After Prison 141

Chapter 141

Sooner than you think, the three new luxurious cars parked outside a plaza near the five stars

hotel.

After Megan got out of the car, she came over in a good mood. "Severin, I was going to make you buy us an expensive dinner to test if you are really rich like you said. Since you have bought me this car, I won't do that anymore. Let's just eat something."

Judith and Maurice exchanged looks at each other and smiled together.

Megan had been targeting Severin from the beginning. After Severin bought the car for her, her attitude visibly changed. Although she was still quite snobbish, it was still nice if she stopped targeting their son and admitted Severin as Diane's husband.

After all, they knew Diane would have a better choice if she did not end up being together with Severin. Inevitably, Severin was once in jail before and Diane had suffered so much because of him. Many people had teased her for so many years. Severin should absolutely treat Diane well to make it up to her.

"Wow, what a rare moment. You're actually being reasonable!" Diane gave Megan a look.

"Diane, what do you know? I'm doing it for your own good. I was trying to test him. I don't want to see you suffer and live poorly with him. You were so talented and he was the reason you suffered!

Megan quickly said.

Diane smiled faintly. "Alright, let's go. What do you want to eat? You can order anything you want. This is the first time he is treating all of you. Surely, I don't want you guys to think he's a stingy person too!"

"He's not stingy! Look at the car he bought for me. It's impossible to call him stingy!" Megan smiled. Then she thought and added, "But the dowry and the cars are completely irrelevant. We won't accept a single cent less of the dowry he promised!"

"Don't worry. I'm going to give the amount I promised!" Severin smiled faintly. Seven million dollars was nothing to him!

Quickly enough, they arrived at the restaurant of the hotel and requested to eat in a private room. They ended up ordering a table full of food.

This time Megan did not try to make trouble for Severin anymore and only ordered three dishes. Diane was the one who ordered most of the dishes. In addition, they also ordered a few bottles of red wine. All in all, the lunch cost roughly sixteen thousand dollars. After they finished lunch, they. went back to the plaza.

"Judith, you and Maurice have never been to our house. It's still early now. Why don't you guys come over now?" Felicia said politely.

During the time Severin paid the bill today, Felicia monitored closely and found out Severin did not bulge at all when he paid. Obviously, the amount was not big enough to cause any damage to him. She

finally believed Severin was not as simple as he looked. Maybe Severin could even be a man with new money. Although she had no idea where he got the money from.

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That was not her problem at all. She strongly believed she would receive the dowry without fail.

Judith was overwhelmed to see Felicia talking to her so politely and softly. She quickly nodded. Sure, sure. Let's go over there now. I think Severin probably doesn't know where your house is."

Severin smiled faintly. "Seriously, I really don't know. Yeah, I should go and see what kind of place Diane used to stay."

"Let's go." Diane rolled her eyes at Severin but deep down in her heart, she felt very sweet.

She could tell after Severin's performance today, her mother and sister did not dislike him as much as they used to. After a while, especially after Severin transferred the dowry to Felicia's account, she believed her mother and sister would totally accept Severin as part of the family.

Yes, she knew her mother and sister were snobbish people. Deep down, she still hoped her family could accept Severin. She hoped her parent and her family could give her their blessing

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Severin could tell Diane's mood had gotten better. He started to feel a little emotional. 'Money is still the best tool in this world. Although Diane never thought about leaving me when I was poor, we would never be treated equally by her family. Needless to say, being blessed by them. Diane would have a terrible time if we continued to live that way,' he thought.

Soon, the three cars arrived at Shanahan's estate. Every member of the Shanahan lived in the villa inside the estate. They bought a couple of villas and built a wall to make their own private compound.

However, these villas were incomparable to the villa in Dragon Lake Vista where Severin now stayed.

"What's going on? Who do those three cars belong to?"

"I don't know. I never saw it before. Three identical cars. I bet they cost around a hundred

thousand dollars."

"No! You're wrong. This is the one with the highest spec. Probably around two hundred thousand dollars!"

"Damn! Let's go over and take a look at who's the owner!"

Some of the servants worked for the Sanahans and members of the Sanahans saw the three cars driving in from far away. They quickly followed. Lastly, the car stopped at the place where Williams and his family stayed.

"Seriously? Did I see it correctly? Megan bought them?"

A beautiful young lady of the Shanahans was stunned when she saw Megan, Felicia, and William getting off from the car. She felt a little upset about it.

She saw herself as one of the most beautiful girls in Brookbourn. Too bad, all the rich kids were after Diane and not her in the past. Diane had beaten her in almost everything. It made her feel like Diane was the one who stole the limelight away from her. If Diane was not in the picture, the most beautiful woman the rich kids always talked about must be her, Maryam Shanahan, and not Diane. Although Megan was also pretty, she did not think Megan had what it takes to compete with her. A few years back, Megan was still small and had not totally grown up. Even when Megan was grown up now and prettier than before, Maryam was still looking more sexy than Megan.

"Wow, is my eyes playing with me? Megan! What's going on with this car? This car is expensive, isn't it?" Maryam asked weirdly when she came over.

Later, she looked at Severin. "Huh? Who is this guy? I don't think I ever saw him before."

Diane was standing in front of Severin when she asked that question. She give it a thought and continued, "Diane, did this handsome guy buy these cars for you and your family?

Diane sneered. She had never liked Maryam. When she was being a food delivery person, she would sometimes bump into her on the road. Maryam would tease and mock her deliberately to make her feel bad. It did not happen just now.

Diane smiled and answered, "Yes. The car is quite expensive. Around two hundred thousand dollars each. This is mine. The other two belong to my parent and Megan!"

Maryam was shocked to know the price. Yet, she reacted quickly and said, "Weren't you trying to be loyal to your daughter's father in the past? I remembered you saying you are going to be with him no matter what happened. Haha. What the sudden change of heart?"

Diane could not be bothered to deal with her anymore. She said coldly. "Why? Are you jealous? I can't help that I'm so attractive. This handsome guy here insisted to buy for me. There's nothing I can do."

"Let's go, honey. Let's go inside!"

After that, she deliberately held Severin's hand and called Severin her honey just to provoke Maryam.

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"Look at them, just look at them!" Maryam stressed. She stomped her feet angrily when Diane and her family entered the house.

Truthfully speaking, she hoped Diane would continue to be together with that lousy man. She hoped Diane would still be that stubborn woman who insisted to be together with Severin. That was the only way she could continue to insult them and look down at them.

Things just did not turn out the way she hoped. A handsome guy was actually pursuing Diane now. and even spent money to buy three cars just to please Diane's parents. The jealousy in her heart. nearly exploded.

Unfortunately, she was not there when Severin ruined the wedding. After she heard what

happened, she regretted not attending the wedding. If she was at home, she would definitely go and take a look instead of missing out on such a good show.

At least, she could see the man Diane insisted on marrying. That would be a good opportunity to humiliate Diane and that man too.

"Diane is so amazing. Having another rich kid after her again. But who is this rich kid? I don't think I ever see him before," a maid discussed at the door.

"Who cares about that? He's definitely a rich kid having the ability to spend that much money to buy that three luxurious cars. How miserable our life is. She could easily change her life without sweat. Most importantly, the man doesn't mind that she has a daughter," the other maid replied.

Maryam got even more upset hearing that. She gritted her teeth. Soon, an idea popped into her head. She quickly ran over to look for Catherine and George.

"Grandmother, Uncle George. Huh? Stanley, you're here too!"

When she arrived at the villa her grandmother stayed, she saw three people there having their

teas.

Catherin saw Maryam and noticed she was panting. "What's it? Did something happen?"

Maryam smiled. "Grandmother. I think Diane has gotten her mind straight."

"Straight? What do you mean?" Catherine frowned and asked curiously. George and Stanley also gazed at Maryam curiously.

Maryam walked over and sat down at a chair. "Diane has changed her mind. She's now together with a rich kid. That rich kid bought three cars for her and her family. One for her, one for Megan, and another one for Felicia. The car is the limited edition AB from Audi that cost two hundred thousand dollars each!"

"That expensive?" Stanley was also another person who hated to see Diane living a good life. Once he knew how much the car cost, he was shocked.

The car he had was not bad but it was not as expensive as the one Diane had now. Moreover, Catherine requested the Shanahans to live within their means and avoided splurging on branded luxury. Thus, he only bought a car that was around a hundred thousand dollars.

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Now that Diane and her family actually owe three cars that were better than Stanley! It meant they were better than him now!

"Rich kid from which family? Is it Edward? He had said it. If Diane was willing to marry him, he would give Felicia a million dollars of dowry. I didn't know he actually was willing to fork out more money to buy cars for them!" George said after giving it a thought.

Maryam shook her head. "No. I don't know him either. Maybe he's not from an upper-class family. Maybe he's just the son of a businessman. But it is still a lot of money!"

"You don't know? If you don't know him, it means he is not one of the rich kids that like her in the past. Geez, I'm shocked. Diane insisted on being together with Severine just a few days ago. She changed so fast!" Stanley sneered.

"Haha, she's such a good actress. Remember how she pretended to be pure and loyal? I guess she has succumbed herself to the power of money!"

"I agreed. She's so phony!" Maryam said.

On the contrary, Catherine's face looked sullen. She reprimanded, "Maryam, what nonsense are you talking about? She's your sister and we are a family. How could you say those things about Diane?"

Right now, Maryam just realized she had gone too far. "Grandmother, do you remember how she said she will only move back if you apologize to her? And she has been fighting against you. because of Severine. Bringing disgrace to our family. Now that Severin is back but it only takes her a few days to change. She's too…"

Stanley mocked. "I don't find it weird. I bet she finally realized Severin only has the look and nothing else after spending two days with him. That's the only reason she would find another man. Maybe she has faced the reality."

Catherine did not say anything. She thought for a while and said to Stanley, "Weren't you the one who say you can settle the young miss from the Longhorns? It's already been two days now. How's the progress?"

Stanley lowered his head embarrassingly and stuttered, "Grandmother, I-I haven't get it done. That woman is so hard to please. I tried to convince her to give us a share in the project but she refused. I bought flowers and branded bag to please her and she ignored me. I even told her we could share the profit with her if she agrees. I even offered money to her, under-table money and she still won't budge!"

"..."

think

A fresh swell of rage rose in Catherine. She scolded him, "Are you an idiot? Do you Charmaine is in desperate need of that money from you? Do you think she needs you to send her flower or buy her branded bag? She's the young miss of the Longhorns. Do you think she doesn't have any branded bag?"

It only frustrated her more when she thought about it. "Do you think really think your tricks on

pursuing those girls would work on Charmaine? She's probably thinking you are very annoying and disgusting!"

Maryam thought for a while. "So I think we shouldn't let Diane be together with that rich kids!"

"Why?" Catherine looked at Maryam curiously and wanted to know why she said that.

"Think about it. If Stanley could not convince Miss Charmaine. Then the only chance we have is to let Severin put in some good words for us with Mister Henry. If Diane is together with another

do you

think Severine will still help us? The answer is no!" Maryam answered.

man,

She continued, "So we must not let Diane get together with that rich kid. Tell them to return the cars to the rich kid. At least, wait until we got our spot in the Liberty City's project!"

Catherine did not express her opinion immediately. After a deep thought, she said, "Come on. Let's go over there to see who is so willing to spend so much money on her!"

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After Diane and Severin entered the house, she quickly let go of Severin's wrist. No one knew when rosy red color appeared on her cheek.

Severin felt happy and sweet like he had just eaten honey when he heard Diane calling him honey. It kinda surprised him Diane would blush after holding his hand for just a while. By all means, they had already had a daughter.

Nonetheless, Diane was pregnant because they accidentally slept together. Other than that, she had never had a relationship before. It was natural for her to feel shy like a teenager.

Moreover, she had been keeping her integrity other than the night she slept with Severin. That was why she still feel so shy..

"Diane, what did you call me just now? Can you call me again?" Severin walked over with a smile

and asked.

Diane rolled her eyes at him. "Nothing. What did I call you? Did you hallucinate?"

Surprisingly, Selene ran over and looked at Diane. "Dad. Mom is lying. She called you honey just now. She lied! Mom, didn't you say it's not good to lie? Why are you lying?"

Diane looked at Selene who looked confused and weird helplessly. She was speechless and did not know what to say.

"I'm an adult. Sometimes adult lies but that's a white lie. Children are not allowed to lie. Do you understand?" she squatted down and explained after thinking about it.

Selene pouted and said it like she understand it. "Oh. So adults can lie but children cannot lie. I see.

Everyone saw it and was amused by her.

"Selene, come over here. Let me hug you!" Felicia was growing more fond of Selene, especially since Selene was her granddaughter. However, Selene hid behind Diane and only showed her little head to look at Felicia. She was a little scared.

"You silly girl. Why are you scared of me?" Felicia was embarrassed.

"Damn. It feels so good just now!" Megan sat on the couch relaxingly. "Maryam always said sarcastic things to Diane and us. Her face turned black when she saw we had three luxurious cars!

"It does feel good. She never likes Diane and always tries to suppress Diane. What a lunatic!" Felicia said.

By then, William had made up tea and served it on the coffee table. "Judith, Maurice. Here, have some tea."

"You're too kind, William!" Maurice quickly stood up and bowed a little to accept the tea from William.

"Oh no. This is the first time we visit. I forgot to buy some gifts. It happened too fast. Maurice, why

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Maurice stood up immediately too.

"Oh, you two. Please sit back down!" Felicia immediately stopped the two of them. "What do you mean you didn't buy anything? Didn't you buy a car for me and Megan? A luxury car worth two hundred and sixty dollars! Even Stanley the general manager doesn't drive such an expensive car! Isn't this good enough."

Judith and Maurice could only smile and sit back down. 'She's right, this should be considered a gift, but we just happened to have forgotten all about it earlier!"

They felt relieved that they did not come empty-handed at least.

Megan then stood up proudly and said loudly, "Hahahah! Stanley will probably be so jealous if he sees me driving such a luxurious car!" After ending her sentence, she discovered that Felicia was winking at her non-stop, so she frowned and asked, "What's the matter, Mom? Did you get sand in your eyes?"

However, she soon discovered that everyone had an uneasy look on their faces. When she turned around, she was startled to see that Stanley, George, Catherine, and Maryam had all just come in. Stanley, in particular, had a sour expression as he stood behind her.

"Don't you think you're being a little disrespectful to your cousin? It's not about whether I can't afford to drive such a good car. I just don't think it's necessary to waste all that money on such needless extravagance. Grandma's principle has always been to increase income and reduce expenditure. I am merely sticking to that." Stanley sneered coldly, and said again, "It's bad enough. that you're being wasteful, and it's even worse when you look down on your family members."

Megan was speechless. Stanley's remark served two purposes: to point out that he had been saving money while simultaneously chastising her for not knowing how to do the same. She decided to reply without showing any weakness. "How is it wasteful when we didn't even spend the Shanahans' money? This is a gift from my brother-in-law, so it shouldn't matter to you in the first place. Who are you to manage my brother-in-law's finances?"

After saying that, she thought of something again and could not help but add, "By the way, you claim to be pretty frugal for driving a car worth a hundred and sixteen thousand dollars, but I know, you love going to bars and spending tons of money on women. Is that what you call frugal?"

Stanley was pissed. "Don't make wild accusations without any evidence! While I do go to bars once in a while, I only do so to entertain clients. What do you know about these matters? You're just a bimbo with tits and no brains." He gritted his teeth and then lashed out angrily at Megan.

Maryam came to the old lady, leaned toward Catherine's ear, and whispered, "That's the man Diane hooked up with. She changes partners pretty quickly, I might add. I even heard her calling him 'honey'!"

The old lady glanced at Maryam with a hint of displeasure in her eyes. "This young man is Severin, and he is Diane's husband. Do you have a problem with that?"

"What?!" Maryam had a confused look. 'That's Severin? But how could that be? Isn't he some poor boy who just came out of prison?"

"Grandma....he's Severin?" Maryam gulped, looked at the old lady in surprise, and seemed to seek. her confirmation again.:

"Yes, he's Severin. Is something the matter?" Diane smiled faintly. "Didn't I tell you that I was confident of our chances to have a good life once Selene's father comes back? Have you forgotten?"

Maryam nearly fainted. Diane did say something like that when she mocked Diane before, but she thought that Diane's definition of 'a good life" was having decent food, clothes, and shelter. By contrast, what Diane had was not merely 'a good life', it was luxury at its finest!

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"He's Severin? I thought he just came out of prison. Is he that rich already?" Maryam frowned. She wondered if it was a dream because everything was simply so surreal to her.

On one side, Stanley said, "That's him alright. He's the one who made a big fuss at the hotel during Easton's wedding that day!"

After hearing what Stanley said, there was nothing Maryam could say despite her unwillingness.

Catherine remembered that she needed Severin's help with Liberty City and could not help but say to Diane, "Diane, you're back! Shouldn't you be introducing your man to us?"

Many years have passed since Diane was kicked out of the house, and although she did feel that her grandmother had crossed the line back then, she could not say that she hated the old lady either. After all, the only reason she got wasted and slept with Severin in a drunken encounter was because she did not want to marry Edward and ran away as a result. Therefore, she always felt that she was responsible for everything that happened after that, especially in terms of causing the Shanahans to lose their reputation in the past few years.

After hearing the old lady's tone, she forced a smile and said, "Grandma, this is Severin. That's his mother, Judith, and his father, Maurice!"

"Hello, ma'am!"

"Hey there, Grandma!"

Severin and his parents immediately greeted the old lady with a smile.

Before long, Diane introduced William, Stanley, and the rest to Severin and his family.

After the introduction, the old lady smiled. "You know, Diane...I do think I went too far in the past. I kicked you out when you are pregnant, and now that I think about it, I do feel that I've crossed the line. I

hope you won't hold a grudge against me anymore. From now on, the Shanahans will be your second home, and whenever you have some free time, I hope you'll come back and visit. more often."

There were traces of surprise in Diane's eyes, for she did not expect the stubborn old lady to take the initiative to apologize to her. Since her elder had already gone to such lengths to apologize to her, it was only right for her not to bear a grudge for what happened a few years ago.

She tried her best to force a smile and said, "I was wrong on my part back then too. My stubbornness brought disgrace to the Shanahans. I can't keep hating you, Grandma. You're still my grandmother no matter what happens.

"Hmph. At least you're aware that you brought disgrace to the family!" Maryam, who was standing on one side, folded her hands on her chest and muttered softly.

After hearing that, the old lady's face soured in displeasure and she said to Maryam. "Perhaps you could go back to your villa for now, Maryam. I have something to discuss with Diane and the others!"

1* Although Maryam was upset, she could only grit her teeth and put on a fake

smile before turning to leave.

After Maryam left, the old lady looked at Severin. "You're Severin, right? I'm not surprised that Diane fell in love with you back then. You really are a good-looking man. I heard that you're also proficient in medicine and have superb medical skills. I guess you're not that useless after all!"

"Thank you for your compliment, ma'am. I am, as you say, not that useless, haha!" Severin said with a faint smile.

Ludith and Maurice glanced at each other knowingly. They were no idiots, and they knew exactly what the old lady was implying. Though she no longer held a grudge about what happened five years ago, she still seemed very unsatisfied with their son.

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"Those three cars outside....did you buy them?" Catherine asked again.

Severin nodded. "That's right!"

The old lady then smiled and said, "But you were just released, weren't you? Where did you get so much money?"

Severin was speechless. 'This old woman is asking too many questions."

However, he felt that it would not be inappropriate to ignore her, so he smiled slightly and said," To tell you the truth, I met a savant in prison and we developed a very good relationship. He eventually gave me a lot of money, so these cars are like spare change to me!"

The old lady was stunned for a moment. She clearly did not believe Severin's explanation one bit, because in her opinion, whatever money Severin had must have been given to him by Henry Longhorn. After all, Severin had saved Henry, and it was logical to expect Henry to give Severin some money in addition to a villa.

"Well, we'll be family from now on! At the very least, you'll become the Shanahans' son-in-law. If Diane marries you, then you'd be part of the Shanahans too, right?" The old lady nodded and asked Severin again.

Behind them, George and Stanley glanced at each other but made no objection. Deep down, they did not want a nobody who just came out of jail to become the Shanahans' son-in-law. However, they did not dare to say another word since Catherine had already made her stance known.

On the other hand, Severin did not expect the old lady to accept him that quickly. Though she still looked down on him a bit, she nevertheless still accepted the fact that he was Diane's husband.

He smiled slightly and nodded. "You're right. From now on, we're all family. Diane's family is my family too."

"Come now, let's all sit down and talk. Take your seat, everyone." The old lady beckoned everyone to have a seat and looked at Severin again before saying, "Our family needs your help with something, Severin. You won't refuse our plea as our new son-in-law, now, will you?"

Severin immediately understood why the old lady's attitude was completely different from the day of Easton's wedding. 'She's probably thinking about the Liberty City project!' That would explain why the old woman would have such a good attitude toward him and accepted him as Diane's husband so quickly.

After thinking about it again, he said, "You're right, Grandma. I'm one of the Shanahans now, and it's only right that I help the Shanahans."

Catherine was overjoyed when she heard that.

To everyone's surprise, however, Severin continued, "But this getting this Liberty City project isn't going to easy. Henry has already repaid the favor he owes me, and I'd feel bad for troubling him again!"

to fool bad about? You saved his life, and all we're asking is to get in on the project.

Is it that difficult ? He might think that you're a little pushy, but couldn't you lower your ego for our sake?" Upon hearing that, Stanley immediately stepped forward and remarked, "Besides, you are a part of the Shanahans now. It's only right for you to help us!"

Severin looked at Stanley, and then said with a faint smile, "Well, I can still give it a try, but I hope that you can agree to a small request of mine if I do eventually secure it for you!"

When the old lady heard that, her expression turned cold instantly. "Are you viewing this as some

sort of deal?"

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"What's the meaning of this, Severin? Grandma has shown her magnanimity to accept you, but rather than being grateful and making some contributions to the Shanahans, you treat it as some sort of a deal!" Stanley was only stunned for only a brief moment before glaring at Severin. To his surprise, Severin smiled faintly and said, "It's not that easy, you know. I'm a very realistic person, and I don't like doing things without getting anything in return!" He paused and then said, " Besides, haven't you always been very realistic too? If it weren't for my relationship with Mister Henry, I don't think the old lady would be so courteous toward me right now!"

"Severin, what are you talking about?" Felicia was taken aback and hurriedly stepped forward to persuade him.

However, Severin looked straight at the old lady and said, "It's up to you to consider it."

"Haha, how very bold of you!" Nobody expected the old lady to laugh so loudly at that moment." Okay then, let's do away with the charade. Since you've made yourself very clear already, I'd like to know what it is you want me to do in exchange for doing us this favor."

Severin then said, "Easy. Diane managed the company excellently in the past, but getting entangled with me changed her from being a strong woman in everyone's eyes to being in a bad situation now. I'm doing this for her sake here, and what I want is simple. Now that she's welcomed back into the family, I'm hoping that she could resume her position as the general manager of the Shanahan Corporation!"

Felicia initially wanted to scold Severin for demanding too much and being ungrateful, but she felt secretly delighted upon hearing Severin's request! After all, the best-case scenario would be for Diane

to continue working in the Shanahan Corporation. It had scarcely crossed her mind that Severin's request was for Diane's benefit instead of his.

She laughed. "I think Severin's right. Stanley took over from Diane's position when she was kicked out of the family, but now that she's back, shouldn't he make way for her to return?"

"Nonsense!" Stanley was incensed by what he heard. He glared at Severin and Felicia as he said, wonder what's going on in your minds! You should've been grateful that the old lady allowed Diane to come back and let bygones be bygones. You must be dreaming if you think you can demand that Diane be made the general manager again! She would never be allowed to resume her position, even if it means having to forgo the Liberty City project!"

Catherine remained silent for a moment. She looked at Severin, then at Diane, and then said, "Give me three days to think about it!"

Stanley, who had been trying to show dominance earlier, was stunned senseless after hearing that. He turned around, looked at the old lady in disbelief, and said, "You're kidding, right? Why would you even consider something like that? How can you listen to a loser son-in-law like Severin? And besides, you're the Shanahan matriarch! How could you let yourself be bullied by him?"

"Don't make wild accusations, Stanley. I never bullied her. This is a fair deal!" Severin said

Levrau whether or the Shanahans can get the quota for the Liberty City project has

nothing to do with me. Diane is marrying me, not the other way around. You understand, don't you?

"Marry you? She's still our family's eldest daughter. Do you know how much effort the family put, into nurturing and raising her? You gave her no dowry and held no wedding for her, and yet you have the

gall to say that she's marrying you?" Stanley glared at Severin and said in disdain, "Look in the mirror, why don't you!"

"Hehe, don't worry, my brother-in-law has already said that he'll make up to Diane in terms of the wedding. He'll also give my parents seven and a half million dollars as dowry. Everything's already settled, Stanley. Don't get yourself in a twist over it!" Megan then stood up and stood up Severin.

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After all, Stanley was their common enemy because of how often he bullied her family. She was well aware of that fact.

At this time, the old lady also looked at Stanley. "Do you think I've been oblivious to what you've been doing in the past few years? Everything's been going downhill in the past three years, and you've even learned how to falsify accounts! What do you take me for? A senile old woman? Our family has lost a lot of money in the past two years, and if this continues, we might not even be able to keep our spot as a third-tier upper-class family!"

Stanley lowered his head in an instant and he no longer had the confidence he had before. Clearly, his silence spoke volumes. Furthermore, he did not expect that the old lady had been secretly investigating the company's accounts, to the extent of knowing about his fraudulent practices.

"Grandma's the wisest! Our family company thrived when Diane was the general manager!" When Megan heard the old lady making such a remark, she immediately chimed in too.

After thinking for a while, the old lady said again, "You're all my family, and I don't want our future to be ruined simply because of personal interests. Don't you think it'll be a joke if we can't even keep our status as a third-tier family?"

"You're right. We must secure a future for the Shanahans!" Felicia felt that her chance to return to the glory days was within reach, and she continued, "By the way, Mom, you don't need to worry so much about it. I'm sure Severin will handle it well. The most he'll have to do is be a little

shameless. I believe that Mister Henry will still show him some courtesy nonetheless!"

All of a sudden, several bodyguards ran in. "Bad news! Bad news!"

"What's the matter? Why are all of you making such a fuss!" The old lady had been somewhat upset at first because it was obvious that Severin was forcing her hand. However, for the sake of the Shanahans' future, she had no choice but to ask Severin to help her secure the Liberty City project. Moreover, Stanley had been incompetent, and she was very disappointed as a result. Having someone else take over as the general manager was an option she previously considered, but the lack of a suitable candidate hampered her from making a decision. Diane's return would be a good opportunity to finally set that plan into motion. In addition, she was also very much. aware of Diane's business acumen.

Just as she was feeling very upset, the bodyguards ran in, and she glared at them impatiently as a result.

"The head of the Chavezes is here with Mister Rufus. They're asking us to hand over Severin and Miss Diane or else they'll start attacking the Shanahans!" a bodyguard said meekly. "What?!" The old lady was taken aback when she heard that. The Chavezes were a second-tier family, and one that the Shanahans would not dare to offend under normal circumstances.

'Why are the Chavezes here all of a sudden? The old lady wondered. She then looked at Severin and asked, "Did you offend them, Severin?"