

Adorable 531

[Chapter 531 The Negotiation](#)

Eliana went straight to the point. She directly told Brevard why she came to the factory.

"Mr. Wallace, the truth is, I'm here this time because I want to buy this factory from Miss Deleon. After all, this was the factory my father had worked so hard to build."

"What? Eliana? Are you serious?" Her words brought a wide smile to Brevard's face. "That's great! I'll support your decision."

Actually, he was plotting something in his mind at this moment.

If Eliana took the factory back, it wouldn't do him any harm. Instead, he would only benefit from it.

After all, she was just a young woman. What was more, he had worked for the Pierce family for many years. So he would definitely not worry about money in the future.

While Brevard was celebrating inwardly, Eliana suddenly spoke again. She remarked solemnly, "But if the factory can't operate well, there will be no profit. I won't use my hard-earned money to buy a useless factory. I've also asked for Miss Deleon's opinion. She is also not optimistic about the factory. Without me, she will directly shut it down and dismiss all the employees."

"What did you say? Dismiss all the employees?"

Brevard got anxious at once. He didn't expect that Eliana would actually give him such a notice.

He thought he was looking at his savior. It turned out she was a scourge.

"Why? What are you thinking? Well, you actually have a choice. It's either you work hard to make the factory profitable, or Miss Deleon shuts it down."

Eliana was full of momentum when she said this. Without realizing it, she was already imitating Maurice's domineering attitude when he was talking business with others.

Brevard said in a panic, "Eliana, you can't do this. I'm an old employee of the Pierce Group. Is there any room for maneuver?"

"Unfortunately, no," Eliana said without hesitation, shaking her head.

Brevard stared at her for a while. And seeing the firmness on her beautiful face, he was in a trance for a moment.

Was she still the Eliana, the daughter of a rich family, he knew?

If she was, then she had changed too much.

Back then, her father was very soft-hearted. She was just a little girl at that time, and she had the same character as her father. How did she become like this now?

Brevard couldn't help but feel a little angry. He felt like he was humiliated by a little girl.

"Is this how you talk to an elder? I had worked for the Pierce family for a long time and made great contributions to your family. Now that I am old and can't drum up business, I am useless. So you're just going to kick me away together with the other old employees here?"

Eliana suddenly felt annoyed. Brevard seemed difficult to deal with. But she still explained patiently, "Mr. Wallace, that's not what I mean. I don't mean to kick you away..."

However, he interrupted, "Stop it! I believe that all the senior employees won't agree. Our factory is united from top to bottom. It's not that easy for Miss Deleon to shut down the factory."

Brevard was also firm. Obviously, he was determined not to give in.

Eliana was so disappointed that she unconsciously said in a low voice, "Mr. Wallace, you can't represent all the senior employees of this factory on your own. I'll go find them one by one and see if they are really united with you or not. Then I'll also see who wants to stay and who wants to leave. But... By that time, you may not be their leader anymore."

Indeed, Brevard had once worked for the Pierce family for many years. But it didn't mean that he could rely on this relationship to let others raise him.

It also didn't mean that he could make excessive demands just because she was beholden to him.

Besides, Eliana knew better about the current situation of the factory. Before she came here, she did her research and checked the accounts of the factory for several years.

In the past few years, Brevard worked as the director of the factory. Since he once had a close relationship with the Pierce family, Rosamond had always been indulgent towards him and turned a blind eye to some things.

Therefore, he made a lot of money from various projects, just like what Hodge had done.

At the thought of what Hodge did before and the miserable result of it now, Eliana's attitude became very tough. On the other hand, Brevard's momentum weakened. He was used to living in comfort for many years. Rosamond didn't care about the business in the factory, so he was the actual boss there.

So now that Eliana wanted him to leave with his tail tucked firmly between his legs, he would rather die

than agree.

"Fine!" Brevard gritted his teeth. "It's all up to you. Anyway, if you are the boss, I will definitely cooperate."

Eliana's face remained expressionless. But deep in her heart, she actually breathed a sigh of relief.

Finally, it was settled.

[Chapter 532 Meeting An Acquaintance At The Club](#)

With Brevard's support, Eliana's confidence increased greatly. Brevard was the leader of the factory workers, so as long as he was on her side, it would be easy for her to win over the other workers.

With a sigh of relief, Eliana held out her hand for Brevard to shake and said, "Mr. Wallace, I hope we'll have good cooperation in the future."

Brevard shook hands with her, albeit reluctantly. Deep down, he was not happy about this at all.

Even though it had been a long time since he had last seen Eliana, he could not swallow how much she had changed. She even dared to wage a war of nerves with him.

Brevard was afraid that if he let things go on like this, he would really have to follow the orders of this young lady.

Unwilling to let that happen, he quickly came up with an idea. Plastering a cordial smile on his face, he suggested, "From now on, this factory is yours. How about you treat the factory employees to a meal to celebrate? They'll have a good impression of you. And you can also bring the new contract with you to renew it."

This sounded reasonable to Eliana, so after thinking for a moment, she casually agreed.

However, she was not prepared at all for the sight that greeted her when Brevard took her to meet all the employees. A large wave of people appeared in the workshop, which seemed to be sparsely staffed just now, and stared expectantly at her.

At this moment, there was only one thought in Eliana's mind: if she treated this many people to a meal, she would have to spend an arm and a leg!

Catching the hesitation on her face, Brevard asked deliberately, "Eliana, you're not going to change your mind, are you?"

Eliana forced a smile, "Of course not. Let's go. There's so many of you. We'll have to take several cars."

Gritting her teeth, Eliana decided to keep her promise.

She got into Brevard's car, which was followed by several other cars packed with the factory workers. On the way, Eliana was busy calculating the approximate amount she would have to spend tonight, and didn't notice her surroundings at all.

It was only when Eliana got out of the car that she realized that Brevard had driven them to the Imperial Golden Club for the celebration!

She couldn't help but freeze in shock.

What the hell? What an unfortunate coincidence! Of all the clubs in the city, why had they chosen the one owned by Maurice?

Seeing the uneasiness on her face, Brevard took the opportunity to provoke her again. "Miss Pierce, didn't you say that you would treat all of us? Now that we're here at the club, why are you hesitating? Show your good faith! You don't think it's too expensive, do you? Then what's the point of extending our contract? We might as well just collectively not renew it and leave an empty plant for you."

Hearing these words, the factory workers began to grumble among themselves in discontent.

Finding herself in a dilemma, Eliana bit her lower lip.

The reason why she didn't want to enter the Imperial Golden Club was not because it was too expensive, but because she was afraid of running into Maurice inside.

But now that they were here, she had no choice.

She could only pray that Maurice would not be here tonight.

Feigning a smile, Eliana entered the Imperial Golden Club, followed by a large group of people. The whole time, Eliana was afraid that Maurice would suddenly pop out from nowhere.

In contrast, the workers were buzzing with excitement. They had never gotten a chance to come to such a luxurious club before. They could not help looking around in awe and touching everything in sight.

In high spirits, Brevard went straight to the reception desk and requested a private room. Seeing several masks on the table next to him, he said excitedly, "This place is fancy!"

Then, he grabbed one of the masks to put it on.

"Stop!"

Just then, a woman rushed over and snapped, "How can you steal my mask?"

Hearing the familiar voice, Eliana looked back and realized that it belonged to an acquaintance.

It was Jennifer, the harpist whom Eliana had helped at Moon Lake Manor.

"Jennifer!" Eliana blurted out her name in surprise.

After snatching her mask from Brevard, Jennifer turned to Eliana in surprise.

"Eliana!"

"You two know each other?"

Brevard looked back and forth between the two in confusion.

"She is a friend of mine. Mr. Wallace, you can go ahead with the others. I'll have a chat with her and come in soon," said Eliana perfunctorily.

"Okay, but don't try to ditch us," Brevard said dryly before entering the private room.

Eliana immediately grabbed Jennifer's arm and asked, "Jennifer, what are you doing here?"

"I came here for a part-time gig, but I didn't expect to meet you here! What a coincidence."

"A part-time gig? How could you come to such a place for work?"

It was not that Eliana was a judgmental person, but that a club was not the sort of place that a harpist should perform at.

Lowering her head in embarrassment, Jennifer mumbled, "There was an event at the club today, but the performer dropped out at the last minute, so they called me. The quote was quite high, and I need the money. I can't do any official performance right now, with my hand injury..."

Hearing that Jennifer hadn't recovered from her injury yet, Eliana couldn't help feeling sorry for her.

She gently lifted Jennifer's injured arm and took a look at the hideous scar etched clearly on it.

Flushing, Jennifer hurriedly withdrew her hand. "I'm fine. The scar only looks scary, but it will heal in no time. Don't worry about me."

With her eyes full of pity, Eliana wanted to say something more.

But just then, an attendant came, looking for Jennifer.

"Are you the one who played the harp just now?"

Jennifer's eyebrows shot up in confusion. "Yes. Is something wrong?"

Looking at her in a condescending manner, the attendant said, "Our guest in Room 3601 was very satisfied with your performance and wants to see you. Come with us right away."

[Chapter 533 Meet Kelvin Again](#)

"Damn! This is not good."

Eliana was in a panic. When she saw the attendant of the bar, her first reaction was to find a place to hide.

She was scared that he would recognize her, so she immediately turned around. After all, she had been to the Imperial Golden Club many times and even got into big trouble.

Fortunately, the attendant only came for Jennifer. Although he saw a familiar woman beside her, he didn't care that much. Countless guests came in and went out of the bar every day, and some of them were repeat customers. So it was not surprising that one or two of them would look familiar to the attendant.

"The guest in Room 3601 wants to see me? Who is it? And why?"

Jennifer pursed her lips tightly, feeling a little scared.

She knew what kind of a place the Imperial Golden Club was. And she was a young woman, so she didn't dare to meet strangers casually.

"Don't talk nonsense anymore. Hurry and go with me."

The attendant got impatient.

"But..."

Jennifer wanted to say she didn't want to go, but the words were stuck in her throat.

This time, Eliana couldn't play dumb anymore. She secretly took the mask from Jennifer's hand and put it on her face. Then she turned around and said, "I'll go with her. Is that okay?"

It was difficult to go against the staff of the bar, so Jennifer had no choice. And Eliana couldn't leave Jennifer alone. If something happened, she might help Jennifer.

She had already made trouble in the Imperial Golden Club several times. She had learned from her experiences here.

Jennifer was stunned for a moment. Then she said anxiously, "This is my business. You don't have to..."

Before she could finish her words, Eliana held her hand, squeezed it gently, and comforted her, "Room 3061 is just next to our private room. It's okay. I'll take you there."

Jennifer didn't continue to resist anymore. With Eliana's company, she finally felt a little more at ease.

So they walked towards Room 3601, hand in hand.

"Remember to act smart when you see the guest later, okay?"

The attendant warned Eliana and Jennifer before pushing the door of Room 3601 open.

Inside the private room, the atmosphere was very lively. Under the dim light, several scantily clad and coquettish women with wine glasses in their hands sat around a man, feeding wine to him. Behind them stood several bodyguards in black.

The man was obviously enjoying the women's attention. His big hands wandered on their plump breasts and bare thighs, making the scene incomparably licentious.

Eliana was stunned when she entered the private room and saw the man. It turned out that the man surrounded by those women was also someone she knew.

He was Kelvin. The man who held a grudge against her.

Indeed, what a small world!

Eliana was about to sigh when Kelvin turned his head and noticed them.

When he looked at Jennifer and Eliana up and down, he became lewdly interested in them.

Jennifer's delicate and weak temperament satisfied him. As for Eliana, although he could only see half of her face because of the mask, he could say that she was hot according to his sharp eyes.

"You're the one who played the harp, right?" Kelvin asked, staring at them with lustful eyes. He then swallowed his saliva and added, "You two, come here together."

He dismissed the women around him, deliberately leaving one empty seat on each side of him. Kelvin patted the empty seats. His meaning was self-evident.

Eliana felt Jennifer's stiffness almost immediately. She silently held Jennifer's hand and squeezed it gently to comfort her.

The bodyguards inside the private room gave them so much pressure that they had no choice but to sit on each side of Kelvin.

Now that they were closer to him, Kelvin suddenly felt that the masked woman looked a little familiar. But he was already tipsy, so he couldn't remember her.

"If you serve me well tonight, I will reward you handsomely."

Kelvin stretched out his left arm to wrap it around Jennifer's shoulders and tried to hold Eliana beside him with his right arm.

He wanted both women to serve him? Could his body stand it?

Eliana had long hated Kelvin because he was a lecher who wanted to take advantage of her last time. So today, she had to teach him a good lesson.

At the thought of it, she came up with an idea.

"Sir, we can both serve you. But these big men behind us really look scary. Can you let them go out first so that we can perform well?"

Eliana had a mask, so she believed that he wouldn't recognize her. She endured the disgust in her heart and approached to seduce him.

As soon as Kelvin smelled the fragrance on Eliana's body, his mind was immediately filled with lust. He turned to the bodyguards behind him and said without hesitation, "You go out and go far away. Don't disturb me."

No one from the bodyguards opposed him. They looked at each other and left the room knowingly.

As soon as they left, the expression on Eliana's face under the mask immediately changed.

Kevin turned to her and said, "Pretty, let me see what you look like under the mask."

He smiled obscenely and reached out, wanting to remove her mask.

[Chapter 534 Beat Him Up](#)

The next second, Eliana suddenly picked up the silk scarf on the sofa left behind by those hostesses and stuffed it right into Kelvin's mouth, gagging him.

Then, before he could react, she picked up the ashtray on the table and smashed it over his head, using just enough force to knock him down and temporarily disorient him.

"You good-for-nothing scumbag, I'll teach you a lesson today!"

Eliana shot up to her feet in a rage and gave the man lying on the floor a few hard kicks. It was only after venting her anger that she felt satisfied.

Jennifer, who was stunned by the sight in front of her, stood rooted to the spot.

"Why are you standing there like a statute? Come on, beat him up! You don't need to go easy on a bastard like him!" Eliana shouted at Jennifer, trying to knock some sense into her.

Swallowing hard, Jennifer blinked at Eliana. "Can I?" she asked hesitantly.

"Why not? Come on, this is a rare opportunity," Eliana urged.

Jennifer looked at Kelvin, who was pathetically lying on the floor like a fish out of water. He was so drunk that he couldn't get up, and with the cloth stuffed in his mouth, he couldn't even make a sound. All of a sudden, a wave of courage took over Jennifer.

"Okay!"

The two women started to beat Kelvin up together.

Outside, the bodyguards had no idea what was going on. They strolled through the club, talking and laughing.

Just as Kelvin had told them, they intended to get far away from the private room.

While walking along the corridor, they happened to meet Maurice, who came out to get some fresh air.

Corbin was by his side as usual. Ever since Eliana's disappearance, Maurice had been like a bomb waiting to go off at any moment. Corbin had to tiptoe around him so as to not set him off.

"These men... They look like Kelvin's men."

Instantly recognizing Kelvin's bodyguards, Corbin called over a waiter and inquired him about it. The waiter told him that Kelvin was also here today.

Recalling how Kelvin had harassed Eliana before, Maurice felt a stab of irritation. "What's he doing here?"

Taken aback by Maurice's tone, the waiter gulped and answered with great respect, "Mr. Stone asked for a harpist..."

A harpist?

Maurice couldn't help but think of the female harpist he had met in Moon Lake Manor. It was because she was injured that Eliana had performed for her.

Eliana again! Why couldn't he get her out of his mind?

A humorless smirk appeared on Maurice's face. Since he had to be miserable, he wouldn't let anyone else be happy either.

Especially if it was someone like... Kelvin.

"Call the harpist outside. I will take her with me."

"What?"

The waiter didn't understand what was happening, but his heart sank.

"Just do as you are told," Maurice snapped, and his face darkened.

Sweat dripped from the waiter's forehead. His voice trembled as he protested, "But sir, I can't just take her away. What should I say to Mr. Stone?"

He was in a real dilemma as he couldn't afford to offend either Maurice or Kelvin.

Corbin sighed, knowing that his boss was only acting this way because he missed Eliana too much.

"Just tell Kelvin that Mr. Moran wants her. He will let her go," he instructed the waiter.

Despite his trepidation, the waiter didn't dare to say anything more, so he went to knock on the door.

At this time, in Room 3601, Eliana and Jennifer were having the time of their lives beating Kelvin up.

After enduring the first round of beating, Kelvin was finally sober enough to resist. Struggling to his feet, he used all his strength to creep toward the door. But he had barely opened the door when he was violently pulled back by Eliana.

In the corridor, all the waiters who happened to see this scene smiled knowingly.

"I didn't expect that the harpist would be this experienced. Mr. Stone must be having a lot of fun in there."

Unfortunately, they didn't know that it wasn't Kelvin, but Eliana and Jennifer, who were having all the fun.

Maurice, who was standing not far away, also caught a glimpse of this scene.

Were his eyes deceiving him? The girl in the room looked like Eliana.

But how could it be? She was probably trying her best to avoid bumping into him. Why would she come here?

Maurice shook his head with a bitter smile, thinking that he must have had too many beers.

After being dragged back into the room, Kelvin was beaten up again. Bearing the humiliation, he waited for the right moment and took the opportunity to pull off the mask on Eliana's face.

Eliana was startled.

As he looked at the face under the mask, the shock in Kelvin's eyes instantly turned to anger.

He took out the cloth from his mouth and shouted, "Eliana... Eliana Pierce!"

Damn it, her identity was revealed!

In a panic, Eliana squatted down and picked up the mask to cover her face again.

But the next second, the door was pushed open, and someone barged in.

[Chapter 535 No Right To Be Jealous](#)

Maurice stared at the room number. Room 3601. He reached for the doorknob, turned it and walked into the room.

He was taken aback by the ludicrous scene before him.

Kelvin was on the floor. He had obviously drunk a lot of wine as he was reeking of alcohol. His hair was disheveled and his clothes were in disarray. But what was utterly absurd was he was being beaten by two women!

He felt a presence and looked up. His face was wet with tears. The expression on his face changed, like he had seen his savior in Maurice.

He struggled to speak. "Mr...Moran! Thank God... You're here... Please... Help me! They're..."

Kelvin could no longer utter another word. And then, he fainted.

What was this man doing here?

Eliana stiffened when she heard Maurice's name. She was so frightened that she crouched on the floor and dared not move.

He shouldn't see her! He shouldn't see her!

Meanwhile, Jennifer looked at Maurice in shock, mouth agape. It was her first time doing something bad like this. "Mr. Moran," she blurted out. "It's... It's him... He attacked us first!"

Maurice looked like he didn't hear the scared voice of Jennifer. The unconscious Kelvin didn't even seem to move him. It was the crouched figure on the floor that held his attention.

His face darkened as he tried to suppress his emotions. He took purposeful steps towards the figure.

Seeing that there was no way to escape Maurice, Eliana forced herself out of her shock. She took a deep breath and quickly adjusted her mask. She stood up, smiling awkwardly at Maurice. "Mr. Moran, it's nice to meet you. I'm a friend of Jennifer," she said, trying to control the quiver in her voice. "It was just a misunderstanding... Really, a misunderstanding!"

Saying nothing, Maurice just stared at the masked face of Eliana.

The atmosphere was getting more depressing that it could have been cut with a plastic knife. Eliana could feel her state of mind nearing collapse.

Ah! How unlucky she was!

She was seething with anger so she thought of venting it out to Kelvin, beating him up, and then running away. She didn't expect to see Maurice again and now she didn't know what she'd do.

She couldn't tell if he had recognized her.

Eliana felt a bit forlorn but she didn't show it on her face.

Maurice looked at her intently and then took his eyes off her to look at Jennifer.

"You should have known that someone has to own up to beat him up," Maurice glowered at her. "So, I'll leave you and your friend to the bodyguards of the Stone family."

No!" Jennifer gasped. "You can't do that!"

This was not the plan. This was not how she thought it would be. Now, the bodyguards of the Stone family would have her and Eliana done for. Eliana shouldn't be dragged into trouble with her.

Jennifer thought fast. After weighing things, she made up her mind. Looking at Maurice straight in the eyes, she asked, "Mr. Moran, tell me. What should we do to make you change your mind and help us?"

Maurice just sneered at Jennifer, who couldn't hide her shuddering. He walked towards her, and then he held her chin and forced her to raise her head.

"I can ask you to do something... Just one thing. Come with me, and I will help you... her... both of you," he answered in a smug tone. "Otherwise..."

The implication in his words could not be more obvious.

While Maurice was ambiguous in his words, his eyes were cold. He seemed to be staring at Jennifer, but he was actually glaring at Eliana from the corner of his eye.

Jennifer didn't notice how Maurice was looking at them. All she knew was she was intimidated by the man's powerful aura that she couldn't move at all.

Things had gone too far, and she had no other choice.

"I... I agree."

Eliana couldn't believe how things were turning out.

Maurice wanted Eliana to react and say something but she didn't. This only made him more furious.

"Keep in mind that you've said it yourself."

Without saying another word, Maurice pulled Jennifer out of the room.

It was only at this moment that Eliana came to her senses. Without thinking, she followed Maurice and Jennifer.

She stopped in her tracks when she reached the door. Corbin was blocking her way.

Corbin reminded her, "Miss, Mr. Moran didn't mean that you, too, should come with him. You don't have to follow them."

Behind her mask, Eliana could only stare at Corbin with her eyes wide open. She couldn't expose her identity. She became anxious that she couldn't do anything.

Maurice heard Corbin stopping Eliana. He turned around to look at them. In a deep voice, he said, "It's okay, Corbin. Let her go with us. I need someone to pour wine for me."

Eliana slightly nodded her head. He had allowed her to come with them.

Was Maurice letting her in so easily?

Corbin looked confusedly at the masked Eliana, his mouth open but lost for words.

He felt something was wrong. This woman in the mask... Her back looked so familiar.

Reaching his private room, Maurice forcibly pulled the pale Jennifer to his side.

He put his arms around her waist in an intimate posture.

Eliana couldn't control herself. She felt a green monster had bitten her heart. She gasped audibly.

What a horrible man he was!

It hadn't been long since she left him. And here was... His arms around Jennifer's waist! How could he forget her so soon?

Eliana was awash with jealousy! Yet, she couldn't do anything to stop Maurice.

It was she who decided to leave him. Even if she revealed herself now to Maurice, it seemed that she had no right to be jealous.

They had already broken up.

[Chapter 536 Problem After Problem](#)

"What are you waiting for? Come and pour me some wine," Maurice ordered gruffly, glaring at the masked woman who was in a daze. A cunning light flashed across his eyes.

"Yes, okay."

Even though Eliana was reluctant, she had no choice but to play along in order to keep her identity a secret.

She picked up the wine bottle with one hand and, subconsciously, the wine decanter with the other, since that was how Maurice liked to be served his wine.

While pouring the wine into the decanter, Eliana raised her head only to be met with the sight of Maurice holding Jennifer in his arms and lowering his head, as if he was going to kiss her.

He was going too far!

Blinded by rage, Eliana swung the decanter forward towards Maurice, spilling red wine all over his clothes.

The moment she regained her senses, however, she knew that she was doomed.

It was too late to regret her recklessness now.

Letting go of Jennifer, Maurice slowly looked down at his wine-stained clothes. His face was calm, but it was clear to see from the coldness in his eyes that he was seething on the inside. Somehow, his silence almost scared Eliana to death.

Jennifer was also frightened, so much so that tears welled up in her eyes.

"I'm sorry! I'm really sorry!" Eliana said in a hurry, picking up the napkin on the table and trying to dab Maurice's shirt with it. "Let me clean it up."

But Maurice took a step back and waved his hand. "Don't touch me."

Eliana swallowed hard and lowered her head, wishing that she could bury herself in a hole.

Maurice stared coldly at her. He wanted nothing more than to rip the mask off her face and teach her a good lesson.

The truth was, he had recognized her as soon as he had caught a glimpse of her from outside Kelvin's private room. What was the use of her wearing a mask? He was still able to recognize her.

He couldn't believe that she actually thought she could hide from him. In order to provoke her into revealing her identity, he deliberately made a move on Jennifer.

But to his dismay, Eliana insisted on putting on an act till the very end.

Disappointed with her reaction, he snapped, "Get out of here!"

He was afraid that if he looked at Eliana's face for even a second longer, he would drag her home and lock her up there.

Eliana set down the wine bottle shakily and glanced at Jennifer, whose face was as white as a sheet. "What about her?"

"Get out with her!" Maurice scoffed in disbelief.

With his permission, Eliana immediately grasped Jennifer's hand and bolted out of the room.

Maurice was left alone in the room, with a gloomy look on his face.

Outside the door, Corbin watched in confusion as the two women sprinted away, as if they were running for their lives.

What was going on?

Corbin walked in and saw that his boss had taken off his coat and begun to drink alone. Strangely enough, his clothes were stained with wine.

"Mr. Moran, what happened just now?"

Maurice raised his glass and gave him a humorless gaze. "You didn't recognize her?"

Corbin exhaled a sigh.

"I did," he admitted.

Even if Corbin didn't recognize her on his own, he would have put two and two together after seeing his boss like this.

The only woman who could bring out such a reaction from Maurice was Eliana.

As soon as Corbin had realized that the masked woman must be Eliana, he had done a little investigation and found something interesting.

"Mr. Moran, it seems that Eliana came here with a group of men and some contracts. She must have come to the Imperial Golden Club for a social engagement."

With a loud bang, Maurice smashed the glass in his hand onto the table.

Was Eliana's idea of socializing to take some men to drink in the Imperial Golden Club?

Had that woman gone to such lengths to escape from him only to live a damned life like this?

Maurice's face darkened.

Meanwhile, it was only after getting away from the private room that Eliana and Jennifer slowed to a stop and caught their breaths.

"Well, it's all right now."

Eliana patted her chest, as if she was reassuring herself.

What an awful day! Why did she have to face problem after problem?

Jennifer, on the other hand, was deeply touched. "Thank you for helping me just now, Eliana."

"Oh no. In fact, I should be saying sorry to you," Eliana said, waving her hands.

Somehow, she felt that Maurice's ill treatment of Jennifer had something to do with her.

But Jennifer refused to let Eliana take the blame. "No! If it weren't for you, something might have happened to me. But..."

She paused for a moment, with a hesitant expression on her face.

"What is it?" Eliana asked.

Pursing her lips, Jennifer replied, "There's something off about Mr. Moran today, Eliana. I don't think he is a bad guy or a playboy. What happened between you and him? Weren't you dating each other? Did something bad happen?"

A bitter smile appeared on Eliana's face. "My relationship with him isn't something that can be explained in a few words..."

[Chapter 537 The Background Of Jennifer](#)

Noticing Eliana didn't seem so well, Jennifer didn't ask any more questions.

"Okay, that's enough about me. However, you should be cautious next time. It'd be best for you not to perform in this kind of place anymore. If you encounter a scumbag like Kelvin again, you will be done for!" Eliana said honestly.

Her face clouded with embarrassment, Jennifer muttered, "I don't really have a choice, Eliana..."

"Are you facing any difficulties?" Eliana couldn't refrain from asking.

Perhaps it was due to Eliana's selfless help that Jennifer finally poured out her heart. She shared with Eliana all her unspeakable thoughts.

"My parents died early, Eliana. My sole younger brother and I are left in the world. However, my brother has heart disease. I need to cure him, but my family already has no money. Still, as his sister, how can I give him up?! I need money, a huge amount of money... so..." Jennifer said, her voice choking.

Alas... There were different problems to each family. Eliana felt pity for this woman who had a rough life, but she could not help her forever.

"I understand, Jennifer. I'll stop bugging you, but you have to remember, take caution! Kelvin, that guy, he's not a good person. You'd better avoid him from now on. You were lucky today to have met me and... Maurice. However, you wouldn't be let off the hook so easily next time."

"Alright, I know, Eliana."

After telling Jennifer goodbye, Eliana rushed to her private room, afraid that something bad would happen.

The workers in the private room were sitting sincerely and happily drinking. Almost all the renewal contracts had been signed.

Various workers poured out their troubles due to being drunk and emotional. They embraced each other and chatted freely. Many of them were saying their wives were very strict, and they couldn't come to such a place on a normal day.

Bernard had remained sober. He joked with a glass of wine in his hands, "Ha, you know nothing! Living a routine life is not that bad. Men who are good to their wives are the only ones who can live a peaceful life."

Quietly listening to the senior employees' conversation, Eliana related to their state of mind. She could not stop herself from sighing.

It appeared that time could really cause people to change a lot. They were really old. They were once ambitious middle-aged men, but now all they wanted now was to live a peaceful life. They no longer possessed the energy and drive they used to have when they were young.

Eliana thought of her parents. If they had lived through that year, perhaps they would also be like this...

Time flew by very fast and the gathering ended. After the workers had a good time, Eliana went downstairs to pay the bill.

However, when she got the bill, her eyes immediately widened in incredulity. She was really shocked by the amount on the bill.

"Eighty one thousand dollars! Why is it costing so much?"

The Imperial Golden Club cashier told her the truth. "Most of the wine you ordered tonight was very expensive, miss. Plus, you ordered various bottles in a row. Also, your companions were drunk and threw up. You have to pay for the cleaning fee because they dirtied our bar."

Taking a closer look at the bill, Eliana noticed there was truly a cleaning fee on it. However, she soon discovered that there was an issue. Why was she charged for so much?

"That's not correct. Even though it's remuneration, it shouldn't be that much, right? Isn't this cheating?"

The bar cashier coldly responded, "This price was initially set by our boss. If you have any objections, please feel free to talk to the boss."

All of a sudden, Eliana went quiet. Her people had trashed someone's place, and after that, she felt it was costly and needed to find the boss to argue with. She couldn't do something like that. Eventually, she gritted her teeth and paid the money, but, she had a gnawing feeling that she was being swindled.

As a matter of fact, Eliana's intuition was correct. At that point, a person was looking forward to her coming to quarrel with him.

"Mr. Moran, are you sure Eliana is coming?" After waiting in the private room for a while, Corbin found that no one came up. He stared at the man helplessly sitting on the sofa.

As time passed, the person he had been expecting didn't come to the private room. Maurice's face was clouded with darkness. He couldn't help but sneer in the end as he said, "It appears that this woman has money to throw away right now. She doesn't care about such trifling amounts!"

Corbin was unable to keep from shivering.

It was over for Eliana! Mr. Moran was in an intense rage. It appears there was no way to end the matter easily... Eliana could only hope that she was lucky enough.

[Chapter 538 I Will Never Call Again](#)

Corbin couldn't believe it. "Really? Didn't Eliana always hesitate over a little money? Since she has to pay so much this time, is she gonna do nothing about it?"

"Of course, she doesn't have to worry about money anymore," Maurice replied with a sneer on his face. "Jonathan will back her up."

Whenever he thought of the relationship between Jonathan and Eliana, he would feel like there was a small, sad stone in his throat.

Corbin shook his head. He just felt that there was something wrong.

"You know what I think, Mr. Moran?" Corbin said in all honesty. "It's actually the opposite."

Maurice raised an eyebrow. "The opposite?" he asked in a mocking tone. "What do you mean?"

"I think Eliana didn't run away with Jonathan. Or else, why would he let her entertain those people in the bar?" Corbin said after figuring out what was wrong with the matter.

Maurice looked at Corbin thoughtfully and soon his anger faded away a little.

Corbin's statement made sense.

Eliana didn't run away because there was another man...

Maurice smiled at the thought of it. He was beginning to feel better.

And now he had found her. He could just play along with her.

Meanwhile, Eliana thought that her real identity was still safe from Maurice.

She spent her whole day running for the factory. At the Imperial Golden Club, she had to deal with Maurice and Kelvin, a challenge of wisdom and courage. And finally, she had spent a huge amount of money. By the end of the day, she was physically tired and mentally exhausted.

Eliana returned home.

Nana greeted her and then covered her nose to let Eliana know that she could smell the alcohol from her. "Where have you been? Why do I smell alcohol on you?"

"Oh, that?" Eliana smiled bitterly at Nana. "I went to the Imperial Golden Club."

"The Imperial Golden Club?" Nana said in consternation. "Why did you go there? You could have been seen by someone you know."

Eliana just kept quiet. It was really unfortunate that she met not just one acquaintance.

But...

"Nana!" Eliana grabbed Nana's hand and said urgently, "You must control Corbin. Don't let him go to the bar with Maurice. He will be misled sooner or later."

"Eliana, what are you talking about?"

Upon hearing Eliana's words, Nana's face flushed. Her anger brewing up, she said, "Eliana, don't you ever say that asshole's name to me. He makes my blood boil!"

She hadn't contacted Corbin for a long time. It took her some time to muster the courage to call him using her new phone number. She wanted to inform him of her safety.

But that guy instead lost his temper with her. He accused her of leaving with Eliana without discussing it with him. He said that it was irresponsible of her to do that.

What he said made her furious, and she wouldn't let it pass. She answered him back rather sharply.

And so ensued a big quarrel which ended up in discord.

For the next few days, she was livid that she found it hard to sleep at night.

Seeing that Nana was seething, Eliana realized that she was in a fight with Corbin.

"Nana, I know you and understand where you're coming from," Eliana said thoughtfully. "And I also know that Corbin is not a bad guy. He just cares about you. Don't be too harsh on him."

Eliana had to remind herself that it was not her place to meddle in affairs between lovers. So she went to wash herself up and get ready for bed.

She was fine now, but Nana was in a mess the living room... Alone.

Nana remembered the last time she had called Corbin. She was chilly, and almost acrimonious.

Should she call him again?

She thought for a while and before she knew it, she was already tapping the dial pad of her cellphone to call Corbin.

Corbin was still at the Imperial Golden Club with Maurice when his phone rang.

He took out his phone and looked at the caller ID. His face changed seeing the name of the caller.

Darn! Why was Nana calling him now? Why didn't she call him earlier or even later? Why now?

Even when Maurice had drunk a great deal, he could still sense that something had bothered Corbin when his phone rang.

"What's the matter? Who is calling you?"

"Nothing. Just a spam call. I'll take care of this right away."

With Maurice watching him, Corbin felt that he should take the call.

"Hey, you! How many times do I have to tell you not to call me again?" Corbin growled on the phone.

Nana was aghast! She was at the receiving end of his torrent of abuse even before she could say anything.

The anger she had been suppressing exploded.

"Corbin! You asshole!" Nana was holding her phone tightly, shaking with anger. "... will... never... call... again!" she said, punctuating every word with her fury.

[Chapter 539 Hand Over The Projec](#)

The next day, Eliana woke up, looking tired. Getting up from the bed as if in a tussle with herself, she thought of how her kids were to start at the new kindergarten today and immediately became alert.

As they stepped out after their preparations, the twins, especially Aileen, were not in any way excited about going to their new school. She was one to make these trips to school in high spirits and would ramble on excitedly, but now, she walked on with her head bowed in despair.

Eliana kept reeling off codes of conduct to the twins as they walked on, until they got to the gate of the new school. She couldn't bear the lack of enthusiasm on Aileen's face as she looked at her, and so crouching beside her, she said, "Aileen, it's just a change of school. It's not so bad... I know you will make new friends here soon because, my baby, you are so adorable."

Aileen raised her head as she looked at Eliana and nodded gently. "I know. I will cheer up, Mommy."

Adrian patted his chest and promised, "I will take good care of Aileen, Mommy. I won't let anyone bully her."

Satisfied, Eliana touched the twins' heads and sent them inside. She left only after she was sure they had both entered the classroom.

However, after the twins entered the class, they immediately started a conversation.

"Adrian, have you contacted Silas?" Aileen asked in a low voice.

"Aileen, I can't do such a thing now," Adrian said with a look of seriousness.

"Why?" Aileen asked, tilting her head in confusion.

Adrian explained, "Silly, I suspect that Mommy's abrupt decision to move from the former house has something to do with Silas' bad uncle this time. So I can't contact him now. What if his uncle finds out?"

Aileen obviously didn't understand Adrian's point, so she said innocently, "Then we can ask Silas to keep it a secret. I believe he won't tell anyone about it."

Adrian was quiet for a while. He always thought it too dangerous to contact Silas, but he couldn't refute what Aileen just said.

"Adrian, you're not saying anything, which means you agree, right? I will dial his number now." Aileen dialed Silas' number immediately with her smart watch.

Silas' voice came from the other end as soon as the call connected. "Hello, Aileen and Adrian, you finally decided to call me. I miss you both so much. Where are you now?"

Aileen was about to tell him where they were when Adrian, being cautious, interrupted her. "It's not

fitting to talk about it on the phone. We should talk in private."

Silas agreed without hesitation, "Okay."

Adrian thought for a while and added, "Silas, please do not let the adults know that we are calling you, okay?"

"Don't worry, I won't tell them," Silas promised immediately.

Adrian breathed a sigh of relief and said, "See you this afternoon then."

"Okay," Silas agreed.

Both of them rapidly concluded the conversation.

Aileen pouted with dissatisfaction because even though she was standing beside Adrian, she was unable to slide in a word into their conversation.

Right after sending the twins to kindergarten, Eliana sprang into her work for the day. She took the contracts signed by the workers to Rosamond, so she could check it.

As Rosamond took a look at the contracts Eliana gave her, she began to have a more respectable opinion of her.

"Eliana, you did a fantastic job this time." She didn't expect that Eliana would also be good in business just as she was talented at jewelry design.

Eliana felt somewhat embarrassed hearing Rosamond say those words, so she said, "Miss Deleon, please do not flatter me. I've still gotten a lot to learn."

"There's no need for you to belittle yourself. It's hard to deal with those old foxes. Since you can handle them, it means you have the ability. Moran Group has handed over the bracelet project to the factory, so this time just go ahead and do a good job with this project." Rosamond handed over the bracelet contract to Eliana with a smile.

Eliana was filled with mixed feelings as she collected the contract. She remembered the last time she came to the factory with the contract on behalf of the Moran Group. Now, she had become the representative of the factory. It showed that life was really unpredictable.

Eliana felt happy, as well as a bit worried. Would she be so unlucky to meet Maurice again now that he might have returned to the Moran Group?

On second thought, she refused to give in to her worries. Maurice was the CEO of the Moran Group and as such wouldn't bother with small projects such as this one. Or would he?

Chapter 540 Meet Again

Eliana took the documents about the bracelet to the factory.

As soon as Brevard saw her arrive, he ran over to Eliana and said, "Eliana, what took you so long? The lady from the Moran Group has been waiting for you."

Unlike Brevard who was very anxious, Eliana looked very calm. She looked at the man in front of her and said, "Mr. Wallace, why are you so nervous? Take me to her."

Brevard was stunned for a while. Then, he came back to his senses and walked Eliana to the door of the meeting room.

It was the first time that Eliana would discuss business directly with someone from the Moran Group. Although she looked calm on the surface, deep down, she was a little nervous.

She took a deep breath and opened the door.

The representative of the Moran Group in the meeting room turned around as soon as she heard the door open.

"Eliana?"

"Lucia?"

The two women exclaimed at the same time.

It turned out it was Lucia who came to the factory to negotiate business.

"Eliana, where have you been these days? Do you know I've been looking for you?"

Lucia was so excited when she saw Eliana, that she rushed over and hugged her.

Eliana was still in a daze. When she came to her senses, she hugged Lucia back.

"I'm sorry for making you worry about me!" Eliana said in a low voice.

Lucia finally let go of her. However, she kept asking her questions. "Eliana, where do you live now? How come you are now the representative of this factory? By the way..."

Lucia asked Eliana so many questions at once that Eliana didn't know which one to answer first. So she interrupted Lucia.

"Lucia, calm down, let me talk first."

"Oh! I'm sorry. I was too excited just now."

Lucia managed to calm down.

"After I left..." Eliana hesitated for a while before continuing, "Did Earle keep his promise? Did Maurice..."

However, she couldn't ask directly what she had in mind. She was afraid that if she said too much, she couldn't suppress her feelings for Maurice anymore.

Fortunately, Lucia understood what Eliana meant. "Don't worry, Mr. Moran did keep his promise and gave Maurice everything back."

Eliana felt relieved when she heard Lucia's words, and she couldn't help smiling.

She was glad that she didn't cause any trouble for Maurice this time.

Lucia turned to look at Brevard who was standing at the door in a daze, and said, "You can leave now. I have something to talk with Miss Pierce alone."

Then, she took Eliana's hand and walked her to the sofa. The two of them sat down on the sofa. Lucia didn't seem to be here on business, but seemed to be here to take Eliana away.

"Eliana, since Maurice is once again the CEO of the Moran Group, will you come back?" Lucia asked seriously.

Eliana shook her head firmly. "I can't. You know the reason."

Lucia pouted unhappily and lowered her head. She looked disappointed.

"Don't be sad. Even though I can't go back, we can still work together on several projects. We'd better finish this bracelet project as soon as possible," Eliana said with a cheerful smile. "By the way, don't tell anyone that I'm working in the factory now, okay?"

Lucia hesitated for a while and finally agreed, "Okay..."

The two of them were about to start talking business when Eliana's phone suddenly rang.

She took out her phone and glanced at the screen. It was Jennifer. Last night, she gave her phone number to Jennifer because she was worried about her.

She didn't expect Jennifer to call her so soon. Was anything wrong?

Eliana immediately answered the phone.

Jennifer's crying voice soon rang out. "Eliana, bad news..." Jennifer said in sobs.

Eliana's heart skipped a beat. She asked in a hurry, "Jennifer, what happened? Don't cry. Take your time and tell me what happened."

"I... I was working in the Imperial Golden Club today when... some people from the Stone family showed up. They... They have trapped me in the club! What should I do?" Jennifer explained in a choked voice.

Damn it!

Jennifer was in big trouble.

Eliana should have expected that the scumbag Kelvin, would definitely take revenge on Jennifer. She should have firmly asked Jennifer to leave the club last night!

But now wasn't the time for regrets.

Eliana quickly stood up from the sofa. She had to go to the club!

"Lucia, can you wait for me here? There's something urgent I have to go out to deal with it."

She didn't have time to explain to Lucia. After saying that, she rushed out.

Brevard, who was standing at the door, was stunned to see Eliana rush out anxiously. He thought something must have happened, so he asked immediately "What's wrong? Did the negotiations go badly?"

"No. I have something urgent to deal with at the Imperial Golden Club now. I leave this project to you."

This was a real headache.

Brevard was stunned. He asked again, "What happened? Is it that we spent too much money last night and you didn't have enough money to pay for it?"

Eliana didn't know whether to laugh or cry when she heard his assumption.

"No. Something happened to a friend of mine."

Upon hearing Eliana's brief explanation, Brevard's face changed. He had more social experiences.

So he comforted Eliana, "Don't worry. I'll call some people to go with you, Okay?"