Alright. Who is it? I'll make arrangements." Tobias didn't ask further and agreed to help without hesitation.

Things went easier than she thought. However, she didn't know the man's name. "I don't know his name, but we've met him at the tea house. The one who introduced a young model to you that day."

Tobias had an excellent memory. He instantly remembered the man after listening to her.

"His name is Brayden Scott. He's running a coal mining business." Tobias briefly described the man's background. He still didn't ask Skylar about her intention of meeting the man.

She would tell him if she wanted to.

"Is he married?" Skylar still held out hope for the man. If he was single, perhaps Penelope could try her best to get him.



"If I'm not mistaken, he has a kid around six or seven." Tobias' reply made Skylar's hope shatter into pieces.

Tobias was the type of person who acted on his words. He arranged a meetup for Skylar and Brayden on the next day's evening.

Skylar gazed at the man sitting in front of her. She didn't take a close look at him during the first encounter. Looking at his good-looking appearance, she finally understood why Penelope fell for the man.

Brayden was indeed an attractive man. He was in his early forties, looking smart in his grey suit. He looked decent and smart, perfectly showing the charm of a mature man.

That was their second encounter. Brayden sized Skylar up in silence. He couldn't believe that Tobias had fallen for a woman.

"To what do I owe the pleasure, Mr. Ford?" Brayden had a deep, pleasing voice.

Tobias lit up a cigarette and glanced at Skylar. "My girlfriend wants to see you. I'm not sure about the reason though."

Brayden was stunned when Tobias addressed her as "girlfriend" instead of "friend".

"I'm Penelope's friend. She's pregnant with your child." Without beating around the bush, Skylar got straight to the point. She wanted to know Brayden's attitude on that matter. Most importantly, she tried to keep Penelope safe from harm.

Upon hearing that, Brayden was nonplussed. Right then, Tobias figured out Skylar's intention. Penelope had put herself in trouble with some debt, and now she was impregnated.

"So? Are you asking if I will take responsibility for the baby? But now we don't even know the biological father of the baby," Brayden replied.

Skylar tried to keep her cool and said solemnly, "You're a married man. It's not fair to Penelope. You should tell her the truth, then talk to her about the baby. The baby..."

# In a Love Nest with the Aloof CEO Chapter 300

Brayden stopped her mid-sentence. "She can keep the baby if she wants it so badly. I have more than one child anyway. Ms. Jones, you should stay out of this and let her decide on her own."

Brayden was explaining himself out of respect for Tobias. Otherwise, he wouldn't have wasted his time talking to an outsider. He used contraceptives every time they were intimate, so only Penelope knew the truth of her pregnancy.

After hearing his reply, Skylar snapped, "I want you to confess everything to her so that she doesn't get hurt further! Since you can't marry her, how is she supposed to live as a single mother? Do you want her to throw a tantrum in front of your wife and show your wife what you've done behind her back?"

Brayden was provoked by her accusations. He took a look at Tobias, hoping he could step in and hold her down.

In contrast to Skylar's emotional reaction, Tobias was calm. He sided with Brayden instead. "You should let your friend make her own decision. It's either she keeps the baby or has an abortion. She can make her decision before it becomes a fetus."

Skylar knew Tobias well. To him, it was not a big deal and it was just a waste of time to talk about it.

They're right. I have no right to make the decision for Penelope. Skylar decided to call her and let her deal with it.

Right then, there was no way to keep Penelope from being heartbroken. However, Skylar didn't want her best friend to be fooled. She had to make Penelope face the truth even though it might hurt her deeply.

Brayden didn't care much about confronting Penelope. He was not afraid to come clean because he knew Penelope well. Unlike Skylar, Penelope was a smart girl who knew exactly what she wanted.

While waiting for Penelope's arrival, Tobias and Skylar took a walk outside. The sun was setting and a warm red glow filled the sky. Skylar sensed the chill on her skin when the wind blew.

Tobias took down his coat and put it around her. A scent of white sandalwood filled the air.

Skylar held his hand and looked at him. "I'm sorry about today. I may have ruined your friendship with Brayden. I know I've put you in a tight spot, but there's no other way."

"I don't really care about Brayden. I just thought it was a waste of time. Why did you ask your friend to come over? Honestly, I don't want to wait anymore. I could've settled many tasks with the wasted time," Tobias said.

Skylar firmly replied, "I have to wake her up from her fancy dream! What Brayden is doing will ruin Penelope's life. She'll struggle to live a good life if she raises her child alone as a single mother. Neither she nor the child deserves it. That man will not take care of them."

Tobias didn't reveal his emotions easily, but Skylar knew he was moved by her words, particularly when she mentioned the phrase "single mother".

"I get that. I'll be more careful next time and make sure we use contraceptives. I won't impregnate you."

Skylar didn't mean that though. When they first got together, Tobias was very casual about it. He even asked her to carry his child, but now he sang a different tune when he thought of marriage.

However, Skylar was not in the mood to think about their relationship. She just hoped that Penelope wouldn't ruin her life because of an irresponsible man like Brayden.

They waited for her for a long time, but Penelope was nowhere to be seen. Tobias was getting agitated. He stood up and was about to leave.

Brayden looked at Tobias and cast an apologetic smile at him and Skylar. "I guess Penelope is resting at home. Pregnant women need more rest. Ms. Jones must be feeling upset. Mr. Ford, I guess you'll have to work harder tonight to comfort your girlfriend."