

THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 171 Raise It By Yourself

Erica's face turned red and her eyes popped out in anger, making her look like a fiend.

She rushed over and raised her hand to slap Eliana, but her wrist was grabbed by Asher.

"Erica, stop it," Asher warned sternly, digging his nails into her wrist.

"Why?!" Erica's eyes widened in disbelief. "She seduced you shamelessly!"

Her shoulders heaved as she fumed with anger and pointed an accusing finger at Eliana.

"Eliana, you bitch! Can't you live without a man? Back

when you were rich, you used to sleep with a gigolo, and now that you have no money, you want to seduce my rich husband! Where are the security guards? Kick this shameless bitch out!"

Erica's raucous assertion drove the whole venue into an uproar. In an instant, Eliana found herself being the center of unwanted attention.

Maurice couldn't stand aside any longer. He stepped forward before Eliana could explain.

Then, he went straight to her and wrapped his arm around her waist, as if claiming her.

Gazing coldly at the contemptible couple standing in front of him, he domineeringly declared, "Miss Pierce is my companion. Mr. Harrison, you would do well to ask your wife to watch her mouth."

Erica's face instantly shrunk, as if she had just swallowed a lemon. "Did I say anything wrong? She is just a social climber-"

"Erica Harrison!" Maurice growled, interrupting her. "Don't try my patience! Have you forgotten the lesson you learned before regarding the pink diamonds? If you dare to say one more word, don't blame me for being ruthless later."

Erica pursed her lips tightly in displeasure, but there was nothing she could do.

'Damn it! How could Eliana be lucky enough to have Maurice backing her up?' she wondered bitterly.

She was not reconciled at all. Eliana was someone that Erica could easily insult in public, but she could not afford to provoke a big fish like Maurice.

Maurice stormed off with Eliana, leaving the couple in his wake, who watched their receding back with envy and resentment.

Although Erica didn't dare to say anything more, the onlookers around them began to gossip about Eliana in hushed tones, though their words were loud enough for everyone to hear.

"Wow, that lady even seduced another woman's husband!"

"I've seen a lot of material girls like her. But how did she seduce Mr. Moran?"

Embarrassed by these words, Eliana subconsciously tried to get rid of Maurice's hand on her waist.

However, Maurice just held her even tighter and whispered out of the corner of his mouth, "I don't

mind."

Hearing that, Eliana was stunned. She raised her head and looked at him in surprise. "What did you say?"

"I said I don't mind. I don't mind even if you have a boyfriend or you've slept with a gigolo before. Unless..."

"Unless what?" Without knowing why, Eliana began to feel flustered.

"Unless you hired a gigolo to pretend to be your boyfriend." Maurice's eyes darkened as he spoke.

Eliana's heart skipped a beat when she heard those words, and she had to struggle to keep her composure.

"How could that be? How could I do that?" Eliana finally asked with a wry smile.

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Chapter 172 Scramble For The Music Box



Maurice was so generous!

Eliana shook her head and said stubbornly, "No, it's very expensive. I can't afford to pay you back."

"You don't have to pay me back," Maurice replied nonchalantly.

Eliana shook her head again, and this time, there was a look of alienation in her eyes. "It's easy to repay money, but to return a favor is completely different."

She knew it better than anyone else. She had already owed Preston. She didn't want to owe one more

person.

After the auctioneer introduced the music box on stage, many people bid on it. In a short period of time, the price skyrocketed.

"Seven million dollars," Erica triumphantly announced the price while holding the signboard in front of everyone.

Eliana had a bad feeling when she saw her evil smile.

Of course, there was a different reason why Erica wanted to buy the music box. It was not simply because she was fascinated by it.

As soon as the music box appeared, she realized why Eliana came to that night's event.

Erica remembered seeing this antique music box at

Eliana's house when she and Eliana were still best friends before the Pierce Group went bankrupt.

She would feel very satisfied if she could buy the music box and smash it in front of Eliana.

Erica was completely engrossed in her revenge plot.

The price rose even more to an astonishing ten million dollars.

When Erica was about to raise the signboard again, Asher stopped her.

"Enough! Ten million dollars for an old music box! Are you crazy?"

"You know nothing!" Erica snapped bitterly as she shook off his hand.

She was adamant. There was nothing Asher could do about this crazy woman, and he couldn't argue with her in front of all the city's power brokers. The attendees at the auction were all prominent people, and he couldn't afford to lose face here.

He could only hope that someone else would bid a higher amount for that damned music box.

The price had risen even more since Erica wouldn't give up. Eliana unconsciously began to show a nervous expression as the competitors became fewer and fewer.

The consequences of Erica getting her parents' previous belonging would be unfathomable.

"Twelve million dollars."

Erica raised the price once more. Her generosity had

already sparked the crowd's interest. She was enjoying everyone's attention at the moment, making her feel better.

Great! She could finally hold her head high this time. She had to make Eliana pay when she got the music box.

"Twelve million dollars. Going once, going twice, going..."

Just when Erica thought she had already won, a voice echoed throughout the hall.

"Thirteen million dollars."

Everyone, including Eliana, turned their gaze to the source of the voice.

She was surprised to see Theo, Maurice's new

assistant, holding the signboard.

Did Maurice plan it?

Eliana stared at Maurice in disbelief, her heart beating fast.

Meanwhile, Erica was wondering why anyone would still compete with her at this point.

The spotlight was now on Theo. "This gentleman is extremely generous," the auctioneer remarked.

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Chapter 173 So What If I Fooled You



It was only after she had her fill of being the star of attention did Erica come to a sudden realization.

Fifteen million dollars.

The amount struck her dumb. The terrible truth that she didn't have sufficient funds to cover such a staggering price dawned on her like an awful tidal wave.

Horrified, Erica hurriedly turned to look at Asher for a solution.

A dark storm raged in Asher's face. He was so furious at her that he couldn't utter a single word.

"A-Asher, I..."

In a fit of nervousness, she grabbed his sleeve. To her chagrin, he shook her hand off and shoved her away in anger.

"You absolute moron!" Asher howled, livid.

He couldn't care less about his image anymore; at least, not under these circumstances. The Harrison Group had just survived a crisis, but his wife was insane enough to purchase a stupid music box for the astronomical price of fifteen million dollars!

"You bid for it yourself, so find the money to pay by yourself. I won't clean up after your mess."

So saying, Asher spun on his heels and left the place in a huff. Erica was left standing dumbly, all alone and at a complete loss.

What should she do? What could she do?! How was she supposed to solve this problem? She couldn't think of anything!

Desolate, she slumped into the chair with her back drenched in cold sweat. Her head was spinning from the pressure.

Right now, Eliana was no longer in her thoughts. She didn't have the leisure to consider anything about Eliana! All she wanted was to escape this terrifying hell as soon as she could.

With this in mind, Erica steeled herself and maintained her calm front. She carefully stood up from her seat and attempted to sneak away while everyone was busy focusing on the auction, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible.

Unfortunately, the auction staff weren't as easy to fool as the audience. After they saw that Asher had left before the auction's end, they kept strict watch on Erica and observed her every movement in silence.

"Pardon me, Mrs. Harrison. Where are you going?"
The person in charge stepped forward and immediately blocked her way right as Erica reached

the door.

"This place is... Well, it feels a bit too depressing. So, I... I thought I'd go out for a quick stroll to get some air," Erica stammered, barely keeping her voice from shaking.

"I see. However, Mr. Harrison has just left. Are you going back on your bid?" the man asked, his face disdainful. There was a hint of scorn in his gaze as he looked at the trembling Erica.

His accusation was a great blow to the proud Erica's self-esteem. Refusing to back down, she gritted her teeth and barked, "What a laugh! Who said I am?! It's just a bit of money! I'll sign the check myself, alright?"

"I'm sorry, Mrs. Harrison, but I'm afraid you can't sign the check."

"H-Huh? Why not?" Erica stared at him in confusion, her jaw hanging.

"The Harrison Group was on the verge of bankruptcy quite recently. Although it has evaded the crisis, its credit in the banks hasn't been restored yet. Thus, all the checks under the Harrison Group name could not be cashed," the person in charge explained patiently.

"Oh dear! My, my, what should I do? Perhaps I can go back and have my husband to pay in my stead?"

Erica held fast to her pride, adamant on denying the deal.

"It doesn't matter. We also accept payment with a credit card."

The person in charge stretched out his hand with a sly smile, much like a shrewd fox.

The commotion caused by Erica soon attracted the attention of several auction participants. Now, many people had their eyes on her.

At this point, Erica couldn't hold in the shame filling her. She was completely embarrassed.

Left with no choice, she was forced to take out a credit card from her bag and hand it to the man with great reluctance. The act itself, despite simple, was infinitely painful.

The person in charge then brought over a POS machine from his subordinate and quickly swiped the credit card before Erica's eyes.

Beep! Erica watched in dismay as the payment failed.

"I'm sorry, Mrs. Harrison, but the balance in your

account is not enough."

"R-Really? Dear me..."

Red-faced with growing embarrassment, Erica fumbled with her bag and hurriedly took out another card to give it to the man.

Very soon, another beep came through.

"Apologies, but this card is frozen."

"T-That can't be! Swipe it again!"

Erica's eyes went as wide as saucers. She was thoroughly mortified.

"Mrs. Harrison. Can you pay the bill or not?" After so many failed transactions, the person in charge had gradually lost his patience.

Despite being the wife of Harrison Group's CEO, Erica couldn't even afford to pay the bill for her bid. The rich ladies within the audience threw her scornful looks, their lips curled into disdainful sneers. Their stares were akin to painful daggers stabbing into Erica's flesh. At this moment, Erica wished for nothing more than to dig a hole and bury herself in it.

The auctioneer took the opportunity to give Erica a timely reminder. "Mrs. Harrison. Since you can't afford it, why don't you ask that gentleman for help? Didn't he initially want to buy this music box? If you can make up the difference in prices, he might buy it in your stead."

Having said that, he turned to look in Theo's direction.

Erica was instantly enlightened. Yes, that was it! Didn't the man want it just now? As long as she

asked, he'd definitely buy it with no questions.

Eric was confident in her assumption, and her embarrassment vanished. Then she walked smugly towards Theo.

"Sir, I'm more than willing to give up this music box for you. What do you think?"

"Forgive me, but I have to ask my boss about it."

Theo then rose to his seat, and then made his way to where Maurice and Eliana were.

Erica was stunned by the revelation. To think he actually worked for Maurice, of all people!

She stared dumbly at the calm Maurice, eyes twitching with disbelief.

Had he already known that this would happen?

Realization dawned on her. She had been taken for a fool! Seething with rage, she screamed at the top of her lungs, "You...! You fooled me!"

"So what?"

Maurice cocked his head to look at Eliana who looked stunned too. He drawled lazily, "Just like how it was with the pink diamonds, I'll leave it to you to decide whether to buy the music box or not."

His words startled Eliana. She began to ponder: would she buy the music box to help Erica?

Her answer was easy enough.

Of course not!

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Chapter 174 The Truth



Erica was quick to express her displeasure when she learned that her fate would be decided by her greatest foe.

Erica's thoughts drifted to Asher, and she picked up the phone to make a call to him. She pleaded in a soft voice, "Hello, sweetheart. I was to blame. I should not have gotten into an argument with you in the first place. However, the fifteen million..."

"There is no need for you to dwell on this, Erica.

You're not getting the money." Asher declined without a second thought.

"Asher! Are we not married!?" Erica yelled back.

"We don't have to be a couple. If you insist on getting the money, then I will immediately file for divorce, and you will be responsible for paying off the obligation on your own."

Erica was taken aback. Her spouse, with whom she'd shared a bed for so long, now treating her so cruelly was beyond the pale for her.

"It's a victory for you!"

Erica was furious as she hung up the phone.

She whirled around and saw the guy in control of the auction and the black-clad security men behind him.

Once again, she behaved timidly.

"Your toughness amazes me, Mrs. Harrison. Do you really need my assistance?" Watching from the sidelines, Eliana took in the show.

"It's time to leave."

Maurice acted as though he was leaving with Eliana.

"Hold on!" Erica exclaimed.

Eliana ignored her and continued going.

As a result, Erica was in a state of agitation. She expected Eliana would purchase the music box because of her love for her parents, but he didn't expect her to go so quickly.

Asher was no longer a dependable source of support

for Erica. She needed to figure out a method to save her skin as quickly as possible...

She had a lightbulb moment.

"Eliana, I'd want to speak with you one-on-one," Erica said from behind Eliana.

Eliana paused, turned around, and said scornfully, "Why should I waste my time on you?"

"Aren't you curious about what happened five years ago? I have information that you have been wanting for as long as you can tell," Erica said eagerly.

Eliana, on the other hand, was unable to keep her calm. Her pupils constricted fiercely, and her fists clenched involuntarily.

"I'm not going to believe a thing you say until you

have concrete proof."

"Okay! I'll provide you with proof," Erica remarked as she gritted her teeth. "However, you'll need to spend your money on the music box first."

Eliana paused before making a decision. She wouldn't have bought it if it was all about the music box. But now that it was linked to the truth, she had to watch her steps.

While she was still deliberating, Maurice wrote a check and gave it to Theo.

Erica's face lighted up as she saw that. She reached out and tried to grab the check herself.

Maurice promptly took back the check.

"You can't get it until you've spoken the truth you

claim to know."

Under the watchful eye of Maurice, Erica was no longer able to play her tricks. She retrieved a video from her phone's gallery.

"I hired a private investigator because I suspected that Asher and Eliana were having an affair. However, I discovered that he was having a meeting with a stranger. This video was filmed by the private investigator I hired."

Asher was certainly chatting with a stranger in the video on Erica's cell phone. Although they were only able to view his back, their conversation could be picked up plainly.

"What am I supposed to do? Eliana is still trying to figure out how her mother became involved in the Pierce Group's collapse," Asher shrieked in fear.

And the weird guy replied, "Remember, no matter what you do, you can't tell anybody about what occurred back then."

"I get what you mean." Asher nodded his head in agreement. Then, in a state of perplexity, he asked, "Why did you spend so much time and effort destroying the Pierce Group back then?"

After a moment of contemplation, the guy said, "I will never forget Ingrid, the most remarkable lady in my life. I was ready to do everything to get my hands on her."

After then, the video suddenly came to a halt.

Despite the fact that Eliana had finally found what she had been searching for for so long, she was plagued by an overwhelming feeling of unreality.

When she watched the film, she was puzzled by the facts she had gleaned.

Immediately, it became clear that this unusual individual in the film was responsible for the Pierce Group's demise. He ruined the Pierce Group and drove Eliana's father, Lemuel, to his death, in order to acquire Eliana's mother, Ingrid.

And the guy in the video was clearly not Maurice.

Eliana was just three years younger than Maurice. Additionally, he had studied overseas earlier. His involvement with Ingrid was impossible as a result.

Therefore, Eliana had really falsely accused Maurice...

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Chapter 175 A Pleasant Surprise



Eliana was not the only one who was rendered speechless because of the video. Maurice, who had set it up, was also surprised.

He had actually set the trap to help Eliana get her parents' belongings back while teaching Erica a lesson. However, he did not expect that it would also prove his innocence.

'What a pleasant surprise!'

"Now that you've watched the video, can you pay?"

Erica withdrew her phone, staring at the check in Maurice's hand.

Eliana also recovered from the shock. "Of course! But you have to make up for the difference!"

"Eliana, you are not keeping your promise!" Erica roared.

"Erica, do you think I'm a pushover? Have you forgotten what you said to me by the bathroom? Do you really think that I will still help you without any reason? In your dreams!" Eliana sneered.

Erica's expression darkened and her heart sank. The money she had would not be enough to pay the difference in the price.

"You pay for it now. I will pay you the rest later." Erica compromised.

"I'm sorry, but you can't pay in installments." Eliana refused, spreading out her hands.

Maurice advised, "How about letting Mrs. Harrison use something else to make up for the difference since she doesn't have the money?"

"What do you mean by that?" Erica felt like she was drowning.

Maurice looked at her and said, "Your jewelry should be worth some money. Why don't you use it to make up for the difference?"

"No!" Erica stepped back in fear.

Maurice then glanced at the man, who was in charge, and he immediately understood what he meant.

"Mrs. Harrison, I think you'd better cooperate with us."

The security guards quickly surrounded Erica and took off her diamond necklace, diamond earrings, and an invaluable emerald ring.

"Let go of me, you robbers! I'm going to sue you!"

Erica tried her best to struggle, but her efforts were futile as she watched the guards hand over her jewelry to the person in charge. She panicked.

"The jewelry is fake."

The man in charge took a quick look at the jewelry with a sardonic expression.

Seeing that, Erica closed her eyes in despair.

Her secret was out now.

And she had never felt so humiliated before. She felt as if she were standing naked in front of everyone and being trampled on.

The worst thing of all was that she had no money.

Maurice raised his eyebrows. "Since Mrs. Harrison's jewelry is fake, I have another idea."

Erica suddenly opened her eyes and looked at him with just a faint glimmer of hope.

"You damaged the reputation of my date, so I want you to step outside that door, and announce that you were spreading wrongful rumors about Miss Pierce. I also want you to swear that you would never do such a thing again. If you do that, then you won't need to pay for the difference. What do you think?"

Desperate as she was, Erica still couldn't accept his suggestion.

"Eliana, we used to be friends. Please help me. Please." Looking at Eliana, she broke into tears.

"Stop saying that. It makes me want to throw up!" Eliana retorted in disgust.

Erica's pitiful expression froze, making her look ugly.

However, she still did not want to give up at all, and thus called Asher.

But before she could even say a word, he hung up on her.

Unwilling to give up, she continued to call him over and over again, but he just did not answer.

Everyone at the auction house watched in silence as she made a fool of herself.

Finally, Erica couldn't stand it anymore. Gripping her phone tightly, she roared, "Asher, you jerk! I am an idiot for falling in love with you..."

"Have you not decided yet?" Maurice lost his patience and ordered Theo to tear the check.

"No! No!" Erica was on the verge of kneeling down and begging him.

"I'll go to the door now..."

Enduring the humiliation, she walked to the door under everyone's intense gazes and said in a low voice, "I spread rumors about Eliana. I'm sorry. I won't dare to do it again."

Maurice and Eliana walked out slowly, and Eliana glanced at her and asked, "What are you saying? The wind is too strong. I can't hear you clearly."

Erica looked up at Eliana with hatred in her eyes, but when she met Maurice's cold gaze, she felt a chill down her spine.

Gritting her teeth, she shouted, "I was the one that spread rumors about Eliana. I'm sorry! I swear I won't do it again!"

Her funny apology attracted everyone's attention. At first they were only snickering, but soon, they began laughing hysterically.

Maurice said indifferently, "Go on."

Erica apologized to Eliana again. Seeing more people gather around them, she was so angry and

embarrassed that she wanted to run away from there.

All of a sudden, she was out of breath, rolled her eyes, and collapsed.

Everyone was shocked.

"Since she fainted, there's no need for us to pay the money," Maurice said calmly.

As soon as Erica heard that, she immediately got up.

"I... I'm awake."

The crowd realized that she was just acting.

Seeing her like that, they burst into laughter again.

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Chapter 176 Why Are You So Good To Me



Now that Eliana had finally uncovered the truth, she didn't care about Erica anymore. All she wanted to do was to retrieve both her parents' personal belonging.

Seeing that Erica had just been taught a lesson, Maurice casually handed the check to Theo.

With the check in his possession, Theo quickly sealed the deal with the person in charge of the auction house.

"Mr. Moran, we are greatly pleased to have you here with us. You are so generous."

The person in charge looked at the auctioneer with a smile and gave a nod. The auctioneer immediately brought the music box to Eliana and handed the priceless item to her, bowing slightly in respect.

"Miss Pierce, congratulations. You are now the new owner of this precious antique."

Eliana's hands couldn't stop trembling. The small music box was sold to them at fifteen million dollars.

But for her, what made it so valuable was not the well-designed box itself.

She lifted the lid open, and three miniature figures in western classical clothes stood up and began to dance to the sweet melody.

The three little figures included a man, a woman, and

a little girl. Judging from the noticeable smiles on their faces, they were obviously a happy family. If one took a closer look, they would find that the little girl's face bore a striking resemblance to Eliana's.

It was no coincidence.

When Eliana's father acquired the music box years ago, the faces of the three figures had been distorted and blurred due to its long history.

Wanting to enhance and personalize the item, Eliana's mother had an idea. She suggested they draw new faces for the three little figures. As a child, Eliana insisted on drawing her image on the little girl.

Of course, Eliana's father would not disagree. Since the miniature figures were a family of three as well, they could draw each of their own faces on them.

So he hired the most skilled craftsman to make the necessary changes. After a few hours, the finished product was a sight to behold.

That was why Eliana valued the music box so much. It served as a constant reminder of her family's legacy.

The item itself didn't matter much to her. What was priceless were the fond memories associated with it.

The music box kept playing familiar melodious music, which reminded Eliana of the happy times of her childhood. She could not help but shed tears.

Maurice chuckled and teased, "Weren't you refusing the offer at the beginning? If I'm not mistaken, those seem to be tears of joy."

Eliana rolled her eyes in response, and her mood

suddenly shifted. She took a long look at the music box and finally handed it to Maurice.

But the confused man didn't accept it. Instead, he simply stared at her in bewilderment.

"You bought it. I'm just glad enough that I was able to see it one more time. Maurice, thank you for reminding me of the wonderful days of my past. It's too expensive, and I can't afford it. Here you go."

Insisting to give it to the rightful owner, Eliana raised the music box towards Maurice.

A wave of bitterness consumed Maurice's heart. Was she so indifferent to his feelings? This woman would rather give up her family heirloom than owe him a favor. How outrageous!

Maurice pursed his lips and felt unhappy. He

extended an act of kindness toward her, and she rejected his gift in return.

"Since you don't want it, it's worthless to me. I'd rather throw it away and be rid of it."

Maurice extended his arm high in the air, pretending to throw the music box away. The frightened Eliana immediately wrested the music box from his hand.

Accidentally, the two's hands clasped together.

As she saw their fingers intertwined, Eliana's heart almost jumped out of her chest.

Maurice was also speechless for a moment.

The handsome pair didn't show any resistance and let their hands hold each other instead.

Looking closely at Maurice's handsome face, Eliana struggled to contain her emotions.

Why was he so good to her?

Processing the flurry of thoughts in her mind, Eliana suddenly realized that Maurice seemed to be constantly looking out for her.

He had already stood up to Erica for her twice. As for Evelyn, Maurice had singlehandedly taken down the Jarvis family.

Although Eliana had tried hard to find excuses for Maurice's selfless behavior, now she could no longer deceive herself. It seemed that Maurice truly cared about her.

After a moment of hesitation, Eliana plucked up the courage to voice her thoughts.

"Why are you so good to me?"

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Chapter 177 You Blew I



Maurice was able to hear Eliana's voice, despite the fact that she was speaking in a whisper.

Finally, this lady came to terms with the fact that he had been wonderful to her.

"Why do you think that is?" Maurice said to Eliana as if on purpose to taunt her.

Eliana flushed and her eyes darted as the man's hot breath dropped on her face.

"I'm a member of the Pierce family, so I'm guessing you want to make up for me in some way?"

Hodge said that Maurice was aware of her Pierce ancestry and that she had come to investigate him, but he kept her by his side anyhow. In the end, why wouldn't he try to make amends?

Eliana was confident in the logic of her reasoning.

"Haven't you realized it yet? That I'm not the puppeteer backstage?" Maurice pointed out.

"I know, but you acquired the Pierce Group, didn't you?"

Yet another factor remained hidden because Eliana

couldn't bring it up. Before he passed out, Hodge had uttered the word "Moran." Even while it didn't seem that he was referring to Maurice, the Moran family was clearly involved.

She had spent a long time looking into the matter, but it was still a mystery to her.

Was she a dunce? Maurice was really curious about what was going on inside Eliana's head.

"I have never owed anybody anything, and I don't need to make up for anyone."

Eliana didn't open her mouth.

Maurice smiled, but out of boiling anger. "You still have your doubts about me, then?"

"No way!" Eliana was quick to deny it. "But..."

"What?" Maurice interjected.

"I'm not sure."

Eliana's brain was a complete jumble.

The evidence pointed to a member of the Moran family as the genuine perpetrator, not Maurice. Who would Maurice assist if the genuine criminal was from his family?

Would he come through for her? Or would he save the skin of the Moran family member?

Eliana couldn't see beyond Maurice's mask of mystery and didn't seem to know how significant she was to him.

When she was ready to open up, she looked him

straight in the eye and said, "Thank you very much for all of your assistance, Maurice, but I get the distinct impression that there are many things I don't know about you. Is there any way I can entirely trust you?"

She couldn't fool herself knowingly.

She was expecting Maurice to be entirely open with her and reveal the truths he had concealed at this point.

"I gave you an opportunity to know me but you blew it," Maurice coldly said.

Eliana had the opportunity to know everything about him while he was still Preston, but she disregarded it.

It was as if a bowl of cold water had been thrown over her head, leaving her with a half-frozen heart.

"It's time to go now that the auction has ended."

Maurice let go of Eliana, turned around, and went out the door, leaving her in a state of awe.

Was he upset for whatever reason?

As far as Eliana was concerned, she had no idea.

Theo, Maurice's new assistant, had been standing in the distance, observing the whole event while waiting for the two individuals.

Out of nowhere, he saw his boss walking away on his own.

Theo was taken aback and caught up with him. When he passed Eliana, he casually murmured, "Miss Pierce, come along."

After that, Maurice swiveled around and gave him a scathing stare.

"Please don't bother with this naive lady and ask her to go back by herself. I'd like to avoid her at all costs."

Maurice walked away after saying this.

"Boss, wait." It didn't take Theo long to close the distance between them.

Afterward in the car, Theo pondered Maurice's comments word after word.

His superior was quite something. Regardless of the consequences, Maurice remained unyielding in his resolve.

Was his boss hinting at something?

'I'd like to avoid her at all costs,' Theo repeated inwardly.

To be more precise, what the boss was trying to say was that... Miss Pierce should be fired by him on his orders.

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Chapter 178 You Are Fired



Eliana was completely stunned. She watched, dumbfounded, as the unscrupulous boss and subordinate duo Maurice and Theo, left her all alone without a single care in the world.

"Maurice, you bastard!"

She deeply regretted being moved by him, of all things.

Furious, she picked up the music box and stormed out of the auction house in angry steps.

Unfortunately, the fact that the hotel was in the suburbs made it hard for her to hail a cab. It took her an absurdly long time to find herself a ride. By the time she got home, her anger had reached its boiling point and she exploded.

"You know what, Nana? That jerk Maurice isn't normal. Do you have any idea how abnormal he is?! He drives me up the wall! Anyway, I can't stay in the Moran Group anymore. I'm at my limit. Let anyone who wants to work there do it instead. I've had enough!"

Eliana shook off her high heels, exhausted, and threw herself on the sofa as she voiced her complaints to Nana.

However, Nana was oblivious to Eliana's displeasure. She was absent-minded, seemingly lost in thoughts, and didn't reply to Eliana at all.

At the moment, all she could think about was Corbin. She couldn't shake him off her mind no matter what she did.

"Nana? Nana, are you listening? Nana!"

Eliana, noticing Nana's dazed state, sat up and patted her best friend.

"Ah..."

At this, Nana snapped out of her musings and returned to her usual self.

Eliana frowned. "What's wrong with you?"

Nana hesitated to reply. After a while, she relented and muttered softly, "It's just... One of my friends is in trouble."

Eliana decided to crack a joke to lighten the mood. "What? What sort of trouble? Don't tell your friend was question by the police?"

Unexpectedly, Nana replied with a grim nod.

Eliana was dumbstruck, not expecting her silly remark to be real. She let out a shocked gasp, very much startled.

"No, don't misunderstand. My friend's not a bad

person!" Nana immediately explained upon seeing Eliana's shocked expression.

Eliana stared, suddenly feeling a tinge of suspicion. There must be something wrong, but she couldn't put her finger on it.

With that in mind, she looked into Nana's eyes and asked seriously, "So, is it your friend or your boyfriend? If it's your boyfriend, you'd better make it clear. If not, you might get dragged into his mess. Who knows, you might get some jail time."

"W-What are you saying? It's a friend! Of course a friend. Jeez..." Nana hurriedly clarified, though her cheeks had turned beet red at that very instant.

"Really...?" Eliana, however, didn't buy it. Not when Nana was blushing so hard.

"A-Anyway, let's drop the topic. Didn't you say you bought back your parents' music box? Take it out and show it to me and the kids."

Nana swiftly quickly changed the topic to put aside Eliana's suspicion.

"Oh, yeah. Wait a moment. You'll be so surprised!"

Just as Nana had predicted, she successfully diverted Eliana's attention. Eliana carefully took out the precious music box and called to the bedroom, "My dears, come out to see something left by your grandparents."

"Mommy, we're here!" Aileen and Adrian immediately burst out of the bedroom and threw themselves at her, running excitedly with their little legs.

"Wait."

Under the expectant gazes of the twins and Nana, Eliana carefully opened the music box. Three little figures appeared in the music box and began to dance to the soft tune.

"Wow!" The children's eyes lit up at the sight, shining with delight.

"Mommy, look at this little girl. Doesn't she look like Aileen?" Adrian said, pointing excitedly at the little girl in the music box.

"Me?" Aileen tilted her head and scrutinized the figure. Surprised, she said, "It really does look like me!"

Eliana smiled sweetly and stroked Aileen's little head before pointing at the three little figures in the music box. "Of course. This little girl is me when I was a

child, and the two adults are your grandpa and grandma."

THE ADORABLE TWINS AND THEIR CEO DADDY

Chapter 179 Something Has Happened

Eliana was dumbfounded.

Maurice seemed fine the day before. Did he really fire her for something so trivial?

"Mr. Scott, may I ask something?"

"Sure. Go ahead."

Eliana swallowed hard. "Did Mr. Moran decide to fire me?"

Theo sighed. "Miss Pierce, I hope you understand. Although it is difficult, I am only doing what Mr. Moran

ordered yesterday," he said with conviction.

No way! It was really Maurice's order. That bastard!
He was so petty!

Eliana was so upset.

"What about my stuff in the office?"

"Miss Pierce, I must remind you that you should not come to the company today because Mr. Moran is in a fit of anger. I'm afraid he will outburst again when he sees you. I'll make time today to pack your stuff and send them by post. Please don't ever come to the company."

Theo felt he was very considerate after saying that.

"What about my debt?" Eliana asked again. "Am I now absolved?"

"Your debt? What kind of debt? Do you have a financial obligation to Mr. Moran?"

Theo was confused. His boss hadn't told him about any debt.

"Forget it. You probably don't know the whole story. Anyway, please tell Maurice that I will definitely pay back the money I owe him. I'm not the type of person who doesn't keep her word," Eliana grumbled.

Before Theo could even reply, Eliana had already hung up the phone.

She threw away her phone and lay on the bed, unable to express how upset she was.

Did Maurice hate her so much? Did he despise her so much that he forgave her debt just to get rid of her?

He seemed determined this time to cut her off from his life.

"Mommy, don't you want to get up yet? It's already late!"

The door was opened, and Aileen entered. Adrian trailed behind her.

Her daughter's voice interrupted her thoughts.

Eliana rubbed her temples.

'Cheer up! It's not the time to dwell on your issues with Maurice,' she reminded herself.

She was fine with being fired. She now had more time to spend with her children.

Eliana got out of bed and squatted in front of Aileen.

"Baby, I'll ask Nana to take the day off today. Mommy will send you to school. Okay?"

"That's great! It's been a long time since Mommy sent us to school."

Aileen giggled, and Adrian, who had always been understanding, looked extremely happy as well.

"We'll wait for you."

Eliana felt sorry and sad as she watched her children walk out of the room.

Unconsciously, she had been neglecting her children due to her hectic schedule.

"Aren't you going to work?"

Nana was confused to see Eliana washing her face unhurriedly.

"I was fired."

"What? Who fired you?" Nana choked on the milk she was drinking.

"Maurice," Eliana answered calmly. "Well, it's time to end our story."

Nana looked at her friend, whose eyes were filled with sadness, and she wanted to say something but couldn't find the words.

Eliana then turned around and took the children out without saying anything else.

They quickly packed their belongings and left. Nana was bored at home and didn't know what to do.

'How about I visit Corbin?'

When Eliana took the twins to kindergarten, she happened to run into Silas at the gate.

"Silas, over here!" Aileen greeted Silas from a distance.

Silas waved back at them and shouted, "Come here, Miss Pierce, Aileen, and Adrian. Something has happened."

What happened?

When the three got closer, they noticed a crowd blocking the entrance. In the center of the crowd stood Ivy, with tearful eyes, and her nanny who was wearing a sullen expression.

"What happened?" Eliana asked.

"The kindergarten is not letting Ivy go in there," Silas explained.

"Why? Because of what happened last time?"

Eliana was perplexed. She didn't think the minor squabble was serious enough to kick Ivy out of school.

Silas shook his head, a calm expression on his face that belied his age.

"No, Miss Pierce. It's because other parents have been complaining about Ivy's mother. They claimed that every time she take Ivy to and from the school, she causes chaos by either taking other people's parking spaces or inciting children to fight. They believed that Ivy should no longer attend this

kindergarten."

Eliana finally understood.

She was speechless.

It was exactly what Erica would possibly do.

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Chapter 180 The Two Kids Reconciled



"Why don't you let me into kindergarten? Did I do something wrong?" Ivy sobbed, clutching her nanny's hand. Her eyes had become puffy from crying.

The kindergarten staff was in a dilemma. They didn't mean to look like they were punishing Ivy.

The children in this kindergarten mostly came from wealthy and highly-respected families. The parents requested for Ivy to be kicked out. The staff could not offend and refuse them.

A kind staff member walked up to Ivy and comforted her, "Don't cry. You did nothing wrong. It's because of your mother... What about calling your mother over and asking her to apologize to those parents? Perhaps you can still stay here."

"Really?"

Ivy wiped her tears and looked at the nanny with a hopeful expression.

"It's not that easy," the nanny admitted, her face

flushed. "I'm not sure what happened. But Mrs. Harrison is always drunk and doesn't care about her family. How could she possibly come here to the rescue of her child?"

The nanny was enraged by the mention of Erica's name alone.

Every day, Erica drank and ignored Ivy. Then now, Ivy had to take responsibility for her mother's actions. Even the nanny, as a servant, was disappointed, let alone the child.

"Do you mean Mom isn't coming? How about me? I can't go to school?"

Ivy's tears streamed down her cheeks.

"Don't cry, Ivy. Who says you can't go to school? If you can't go to this kindergarten, you can go to

another one. You don't need to come here again," the nanny said gently, holding her arm to comfort her.

Surprisingly, the obedient girl shook off the nanny's hand and exclaimed, "No! I will stay here!"

Ivy was always reserved. She was even shy when she cried, afraid of making a bad impression on others. It was the first time she had cried out loud. The nanny was taken aback.

"I don't want to leave..."

Everyone's attention was now drawn to them. The nanny felt very embarrassed as she saw so many people watching them. She wished to disappear right that instant.

She held Ivy's hand and dragged her away. Ivy kept struggling, causing onlookers to sympathize with her.

Aileen, who was standing in the crowd, felt sorry for Ivy. She tugged at Eliana's sleeve and asked, "Mommy, can I talk to Ivy?"

When Eliana saw Ivy crying, she took pity on her. She would not vent her anger on this helpless and innocent child.

"All right, go ahead," she said gently, touching Aileen's head.

Aileen nodded and ran after Ivy.

"Wait!"

"Aileen..." Ivy turned to face Aileen. They were now standing face to face with each other.

Aileen took a tissue from her bag and handed it to Ivy,

saying, "Please wipe your tears."

Taking the tissue, Ivy asked hesitantly, "Aileen, have you forgiven me?"

"Yes..." Aileen nodded, but then added, "But you shouldn't lie anymore. I won't play with a liar."

Ivy sniffed, but her eyes lit up. "Aileen, as long as I don't lie, we... we're still friends?"

"Of course! Come on, let's make a pinky promise," Aileen said with a sweet and friendly smile on her face.

Ivy finally smiled through her tears.

She extended her hand and interlaced her little finger with Aileen's.

"No more lies. We're not friends anymore if you lie again."

"Haha..."

The two kids reconciled.

Eliana, who was watching silently behind them, smiled with satisfaction.

"Aileen is really an angel," Silas commented.

Adrian raised his head and exclaimed proudly, "Of course, she's my sister! And we have a wonderful mommy."

"You are such a sweet boy," said Eliana jokingly.

In the meanwhile, Nana mustered the courage to enter the hospital after hesitating for a long time.

Nana walked quietly to Corbin's ward. But she did not dare to enter.

She peered in, as if she were there to steal something.

Sure enough, she was caught the next second.

"Who are you?"

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