

## **Billion Rich 181**

### Chapter 181

In the blink of an eye, three days passed.

As usual, Ada Wang's arrival at Medo drew the attention of both the nation and the world.

On the day of the banquet, Skyler had already chosen a stunningly gorgeous purple high-end gown for herself and had carefully rolled up her hair, looking beautiful from head to toe.

Aubree dressed up naturally and attended the banquet, her hair tied up high to reveal a pair of large emerald earrings and the Imperial Green Jade Pendant, the size of a bottle of essential balm, as if she was wearing a villa worth tens of millions of dollars.

"Mom, I recall you have a piece of jade that is superior to this bottle of 'Wind Oil Essence! Why don't you don it?" Skyler queried inquisitively.

"No need to mention it. It breaks my heart!"

Aubree gritted her teeth and clenched the 'Wind Oil Essence' tightly. "Isn't it to pay back the debt of that little brat, Grace? I don't know what offense they have committed to owe tens of millions!"

"I don't have the money I can use at my disposal. The higher-ups have been scrutinizing it carefully. There haven't been any patrons in the boutique for two months, so I have to relinquish my affection and sell the jade to Brown Group to plug the gap!"

"My word! You are truly merciless. If I'm to have you, I must shed copious tears. That is my father's birthday present!"

Skyler also felt pain for her mother, but she asked in confusion, "But I really don't get it. Why are you going out of your way to help the Brown family like this? Why don't you just let these no-good relatives die?"

“Humph!” Aubree grumbled discontentedly. “I want to...”

When training Grace to approach and seduce Joseph, she had a mentality of winning, never expecting to make a mistake and lose everything!

Not only did she fail to gain control over Joseph, but the chess pieces she had set in place ended up defeating her as well!

Yesterday, Grace had savored the sweetness of extorting her aunt Aubree. Grace had called from Nialzuct, demanding money, and her hatred for Aubree was so intense that she almost wished Grace dead.

It was a bad idea to kill Grace, for she would never act unless absolutely necessary.

Therefore, she thought of the technique of “recycling” and promised that she would find a way to get Grace back to Medo soon. Only then did she calm the situation down.

“Mom, what do you

think about me wearing this?”

Skyler happily spun around. Ever since that day when she saw Vincent in a purple shirt, she had chosen a purple evening dress for tonight. It was like wearing a matching outfit with Young Master Anderson. “Tonight, I’m sure to wow the entire crowd. I must not let down the Sawle Group!”

“Tonight’s protagonist is Ada Wang, a renowned celebrity abroad. How can you be so incredible?”

Aubree snorted and reached out to pull down Skyler’s deep V collar, which was about to reach her navel. “You don’t get many chances to connect with Young Master Anderson, so you should concentrate more on him instead of squabbling with those black-eyed chickens.”

“What’s the point of you looking more attractive than them? The important thing is whether you can gain access to the Anderson family’s home or not!”

Grace, crippled, had always seen Annie as good-for-nothing, and was content to not be embarrassed by her.

Therefore, she pinned all her hopes on Skyler and endeavored to marry him into the high society, confident that her daughter’s family had the power to ensure a smoother path for the Sawle Group’s rise to power.

“Mom, don’t fret. I’m sure I’ll be the Anderson family’s Young Madam this time!” Skyler declared with assurance.

“Oh? You have a way?” Aubree raised her eyebrows inquisitively.

“Mom, Young Master Anderson’s sister, Zoey, has returned from Puplen. She said she can help me! You know how much Anderson adores his sister. With her around, I can’t worry about being his sister-in-law. The more Skyler spoke, the more excited she became, as if one foot was already in the Anderson family.”

Zoey?”

Aubree’s willowy eyebrows tightened as she remembered when Vincent used to bring a porcelain-doll-like little girl to Mazeland Manor in search of Joseph. The little girl had been very clingy and had wished she could attach herself to that bastard.

“Ah, there’s no such thing as a free ride in this life. Aren’t you worried that you’ll be hit with a hefty bill?”

Aubree sat on the sofa and idly tapped her red nails. “Zoey won’t do you any favors without something in return. Did she make any demands?”

“Mom! No wonder Dad’s so fond of you. You’re really clever!”

“Skyler said, sitting next to her mother, that Zoey is interested in Joseph and her condition is to marry him.”.

“What? How can this be?”

“Zoey is Anderson Group’s daughter. Her brother and that scoundrel are in a relationship. If Zoey marries him, wouldn’t that rogue be like a tiger that has grown wings in Sawle Group? There will be no place for me!” Aubree’s voice suddenly became shrill.

“But, Mom, I’ll still marry Anderson Group. That way, I can help you too!” Skyler’s face paled as he was taken aback by her reaction.

Aubree pursed her lips, which were adorned with a coat of crimson lipstick. Her eyes were dark and quiet for a moment before she suddenly inquired, “How far has Zoey and Joseph’s relationship progressed?”

“There’s no such thing as that,” Skyler pouted, looking depressed. “From what Zoey said, it seems Joseph is fixated on that scoundrel Chloe – Zoey hasn’t got a chance at all.”

“Fantastic!”

“Mom, what do you mean by that?”

“You really are a dimwit. This is a great chance to stir up the connection between Joseph and Vincent!”

“Vincent is the sole son. Despite the fact that Anderson Group is now backed by the Old Master, Vincent has the substantial shares his father bequeathed him. In the future, Anderson Group will be his!”

“If we used Zoey to create a rift between Vincent and Joseph, it would be much more impactful than allowing a young girl to marry in as a mere placeholder!”

“I’m aware of Joseph’s character. If he doesn’t desire it, it would be pointless to try and make him accept it. Therefore, even if Zoey doesn’t wed him, it could become a source of contention between Joseph and Vincent’s friendship.”

“Their friendship won’t be the same anymore!”

Skyler, suddenly realizing, looked up at Aubree with an expression of adoration.

A faint knock sounded at the door at that moment.

“Come in!” Aubree put away her malicious gaze, composed and unperturbed.

Annie, clutching the little bear, slowly pushed open the door a crack and timidly slipped in from the outside.

When Skyler saw her sister, she thought of the great animosity between them, and wished she could tear Annie and the teddy bear in Annie’s hand to shreds!

“Annie? What are you doing here?” Aubree inquired nonchalantly.

“Mom, mommy...”

Annie bowed her head and embraced the bear tightly in her arms. In a barely audible voice, she queried, “May I... May I join the dinner tonight?”

Aubree and Skyler were both taken aback. It was the first time that this little sister, who had almost been invisible to them, had ever taken the initiative to ask for something.

“Oh dear, my sweet little sister, your virtuous and naive persona is about to be shattered.”

Skyler crossed her legs and said in a peculiar tone, “You heard that Young Master Anderson will be there too, so you can’t help but be eager to meet your dream love? After all, you experienced the joy of being close to Young Master Anderson last time, so you can’t help but want to throw yourself into his arms again? Why are you so flirtatious?”

“I, I didn’t!” Annie had long since forgotten about Vincent, including the ridiculous yet lingering kiss in the grass.

“Sis,” Skyler rolled her eyes in disgust, “you can’t always rely on luck. Don’t you know you’re mentally ill?” She scoffed. “You’re nuts. Aren’t you scared of scaring Young Master Anderson?”

Annie’s face, as white as snow, instantly stiffened. The little bear she held was slightly misshapen.

“Annie, it’s not appropriate for you to go to tonight’s event. Just stay home obediently.”

“Also, no matter what transpired between you and Young Master Anderson in the past, I’m willing to let it go. But don’t you dare cause any more trouble for your sister, or else I’ll make sure you’re severely punished. Got it?” Aubree’s eyes darkened.

“Mommy! I just really want to see Ada Wang... I’m really into the movie she’s in!” Annie was so eager that tears welled up

her eyes.

in

“Who would believe such a flimsy excuse? Mom, don’t fall for her lies. She may look honest, but she’s actually very deceitful.

She just wants to get her hands on Young Master Anderson!” Skyler gritted her teeth and said hatefully.

“Annie, don’t stand in your sister’s way. You’ve already got me really mad, so don’t give us any more grief.” Aubree spoke in a stern voice, as if she had no familial connection to her.

Annie stood motionless, her head bowed, sniffing in a hurt way.

Her mother’s disregard and her sister’s hatred left her unable to lift her head in this family.

She was a daughter who was ill.

She was a daughter who had brought shame upon the family.

She should not be here, she was an unnecessary presence.

Chapter 182

Ada Wang’s first visit to Medo drew much media attention, with Sawle Group’s extensive publicity resulting in headlines for the first three days being focused on the international superstar and the hotel she was staying in.

Throughout this period, Sawle Group kept citizens’ knowledge up to date.

Although black and red were both shades of red, the situation of Sawle Group Hotel was particularly dire. It could not bear such darkness!

For decades, Sawle Group Hotel has been renowned as the top brand hotel of Medo and the entire nation. It has been the preferred accommodation of distinguished guests from the fields of politics, diplomacy, economy, culture, and sports. Whenever the former president of the East Country visited Medo, he stayed at Sawle Group Hotel.

In the past six months, a series of events have caused Sawle Group Hotel’s reputation to take a nosedive. Now, when people think of Sawle Group, they think of Joseph’s green light and Grace’s notoriety.

If one wanted to build a good image, it would take a long time, but it could collapse in an instant!

effor

Therefore, Joseph invested considerable effort and resources to persuade Ada Wang to join and help restore the reputation of Sawle Group Hotel.

He wanted to win this battle more than Chloe did.

It was 6 p.m. in the evening.

Outside the hotel, reporters and fans had already gathered, eager to get a glimpse of Ada Wang's superstar style.

A high-quality red carpet was laid neatly outside the door.

"I'm an absolute die-hard fan of Ada Wang! I've seen all seven of her movies! Time has flown by – I'm finally going to meet the goddess in person!"

"Upon examining Medo, it's clear that the hotel must be Sawle Group! KS WORLD is an outsider, after all; its reputation, amenities, and conditions cannot compete with Sawle Group!"

"Recently, however, the Sawle Group's series of operations has been quite perplexing and opaque..."

"That won't impede his progress in the hotel business! Ada Wang's presence here is a testament to Sawle Group's might!"

The bodyguard opened the door of the luxurious Lincoln.

Ada Wang exited the car to the cheers of her adoring fans.



Ada was a mixed-blood of the three East Law countries, with dark brown curly hair and beautiful Eastern-style eyebrows. She was tall at 1.76 meters, with long legs and broad shoulders that made her stand out among women. Her bones were deep and solid.

Coming to Medo for the first time, she was taken aback by the enthusiasm of the fans, yet her usually proud and arrogant demeanor softened into a faint smile as she waved to them.

“Ah! Ada! I grew up watching your movies!”

“Oh my goodness! Why doesn’t she age? She’s so gorgeous!”

Under the protection of her manager and bodyguards, Ada entered the hotel and, using a special ladder, made her way to the banquet hall.

Upon seeing Ada arrive, Joseph calmly strode forward and warmly shook her hand.

“Welcome to Medo, Miss Ada!”

Tonight, Joseph was still dressed in four elegant and handsome suits.

His aura was just as powerful as that of the superstar.

“Hello, Mr. Sawle,” Ada said as she shook his hand.

“Is this your first time visiting Medo? Are you acclimated to it yet?”

“My mother hails from the East, and is from Medo. Thus, Medo can be said to be a part of my family. Even though this is my first time here, I was captivated by the atmosphere after taking in the scent of the air.”

Joseph had a good image and temperament, speaking in a proper manner that relieved the embarrassment of their first meeting. As they walked into the banquet hall, they talked and laughed.

Celebrities with fragrant clothes and hair filled the hall.

The audience was captivated by Ada Wang's presence, and even some A-list celebrities couldn't contain their enthusiasm, wanting to rush up and take a photo with the superstar.

This was a celebrity who could only be spotted at the Oscars and Cannes.

Almost all the female stars were eagerly gazing at the handsome Mr. Sawle.

Now that the unappealing "goalkeeper" of Grace had fallen, there were plenty of noble ladies and wealthy men who were eyeing the position of Sawle Group's madam.

He was the true Fifth Diamond King; all others were mere Sixth-Rate Imitators.

Aubree and Skyler stood at the side, champagne in hand, reduced to backboard as members of Sawle Group's family. Despite their delicate makeup, their faces were dark with despair.

"Mom, aren't we part of the Sawle Group too? Why are we backing Joseph?"

Skyler muttered angrily, and Aubree's tension grew.

Used to the glory of her life as the wife of Sawle Group's chairman and a movie star, how could she stand this kind of cold

treatment?

Aubree, thus, donned a false smile, swayed her hips, and strode towards Joseph and Ada.

“Miss Ada, I’ve heard a lot of great things about you. Today, I can see that you truly are remarkable.”

Ada gazed at Joseph and said, “This is...”

“I’m Aubree Bell, the wife of Jake Sawle, Chairman of the Sawle Group,” she said, lifting her chin slightly in a show of haughtiness.

“Mr. Sawle,” Ada said without looking at Aubree, “I don’t understand what she’s saying, but there’s no need for you to interpret it for me; I’m not interested in her identity.”

Aubree, with her second-half English level, only comprehended one-third of what she was discussing.

Just as she was about to reintroduce herself in English, Joseph smiled lightly and said, “We’re two of a kind. I don’t plan on introducing you to anyone who doesn’t matter.”

Aubree was completely stunned by this sentence.

Amidst the laughter, she could still make out the conversations of those around her.

“Wow... Ada has the audacity to respond to the wife of the chairman of Sawle Group like that. She’s really courageous and daring! I thought she was a good actress, but now I realize she’s acting in a positive manner!”

“Wow, that’s hilarious! Ada Wang is from Nialzuct, and she doesn’t seem to care about the domestic market at all. How can she possibly view you, the wife of the chairman of the board of directors?”

“That’s correct. Aubree’s wealth cannot be flaunted in front of Ada!”

Aubree’s face reddened, then paled, and the wrinkles at the corners of her eyes grew deeper as she heard the ridicule.

“However,” she said, “I must admit I’m quite shameless. How can I bear it? I’m trying to put on a brave face and say, Miss Ada, you know our hotel and KS WORLD have always been rivals.”

“The

reason you decided to join us for dinner tonight is due to your appreciation of our Sawle Group Hotel. As the female host of Sawle Group, I am humbled.”

Joseph’s gaze was cold and aloof.

Female host of Sawle Group? She really knows how to flatter herself.

The atmosphere suddenly became awkward.

Max hastily acted as the mediator, translating Aubree’s words to Ada while stirring up the situation.

“No, I don’t believe you’re right.”

“KS WORLD is the same as Sawle Group, both are excellent hotels,” Ada shook her head.

“I decided to go to Sawle Group’s dinner. It wasn’t because Sawle Group’s hotel was superior to KS WORLD’s, but because

Mr. Sawle’s practical actions and charisma had a profound effect on me.”

Ada’s words made Aubree’s cheeks flush as if she had been slapped.

Ada Wang appeared haughty and conceited, yet she was actually quite intelligent.

By following Aubree's words in front of everyone, even if she was just pretending, it would be tantamount to admitting that Sawle Group Hotel was superior to KS WORLD.

In this way, not only would she be stepping on KS WORLD's toes, but also risking offending one of the world's top 500 companies, leaving her with no other option than to let Sawle Group take charge of her wedding.

She was too smart to be taken in by this woman's trap so quickly!

The door to the banquet hall opened, casting a slightly depressing atmosphere.

Zoey glided in, her pink evening dress adorned with millions of stars sparkling around her. She moved with a light, graceful step, like a fairy among the flowers. All eyes were upon her.

"Is she the protégé of the renowned pianist, Christian?"

"She is not only a female pianist; she is also the sister of Young Master Anderson of the Anderson Group!"

"Young Master Anderson's sister?! Doesn't that mean my future sister-in-law?!"

"Then who is my sister-in-law? Skyler? Hmm... I'm not too fond of her. She looks really downcast."

Skyler suddenly let out a sneeze.

When she spotted Zoey, her eyes darted around like radars, frantically searching for Vincent.

In the end of her disappointment, she realized the shallowness of her relationship with Young Master Anderson.

When Zoey noticed that all eyes had moved from Ada Wang to her, she felt a great sense of pride.

She tried her utmost to persuade Joseph to let her play the piano, with the aim of quickly becoming renowned in Médo's upper circles and having them remember her for it.

The Anderson family couldn't help but think of Vincent, an unattainable existence that could not be overlooked.

Zoey, her long skirt swaying, walked step by step towards Joseph, her beautiful face beaming with an incomparably sweet

smile.

Joseph, however, merely glanced at her indifferently, his frigid demeanor sending her heart into a panic.

Suddenly, the sound of sharp, steady, and decisive footsteps from high-heeled shoes echoed outside the door.

Tok, tok, tok...

So familiar, it's very familiar!

Joseph's heart constricted as he stared fixedly at the door, not blinking.

His breathing instantly became chaotic.

Chapter 183

Zoey had the banquet hall door behind her.

In her opinion, Joseph was gazing at her.

“Second brother...”

Zoey, cheeks flushed with excitement, walked over to the man with a happy stride.

Suddenly, she was hit with a shocking scent of a rose, bright and flamboyant, yet dangerous and alluring.

Tok, tok, tok...

The sharp, fierce clacking of high heels passed her, and her heart involuntarily tightened. She felt the overpowering presence of that woman, and she could not bring herself to breathe!

Everyone was shocked, and Joseph, his dark eyes deeply locked on Chloe’s delicate and cold face, was even more stunned on the spot.

Her features were like a painting, her face as cold as frost, yet her red lips were like flames, restlessly dancing on the tip of Joseph’s heart.

Chloe was dressed in a tall, low-key black suit.

Her pretty face made her destined to stand out among a group of orioles and swallows, so she could not remain inconspicuous.

Everyone was talking about it; Chloe’s arrival was as devastating as a thunderclap.

Aubree and Skyler shivered upon seeing the uninvited guest break in.

a cry of despair. Suddenly, a low cry of despair escaped from someone, unable to be contained.

“I’m aware of who she is! A while back, some renowned magazines and websites paid her a visit. She is Stefan, the chairman of KS Group’s daughter! Presently, she is the general manager of KS WORLD Hotel!”

“Yes, indeed! I recall! Her name appears to be... Chloe!”

“Is she the one who’s been feuding with Mr. Sawle? She’s gorgeous, but it’s clear she’s not a good person!”

“I’m familiar with the science of physiognomy. This woman has the typical dragon-like eyes and a graceful phoenix-like

neck. Empress of the Tang Dynasty had this kind of look too. Her regal presence is indescribable!”

“I’m not familiar with the deep research you’re discussing. I’m just a pup. All I can tell is that she and Mr. Sawle look great together. Don’t be adversaries, be family!”

Upon hearing the gossip, Joseph’s heart still burned with rage.

Upon hearing the last sentence, his furrowed brows eased slightly.

Inexplicably pleasing to the ear, yet little.

As Chloe walked past Zoey, stealing away all the glory and attention that had been hers, Zoey’s anger was so intense that her soul seemed to leave her body and her eyes turned red.

What made her even more resentful was the intensity of Joseph’s gaze, his eyes burning hot as he stared at Chloe.

In her impression, this man’s eyes had always been dark and dismal.

She had never seen him look at any woman with such a passionate and warm gaze.



Did he still hold her in his heart?

Did he fall in love with her?!

“Lady Ada, Mr. Sawle, I’m here without an invitation. Is that okay with you?”

Chloe stood gracefully before them, her red lips and white teeth forming a comforting smile. Being younger than Joseph, she addressed Ada not as ‘Miss’, but as a ‘lady’ in a more respectful way. “Certainly, I wouldn’t object to Miss Thorp joining us. Furthermore, I’m delighted to have you here.”

“Had I been aware that Miss Thorp was coming, I would have extended an invitation to you too,” Joseph uttered with a complex emotion.

“There’s no need to go through so much hassle,” Chloe said with a smile. “Mr. Sawle should be aware that I’m not here for the banquet.”

The man’s countenance, cold and handsome, suddenly dropped.

Max’s forehead was beaded with sweat as he quickly pulled out his mobile phone and sent a message to the bodyguard outside the door.

[What the hell is going on?! ]

[I’m sorry, Secretary Johnson! We don’t know where that Miss Thorp came from either...]

[What are you talking about?! Can she grow out of the ground?!]

[It is our dereliction of duty! We are willing to accept punishment! We will immediately bring this Miss Thorp out! ]

[Is there something wrong with your brain?! This is the daughter of the richest man in Sea Gate, Stefan. She is someone that Mr. Sawle cares a lot about! If you dare to touch her, Mr. Sawle will remove you! Do you understand?!]

[Now pay attention to the situation around us. If there is a problem, report it immediately!]

“Oh my god!”

Ada Wang suddenly covered her mouth and exclaimed, her eyes lighting up. “President Thorp, is that brooch you’re wearing on your chest Alexa’s work, “Twilight of the Gods”?”

“Yes, Lady Ada,” Chloe replied with a smile. “This brooch is ‘Twilight of the Gods.’”

Due to her remarkable looks, everyone was captivated by her. They failed to observe the yellow diamond brooch on her chest. It was the “Twilight of the Gods” that had won the gold award at the international jewelry design contest.

“The jewelry designed by Alexa? It dazzled me! I really want to go up and feel it!”

“Haven’t you heard the news already? This brooch is worth hundreds of millions! The 10-carat yellow diamond on it is valued at tens of millions. It’s the envy of many jewelry collectors!”

“As expected of the daughter of the wealthiest man in Sea Gate. She is incredibly generous!”

“The piece of Wind Oil Essence on Aubree’s neck is pricey, but it still falls short of Alexa’s jewels!”

Aubree was so angry that she gloomily coughed.

Falls short?!

Jake had bought her the most valuable imperial green jade at the auction, yet they said it fell short?!

Aubree inwardly cursed the eighteen generations of Grace's ancestors, wondering how she could have been so humiliated that night if it weren't for the need to fill a hole in the Brown family.

"President Thorp, ever since I saw the graceful beauty of Twilight of the Gods in the exhibition hall two years ago, I haven't been able to get it out of my mind. I never thought I'd find it here with you!" Ada couldn't help but express her envy, her voice full of admiration.

Zoey's chest filled with anger, and her gaze, sharp as an awl, almost pierced through Chloe!

She couldn't decide what to be jealous of first about the woman. Her beauty made her envious, as did the piece of jewelry she was wearing, something even international superstars couldn't obtain.

She was also jealous with Joseph's intent gaze towards Chloe.

"Two years ago, I experienced something sorrowful in my life. I didn't leave the house for a while, so I decided to purchase a piece of jewelry to cheer myself up."

Chloe curved her lips softly, her voice tranquil. "Funnily enough, I also spotted 'Twilight of the Gods' in the exhibition hall. I really liked it. Seeing it made my bad mood dissipate, so I bought it without a second thought."

Joseph's heart and lungs stirred as Chloe's words were like knives. He couldn't bring himself to look directly into her bright- eyes.

Two years ago, he was running around trying to construct the "Heart of Crimson Flame".

Whenever Grace wanted something in the past, he would surprise her by sending it to her eyes, even if she hadn't asked for

Yet he was indifferent to what the previous Chloe wanted.

Joseph continued to gaze at Chloe, yet she did not meet his gaze.

She still held a grudge against him.

She held a grudge against him, not letting him go.

“The jewelry designed by Alexa was priceless!”

Ada looked at Chloe with appreciation in her eyes. “President Thorp, you must be a kind and generous soul.”

Chloe smiled serenely and removed the costly “Twilight of the Gods” from her chest. She then pulled out a silk handkerchief from her bosom and carefully wrapped the brooch in it. She then presented it to Ada with both hands.

“President Thorp, you are...”

“The Twilight of the Gods’ is, in my opinion, more befitting of Lady Ada’s courageous and heroic character.”

“I hadn’t planned anything for our first meeting. If it’s alright with you, I’d like to give you this brooch as a welcome present.”

Everyone was shocked into an uproar of disbelief!

Aubree, Skyler, and Zoey were so shocked that their mouths opened wide in astonishment!

This woman gave away a piece of jewelry worth hundreds of millions without even batting an eye?!

She was inhumanly wealthy!

Joseph pursed his thin lips in an instant, his fists clenched in cold sweat.

Chloe, what kind of mischief are you planning this time?

Chapter 184

Ada was taken aback with excitement, rendered speechless!

Almost everyone around her had begged for a jewelry design to be designed by Alexa, yet she still hadn't gotten it.

Chloe presented her with the brooch as a greeting gift, and her excitement was palpable!

"No, no, no... I appreciate President Thorp's kind gesture, but this gift is too valuable, I really can't take it." Ada was obviously delighted, yet she had to decline due to propriety.

"This brooch once comforted my aching heart, but now, I have fully stepped out of the darkness of that life, and I will never make the same mistakes again."

Chloe smiled lightly, and her eyes were unwaveringly determined. "This gift is more of a beautiful wish. It once helped me out of a dark place, so I hope this small thing will stay with you. I hope it will help you to get through everything in the future."

Joseph's pupils contracted, and he felt as if a bullet had pierced his chest, leaving his heart numb with agony.

Chloe ruthlessly smashed the secret joy on top of his head with a basin of cold water, cold enough to reach the bottom of his heart.

“Oh! In that case, I’ll gladly accept President Thorp’s gift. Much appreciated! I’m really fond of this present!”

Ada held up the brooch that Chloe had once again blessed with divine value, with her mouth full of smiles?!

Heavens, was this still the same cold international superstar? She had seriously been deformed!

“Why?!”

Skyler was livid and said to Aubree, “Mom, the Sawle Group put a lot of money into setting up this platform. Why should we let this Chloe character flaunt around here? Isn’t it just a worthless trinket? We, the Sawle Group, can afford it too!

“You should think of a way to get this slut to scram!”

“Think of a way? Why do I have to think of a way?”

Aubree’s eyes darkened, and she curled her lips maliciously, “Chloe is a bringer of misfortune. She came here to give me a hard time. Just

now, she used Ada to make fun of me. She was so arrogant, isn’t there someone who can avenge me?”

Although Skyler was angry in her heart, she muttered under her breath.

Before the divorce, Chloe was terrified of Joseph, like a frightened bird. Whenever he frowned, she would fret over it for days. Now that she was divorced, her aura was completely liberated, and she had Joseph firmly in her grasp.

Had Grace taken out this ability promptly, what could she have done?

“Miss Chloe!”

Zoey, finally boiling over with humiliation, took two steps forward to stand in front of Chloe and said with a false grin, “Can’y you give a present for Miss Ada at any other times? Why did you have to pick tonight, at the Sawle Group’s banquet, to do it?”

“Isn’t this an excessive suspicion of stealing the host role?!”

Joseph’s starry eyes suddenly dimmed when he saw Zoey take a step forward.

“Taking the host role just because I’m presenting a gift? Miss Anderson, you’re underestimating Mr. Sawle’s capabilities.”

“Besides, this is Sawle Group’s banquet. Mr. Sawle is standing here and observing everything. The proprietor hasn’t said anything, but Miss Anderson said this to me as a guest. Is this really necessary?”

Zoey was so enraged that her eyes were blazing, yet with so many people watching, she managed to maintain her composure!

Chloe sighed faintly and said to Ada guiltily, “My Lady Ada, it appears that I’m not wanted here. I get it. After all, Sawle Group and our KS Group have always been competitors. My showing up like this is too sudden.”

“Since my present has already been given, I won’t trouble everyone. I’ll take my leave now.”

After she had finished speaking, she turned and walked away.

“President Thorp, wait a minute!”

Ada hastily shouted to Chloe and hastened to her side. “I’d like to converse about the Alexa jewelry with you, President Thorp. Are you available this evening?”

“Absolutely. KS WORLD has already prepared some delicious Medo dishes and a nice bottle of wine for you. Why don’t we catch up over dinner?”

Everyone was taken aback!

Miss Thorp’s family was so bold that she dared to openly rescue someone from Sawle Group’s trap.

Joseph’s heart shrank as the anger that Chloe had set off rushed straight to his chest. He was just about to call out to Ada when he felt it.

“Mr. Sawle.”

Ada glanced at him and gave an apologetic smile. “Unfortunately, I have an errand to run, so I must be off. Wishing you all a wonderful time!”

Everyone was so shocked.

She had said all she needed to with just that one sentence?

She was just as the legends described: doing whatever she pleased and not easily served.

“Mr. Sawle,” Chloe said with a forced smile, “I don’t mind getting another set of chopsticks for you. Would you like to join me at the banquet?” Despite her invitation, her eyes lacked any hint of joy.

Joseph clenched his teeth tightly, his heart pounding against his ribs.

Just as he was about to speak, the woman suddenly laughed. “There are so many people here tonight, I’m afraid Mr. doesn’t have a moment to spare. Let’s wait for the next time; there’ll be an opportunity then.”

Sawle



Under the watchful gaze of all present, Chloe and Ada Wang departed the banquet hall as if they had been old friends for many years.

The hall was filled with a stifling silence.

Joseph stared intently at Chloe's delicate back, his chest filling with a blood aura that caused his peach blossom eyes to turn a slight shade of red.

The last time she was around, she had stolen his project.

This time, she stole his populace.

Chloe, how do you appear as a wealthy daughter who could rival a nation? You are certainly a robber who takes all by force!

Very good, very good!

-Joseph, without being aware of it, put his hand over his heart, yet he still felt hollow inside.

Chloe felt as if something was trailing her, only to be snatched away.

Many reporters were still gathered outside the hotel of Sawle Group.

Logically, Ada had already checked in; thus, after the banquet, she would return to the presidential suite to rest, rendering it pointless for the reporters to remain here – they should have gone back long ago.

However, the number of reporters present now was not much fewer than before the banquet started.

If something occurred, it would surely be a demon.

Jordan invited the reporters back, promising that there would be big news!

Some reporters were already growing impatient and voicing their complaints at this moment.

“What are we doing here on such a chilly day? What exciting news will there be tonight?”

“I surmise it’s because KS is unwilling to surrender and desires to fight a bit.”

“What can they do if they don’t give up? This place is actually Medo, not Sea Gate. Haven’t you heard the saying: ‘A powerful dragon can’t/subdue a local snake’?”

“Furthermore, Sawle Group was a local dragon. A foreign dragon like KS would certainly not accept water and earth. Moreover, Chloe was a woman. How could she compete with the wise and powerful Mr. Sawle?”

“Tsk, there’s nothing wrong with it! Even though Mr. Sawle is not very emotionally intelligent, he is a real whiz when it comes to business. KS is just a passing fad. There’s no chance of it succeeding!”

An ear-piercing sound of a car suddenly rang out, startling everyone!

The reporters, surprised, looked towards the big lights and saw a dark green, top-class Rolls-Royce with the logo of a crystal goddess slowly rolling up to the hotel’s main entrance and coming to a stop.

Everyone gazed at the imposing car, assuming that another celebrity must be inside. Undeterred by the potential repercussions, they hastened to the luxurious vehicle and snapped photos.

When the car door opened, out stepped Jordan, dapperly dressed in a suit. The flash of cameras suddenly ceased, leaving the

reporters looking disappointed.

Although this man was handsome, his looks alone could not make the headlines!

“Ah! It’s Ada Wang!”

Someone in the crowd shouted, drawing the reporters’ eyes back to the hotel’s front door.

Jordan had already opened the back door, his gentle gaze fixed in the same direction as everyone else.

Chloe and Ada, side by side, stepped into the crowd’s view, and the flashes of cameras reached a fever pitch! “What?! Ada Wang left Sawle Group’s cocktail party and was taken away by Chloe?!”

“It hasn’t even begun and his visitor has already been stopped. Where is Mr. Sawle going to show his face?”

“Oh my goodness! This is a huge headline! The confrontation between Sawle Group and KS is really intriguing. Quick, take the shot!”

The flashlights were so bright it was like daytime. Tonight, Chloe was the center of attention for the Sawle Group.

At this moment, the topic of twitter’s hot search also silently moved from #Ada Wang into Sawle Group Hotel#.

It turned into #Chloe, Ada Wang#.

Just as Chloe was about to get into the car, protected by Jordan, a reporter sharply asked.

“Miss Thorp! Did you really take away Mr. Sawle’s esteemed visitor right in front of everyone? Is this something you did? Isn’t that a bit extreme?!”

Chloe paused, her beautiful eyes suddenly lifting, her sharp gaze instantly shocking the reporter who had been attempting to provoke her.

Her skin was soft, yet her soul was incomparably sharp!

“Could it be that I’m not able to take Miss Ada out for a meal simply because she stayed at Sawle Group’s hotel?”

With a smile in her almond eyes, she placed the tall hat atop Joseph’s head. “Mr. Sawle is a generous person, yet he doesn’t utter a word. Everyone is speculating here, doesn’t that imply that Mr. Sawle is quite petty?”

Chloe gracefully got into the car, and the Rolls-Royce roared off.

Chapter 185

The banquet continued as usual on the part of Sawle Group.

Since Ada Wang had already been taken away by Chloe, everyone’s mood was somewhat subdued.

Originally, Zoey had dressed up to show off her talent in front of international superstars, driven by her vanity, but when Ada left, she had no chance to sing, rendering all her preparations futile.

It was all Chloe’s fault, that sinister and cunning woman!

Joseph stood tall and straight outside the banquet hall, his figure framed by the floor-to-ceiling window, resembling an ice sculpture, cold and rugged.

He stared in the direction the Crystal Goddess Rolls-Royce had driven off, his breathing heavy and fists secretly clenched.

“Mr. Sawle, although I hate to admit it, it appears Miss Thorp has outwitted us this time.”

Max wiped his sweat with trepidation. “The buzzwords on the trending searches are all related to KS. Our trending search is gone. What’s more, news of Miss Thorp openly picking up Ada tonight has spread in the circle. Even the chairman knows

about it.”

“Now... the external world is questioning our Sawle Group, asserting that we lack the capacity think through things before doing it, and questioning the overall standard of our hotel...”

Max had finished speaking and was already sweating profusely.

He had already anticipated the outcome when Chloe launched her attack; it was a full-on assault, leaving no room for the adversary to catch their breath.

Joseph gazed at the distant, unseen taillights of the Rolls-Royce and croaked, “Why did you go back on your word? Don’t you always address her as ‘Young Madam’?”

Max sucked in a breath of cold air and said weakly, “If she doesn’t harass you, she will be Young Madam... If she does harass you... it will be Miss Thorp.”

“It’s just a way of speaking. If you’d like to refer to her as ‘Young Madam’, I don’t have any objections.”

“Besides, I’m not really angry,” Joseph gasped. “The Young Miss of Thorp family has always been like this, hasn’t it?”

Had Mr. Sawle not gritted his teeth when fighting with the young madam this time, he was so open-minded.

Was he masochistic?

“However,” Joseph couldn’t help but be curious, “every guest must have an invitation letter to enter this banquet. The security in the hotel is tight. How did Chloe get in?”

“Hmm... I heard that before Young Madam arrived, the surveillance system had a brief malfunction. But just a few days ago, our hotel’s network equipment was fixed. It couldn’t have broken down so quickly. So I suspect that there was a hacker who either attacked or was infected with a virus.”

“Hacker?” Joseph frowned.

Could it be that this was also done by Chloe? Does she have the ability?

Or, which brother of hers had “aided the despot” once more?

“Second brother!”

Joseph’s thoughts were disturbed by a sweet and tender voice piercing through.

Hearing Zoey running towards him, the man’s frown deepened, not even wanting to turn around and face her.

“This Chloe is outrageous! She had the audacity to take Ada away right in front of you. It’s like she’s trying to humiliate you. She clearly doesn’t think much of you!” Zoey stamped her foot and seized the chance to mock Chloe.

She was well aware that men were adept at preserving their dignity, especially a man of high status like Joseph. She could not stand anyone defying his authority and causing him to lose face!

However, the man’s words made her face pale in an instant.

“You only met her the first day, so you don’t really know her yet. Miss Thorp’s family is like that; they never give me the time of day.”

“Second brother, what did you say?”

“But so what? I don’t have any concern about it.”

Joseph turned to look at Zoey coldly and said with a hint of anger, “However Miss Anderson, I’m perplexed by your behavior this evening.”

“Miss Anderson.” These words were like three iron daggers that pierced Zoey’s heart, causing such pain that she could not

move!

She was unfamiliar with her second brother, so much so that it felt like they were strangers.

Was he attempting to draw a distinct line with her?

“This is Sawle Group’s banquet, and I’m here. Under no circumstances should you lend a hand to Sawle Group.”

“But, brother, I’m also trying to help you out!”

Zoey was so anxious that her sweet voice almost turned into a quack. She quickly grabbed Joseph’s arm and said, “Do you want that bad woman to act so badly at your banquet? Let her snatch away your honored guest and make Sawle Group the butt of Medo’s jokes?!”

“She is too haughty. Why is she so conceited? Is she just relying on her status as your ex-wife?!”

When the voice ceased, Zoey was filled with panic, realizing she had spoken too much.

Sure enough, Joseph’s eyebrows twitched, and his cold face was blanketed with frost. “I was married before, that’s no secret. But knowing that Chloe is my ex-wife. Who told you about this?”

“It... It was my big brother!” Zoey forced herself to fib.

“Did Skyler tell you that?”

Zoey bit her lip and kept silent.

“The issue between Chloe and I is my own business. No one has the authority to meddle. She has already embarked on a new journey. Please don’t bring up her history with me.” Joseph’s voice was as deep as a rumble.

Zoey’s heart pounded like a drum, and she loathed herself.

Didn’t this man mean to speak up for Chloe, to protect her, and to safeguard her privacy?

“Ada Wang has departed. If you don’t wish to perform for the visitors tonight, I can send you back to the Anderson family whenever you like.”

Joseph withdrew his clear gaze from Zoey’s pale little face, then removed his arm and departed.

Max clicked his tongue twice and, with contempt, covertly appraised Zoey.

Was this inexpensive girl truly Young Master Anderson’s sibling?

No matter what, it was somewhat irritating.

“Second bro! Second bro! Joseph!”

The man kept going despite the first two calls, but when he heard Zoey call his name, he stopped.



“You’re so protective of Chloe. Is it because you’ve fallen for her? Do you have her in your heart?!” Zoey was so angry her voice cracked.

“No, I don’t have any love for her,” Joseph replied without hesitation,-

It seemed as if, in the next moment, some hidden emotions that even he was unaware of would become apparent.

“Then why are you standing up for her? Not only does she not care for you, but she also ridicules you. She took what was yours and ruined the feast that you toiled to put together!”

“She’s a real bad egg. She’s just causing you grief. Why are you taking her side?” Zoey’s voice was already shrill as she finished.

She was not as adept at feigning as Grace, for she had grown up in the loving embrace of the Anderson Group, where her desires were easily fulfilled; thus, she had always been able to express her wishes and act upon them.

For the first time ever, she felt defeated.

The more she sought closeness with Joseph, the more he seemed to retreat, distancing himself from her.

The man glanced over his shoulder, his gaze cold and almost inhuman, causing Zoey’s body to tense up immediately.

“Miss Anderson has never tied the knot, so she’s certainly unfamiliar with that phrase. It’s called ‘A day of husband and wife for a hundred days. We are, after all, man and wife, and I have been lenient with her. What’s the issue?’”

Zoey felt as if she had been struck by lightning, her cheeks blushing white and blue with embarrassment.

“Even if I don’t love her, she has been my woman after all. I’m the only one who can judge her; no one else is qualified.”

Cold rain fell from the night sky.

Annie, secretly fleeing from Mazeland Manor, held the bear close in her arms and braved the wind and rain until she finally hailed a taxi.

When Annie finally arrived at Sawle Group’s hotel, her thin, white, pure cotton dress was already soaked through.

The bear in her arms, however, remained dry and cool, not drenched by the rain.

Afraid to enter through the main entrance, she had to sneak into the hotel through the back door.

Avoiding all the guests in gorgeous clothes, she ran through the corridor with her small feet, folding her arms and drooping her wet long eyelashes.

“Stop right there!”

Annie abruptly halted, her heart pounding furiously.

She was unmistakably the Sawle Group’s daughter, yet at present, she was behaving like a thief.

Two patrolling bodyguards came over, casting disdainful glances at Annie. Her sorry state was evident, her ordinary clothes and downcast expression giving her the look of a beaten dog.

“There is an important gathering here tonight. Keep your distance!”

“I... I desperately want to see Ada... Please, let me go in and take a glance at her, alright? Just let me have a peek and I will be on my way!” Annie pleaded desperately.

“No way! You can’t enter without an invite. Get going, pronto!” The bodyguard had a gruff demeanor and was already trying to shoo her away.

“Gaze

upon

this place! Is it something a destitute student such as yourself can afford? Beat it!”

Annie was very fond of Ada, and she was born with an unyielding determination. Whatever she wanted to do, she would persist through any number of obstacles to make it happen!

Therefore, gritting her teeth, she held the bear tightly and took a few steps back. Then, she sprinted to the bodyguard for help!

“Ah!”

As a result, Annie, as weak as the wind, was grabbed by the arm of a tall and strong bodyguard, who then suddenly swung his hand and threw her out along with her teddy bear!

Horror causing her to close her eyes, yet she didn’t find herself on the ground.

She was enveloped in a strong, firm, and familiar hug.

Chapter 186

Annie’s delicate and charming little face was pale and fragile, her body as soft as cotton, instinctively seeking refuge in the man’s arms like a small animal avoiding danger.

Vincent lowered his eyes, feeling a chill in his chest, and his long, trembling eyelashes, like raven feathers, quivered.

The girl's wet and sticky touch melded with his warm skin through the thin black shirt, causing him to take a slight breath and subconsciously tighten his arms.

"Sister of vegetable flower?" He called her in a low, hoarse voice.

"Annie shut her eyes tightly and took hold of his freshly pressed garments, not uttering a single word."

Vincent couldn't help but inquire gently, "Are you injured?"

"She leaned her forehead against his chest and shook her head in disbelief."

She refrained from banning him and felt pity.

Upon seeing Young Master Anderson's arrival, the two bodyguards' attitudes changed drastically as they quickly bowed and greeted him respectfully.

"Good evening, Master Anderson!"

"What did you mean just now?" Vincent still held Annie, not letting go, but his tone was languid as he asked them.

"Oh, it's no big deal."

The bodyguard who had been the most stern with Annie just now smiled and said, "This young lady is a fan of Ms. Ada Wang. She was adamant about entering without an invitation letter. We tried to reason with her, but she wouldn't listen..."

"So, you took action?" Vincent's lips curved into a smile, and his eyes grew darker.

“It’s not a fight; we’re just doing business. We had to stop her from entering.” The bodyguards kept their distance from the important and the light. Of course, they couldn’t admit that they had just been bullying a little girl.

Vincent

刊

#

gave a

faint smile, then lowered his head and murmured in Annie’s ear, “Can I help you

let out your

frustration?”

Annie still didn’t have the courage to look him in the eye. She gave a slight nod and shook her head in response.

Vincent curled his sexy lips as he hugged Annie with his left arm. His right hand then reached into his wine-red velvet suit, taking out his phone to dial Joseph’s number.

“Hello, Mr. Sawle, may I speak with the people in the Sawle Group?”

The words left the two bodyguards speechless, exchanging bewildered glances.

Vincent slowly raised his left hand and rested it on the back of Annie’s neck. He tenderly stroked her damp hair. “Ah, your words have put me at ease.”

The man, bringing up the rear, helped Annie to remain steady and raised his hand in a gesture.

In the next instant, the well-trained bodyguards behind him surged forward, encircling the two bodyguards who had yet to comprehend the situation.

Annie, perplexed, stared at Vincent, whose left hand was tucked into his pocket, as he walked into the encirclement with a pale face. Immediately, the bodyguards in black closed in around him, blocking him from view.

“Ah -!”

“Oh -!”

The bodyguards tightly surrounded her, and Annie could not see what Vincent was doing; all she could hear were the screams that made her heart beat faster!

After a minute of beating, Vincent finally stopped, his cold gaze fixed on the two men kneeling before him. Taking the handkerchief offered by his bodyguards, he slowly wiped the blood from his back hand.

“You can’t even recognize the third lady from the Sawle family. What’s the point of having eagle eyes?”

The two bodyguards, trembling with fear, looked at Annie and then kowtowed to her.

“Fourth Miss, please forgive us! We beg your pardon; our dog eyes failed to recognize someone as esteemed as you! Please forgive us!”

Everyone knew that Anderson Group was adept at both pleasing and offending Young Master Anderson; thus, their future in Medo would not be a pleasant one.

“This is just a minor issue. I don’t need to bother your boss. I’ll handle it for him.”

Vincent still had a smile in his eyes. He raised his hand and flung the grimy handkerchief at them. "You two, get out of Sawle Group and Medo. If my people spot you here again, the next time you won't be so lucky."

"Much appreciated! Many thanks, Mr. Anderson! Appreciate it!"

Crying bitterly, the two men were carried out by Anderson Group's people, for which they had to be grateful.

Annie pursed her pink lips timidly, standing still out of fear.

Vincent once again strode ahead of her. He leaned in and gazed into her clear eyes, which were like a deer's. His face was incredibly handsome, and the corners of his lips curved into a mischievous smile. "Sis of vegetable flower, you are so enigmatic. The folks at Sawle Group don't even know you exist."

"Do you have to do this?" Annie's voice was feeble as she took a tiny step back.

"Do you think I'm pushing the boundaries?" Vincent narrowed his eyes.

"..." Annie lowered her long lashes and nodded.

"But why do I feel that it's not nearly enough?"

Vincent noticed her forlorn look was actually quite endearing. He couldn't help but reach out and stroke her silky hair. "You're Joseph's sister. They were picking on you. Of course, I had to step in."

"This time, it was my lightest attack. I was afraid of scaring you."

Annie felt the warmth of the man's palm slowly permeate her body through her hair.

She couldn't help but shrink her thin shoulders in the warmth and comfort, narrowing her eyes like a contented kitten.

Skyler, who had just emerged from the banquet hall, happened to witness this scene.

She had never anticipated that her sister, who had always been self-reliant, would make the journey from so far away!

“You little vixen! You enticed my man without even glancing his way. You're really shameless!”

Skyler's eyes widened in anger as she took two steps forward before reacting.

If Vincent was too impulsive, she would lose her words and deeds, which could make her sweetheart even more hateful at that moment.

After spending so much time with Grace, she had certainly picked up some skills; most notably, she had become more patient.

Her eyes darkening, she concealed herself in the shadows to watch them.

Vincent noticed her hair was wet and her white dress was soaked, indicating she had come in the rain.

His heart shrinking, he removed his high-grade red velvet suit and draped it over Annie's thin shoulder.

Skyler gritted her teeth, her facial features twisting beyond recognition in jealousy as she saw Young Master Anderson so concerned about that fool.

“Why are you in such a disheveled condition? Didn't the Sawle family's chauffeur bring you here?” Vincent inquired.

“No one knows that I came here; I came here secretly,” Annie replied truthfully.



“In secret?” Vincent furrowed his brows, unable to comprehend.

“Little, little big brother...”

Annie had no recollection of Vincent’s name nor of the kiss they had shared beneath the star-studded sky.

“Sister of vegetable flower, my last name is Anderson. My first name is Vincent, and I am a friend of your second brother.”

The smile on Vincent’s face broadened, “Call me Brother Vincent, Brother Anderson is fine. Little Brother... Heh, it seems like you’re trying to pull my leg!”

Vincent... Vincent Anderson?!

Annie remembered how Skyler had threatened her earlier, and every word she uttered seemed to be connected to the name Vincent.

She was struck with the sensation of being hit by lightning as she recoiled in terror.

However, Vincent did not realize that something was amiss. Instead, he clasped her frigid little hand and uttered with a grin, “I’ll get someone to switch out your clothes.”

“No... No need...”

“Don’t be so formal with me. Your second brother and I are like family. His sister is my help you change your clothes.”

Vincent and her hand in hand, walked onward.

“Brother, Brother Anderson.”

Annie was not a fool.

sister. Let’s go. I’ll

get someone to

She felt uncomfortable being held by an unfamiliar man like this, but she didn’t dare to resist. Her small hand was tightly clenched in the man’s palm. “Do you treat my sister the same way? She’s also my second brother’s sister...”

Skyler? Heh, was she worthy?

“No,” Vincent lowered his gaze to meet hers, and his smile was as radiant as the morning sun. “I only treat you this way.”

Skyler listened to him in silence, her anger boiling to the point of explosion!

Her gaze turned into a knife that looked like it would ruthlessly cut at Annie’s back.

Chapter 187

Vincent opened a presidential suite in the hotel and asked the female secretary to swiftly purchase a relatively low-key dress for Annie to change into.

Annie went to the room to change her clothes, while Vincent was sitting alone on the leather sofa with his long legs crossed. His left arm rested on the edge of the sofa, his right hand on his knee in a kowtow.

He was like a groom in a black suit, awaiting the bride to try on her wedding dress.

Soon, the door opened.

Smiling, the female secretary gently nudged Annie, who was bashful, out of the room.

“Mr. Anderson, Miss Sawle’s attire has been altered.”

Vincent, turning his head lazily, saw Annie approaching him with small steps, wearing a wine-red lace dress. Her watery eyes blinked, cute and confused, flashing with emotion.

He was slightly stunned, his eyes deepening.

In Vincent’s world, he had encountered many women, yet none with eyes as clean and almost transparent as the ones he now

beheld.

The man’s eyes gazed at her as if he was about to defile her innocent eyes..

“Tsk, why did you buy such an outdated colour? How old is she? Can’t she wear something a bit pink?”

“How long have you been with me?” Vincent’s eyes never left Annie’s bright face, mocking his secretary. “Why is your taste still so poor?”

Seeing Mr. Anderson’s fussing, the female secretary blushed in embarrassment, realizing she had mistaken him for someone looking to pick a fight with the fire dragon fruit.

But at this time, Annie said honestly, “Brother Anderson, I really like this shade of red, but it’s not really a good fit for you. It’s a bit too dark...”

The female secretary, her expression almost unable to contain itself, hid behind him.

At the moment, Vincent's face was pitch black.

No one

else besides Chloe had the audacity to mock him to his face.

Reasonably, he was boastful of his good looks throughout the nation; if he said he was second, only Joseph would dare to be first!

“Heh, seeing that you are Joseph's sister, I have let you off,” Vincent said indignantly, his magnetic voice slightly stiff.

“Brother Anderson, are you mad?”

“Then if I say that you look like a ‘black coal ball’ in red, will you scold me? Will you hit me?”

The female secretary, unable to contain her laughter any longer, quickly clapped her hand over her mouth.

Young Master Anderson, the dream lover of countless women, had become a black coal ball in the eyes of this girl!

Little sister, you are so courageous!

Vincent's eyes widened like a phoenix, and his anger was so intense that he almost choked.

His handsome face was calm as he stood up and walked in front of Annie, his tall figure casting a shadow that engulfed her, making her look weak and helpless as she clutched the bear.

The man bent over slowly and raised his hand slowly.

Annie, eyes suddenly shut, as if in response, tightened her grip on Little Bear's fingers.

Vincent's lips curved into a gentle smile and his fingertips lightly brushed her forehead.

"You're correct. I want to strike you. How does it feel? Does it hurt?"

"Oh..." Annie covered her forehead with her hand and shook her head in disbelief.

"If you ever dare to laugh at me again, I'll give you a good whack."

Vincent feigned anger, as if playfully teasing a child, leaving the secretary dumbfounded.

Joseph had to settle the mess that Chloe caused tonight.

Thus, he had to depart the banquet to Max and exit the hotel for the time being.

Ada Wang was abducted by Chloe, and Joseph not being present, Zoey felt her wishful thinking had been in vain. Gloomily, she poured two cups of wine, then, her gorgeous skirt swishing, she made her way to the stage and sat in front of the piano.

At first, the guests were engaged in conversation and laughter, oblivious to the woman who was seething with resentment.

Suddenly...

With a "bang", Zoey angrily slammed her ten fingers onto the black and white keys, causing everyone to jump in surprise.

Everyone turned their gaze to the stage, and someone's face creased into a frown.

“What are you doing? You startled me!”

“That's correct. Why is Anderson Group's daughter so impolite? Doesn't she have any etiquette?”

Zoey was arrogant and domineering in the foreign Chinese circle, accustomed to being willful at home. The more she thought about Joseph, the angrier she became, not caring about the venue and only wanting to vent her anger.

Now that she had returned to the country, the banquet was filled with Medo's upper class, and as Anderson Group's daughter, she had to be mindful of her image and not ignore it.

So, biting the bullet, she coughed lightly and played Beethoven's Fifth Symphony in G Minor to ease the awkwardness.

In the end, she emerged as the top student of the Royal Academy of Music in Puplen. Her fingers flew across the keys, releasing a smooth and beautiful melody that captivated everyone, erasing all memories of her earlier rudeness.

Carrying a heavy mop skirt, Skyler walked into the banquet hall with red eyes, then returned to Aubree's side.

“Mom! Annie has arrived!”

Aubree was taken aback. “What? Where has she gone?”

“I just witnessed Young Master Anderson caress her head and give her his garments!”

“Mom, do you really consider Annie to be foolish? She’s quite astute. She just puts on an act of naivety and deceives us. Actually, she’s had her eye on Young Master Anderson for a while and wants to compete with me! Why is she so underhanded?”

“You are ever the fool. You have been schooled in the manners of the gentry from an early age and the bearing of a lady!”

Aubree frowned and secretly pinched her, “Annie is your blood sister! You all came from me, and your sister isn’t so bad. – Don’t talk like that in the future!”

Skyler was so angry that she trembled and bit her red lips.

She felt that Aubree’s words were not to shield Annie, but rather to avoid acknowledging that she had birthed a fool!

“Mom, what should I do?”

Skyler grabbed Aubree’s arm and asked anxiously, “Breaking up with Young Master Anderson wasn’t easy for Chloe, but my sister brought me medicine again!”

“Young Master Anderson didn’t take a shine to me, so would it be even more of a lost cause for me to marry into the Anderson family?!”

“Don’t fret, Annie won’t impede you. I believe you misinterpreted her. She won’t entertain such ideas. Later, give Max a ring and ask him to dispatch someone to locate Annie and return her.”

Aubree didn’t consider the matter to be too serious, given that she had been so tightly controlling her two daughters for so many years, and no one had been able to disrupt her plans.

Given Annie's current mental state and illness, it was indeed very challenging to get married; however, she would strive to present Annie in the best possible light and find a family with a higher social standing.

It would be best if she could help her daughter, not feeling as though she had raised her daughter for nothing.

"This Miss Zoey doesn't seem to have a good temper," Aubree said, looking at Zoey who was working hard to play the piano on the stage.

"Mom, to be honest, her temper is as bad as can be!"

Skyler and Zoey had a "plastic friendship," a combination of interests. She didn't put on a show for her mother and whispered, "Compared to Grace, it's far from enough. It's like a powder keg – it could blow up at any moment!"

"Very good," Aubree said, her gaze on Zoey on the stage, her expression unreadable.

"Very good? What's so good about this..."

"A person with a fiery temper and an emotional openness is not so downcast. It is easier to control. Furthermore, Zoey only desires to be Joseph's partner. She has been living a life of opulence since she was a youngster. She is Anderson Group's daughter and has no lack of anything. Her ideas are straightforward, but she just has a bit of possessiveness."

Aubree snorted disdainfully, "On the contrary, she's like Grace, buttering you up. It's not easy to handle her when she's being so sycophantic!"

Before her voice trailed off, the door to the banquet hall was thrust open with a loud thud.

Zoey, lost in her music, failed to notice that the guests had stopped paying attention to her and had instead turned their gaze towards the door.



Under Vincent's protection, Annie walked with her head down, unnoticed by all who were surprised.

"Who's that young lady next to Young Master Anderson? I don't think I've seen her before." A few nosy onlookers glanced at Annie and murmured.

"She must be his latest flame. After all, Mr. Anderson is a woman and she can switch it up if she desires. I heard that the longest relationship he's had with a woman has been going on for a month now. So far, no one has surpassed that record."

"This girl is quite attractive, but I recall that Mr. Anderson has always been partial to captivating and alluringly beautiful women. What made him switch from eating so much braised meat to consuming white vegetables..."

"I can see that this girl is more beautiful than Anderson Group's daughter on the stage. She is also more graceful than Sawle family's third miss, who was a bit too forceful."

"It's alright if you all aren't as wealthy as Mr. Anderson, but you all aren't as skilled as him. That's a first-rate piece of jade beside Mr. Anderson. She's not promiscuous like a prostitute!"

"It appears that Mr. Anderson has made a wiser choice in his female companions than Mr. Sawle has: This woman appears to be trustworthy. She certainly won't be unfaithful to Mr. Anderson..."

Upon seeing Vincent and Annie having both arrived, Skyler was so enraged as she heard the conversations that her face flushed red like a pig's liver, and her teeth ached.

At this moment, Aubree's expression was utterly unpleasant.

## Chapter 188

"Mom! What did I say? I stated that the connection between them is not straightforward! Annie just wants to mess up my great thing!"

Skyler saw that Vincent had transformed Annie's dress into a luxurious red evening gown. Despite the fact that Annie's face remained cold and bare of makeup, she still radiated. Jealousy and rage burned in her heart.

What made it even more hateful was that the color of her dress matched Vincent's – they were both wine-red, like a couple!

Standing side by side in the dazzling light, like a newlywed couple, they became the focus of the audience.

Skyler felt that the purple dress she was wearing had become a huge irony.

Red and purple, it was all just a pile of shit in the end!

“Annie was birthed from my womb. I'm well aware of her character!”

Aubree's thoughts were not as superficial as Skyler's, but more profound. “Although Annie is twenty-two years old, her thoughts and behavior are like that of a young preteen. She hasn't even begun to comprehend love, let alone possess the courage to take a man away from you?”

Upon hearing this, Skyler's anger abated somewhat, yet she remained livid.

“In

my estimation, this situation is far more complex than you realize. Vincent was aloof towards you before. After Rory's birthday celebration, he now believes that you are scheming against him. It's possible that he has already started to harbor ill feelings towards you.”

“He's aware that Annie is your sister, and he deliberately sought her out. Perhaps it's to distract you, so he's trying to provoke you.”

“What... what...”

Hearing this, Skyler’s eyes grew dim. “So, what do we do now? Mom... Is there no chance I can still marry Young Master Anderson?”

“Right now, there’s no need to be worried. Not only do you need to collaborate with Zoey and let her assist you in creating a chance to get closer to Vincent, but you must also alter your demeanor and stay composed.”

“Since Vincent is kind to Annie, then you must show him more respect, alter Vincent’s opinion of you, and let him witness your lovely and benevolent side. Do you understand me?,” Aubree said in a somber tone, devising a plan for her daughter.

“I heard it...” Skyler could only respond in a hushed tone.

Annie’s eyes were wide with excitement as she searched the room, hoping to catch a glimpse of her idol, Ada Wang.

When her gaze stopped on the stage and saw Zoey playing the piano, her pupils suddenly contracted and her little face instantly drained of color, gradually withering like withered flower petals.

A pair of slender legs trembled violently beneath the red dress.

When she was young, countless painful memories flooded in from all directions like a ravenous beast, devouring her desperately.

“Hahaha... Who would be pals with someone as foolish as you? What on earth were you thinking?!”

“Chuck her in the trash can! That’s where the  
belongs!”

“Hurry up and chop off her locks! I can’t.

that there

are girls in the school with better hair than me!”

“It’s no surprise that Director Sawle and Madam Sawle don’t have any fondness for you. Your sister also despises you. Someone as foolish as you is not worthy of being a daughter of the Sawle Group. You bring disgrace to the entire Sawle Group!”

She was a disgraceful sight!

Focused on playing the piano, Zoey was oblivious to the gaze of fear and hatred emanating from below the stage, filled with blood.

Annie hugged the bear tightly, her eyes red, a cold sweat sliding down her forehead as she retreated.

Vincent suddenly grabbed her arm.

“Sis of vegetable flower, what’s the matter? Are you feeling regretful? Didn’t you say you wanted to go see Ada Wang for an autograph? Come on, Brother Anderson will take you to see her.”

Annie, unexpectedly, shook off her hand and, without looking back, ran out of the door.

“Sister of vegetable flower! Where are you headed?!”

Vincent was stunned and panicked, fearing danger if she ran out at night, so he followed her.

Skyler, upon seeing this, was so enraged that she felt as if she were about to be born anew.

Although Aubree managed to calm her down, she still despised this fool when she saw that Vincent was deeply concerned about Annie; she could no longer tolerate it.

Annie's fear-filled mind drove her to desperately run and dashed across the road.

out of the hotel, tears streaming from her eyes as she frantically

Although she really wanted to see Ada Wang, she had nonetheless locked herself in her room to watch movies on countless lonely nights.

Ada's performance in the action movie was something that she really enjoyed. She portrayed a super policewoman who could do anything, balancing justice and punishing evil, stirring her heart and boiling her blood as if she had achieved a great ambition.

Upon seeing Zoey, all she wanted to do was flee, as far away as possible.

No one loved her, a burden to all, and she was so fragile that even the slightest blow would break her.

Cursing and mocking were like evil spirits from hell, maliciously chasing after Annie.

Beep, beep, beep -!

The rapid car's sound pierced the air.

A dazzling big light struck her not far away.

She abruptly swiveled her head, her face paling in the light!

Yet, there she stood, rooted to the spot, unable to move.

Annie, in panic, tightly held the bear and closed her eyes as the speeding truck was too late to step on the brakes.

“Annie! Be careful!”

At the critical juncture, Vincent, who had been trailing her, clenched his teeth and dashed forward. In the nick of time, he embraced the girl’s slender and delicate body firmly in his arms.

Just as she safeguarded the little bear with all her heart and soul, he too protected her with the same intensity.

Vincent then spun-in the air, transforming into a human cushion, and the two of them crashed to the ground with a thud.

As his shoulder brushed against the roadside stone, the man let out a muffled groan of pain from deep in his throat, his suit soaked in sweat.

In order to avoid a collision, the truck driver forcefully turned around and ended up crashing into a flower bed on the side of the road; fortunately, the driver was unharmed.

Vincent, in pain throughout his body, temporarily released Annie.

He never even considered it.

This heartless little thing scurried away from his arms like a wisp of smoke!

“Hey! Hey there, Little Flower! Come back here and lend me a hand!”

Vincent was in such agony that he couldn’t even stand. His rage was so intense that he felt like he could vomit blood!

Tonight's banquet was widely publicized, and the start was the focus of attention; however, the outcome was a rushed conclusion.

Vincent, fearing his sister and mother would be distressed by the car accident, requested the secretary to keep it confidential.

Therefore, Zoey was only focused on being angry with Chloe. After the banquet, she lingered in the wine gallery of Sawle Group Hotel, drinking with the unfortunate scheming sisters.

“Dang it! My second brother really has a thing for that bad girl, Chloe!”

“Since they're so fond of it and show compassion everywhere, why did they split up?!” Zoey slammed her glass down hard.

“Zoey, don't say that you don't get it, I'm also in the dark.”

“Before they divorced, Chloe was like a maid in our family. She took care of her second brother's needs for food, accommodation, and transportation. Every day, she would be devoted to her second brother's side and prepare meals for the Sawle family for three years. Sigh, three long years!”

“If I had to vomit daily, she could endure silently for three years, and I truly admire her for that.”

“In this manner, my second brother didn't even spare a glance for her. He unhesitatingly set fire to that vixen Grace. For Grace's sake, he divorced a woman who had been devoted to him.”

“In the past, I believed my second brother was correct. Now, to be honest, he is quite oblivious.”

Skyler, having had a drink, spoke truthfully.

Zoey's expression grew increasingly sour. "Sister Skyler," she sneered, "are you taking Chloe's side? Are you regretting that she won't be your sister-in-law anymore?"

"No, no, no... Zoey, you've got it wrong."

Skyler realised she had spoken incorrectly and gave an awkward smile. "I'm just trying to help you work it out. I don't get why my second brother didn't pay her any attention before they got married. But after they tied the knot, he seemed to start caring about her."

"Is this belated love that's cheaper than grass? The everlasting turmoil that can't be attained?"

After hearing this, Zoey gloomily took a swig of wine. Her strong desire to conquer was surging in her chest. "I can't believe it... I can't believe that my second brother has any feelings for Chloe!"

"They had been married for three years. If they had already gone through one, how could they wait for a divorce? The second brother just noticed that his ex-wife was doing well at one point. He wasn't angry, and the more irritated he became, the more he wanted to look out for her!"

"As she said this," she lifted her brown hair and arrogantly smiled, "second brother and I have a strong bond of love, and it's incomparable to Chloe. He must have me in his heart; it's just that he was temporarily taken in by Chloe and was tricked!" Skyler, without anyone noticing, stuck out her tongue and remained silent.

She always felt that this girl was a bit spirited, yet she couldn't dampen her mood. After all, she still had to rely on her to marry into the Anderson family!

"Sister Skyler, next, we must devise a plan to defeat Ada Wang and assist Second Brother in resolving this case! I'm here to help you."

Zoey remembered Chloe's insufferably arrogant expression when she pulled out "Twilight of the Gods", and her eyes were filled with loathing. "Isn't it just a damaged brooch? Alexa has created more than one piece. If Chloe can take it out, then I



can too!"

A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband" A romance novel is a genre of fiction literature that primarily focuses on the romantic relationships between its main characters... These novels typically revolve around the development of a deep emotional and often physical connection between two individuals who are attracted to each other.. A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband novels can take place in various settings, historical periods, or contemporary times, and they often explore themes of love, passion, desire, and the complexities of human relationships. Read Full Novel A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her Ex-Husband Chloe Thorp had been Joseph Sawle's abandoned wife for three years. She had thought that she would be able to warm his heart with love. She did not expect that he would give her a divorce agreement and welcome his dream girl into the house. She was disheartened and resolutely divorced. She became the daughter of Thorp Group and was as rich as a country. From then on, the Billionaire was her, the Miraculous Physician was her, the top hacker was her, and the fencing champion was also her! Her ex-husband regretted it. "Honey, I was wrong. Let's get married again!" Chloe curled her lips coldly. "I don't lack love, money, and men. I lack a watchdog." Joseph leaned forward and handed the tie to her. "Honey, I'm here to guard the house. Woof! Woof!"

A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased

Details

Book Title: A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband

Author: Her EX-Husband

Publish Date: August 26, 2023

Language: English

File Size: 1 MB

Simultaneous device usage: Unlimited

Word Wise: Enabled

Formats: Ongoing ePub, PDF, Kindle

Price: Free

Novel Review A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband

"A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband" is a rollercoaster of emotions, filled with passion, wealth, and the complexities of love. Written by the talented author, Sarah Masters, this romance novel takes readers on an unforgettable journey through the glamorous world of the billionaire elite. The story revolves around the fiercely independent and incredibly wealthy Isabella Sterling, whose life takes a dramatic turn when her charismatic but enigmatic ex-husband, Alexander, re-enters her life. Sparks fly as their unresolved feelings and magnetic attraction resurface, setting the stage for a whirlwind of emotions. Masters' writing effortlessly immerses readers in a world of opulence, where

private jets, luxurious estates, and extravagant parties are the backdrop to Isabella and Alexander's tumultuous relationship. The author masterfully crafts characters with depth, making them relatable and endearing, despite their larger-than-life circumstances. What sets this novel apart is the way it explores the complexities of love, trust, and forgiveness. Isabella and Alexander's journey is riddled with secrets, betrayals, and misunderstandings, creating a page-turning narrative that keeps readers on the edge of their seats. Sarah Masters' storytelling prowess shines through as she weaves a narrative filled with heart-pounding romance, unexpected twists, and a satisfying resolution. "A Billion-Rich Woman Was Chased by Her EX-Husband" is a must-read for romance enthusiasts who crave a blend of passion, drama, and the allure of the billionaire lifestyle. It's a captivating tale of love's enduring power, reminding us that even the wealthiest hearts can be the most vulnerable.

Posted by admin, Released on October 9, 2023

Really can brag!

How can Zoey have the ability to get a piece of jewelry like Ada Wang cannot?

Skyler was speechless in her heart, but her mouth was effusive, "Wow, Zoey, you are incredible! If you can get a piece of Alexa's jewelry, Ada will definitely pick us again!"

"In this way, not only will you get back at Chloe, but you can also make a great impression on my second brother. When you become a hero of our Sawle Group, your relationship with him will skyrocket!"

"That's why we have to take the case away from Chloe no matter what!" Zoey said with a self-satisfied smile.

Skyler agreed, yet she had other plans in her heart.

She had no desire to assist Joseph, and they were not siblings by birth.

If she could seize the opportunity to take the role of planner from Joseph, she could demonstrate her abilities, do something praiseworthy in her father's eyes, and make up for her mother's recent misstep.

Zoey was the aid that assisted her!

Skyler secretly delighted in her heart at the thought of this, her eyes glistening with desire and her cheeks flushed. "Tonight is really awful! My second brother left in the middle, and my brother said he'd come but didn't show up... What the heck! I'm going to give him the cold shoulder when I get back!" Zoey scrunched up her lips in frustration and started to throw a fit again.

"Zoey, your brother came by tonight, but he left again," Skyler said coldly.

"When?!"

"When you were playing the piano, not only did he bring my sister Annie with him tonight, but he also borrowed Young Master Anderson's light. My sister is really shining tonight," Skyler said with a strange smile.

"Who? Your sister? That fool?!"

Zoey's shoulders shook violently, unable to reconcile her brother with that stupid thing Annie had done.

She did not wish to be overly familiar with Annie.

When they were in junior high, they and Medo, a noble girl, were classmates at the same school.

"Zoey, I haven't even set foot in Anderson family yet, and I'm already facing both internal and external issues." Skyler sighed in exasperation, her gaze icy. "It's possible your brother has already taken a shine to my sister." "What?! Tempted?! Is that scoundrel worthy of my big brother?!" Zoey was so enraged that she abruptly rose to her feet and knocked over all the wine glasses on the table. Her big black eyes, resembling grapes, were wide open.

Skyler gave a cold chuckle in her heart, but she said sadly, "But you didn't witness tonight how considerate Young Master Anderson was to my sister. Not only did he buy her new clothes, but he also said that he was only so concerned about her. I was so jealous I almost shed tears..."

She felt that, given Vincent's cynical and dissolute personality, he would not be capable of having genuine feelings for Annie.

She insisted on saying this, wanting to provoke Zoey and get her to help her deal with Annie, the little slut.

After hearing Skyler's explanation, Zoey's anger, which had been burning like a charcoal, suddenly abated significantly. She sat back down, picked up the wine glass, and sipped the wine thoughtfully, her eyes a bit gloomier than her age.

Vincent was her biological brother, and she knew his character better than anyone else.

For so many years, Vincent had rarely shown such care for a woman as he did for Annie, as Skyler had described.

This could not do!

When she was studying in the same school in the past, she took the lead in dominating Annie, plunging her into three years of darkness.

Even though many years had gone by, she still didn't believe that Annie had ceased to harbor hatred for her in her heart.

If Vincent had genuine feelings for Annie, even if he didn't marry her and only treated her kindly, the outrageous things she had done in the past would be revealed, and Annie might be using Vincent to exact revenge!

After pondering for a while.

Zoey gritted her teeth and said icily, "Don't fret, with me here, there's no way Annie and my big brother can get together!"

\*

KS WORLD Hotel.

On the wide round table in the VIP room, there were a total of ten dishes, all of them national-level delicacies that looked, smelled, and tasted delicious. Complementing the meal was an auction-level treasure of red wine.

As Nialzuct hailing from the food desert, Ada had never tasted these renowned dishes before. Consequently, she had a hearty appetite and was eager to try them.

Chloe and Jordan accompanied each other, chatting and laughing in fluent English with Ada. Throughout the meal, Chloe refrained from mentioning anything about the wedding or asking Sawle Group to step on her, instead simply conversing with Ada as if they were old friends, discussing topics such as filming, movies, and jewelry collections..

After enjoying a meal together, the guest and the host had a pleasant time.

After the meal, Chloe and Jordan escorted Ada to the underground parking lot.

“President Thorp, the dishes you served me tonight are absolutely scrumptious. It’s remarkable! There is a plate of delectable snacks that are too tasty! The chef of your hotel is truly gifted!”

“That pastry is called the Awakening Lion Cake. If you like it, I’ll make two boxes for you before you depart from Medo. You can keep one for yourself and give the other to your mum.” Chloe smiled gently.

“Lady Ada,” Jordan proudly declared, “the dishes you’re having tonight, such as the Awakening Lion Cake, were mostly prepared by our President Thorp.”

“What?! President Thorp, did you really make those intricate pastries yourself?!” Ada was astonished, and her heart was touched.

It was hard to believe that Miss Brown, a wealthy businesswoman, was so knowledgeable in cooking. She was truly a multi-talented individual, and her ability to make complicated and delicate pastries with her own hands demonstrated her sincerity.

“Yes, but I didn’t do a great job and I’m feeling a bit embarrassed about it.” Chloe was sheepish and her demeanor was quite humble.

Ada paused thoughtfully, then grinned. “President Thorp, did you bring the agreement?”

Chloe and Jordan were taken aback. They glanced at each other and hesitantly inquired, “Lady Ada, do you mean...?”

“I entrust my wedding to you, KS WORLD. If it’s suitable, I can sign the agreement right away.”

Chloe’s pupils shrank in surprise; her usually calm face betraying the shock that had caused her heart to beat wildly beneath her usually shocking chest.

Jordan was so elated he didn’t know what to do. He hastily opened his briefcase and rummaged, “I brought it with me! We’ve always had it with us!”

“Lady Ada.”

Chloe inhaled deeply and inquired earnestly, “For us, KS and Sawle Group, to meet your requirements, we must locate a designer that meets your approval and craft exclusive jewelry for you worldwide.”

“I haven’t fulfilled your request yet. I’m really curious as to why you suddenly decided to have us host your wedding?” Jordan blinked his clear eyes, a question he was curious about.

Ada pursed her lips and revealed a somewhat embarrassed expression. “To be honest, I wasn’t really keen on either of your family’s hotels organizing my wedding. I’ve never been to Medo before. I’m here to hold the wedding to fulfill my mother’s wish, so I’ve been a bit doubtful about your two hotels from the start.”

“Tonight, I accepted Mr. Sawle’s invitation, even though I didn’t really want to go. It was just a decision I had to make between you and him.”

“In this regard, I want to offer my apologies. I shouldn’t have been so haughty and condescending towards you. After I arrived in Medo, I realized that you, President Thorp, and Mr. Sawle are all outstanding managers and rare talents. Whichever one of you hosts my wedding, I’m sure it will be absolutely perfect.”

“Then why did you select us?”

“When you presented me with ‘Twilight of the Gods’, I didn’t make my decision based on that alone. I sampled the dishes you had prepared for me, and each one was crafted with the same care and attention as if you were making a piece of jewelry.”

“I was touched by your honesty, so I decided to collaborate with KS WORLD.” At that moment, Ada discarded her haughty facade of not permitting outsiders to enter, and all she said to Chloe was genuine.

Chloe understood, yet still found it inconceivable.

It seemed that learning cooking was not entirely futile for her. When the time came, it proved to be quite useful!

Jordan placed two contracts in front of them, and a smile spread across his lips as they both sat in the car.

Before composing her words, Ada paused to consider and then softly inquired, “President Thorp, could you include one more stipulation in the agreement?”

“Certainly, what can I do for you?” Chloe appeared serene and tolerant. There was no indication of unease.

“I’m hoping that my wedding plans can remain a secret until the big day. Not only would this be a surprise for my fans, but also for my mother. Can you make that happen?”

“Yes, if it is written in the contract, we will do it,” said Chloe, whose calming magic gave people a reliable sense of security.

The two signed the contract with their own names.

Upon seeing the black and white words on the paper, Jordan’s heart, which had been in turmoil for days, finally calmed.

Ada smiled and extended her hand to Chloe, saying, “Here’s to a pleasant collaboration, President Thorp.”

Chloe’s slender yet strong hand grasped firmly with Ada, and her gorgeous eyes glimmered with a lavish radiance. “Here’s to a successful partnership.”

Chapter 190

The next day.

Upon hearing that Vincent had been in a car accident, Joseph disregarded the unresolved thorn hand incident and rushed to the hospital without delay.

In the VIP Ward Room

Lying straight on the bed with a waist and neck supporter, Vincent opened his mouth wide to catch the apple that the secretary had cut and fed him.

That silly son, with his stupid look, was unable to take care of himself in the main house and was abusing his own maid.

Joseph walked into the ward room and looked at him with a frown. “Did Anderson Group discover a new oil field? You’re not even thirty yet, how can you be so successful?”



The female secretary swiftly stepped aside, bowed to the man, and then tactfully moved to the door to give the brothers

space to converse.

“Brother, are you here to visit me or to make things hard for me? What kind of oil do I have? Do I need to be like this if I can get by? Hiss...”

Vincent bowed, his forehead beaded with sweat from the pain, and he winced in agony.

“Stay put. Look after yourself.”

Joseph’s expression remained cold, yet he hastened to the bed and assisted him in lying down.

“Brother, if I were paralyzed, would you push my wheelchair for me?” Vincent asked plaintively, his face full of sorrow.

“You have so many girlfriends, it’s not my turn to be one of them.”

“Don’t fret, even if you can only move your lips from top to bottom, you’re still the Anderson Group’s young master. You won’t be dallying around, nor will you be delaying any of the women who will be trailing you.”

“Tsk, that’s right...,” Vincent agreed, “my personal charm is right here.”

Personal charm?

Money has a certain charm to it.

“How did it come to this?” Joseph asked, his brow furrowed.

“Then you’ll have to bloody ask your sister about the vegetable flower.”

Vincent thought of the small figure fleeing in terror in the night’s darkness. His chest heaved with rage. “It’s all her fault I’m half-paralyzed! Your fourth sister should be the one pushing my wheelchair for life!”

“Vincent, make it plain. What does this have to do with Annie?” Joseph’s handsome face suddenly dropped.

“Last night, at your dinner party, your sister of vegetable flower also tried to come in. She was barred from entering. If I hadn’t encountered her, you wouldn’t have been aware of how your sister was being mistreated by those sightless bodyguards!”

“Did Annie come last night?” Joseph couldn’t help but be startled.

Thinking about it, this was why Vincent had suddenly called him to clean the door.

“I graciously changed her clothes...”

“Change her clothes?!” Joseph’s face paled in an instant. His usually soft voice was raised, and his fists clenched. “Don’t get it wrong! My secretary altered it for her. I didn’t do it myself!”

Vincent quickly elucidated. He was determined not to risk losing his arms and legs again. “Subsequently, I escorted her to the banquet hall to meet Ada. In the end, she just stepped inside the banquet hall. I had no idea what had transpired, but she dashed out as if she had gone berserk.”

“I was scared that something might happen to a girl at night, so I kept an eye on her. Unfortunately, when she crossed the road, she almost got hit! I rushed up to save her at the crucial moment, and my lower back hit the ground. That’s how it happened.”

“What about Annie? Is she hurt?” Joseph asked anxiously.

“Should I be... not? I was in such agony that I couldn’t even stand. She got up and vanished in a flash, as if she had stepped on a burning wheel. She actually abandoned me! What else can I do to her porcelain?” Vincent pondered it and still felt furious. He kept harping like an old mother.

“Vincent, I have already cautioned you not to entertain any thoughts about Annie.”

Joseph’s handsome face suddenly dropped, “At Grandfather’s birthday banquet last time, it was an accident. Annie isn’t from the same world as you. Don’t have any hopes or illusions about her that you shouldn’t.”

“No, I became like this to safeguard her. Don’t you have any compassion? You don’t express gratitude, but you reprimand me?!” Vincent was unable to move, only able to extend his neck to dispute with the man. His demeanor was somewhat comical.

“Who requested that you bring her to the banquet hall? Who requested that you change her clothes and have her stand in front of strangers?”

“What do you mean?” Vincent asked, perplexed.

“Annie has serious social anxiety and autism. She is very apprehensive of encountering strangers and is very reluctant to attend any social gatherings.” Joseph recalled Annie’s typical wary and shy demeanour, and he felt very uneasy.

“Autism...?”

Vincent was completely stunned, and his heart seemed to be stabbed by a needle, and his fingers secretly clenched.

No wonder Annie’s words and actions were a little peculiar; for although she was twenty-two years old, she still had the air of a young child.

This was why Aubree kept her confined at home all year and prevented her from seeing anyone.

“When you did those things for her, did you consult her? Did you inquire if she wanted to? You never took into account her feelings from her point of view, because you never had this thought in your head.”

Joseph took a deep breath and felt a dull ache in his heart. “Annie just wants to live in tranquility. Don’t stir up any more trouble for her. You’ll hurt her if you do this.”

Vincent was taken aback for a moment and croaked, “Is there a way to heal her?”

“If I had the power,” Joseph shook his head helplessly, “would she still be like this now?”

Vincent’s expression froze as he gazed upon the delicate and pretty face that had been pale with panic the night before, causing his heart to twitch and leaving him speechless.

Joseph’s phone rang at that moment; it was Jake calling.

The man furrowed his brow and paused for a beat. He had to reply, “Dad.”

“Now, make haste to the Sawle Group. I’ll be awaiting your arrival in the office.”

After that, he ended the call decisively.

Joseph lowered his eyes and fixed his gaze on the darkened screen. His thin, sharp lips curved into a cold smile.

Were they really father and son?

He often thought that it would be great if there were no superficial familial loves, so he wouldn’t have to hate Jake so much.

\*\*

Sawle Group, the chairman's office.

The secretary opened the door and, with respect, ushered Joseph in.

Upon entering the office, the man was stunned.

In addition to Jake, who was seated behind the wide desk, Skyler was also present in the room.

Joseph's eyes, which had been twinkling with stars, dimmed as he faintly sensed that something was about to occur.

"Second Brother," Skyler said with a beaming smile, addressing him affectionately.

Those who were unaware would assume they had strong emotions for one another.

Joseph nodded expressionlessly, never having been kind to his third sister.

"Joseph, I heard about the incident at the hotel last night, including that Ada, the esteemed guest you invited, was taken away by the Thorp family immediately. Skyler informed me that Twitter is trending today. Secretary Xanos already showed it to me."

Jake leaned forward and placed his fingers on the table. He lifted his eyes and looked at Joseph with a blank expression. "Now that things have gone this way, the public's view of our Sawle Group Hotel is really poor. There's no end to the questions. What's your plan for handling it?"

"The PR team and the PR department have been taken care of overnight. By sundown, all the negative press stemming from this incident will be wiped off Twitter and other platforms." Joseph spoke in a low voice, his eyes devoid of emotion.

“No matter how spotless it may be, the damage has already been done. Last night’s events should have been kept within the group. To be honest, it’s a bit awkward...” Skyler’s face was full of concern, but her words had a tinge of mockery.

Upon hearing this, Jake’s jaw clenched slightly.

“No matter what, there will always be both good and bad noises. The competition in the business world is between you and me. It’s unavoidable.”

“As long as Sawle Group emerges victorious in the end, these doubts will vanish and be no more.”

As he spoke, the man coldly glanced at Skyler, saying, “In business, you should not only focus on short-term gains and losses. You should have a long-term outlook, or else you could end up losing a lot for the sake of small gains.”

Upon hearing that she had been ridiculed, Skyler gritted her teeth in anger.

There came an urgent knock on the door, and the secretary rushed in from outside.

“Chairman, have a look at this!”

The secretary quickly handed the phone to Jake. He peered at it and instantly felt his heart race. He barked, “Flick on the TV! Check out the news channel right away!”