**Hampton Inn, Mountain View**

A ray of light lit the room, passing by the open window and tickled with its warmth the lying body.

Sohyun woke up, sensing the gentle touch of a soft hand, and she cautiously opened her eye to get used to the intense light. The girl's naked body was wrapped between white blankets.

She could spot the other person, who was illuminated by the sunrays. Mark's pale brownish hair shone, enlightened by the morning sun. His face, his features and his smile brought back to her mind memories of the previous night and the feelings which she experienced, making her smile in her turn.

"Good morning, dude..." - She joked, standing up from the bed to get dressed. The red-haired girl put on her panties and her jeans, picking up from the floor a wrinkled t-shirt.

"It seems that we enjoyed the night..." - She exclaimed, noticing two empty bottles of sparkling wine on the bedside. - "Shit, I was so drunk..." - She laughed, rubbing her temples.

He chuckled, pulling her for a deep kiss. - "You have the most high alcohol tolerance I have ever seen in my life, Sohyunie" - The man said in a whisper. - "...and this is a requirement to be my ideal girl".

"So am I your ideal girl?" - Sohyun asked, still holding his hand.

"You are perfect for me and I love you, but I didn't think you could like me... you know, when I first met you I thought you were gay..." - He said, making the girl slap his arm, a playful pout on her face.

"Is this for my short hair?" - She giggled.

Mark shook his head. - "Ehi, it's not like that! I don't have this kind of prejudices... I am a man of the twenty-first century." - He said - "I thought it because you were hired for the Blog project. Kylie usually hires only lesbians like..."

"...your sister." - She completed. - "I still find hard to think that you two are relatives... I won't lie to you, I don't like her..."

He nodded - "I know, she may be a pain in the ass... sometimes I'd like to slap her as well, but she is a great journalist" - He sighed heavily, still eyeing his girlfriend. - "I haven't inherited her character, though... I am not like her just because I'm her brother".

"Don't worry, dude. I don't have this kind of prejudices... I am a woman of the twenty-first century."

**Mountain View, United States of America**

Rebecca absent-mindedly toyed with her sweatshirt laces, sitting on the empty chair. Her office was exceedingly silent as all the employees had already come back their home, except for the blond girl.

It was very late, but she didn't mind staying there, even for the whole night. What purpose was going home for? She had suffered too much to avoid nightmare, and sleeping wouldn't help her regain strenght...

The girl heard some footsteps some from the hallway, and after a few seconds the door swung open, letting her see the newcomer. A man stepped in, and Rebecca could see his face. His hazel eyes immediately reminded her a person...

"Hi..." - He began - "...so you must be Rebecca Jackson" - Daniel Walker offered her his hand, but the journalist, mistrustful, hesitated. She wondered why did the man look like he was looking for her.

"Yes... in flesh and blood" - She coldly replied.

Daniel sighed, sitting near her. - "Kylie told me that you don't usually talk too much... but she also told me to trust you, and I will do so. Do you trust me?" - He asked, looking up to meet her gaze.

"Go ahead..." - She replied with a broken voice - "What did you want to talk about?"

The brown-haired man took a small piece of paper out of his pocket. - "Kylie had this hidden into her pants..." - Behind showed the paper, Rebecca could read its content. Everybody has an ace up the sleeve - it said.

Rebecca was unbelieving. She stared at the message, remembering her last conversation with Kylie. - "What does it mean?" - Daniel asked.

"I don't know..." - This didn't make any sense, Kylie had talked her about Sohyun liking her brother. What does it have to do with his brother? - "I wish I had the right reply but I really don't have idea about its meaning..."

She was about to leave, when she had an illumination. What if Kylie actually didn't mean that Sohyun liking her brother was the fact. What if she meant that she had an ace up her sleeve and Sohyun liked her brother?

The ace wasn't to be found nowhere else that her own abilities. - "Kylie wrote this for me..." - She firmly said. - "She wanted me to found something, but I know neither what is this nor where is it..."

"Could it be hidden in this room?" - He asked - "To my knowledge, this is the only room which has a strongbox like that" - He pointed out an old and unused safe-deposit box.

Rebecca whiffed, shaking her head - "Every single device used by Kylie has a 32 characters long alphanumeric password... she wouldn't hide something in a box which can be opened by pressing 5 numbers. That one has neved been used, as far as I know..."

"But... my sister wanted us to find it..." - He whispered - "So maybe she decided to hide it where we could find it without knowing a complex password..." - He said, earning Rebecca's nod. - "So why don't we try with her birth date?"

"Once again, you show your lack of preparation towards Kylie's riddles... She wanted somebody to find it and this person could be either me or you" - She replied. - "Why don't your try with your birth date..."

He typed 19.2.79 on the keypad, but the box signaled error. Rebecca approached and, closing her eyes, she tried her own birth date. 3.12.79.

The door of the box swung open.