

# After Divorce, She Becomes the Billionaire Heiress

## ( Sylvia and Cyril ) Chapter 141-148

Released on May 17, 2024

Chapter 141: Elevator Incident

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Chapter 141: Elevator Incident

No matter if Sylvia really had evidence or not, Ingle knew she wouldn't admit it now. If she did, things would go downhill fast for her.

"You don't want to talk about it, huh?"

Seeing Ingle's reaction, Juliet knew she'd never admit to doing it herself. Who would willingly face such consequences?

First off, she'd have to pay back the money. And if things escalated, there could be jail time. No one would be foolish enough to land themselves in that mess.

"Besides this, we have something even more interesting. Like selling company files to other companies. That's straight-up industrial espionage, isn't it? How many years do you think you'd get for that?"

Juliet's face wore a gentle smile, but her words were as if only a devil could utter them.

Ingle's face went pale. Her makeup couldn't hide her fear. If such words could be spoken, it meant the evidence was already secured.

"I didn't do any of those things!"

"Of course, I know you didn't do any of those. You don't have the guts for it. At most, you might transfer some company assets. But this level of corporate espionage? I don't think you have it in you, especially considering your family's situation isn't that great, from what I know."

Seeing Ingle so anxious, it was clear she didn't have the courage for such deeds. Someone with that courage wouldn't display their fear so obviously.

Ingle regretted her words as soon as she said them. She had indeed offended Sylvia, but that didn't mean she could afford to offend anyone else.

And those behind her might completely abandon her, leaving her to bear such a heavy

burden alone.

“I have a plan now. If you keep listening to me, I won’t pursue your responsibility. I’ll give you time and opportunity to make up for the company’s transferred assets. Once you’ve made

up

for it, you won’t have to worry about the rest. How about it?”

Sylvia offered a better deal at the right moment, Ingle was already nervous, and with Sylvia having more evidence now, she had no choice.

s willing

More importantly, Sylvia to give her a chance to make amends without pursuing

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further consequences.

So, if she missed this opportunity, there wouldn’t be another.

“Fine, I agree.”

Sylvia smiled. Agreement was the best outcome.

After Ingle left, Sylvia and Juliet planned to grab a meal somewhere.

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Juliet found a nice restaurant nearby. It was said to be popular, so she eagerly dragged Sylvia along.

On the way, Juliet started asking Sylvia’s opinion: should they collaborate with Frank?

“Frank’s attitude is quite interesting. I know he’s friends with Cyril, but I didn’t expect him to involve Cyril in our collaboration. But without Cyril, collaborating with Frank would’ve been straightforward.”

They had done their research before coming. They knew Frank’s personality well. So, they had planned their collaboration with him beforehand, and it would’ve worked out. Cyril’s involvement made things a bit difficult.

“What do you think? If we collaborate with Frank, chances are you’ll have more

opportunities to meet Cyril. Especially when you go back, Frank might give him the chance to interact with you under the company's name."

After divorcing, why bother clinging on like a piece of gum? Sylvia had been good to Cyril before, no need to say more. Now that Cyril had divorced her, suddenly realizing her worth was quite laughable.

"I know, but Frank has a point. We're businessmen now. Profits come first. In the face of profits, everything else can wait."

"So, you're suggesting we continue collaborating with Frank?"

"Yes."

Frank's conditions were suitable for their collaboration in all aspects. After looking at many companies, Sylvia decided to collaborate with him for good reasons. As for Cyril, she could find other reasons to fend him off.

Since Sylvia had made her decision, Juliet didn't say much. She knew persuading Sylvia wouldn't work. Once Sylvia made up her mind, she wouldn't change it.

"Well, since you're set on it, okay."

They arrived at the restaurant only to unexpectedly meet Frank and Cyril again.

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Yes, Frank didn't plan to dine with Cyril originally, but he thought it'd be dull to dine alone. So, he decided to bring Cyril along. Cyril was feeling annoyed and decided to go out for some fresh air, hence he tagged along.

Unexpectedly, they got a pleasant surprise.

They could tell Cyril's eyes lit up the moment he saw Sylvia.

Frank sighed inwardly, thinking if he hadn't come along today, Cyril probably wouldn't have had the chance to talk to Sylvia.

"Miss Juliet, I'd like to discuss something with you in private, do you have the time?"

"Absolutely not!"

Juliet knew exactly what was going through Frank's mind and promptly refused. But Frank acted as if he didn't hear her and grabbed her wrist, pulling her away forcefully.

“What do you think you’re doing? Let go!”

Juliet didn’t expect Frank to forcibly drag her away like this. It was outrageous!

Sylvia saw this and figured Juliet wouldn’t be back for a while. She decided to wait upstairs.

In the elevator, it was just Sylvia and Cyril. Cyril felt nervous, a feeling he had never experienced before. But being around Sylvia made him unsure how to speak.

Just when he was preparing himself to speak, the elevator suddenly shook, and the next moment, all lights inside went out, plunging them into darkness.

“What’s happening?”

Cyril was startled. Then, the elevator rapidly descended. Instinctively, he grabbed Sylvia’s wrist and pulled her into his embrace.

“Don’t be afraid.”

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Chapter 142 Distress

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Chapter 142 Distress

Cyril quickly pressed all the buttons for ev. loor in the elevator, half crouching against the elevator wall, tightly holding Sylvia. The elevator was descending rapidly, showing no signs of stopping. Suddenly, there was a loud bang, and the elevator reached the bottom, shaking violently.

The elevator seemed to have deformed, making it impossible for Cyril to open it. As he reached for his phone to call the maintenance company, he felt the woman in his arms clutching onto his waist tightly.

Sylvia’s reaction was definitely off. Cyril paused, putting his phone away and embracing Sylvia, gently patting her back.

“Don’t be afraid, I’m here.”

After all these years together, Cyril had never realized just how afraid Sylvia was of enclosed

spaces.

He could feel Sylvia trembling in fear, clutching onto him tighter. Cyril held her waist firmly, feeling a pang of pain, but he ignored it, keeping Sylvia close.

Sylvia couldn't even speak anymore.

When she was a child, playing hide and seek with her brothers, she locked herself in the basement. Her brothers couldn't find her all day, and since then, she developed a fear of enclosed spaces. Now, she was terrified of this mercenary environment, so the company had installed a glass elevator specifically for her.

After undergoing psychological intervention and desensitization therapy, she could tolerate riding elevators, but only if there were other people inside to suppress her fear. But encountering such an accident with Cyril in the elevator was unexpected.

Sylvia didn't know what she had grabbed in the darkness, but she held onto Cyril tightly, as if he were her lifeline. She could feel Cyril holding her too, but she couldn't hear his words anymore, only a buzzing sound in her ears.

The next moment, she suddenly felt warmth on her lips and widened her eyes, meeting Cyril's gaze in the darkness.

Cyril's method was somewhat effective; her attention was quickly diverted by his dominant kiss, and she couldn't focus on the strange situation in the elevator.

After what seemed like an eternity, Cyril finally let go of Sylvia, holding her again in his

but this time, they were seated in the elevator, enveloped in each other's embrace.

arms,

Sylvia now resembled a

"Talk to me, distract yourself, okay?"

Sylvia was torn. On one hand, she was repelled by Cyril, but on the other, she was terrified of

the environment. In such conflicting emotions, she had to choose Cyril, who she could

relatively accept.

"What should I talk about?" Sylvia's voice trembled, but she tried to suppress her fear, knowing that distracting herself was the only way to cope.

She felt somewhat grateful for undergoing desensitization therapy all these years; otherwise, she wouldn't know how to handle this situation.

“These years have been tough on you.”

After a moment of silence, Cyril suddenly spoke. He didn't know what to say to Sylvia, what topics she might be interested in. At this moment, he realized how little he knew about her.

He didn't know what Sylvia liked, what her favorite food was, or where she liked to go.

At this moment, Cyril had to admit that he knew nothing about Sylvia.

“I feel aggrieved too.” In a different situation, Sylvia probably wouldn't utter such words. She was a strong person who would never admit to being wronged.

But now, in this situation, she couldn't control herself.

“I've been waiting for you day after day, hoping you'd turn back to see me, to see my true feelings for you. When I married you, I didn't use any tricks or rely on past favors. I never mentioned those things I did to save you because I didn't want you to develop feelings for me based on that. But you never gave me a chance. Over the years, you've made me suffer all the grievances from my childhood to adulthood.”

As Sylvia poured out her grievances, her voice trembled, choking up. Cyril didn't say anything, just holding her tightly.

Yes, these years had indeed been tough on Sylvia. If given another chance, she would never want to be associated with him again. And he knew he would seize the opportunity to get to know her better, to change their relationship.

“Would you give me another chance? I don't just want to compensate you. During this time, I've realized my true feelings for you. I've been attracted to you for a long time, but I didn't want to admit it so easily.”

Yes, proud people never wanted to admit that they had feelings for someone after being

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manipulated. Cyril was no different. He had never really had much affection for Karina, either.

He just wanted to emphasize his lack of interest in Sylvia, using this facade to hide the fact that he was falling for her.

Unfortunately, by the time he realized it, it seemed to be too late.

It might be too much to say such words now, but Cyril didn't want to wait any longer.

Sylvia didn't reply. Though she felt aggrieved and had poured out her heart, she remained rational, not giving in.

Giving another chance meant risking getting hurt again, perhaps even worse than before.

So she didn't want to take another step forward. As for her relationship with Cyril, it was fine the way it was.

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Chapter 143: Rescue

The silence in the darkness was deafening,

no response from Silvia for a long time.

Cyril soon understood what he hadn't been getting an answer to. Silvia's silence was her

answer.

"It's okay. I've been in the wrong before. You didn't want to forgive me or give me a chance. That's normal. But I'll find a way to prove myself."

"Let's talk about something else..."

Cyril tried to make his tone sound more uplifting, hoping to dispel the darkness in Silvia's heart. But when he actually tried to change the subject, he realized he didn't know what to

say.

The words faltered as soon as they left his mouth. What could he possibly say to Silvia?

Talk about his dull work matters? He didn't want to bore Silvia with work talk; it would make him seem incredibly dull.

But besides work, what else could he say that might interest Silvia?

Sylvia remained silent, but she kept waiting for Cyril to speak. However, after waiting for a long time, Cyril still didn't know what to say.

"What do you want to say?"

“I don’t know what to say to you. I want to say everything to you, but I’m afraid that if I do

like.” you you’ll be upset. So, I want to say things you like, but... I don’t know what

Cyril’s tone was bitter. At that moment, he realized that trying to please someone wasn’t as easy as he thought.

Reflecting on his situation alongside Silvia made him realize how much Silvia had liked him before. Despite being around each other for so many years, Silvia knew what he liked and disliked, always trying to accommodate him. But he had always taken it for granted.

Now, he couldn’t even manage to accommodate Silvia, showing just how much he had failed.

...When I was a kid, I used to play hide and seek with my brother. They always found me easily. So one day, I locked myself in the basement, thinking my brother would find me quickly like before...”

Silvia fell silent for a moment, then began recounting her childhood experiences. She could have avoided mentioning these things, but for some reason, she felt like this situation might resonate with Cyril, prompting her to speak out involuntarily, even though it wasn’t

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appropriate.

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As Silvia slowly spoke, Cyril knew what she wanted to say and instinctively held her tighter.

“And then?”

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“And then, I spent a whole day in the basement, and my brothers never found me. I waited until I got tired and fell asleep. When I woke up window in the basement. That’s when I felt scared, alone in the basement. I cried and

shouted, but no one came.’

At that young age, Silvia felt like the world was ending. No one found her. She locked herself in there, too small to open the door.



So, she cried and shouted in the basement all night, not knowing that her brothers and family were outside, frantically searching for her.

It wasn't until the next day that someone finally found her and brought her out of the basement.

It was from that moment on that Silvia developed claustrophobia. She couldn't stay in dark places for long periods.

Later, she slowly underwent therapy, which helped her cope with dark environments to some extent. But she never expected to encounter such a situation one day.

She had never told anyone about this childhood experience, but today, she involuntarily shared it with Cyril because she knew even if she didn't, he would notice that something was wrong with her.

Cyril held Silvia, his eyes filled with compassion, but it was all obscured by the darkness. He, couldn't find the words to express his feelings, wondering if things would be different today if she hadn't suffered that ordeal in her childhood.

"Don't be afraid. Someone will come to rescue us soon."

Cyril didn't know what to say, so he just blurted out these words.

"I know someone will come to rescue us, but I'll still be scared. After we get out, can you promise not to tell anyone about this?"

Cyril couldn't refuse. He felt that Silvia was so fragile right now, as if she could break at any moment. He wished he could embed her in his body, providing her with strength and protection.

"Don't worry, this will be our secret. No one will know."

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As soon as he finished speaking, there was a commotion outside the elevator. Cyril instantly realized that someone was coming to rescue them.

"People are coming to rescue us. Don't be...id."

He emphasized this again as the rescuers arrived at the elevator door.

"Is anyone inside?"

“Yes, there is!”

The people outside knocked on the elevator door. Cyril realized they were trying to find a way inside, so he knocked back to respond.

After getting a response, the rescuers began discussing the rescue plan.

As Cyril had expected, the elevator had suddenly dropped from a great height, causing some deformation. It took the rescuers over half an hour to pry open the elevator door and rescue the two trapped inside.

With the rescue team was Frank and Juliet.

Both of them nervously looked inside the elevator and saw Cyril helping Silvia out.

“What happened?” Juliet rushed over. When she saw Silvia’s extremely pale face, she felt deeply distressed.

Though she didn’t know what exactly happened, she knew about the sudden elevator drop. She couldn’t blame Cyril, but Juliet was still very angry. If Frank hadn’t pulled her away

suddenly, maybe none of this would have happened.

“It’s all your fault!”

Juliet glared fiercely at Frank, who felt unjustly accused. How could he have known such a thing would happen? If he could predict the future, he certainly wouldn’t have pulled her

away.

“I’m fine. I just need to sit down for a moment.”

Silvia struggled out of Cyril’s embrace. Juliet hurried to support her as she sat down nearby, then went to fetch some hot water and placed it in Silvia’s hands.

“Your hands are so cold. Put on this jacket. Did he do anything to you in the elevator just

now?”

Juliet looked at Cyril defensively, fearing he might have harmed Silvia during their time trapped together.

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## Chapter 144: A Shared Secret

### Chapter 144: A Shared Secret

Cyril didn't bother explaining his apparent hostility towards Juliette. He figured, with the things he had done in the past, it wasn't unjust for Sylvia's people to treat him this way.

But as he pondered the incident in the elevator just now, Cyril had no basis for explanation. He knew it was a shared secret between him and Sylvia, a sign of their relationship deepening.

Moreover, he had promised Sylvia never to reveal what happened inside the elevator. So, until Sylvia spoke up, he wouldn't disclose anything, even if it led to misunderstandings with Juliette.

"It's okay. The elevator just suddenly dropped, and it startled me. He was quite caring, actually. Don't worry," Sylvia said, trying to reassure Juliette. However, she had no idea how forced her smile looked.

"There's no need to worry. When the elevator malfunctioned just now, I was on the verge of losing it. The rescue team arrived promptly, though you were quick too. But I was worried something might happen to you inside the elevator. Let's forget about dinner and just head back," Juliette said.

Juliette regretted a bit instantly. If she hadn't insisted on taking Sylvia out for dinner today maybe none of this would have happened.

Sylvia could easily decipher Juliette's thoughts. She tightly held Juliette's hand and said, "It's not your fault. Even if you hadn't called me out today, the elevator would still have malfunctioned. It was just my bad luck to be in it."

"It's not your bad luck; it's clearly just encountering someone having a bad day. That's why things turned out this way. Let's go. I'll buy you something else to eat," Juliette said, giving Cyril and Frank a disdainful glance as they stood up to leave.

Frank wanted to explain but couldn't bring himself to do so.

Although he felt unjust about the incident, he couldn't express how much.

Thus, he could only watch as the two left. The aftermath would be for Cyril and Frank to deal with. So, neither of them chased after them.

Only after sorting out everything concerning the elevator did Frank finally get a chance to ask Cyril what happened inside.

“We haven’t had time to discuss what happened inside the elevator. What exactly happened? Why did you suddenly come out hugging her? She seems to really dislike you,” Frank asked,

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curious.

“Of course, you’d be curious about what happened in the elevator,” Cyril replied.

“Who wouldn’t want to know what happened in there? It was so dark, and the two of you were alone. Moreover, you two used to be married. How could I not be curious about what happened?” Frank said.

Frank was indeed curious, mainly because when Sylvia came out, she seemed off. Hence, he thought it was only natural to inquire further.

“Then be curious,” Cyril said with a smile before leaving, leaving Frank standing there puzzled. What had he said to make Cyril ask that?

“You can’t just leave it at that. I’m just concerned; I don’t mean anything else. If there’s something you can’t tell me, just omit that part. Just tell me what you can,” Frank said.

“I’m sorry, but I can’t disclose any part of it. Let’s go find a place to eat. I

want to check on her after dinner,” Cyril said, in a good mood. He couldn’t be bothered to argue with Frank. It was time for dinner, then he’d get something extra for Sylvia.

Frank thought Cyril must be crazy. Had he forgotten how much Sylvia disliked him? Wanting to bring her food? Not being left outside was already a win.

But seeing Cyril’s good mood, he must have not said anything hurtful. Whether he could deliver the food wasn’t important. The important thing was the intention, right?

Over the next two days, Sylvia, after adjusting and resting, resumed her busy routine.

Besides the subsidiary companies, there were many other matters to attend to. And because of Inglee, there were even more matters to deal with at the subsidiary companies than she had imagined. So, she was busy all day long.

Aside from being busy, Juliette was just as occupied. Until this afternoon, they finally managed to leave work on time.

As they walked downstairs from the company building, they bumped into Cyril: Cyril was holding a bouquet of flowers and looked a bit nervous as he approached Sylvia when he saw her coming out of the company.

Juliette tightly gripped Sylvia's wrist, looking surprised at Cyril. What was he doing here, holding such a big bouquet of flowers? Was he trying to reconcile with Sylvia? Could she have agreed?

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might suddenly change her mind and forgive Cyril, especially since she hadn't had the chance to warn Sylvia yet, and now it seemed like her fear was coming true.

"I'm telling you, don't be so foolish. You've finally managed to get out of a grave; don't throw yourself back in," Juliette warned, her voice full of urgency.

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Hearing Juliette's words, Sylvia couldn't help but laugh. Did she really need to be so guarded?

She knew what she should do and what she shouldn't. As for Cyril's preferences, she couldn't stop him, could she?

"Alright, don't worry. When I divorced him, I never thought of turning back. You don't need to be concerned," Sylvia reassured her.

But Juliette wasn't comforted by Sylvia's words. On the contrary, she became even more

worried.

"If it weren't for what happened a few days ago, maybe I wouldn't worry so much. But with that incident, I'm afraid you might act impulsively again. After all, you only wanted to marry him because of a sudden impulse. I absolutely won't allow such a thing to happen again, or else I'd feel ashamed," Juliette said firmly.

Juliette had just finished reminding Sylvia when Cyril approached them. Cyril nodded slightly at Juliette and handed the bouquet to Sylvia.

"I thought this bouquet was beautiful and suited you, so I bought it. I don't have any ulterior motives," Cyril said.

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Chapter 145: Like a Dream

“Are you implying something else with the statement?” Juliet’s voice escalated instantly.” You say there’s no other meaning, but buying such a huge bunch of roses, isn’t that implying something? You’ve clearly laid out your intentions plain as day!”

“You know, there’s this saying online that fits perfectly here. Late affection is like weeds. You used to ignore her affection, and now you regret it and want to treat her nicely. Have you even thought about how much you’ve hurt her over the years? And now you want to change your relationship with her with just a bunch of flowers? Oh, and about the elevator incident, let me tell you, it was just luck. Don’t read too much into it!” Juliet unleashed a torrent of words at Cyril, leaving him speechless.

“Let me tell you, pack up your cheap display of affection. And this bouquet of roses, is that what she lacks? If Sylvia needs flowers, there are plenty of people who can send them to her. Don’t be a nuisance here!” Juliet continued, her words hitting Cyril where it hurt.

“And also, please convey to Frank that there’s no need to consider the collaboration between our two companies anymore. We’re not lacking in potential partners, and we’re not interested in debating the pros and cons with you. Even if we need to collaborate, we’d rather choose someone more reliable. After all, birds of a feather flock together!”

Besides dealing with issues in their subsidiary company, the two of them had been busy looking for other tech companies to collaborate with. After today’s incident, Juliet was determined not to collaborate with Frank anymore.

She initially thought she couldn’t get rid of Sylvia, but unexpectedly Sylvia agreed after a moment of silence. Then, they started looking for other companies to collaborate with.

Due to their busy schedules these past few days, they hadn’t had the chance to inform Frank of their decision. Now, Cyril was hearing it from them, which made no difference since Cyril

and Frank were on the same side.

Cyril seemed a bit agitated upon hearing about the collaboration falling through. He turned

to Sylvia, unsure of what to say.

After a moment of silence, he could only awkwardly ask, “Is there really no room for collaboration? You’ve spent so much time selecting Frank’s company. Since his company’s principles align with yours, why cancel the collaboration for other reasons? If it’s just because you don’t want to see me or have any contact with me, I can assure you, the company’s affairs will primarily be managed by Frank. I’m just here to oversee, not to meddle in your cooperation.”

“This matter doesn’t concern you much. Even if what you said is true and Frank’s company shares our principles, making it the ideal partner, there may be other suitable companies. It might take a little more time, but it’s no big deal. Iván Group isn’t lacking in time or partners.” Sylvia’s tone was cold, widening the rift between them.

Cyril couldn’t ignore Sylvia’s rejection. He thought that after the incident, their relationship might ease up a bit, but now he realized he had been overly optimistic.

Despite sharing a secret with Sylvia, it didn’t mean she would view him differently. If anything, she seemed more repelled by him because of it.

“If there’s nothing else, I’d like to invite you to dinner, as a way of repaying you for helping me in the elevator that day. Besides, I hope we can minimize our interactions in the future. Also, the choice of who to collaborate with does have personal reasons behind it, but it’s mainly for the greater good.” Sylvia’s words sounded noble, but she knew rejecting Frank’s collaboration was indeed due to personal reasons.

Even though it was because of her personal reasons, she didn’t want to admit it to Cyril. Whatever she wanted to do, her brothers wouldn’t oppose it. She just needed to find another way to resolve this matter satisfactorily.

After Sylvia finished speaking, both Cyril and Juliet were left stunned. Juliet had thought Sylvia finally wouldn’t shut Cyril out anymore.

But she hadn’t expected Sylvia to actively invite Cyril to dinner. Was she dreaming? How else could she explain this surreal turn of events?

“Uh, you...”

“Let’s go. We’ve already made a reservation, haven’t we? One more person won’t hurt.” Sylvia interrupted Juliet, leading the way. Cyril hesitated for a moment before following Sylvia, leaving Juliet feeling like she was in a surreal world.

But she gritted her teeth and followed suit. After all, hadn’t they agreed? It was just to repay Cyril for helping Sylvia in the elevator that day. Nothing more, nothing less.

If she didn’t keep an eye on things, what if something really did happen? Three of them sat in the restaurant, Cyril completely ignoring Juliet, his gaze fixed on Sylvia with unfriendly eyes. Juliet couldn’t help but intervene.

“Can you please tone down the hostility? It’s like you’ve never seen Sylvia before. Haven’t you known her for years?”

Juliet’s words hit Cyril hard, and he withdrew his gaze after a moment.

“You know, you didn’t have to accept the dinner invitation...”

“Fine, if you think you don’t need to join us for dinner, then leave. Why sit here and order food if you’re just going to reject it now? Didn’t you think of that from the beginning? Now that you’ve already ordered, you say you don’t need it. Aren’t you being ridiculous?” Juliet interrupted Cyril, exasperated by his indecisiveness.

“Juliet, can you please calm down?” Sylvia was getting frustrated. She knew Juliet meant well, but it was unnecessary.

Juliet finally toned it down a bit, but she still couldn’t stand Cyril. “Hmph, I was just saying. If he doesn’t want to listen, he doesn’t have to.”

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## Chapter 146 Seeing Once, Beating Once

Juliette definitely toned it down a bit for Sylvia’s sake. Gotta admit, Cyril deserved a pat on the back for that day. Even though we don’t know what Sylvia went through before, the scene in the elevator was definitely off.

But being disgusted by Cyril and being thankful to him are two different things. So, after giving Cyril a piece of her mind, Juliette decided to keep quiet.

During dinner, Juliette didn’t say anything outrageous either.

The main reason she didn’t say anything over-the-top was that she was afraid she’d end up giving Cyril another round of criticism from start to finish. And that’s not what Sylvia wanted to see. So, she held back.

As the meal was wrapping up, Juliette put down her utensils and said to Sylvia, “Alright, we’ve finished eating, let’s go pay.”

Originally, Cyril had planned to settle the bill halfway through, but Juliette grabbed his hand, and in the end, Sylvia didn’t hesitate after hearing Juliette’s words. She immediately got up to pay at the counter.

Seeing Sylvia leave, Juliette turned to Cyril with a serious expression.

“I don’t know what suddenly made you regret and want to be good to her, but some things, once done,

can’t be undone. The hurt you caused her will never fade away. You don’t need to keep appearing in her life. If you truly want her to be happy, you shouldn’t do things that bother her. You know that every time you show up, it just brings back memories of the grievances she suffered when she was with you. This isn’t about loving her, it’s about satisfying your own selfish desires and making yourself feel better.”



As an outsider, Juliette saw things very clearly. What Cyril did wasn't touching anyone else; it was touching herself.

So, he didn't even consider the damage he was causing Sylvia each time he appeared, each time claiming

it was for her own good.

"Let's call it quits with the elevator incident. Whatever happened that day, you did save her, that's a fact. But everything has its limits. She's not holding onto the past, which is giving you both some dignity. You're smart, I hope you won't erase that last bit of dignity. Otherwise, those around her won't let you off easy. You should understand that you're able to sit here peacefully with her because everyone pities her and

doesn't want to do anything to you."

Sylvia would never say these things, because she'd swallow the bad by herself.

But as Sylvia's good friend, how could Juliette not feel for her?

So, she spoke these words on Sylvia's behalf to Cyril.

It was a mistake that got Sylvia into her current situation, and it was time to correct it. The prerequisite for this correction was for Cyril to understand his current situation and stop struggling and fantasizing

needlessly.

"In your life, there must be something more important than Sylvia. When that something comes up, you

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won't choose Sylvia. When that day comes, delivering a painful blow to Sylvia, you'll stop dragging her

around."

Seeing Sylvia had finished paying and was about to return, Juliette stopped talking.

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Juliette had been stopping Cyril all along from paying because she knew that if Cyril succeeded in paying today, there would inevitably be another chance for them to meet up for a meal in the future.

And Juliette didn't want to give Cyril that chance.

Now that the meal was over, they didn't need to meet up again in the future, so Cyril's lingering over yesterday's events was even more unnecessary.

If he truly wanted to be good to Sylvia, then he should heed the words Juliette had spoken today and

never bother Sylvia again. It would be good for both of them.

"We're done paying, let's go."

Seeing Sylvia approaching, Juliette put on a smile, took her and Sylvia's arms, and left.

The two of them left quickly, not giving Cyril a chance to say goodbye. Of course, Sylvia had something she wanted to say originally, but now that she didn't have the chance, it didn't matter.

The two of them left, and Cyril sat there, still in a daze.

The words Juliette said made his brain pause for a moment.

Just then, footsteps approached him, and he looked up hopefully, thinking it was Sylvia, only to find it was

Balk.

Balk had been wearing a mask, but after seeing Cyril, he didn't care about the mask anymore and came

over.

"Shameless, pestering my sister?"

After saying that, Balk grabbed Cyril's shirt and punched him in the face.

Cyril's face instantly swerved, but Balk wouldn't stop there. He continued punching Cyril, one punch after

another.

Until his hands were red, and Cyril's face was swollen, with traces of blood, did Balk stop.

"I'm telling you, stay away from my sister from now on. Every time you show up, I'll beat you up. You've been bullying my sister for so long, do you really think our family has no

temper? Is Juliette right, that we're just feeling sorry for my sister, so we don't do anything to you? But if you keep pushing it, don't blame us for not being polite!"

After saying that, Balk took out a mask from his pocket, put it on, and left the restaurant.

Balk's actions had already attracted the attention of the people around, but they didn't know whether they should step forward to stop it or take pictures first.

Cyril, after being hit twice, finally began to sober up a bit. He realized that the reason he was still okay until now was also because of Sylvia's kindness.

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He sat there with a bitter smile for a while before standing up and walking out in a daze.

Should he really, as Juliette and Balk said, stop bothering Sylvia anymore? Would that give them both some dignity?

But he wanted to give them both dignity, and he also hoped Sylvia would live a better life. He just wasn't willing to let go like this.

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Chapter 147: Afraid You're Being Deceived

Balk's physical confrontation with someone quickly became the talk of the town. Juliet, a top-tier surfer, couldn't believe it when she stumbled upon the news. She was utterly shocked as she opened the picture and then incredulously showed it to Sylvia.

"Oh my goodness, I never expected that when we went out to eat together today, your brother would be there too, and he'd end up hitting Cyril! Do you think this will have any consequences for your brother? And I feel like there was really no need for him to hit Cyril. Sure, Cyril can be annoying, but..."

Deep down, Juliet was secretly thrilled that Balk had taken matters into his own hands. But she couldn't

shake off a sense of worry. What if he angered someone who wouldn't just take it lying down? And now

that it's gone viral, opinions on this incident are all over the place.

Sylvia was equally taken aback by her brother's actions, especially since he took off his mask.

After browsing through the trending topics, Sylvia was at a loss for words. “Wait, let me call Balk first.”

Feeling a bit exasperated, Sylvia reached for her phone to call her brother and figure out what exactly was

going on and how to handle the situation now that it was blowing up.

As a top celebrity, Balk hitting someone in public raised many eyebrows. And the fact that the person he hit was Cyril, someone connected to Sylvia, added another layer of complexity. It’s a convoluted situation that’s sure to make onlookers sick of popcorn.

Sylvia felt a headache coming on. She really didn’t want to have anything to do with Cyril anymore, but now, thanks to Balk, she might have to apologize to him?

Soon enough, Balk answered the phone, probably waiting for Sylvia to call.

“Bro, care to explain why you hit someone?” Sylvia asked.

“What’s there to explain? I just didn’t like him. Plus, you two have been divorced for ages, yet he still chases after you like a lost puppy. Isn’t he asking for it? By the way, don’t worry about those online rumors; I’ll take care of them. And about Frank’s thing, since you don’t want to work with his company anymore, I have someone else to recommend. Wanna meet him? It’s just a meeting, we’ll decide later if we want to collaborate, okay?”

Sylvia was puzzled. Since when did Balk care so much about these things? Normally, it’s their eldest brother Bruce who handles company matters. But lately, Bruce has delegated them to Sylvia. Their other brother hardly ever gets involved in anything besides his own interests. So why the sudden interest in helping her and recommending collaborators?

“Why are you suddenly so invested in all this? You never cared about these things before,” Sylvia said.

Balk, realizing belatedly that hitting someone might not have been the best idea, tried to justify himself. “Well, I was just worried you’d be fooled by him. You know how smooth-talking he is. After all those years of deceiving you, and now bullying you, I couldn’t just stand by.”

Being worried about her getting deceived by Cyril? That reason sounded far-fetched. But Sylvia didn’t

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press further. Since Balk said he’d handle things from here, she decided to let it go.

“Fine, whatever. But you don’t need to worry about the collaboration; I’ll handle it myself. I have other options. I just haven’t decided yet,” Sylvia said.

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“I know you have other options, but just take a look at the one I’m recommending. It won’t hurt. You can compare and decide who’s the best fit,” Balk insisted.

Hearing Balk’s recommendation made Sylvia suspicious. What was wrong with this person he was

suggesting?

After a moment of silence, Sylvia spoke up again. “Bro, the more you push, the more I feel like you’re up to something. Are you deliberately trying to set me up? I’m telling you, if that’s the case, I’ll call Bruce.”

“Come on, sis, I genuinely care about you. Trust me, meeting this person won’t hurt, and it’ll definitely give

that guy a scare. Let him think twice before bothering you again,” Balk said.

Sylvia’s lips twitched. Lately, Balk seemed to be acting out of character. After today’s incident, she

doubted she’d see him for a while.

Sylvia really didn’t want to meet anyone right now, but Balk’s persistence eventually wore her down. She reluctantly agreed to the meeting.

“Fine, I’ll set it up for tomorrow morning. I’ll have him come directly to the office. You two can talk there. Anyway, I’ll let you go now. I need to deal with these online matters,” Balk said before quickly hanging up.

Sylvia stared at the now disconnected call, pondering. Turning to Juliet, she asked, “Has my brother been acting strange lately?”

Juliet looked puzzled for a moment before shaking her head. “Nah, it’s probably nothing. He just wants you to meet someone. I doubt they’ll actually do anything to harm you.”

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Chapter 148 A Bit Familiar

Although what Juliet said was true, Sylvia couldn’t shake the feeling that things weren’t that simple.

But without meeting the person, it's hard to draw conclusions. The next day, Sylvia sat in her office watching the aftermath of Bark's online handling, and the person he recommended had arrived.

Sylvia put away her phone, ignoring the unofficial news. When she saw who walked in, she froze instantly.

At first glance, Sylvia found this person in front of her somewhat familiar, but she couldn't place where she had seen him before. After a while, she finally remembered – he seemed to be Cyril's archenemy from

a few years back.

Cyril had a few tough competitors on his entrepreneurial journey, and this one was the fiercest.

It was said that the two of them fought tooth and nail from the start of their ventures. Even after establishing their own companies and achieving success in different fields, their rivalry only grew deeper.

But later, she heard that this man had shifted his business overseas, ending the endless conflict and

competition.

Sylvia knew about this because she had been very concerned about Cyril over the years.

But she couldn't quite recall the name of Cyril's nemesis. After all, during that time, she had focused all her energy on Cyril, hardly paying attention to anyone outside of him.

“Hey, uh, you're my bro...”

“Long time no see! Why do you seem so distant? Don't tell me you forgot who I am. If that's the case, I'd be heartbroken. After all, we used to have such a deep friendship.”

The man interrupted Sylvia with a playful smile, clearly joking. Sylvia's eyes widened at his words. What

did he mean?

While it was true that she couldn't remember his name, her memory never indicated any deep friendship

between them.

The man sighed, a hint of disappointment in his voice. "Seems like you really forgot. But it's okay. We were classmates in middle school. I was your desk mate back then. My name is Benjamin."

Hearing that name, Sylvia remembered. Indeed, she had a middle school classmate named Benjamin.

She just hadn't expected her classmate to be in such a competitive relationship with her ex-husband. Their animosity had escalated so much.

After recalling, Sylvia immediately put on a smile and replied without missing a beat, "Oh, I remember now. Your transformation is quite remarkable. Back then, I could hardly recognize you, and it's even harder now. If you hadn't mentioned your name and identity, I might not have associated you with my

classmate."

"Indeed, I've changed a lot. I was quite chubby in middle school. Now I've managed to slim down. When I walk around now, many people don't even remember me. Your brother has already discussed the

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cooperation with me. What do you think about it?"

Even though Sylvia knew he was her middle school classmate, she wasn't exactly thrilled about discussing cooperation right away. She wanted to get to know him better first before considering any future plans. Understanding a person is crucial before embarking on any collaboration.

"No rush. It's been so many years since we've seen each other. Let's catch up on other things first. We can talk about cooperation later."

"Fair enough. By the way, I heard you and Cyril got divorced. Did our past rivalry affect your marriage? Or was it because of my actions that he neglected you, leading to your divorce?"

Benjamin brought up their past rivalry. Sylvia didn't know how to respond objectively. She had very little insight into what had happened back then. However, she couldn't deny everything just because of a

competition.

"It's not related to you. It's our own issues. By the way, how have you been living abroad these years?"

“Pretty good, actually. You’ve seen my company. It’s doing better and better. I realized later that our competition was driven by our mutual interests. But when I moved to a different place, I realized there’s no point in clinging to one thing. Starting over somewhere else, I can achieve a different kind of success. Look at me now; I’m doing great, aren’t I? And my current worth, including all I’ve done, is many times

more than Cyril’s.”

Sylvia thought he had let go of the rivalry with Cyril, but it turned out not to be the case. Although he didn’t directly compare himself to Cyril, boasting about his company implied he hadn’t let go of the competition

at all.

Sylvia sipped her coffee, thinking about how to politely send him away.

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“When I contacted your brother, he assigned me a task. He said you haven’t been feeling well lately, and knowing my way around, he wanted us to meet. If our companies can cooperate, that would be great. If not, at least it might improve your mood.”

Benjamin laughed, admitting his real purpose for coming over.

Sylvia realized his visit wasn’t as simple as it seemed. She hadn’t expected him to come with a task. But how would improving her mood benefit him?

A businessman never makes a loss, especially someone like Benjamin who knows how to win.

“Are you wondering what benefits I’ll get? Don’t worry about that. The reward your brother promised me is

irresistible.”

“Can you tell me what reward he promised you? If possible, I might double it.”

As Sylvia looked up, she saw the pressure in his eyes. She instantly understood why he was here and why

he was recommended to her.

Sylvia didn’t want to invite trouble for herself, so she wanted to nip it in the bud.

“It’s really sad to see you like this. But the reward your brother promised me is something even if you triple it, you wouldn’t be able to change it.



