

## **Billion Rich 211**

### Chapter 211

Vincent widened his eyes, gazing at the exceptionally good-looking couple, as if they were a pair of match-made individuals.

At first glance, this sentence might seem ordinary, but when combined with Joseph's surprised, drawn-out gaze and husky voice, Vincent couldn't help but sense the sour aroma of love within the words.

Hmm, that's not right.

Being in love carries a sourness, while unrequited love simply reeks!

Vincent regretted not having his phone with him, so he could capture Joseph's expression right now and tease him relentlessly, making him see how pathetic he appeared.

"Moreover, you really have no memory."

Joseph frowned, anger flashing in his starry eyes, "I told you not to get any ideas about Annie. You insisted on recklessly testing the waters in our territory. I slapped you three times. Do you feel wronged?"

"I actually think I didn't hit you enough. I should see you once and hit you once."

Both of us...?

Chloe felt a strange sensation welling up in her heart, finding Joseph's attempts to get close uncomfortable.

In the past, he had avoided her like the plague, as if any connection to her would bring misfortune to his life.

“Mr. Sawle, mind your words. You are you, and I am me. Don’t mix us up.”

Chloe coldly threw out these words and walked briskly towards the bedroom. “Otherwise, I’d feel insulted by my own ears.”

Joseph was left awkwardly silent, his lips pursed.

“Haha, it looks like your attempt at getting close failed, right? Well done!”

Vincent gloated with a wide grin. Seeing Joseph’s defeat, he felt an inner satisfaction.

However, in the next moment-

“Ugh!”

Joseph clenched his teeth and unexpectedly punched Vincent in his well-defined abdominal muscles, causing him excruciating pain.

Chloe hurried into the bedroom.

In just a few steps, she had imagined countless terrifying scenarios, and she was afraid that the moment she opened the door, she would see something unbearable.

If, as she suspected, tonight Vincent had to pay the price!

Even Joseph couldn’t protect him!

“Annie!”

As Chloe rushed into the room, she suddenly froze.

The room was tranquil, and the disarray she had imagined had not occurred.

A warm, sweet fragrance lingered in the air, and a soft, gentle light illuminated Annie's peacefully sleeping face. The scene was heartbreakingly beautiful.

Chloe walked softly to the bedside, knelt on one knee, and gently caressed her warm cheek.

Seeing the little teddy bear she held tightly in her arms, something pressed heavily on Chloe's chest, making her breathing

shallow.

Her eyes filled with tears.

The fearless heiress who laughed in the face of danger, the one who could handle any situation with a sense of humor, was unable to bear such a sight.

At that moment, Joseph entered the room and witnessed this scene.

His broad shoulders trembled, and his throat choked up.

Chloe heard his footsteps, felt flustered, and quickly wiped her eyes with her hand.

The room fell silent.

Joseph's throat constricted as he raised his hand to touch her damp hair.

"Dry it, it's cold outside. If you catch a cold from the wind, it will be troublesome."

“I don’t need your help.”

Chloe hastily stood up, intending to avoid any inappropriate contact with him.

Joseph’s chest was filled with a mix of emotions, and he nervously clenched his fingers.

What was he doing? He was finding it increasingly difficult to understand his own actions, and he was losing sight of himself.

“Vincent didn’t do anything to Annie, so you can relax. Although he’s a bit reckless, Annie is my sister, and he knows that.”

“Right now, maybe, but who knows about the future? Men’s words and their lower half aren’t trustworthy.” Chloe’s brows were icy and unwavering.

Joseph knew she was upset, and saying more wouldn’t help, so he turned and headed for the bathroom.

A few seconds later, he returned, draping a towel over her head.

“Dry yourself off.”

“I said, you don’t need to-”

Before she could finish her sentence, his hands pressed on the towel and he continued to dry her hair.

Chloe was stunned, her heart suddenly in disarray.

Was this still Joseph?

Or was this the same Joseph who had never even poured a glass of water for her?

How could he possibly do this for her?!

It was so surreal in the middle of the night!

“Take your hands away!” she hissed through clenched teeth, surprising Annie.

The girl’s body curled slightly in her blanket, but she didn’t wake up.

“Aren’t you afraid of waking up Annie? Speak louder.” Joseph smirked, his hands still working to capture her vulnerability.

“Then be more gentle! My hair has been falling out a lot recently, and you’re making it worse!” Chloe frowned, her cheeks reddening with anger.

“Sorry, it’s my first time doing this. I lack experience...”

Joseph felt a warm flow in his heart for some inexplicable reason. He relaxed his fingers and gently massaged her scalp through the towel. “It’ll be better next time.”

Chloe shivered and felt a chill down her spine, retorting, “Joseph, this time, I spared your dignity for Annie’s sake.”

“If there’s a next time, be prepared to lose a limb!”

Joseph chuckled, his ten fingers gently and systematically massaging her scalp.

Chloe instantly felt her tightly-wound nerves relaxing, her beautiful eyes half-closed.

Damn it, how could this man be so skilled? It was too comfortable....

Both of them emerged from the room, and Chloe appeared as if she had just cried, her eyes slightly red.

Joseph's gaze remained on her, enigmatic and unclear.

Vincent blinked and looked at them, momentarily feeling as if they had never divorced, as if they were still a pair of heavenly and devoted spouses.

His brother was incredibly handsome, and besides Chloe, he couldn't think of any other woman worthy of Joseph.

"Vincent, you should go back for now. Annie will stay here tonight."

Joseph said with a faint tone, "Going back and forth will be more troublesome. I'll personally take her back tomorrow morning when she wakes up."

"Then I won't leave tonight. I'll stay here with Daisy!"

Vincent remembered that he had kissed Annie while she was drunk tonight. Even though a kiss couldn't lead to pregnancy, he felt guilty about taking advantage of his good friend's sister, so he decided to stay and take care of her.

"No!" the former couple objected in unison.

"Miss!"

Jordan took a call and hurriedly walked into the room. "The head of security just reported that a helicopter has landed on the hotel rooftop. They don't know whose it is."

"A helicopter?"

"It's mine." Joseph admitted.

Chloe, Jordan: ?!

"Miss Thorp, left for a business trip to the Larkos city yesterday. Just one word from Miss Thorp, and Mr. Sawle personally flew back in a helicopter."

"Chloe, my boss has never been so attentive to any woman!" Max, the secretary, chimed in.

He thought that Joseph was working so hard to win back his wife because he was too shy and reserved to express his feelings.

As for Young Master Anderson, he was like a relentless and shameless sticky plaster. If only his boss had half of that charm. Joseph's heart constricted, and he couldn't help but feel embarrassed. He sternly told Max, "Max, that's enough."

"Haha, does Secretary Johnson's comment mean you want me to praise your boss a bit?"

Chloe's crimson lips curled coldly., "When a good person does something bad, it's called revealing their true nature. But when a bad person does something good, they're called a prodigal returning home."

Vincent covered his mouth, hu"

Joseph: "..."

"Annie is his sister. It's only natural for him to rush back. It's perfectly ordinary, there's no need to boast about it."

She couldn't be bothered with the boring banter between the master and servant, and walked straight towards the door.

Jordan cast a sarcastic glance at Joseph, then followed Miss Thorp out of the room.

“Pah! Such narrow-mindedness!” Max cursed silently, thinking that Jordan was just a lackey who took advantage of his position.

“But at least he knows what to say and what not to say.”

Joseph let out a sigh, shaking his head regretfully. “Max, you’re good at many things, but you talk too much.”

“B-but I just wanted the young lady to know about your hardships...” Max mumbled, his ears drooping.

“I’ve always known about my hardships.”

Joseph said, and the moment the words left his mouth, his heart ached. All the little things Chloe had done for him washed over him like a tidal wave.

Just as he had said, she had always known about his hardships.

But why, when she had loved him so deeply, was he so clueless, so ignorant?

Love and hate surged, and the debt of emotions was not easily repaid.

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After handling the matter concerning Annie, Chloe returned to the villa with Jordan.

As they continued on their way, she couldn’t stop replaying the scene where Joseph had tenderly wiped her hair. Her heart tightened, and her lips began to feel dry.



“I’m sorry, this is my first time doing something like this. I don’t have much experience...”

Nonsense.

You’ve been entangled with Grace for years. Even if you didn’t go all the way, you’ve probably done everything else. Don’t come in front of me acting like you’re inexperienced, pure, and innocent.

You and Vincent, these good buddies, I don’t know who’s the bad one. You two are a perfect match!

Back at home, Chloe kicked off her high heels. She didn’t rush upstairs to rest. Instead, she sat on the sofa with a gloomy expression.

Jordan prepared a cup of milk for her and handed it over with a concerned look. “Miss, it’s late in the night. After you’ve had this, you should go upstairs and rest.”

“How did Annie and Vincent run into each other tonight? Annie has always been closely watched by the Sawle family and rarely leaves the house. What happened?” Chloe, with no sleepiness in her eyes, was deeply concerned about the poor girl.

“I asked Vincent.” Jordan explained. “He said he didn’t know why Fourth Miss Sawle ended up at his venue. But he mentioned that Fourth Miss Sawle was anxiously searching for something throughout the whole place. If he hadn’t bumped into her, she might have been in danger tonight.”

Chloe furrowed her brows in confusion. “Searching for something? What was she looking for?”

“She said it was a teddy bear you gave her.”

Chloe took a sharp breath and clenched her fingers. “The teddy bear I gave to Annie, it was left at ACE?”

“I asked him if there were any abnormalities at ACE tonight, and he said there weren’t. But he unintentionally mentioned his sister, Second Miss Anderson.” Jordan, with his background as a lawyer, had a strong knack for getting information.

“Oh, I understand.”

Chloe said, her brows furrowing. Although she hadn't witnessed it herself, the situation had become clear to her. “Skyler, you truly can't change your ways!”

“Daring to bully my people, I see her as a lazy donkey unwilling to cooperate-owing a slap, a fallen duck egg-owing a hit, a weed at the door-owing a hug!”

Her sequence of idioms left Jordan stunned.

“I'll make sure to avenge this for Annie!”

Vincent had been sent back home by Joseph, and it was already dawn when he arrived.

He lay in bed, closed his eyes, but his mind was filled with the mesmerizing scenes of passionate kissing with Annie.

The girl's lips were sweet, soft, and entrancing.

Suddenly, he felt a surge of desire in his lower abdomen.

“Damn! I'm such a damn beast!”

Vincent grumbled and cursed, keeping his eyes tightly shut, hoping to fall asleep. But the discomfort downstairs made it impossible. He got up, took a cold shower for twenty minutes, and only then did his body return to normal.

By the time the sky was getting bright, he finally fell into a restless sleep.

He slept until the afternoon of the next day.

Vincent was neatly dressed and had just walked out of his room when his sister, Zoey, confronted him with a face full of

resentment.

“Big brother, you’ve gone too far!”

“Too far? Just because I told you not to go to ACE and to stay away from Skyler, and that’s too much?”

Vincent raised his hand to ruffle her hair and clicked his tongue. “Zoey, why do you become more stubborn as you grow up? Have you forgotten our sibling bond?”

“Don’t touch me with the hands that have touched Annie, I find it dirty!”

With a slap, Zoey swatted his hand away. She couldn’t contain her anger and blurted out her resentment toward Annie right in front of her big brother.

“Zoey, what are you saying?” Vincent’s eyes narrowed in disbelief as he looked at his sister.

Zoey felt humiliated after being taken away in front of everyone the previous night. Fueled by her anger and relying on her big brother’s indulgence, she decided to let out all her frustration, “I just hate Annie! Big brother is my big brother alone. Who is she to divide your affection meant for me?!”

“Zoey, what are you saying?” Vincent’s brows furrowed with concern.

“You tore ACE apart just to find a lousy toy for her! A piece of junk!” Zoey continued her emotional outburst.

Zoey's emotional outburst intensified, and she lost control, stomping her feet hysterically. Passersby, including the servants, couldn't help but glance at the scene, but no one dared to linger.

"I'm your real sister! When did you care for me like this? You've always just thrown money at me! But now, you're giving your whole heart to that idiot, Annie! Vincent, you've lost your conscience! After years of studying abroad, I return only to find my position lower than that of an idiot!"

"Zoey, Annie isn't an idiot, and I won't let you talk about her like that!" Vincent rebuked with fury in his phoenix-like eyes.

The two words "idiot" spoken by his own sister felt unbearably harsh and heart-wrenching.

In his eyes, his sister had always been like an angel from their childhood, a kind-hearted and soft-hearted presence, even though she was a bit willful and spoiled.

However, the current Zoey, with her eyes red and filled with anger, seemed to hold a deep-seated grudge against Annie, as if she wanted to devour her alive for some reason.

All just because he had been with her last night?

Over the years, he had been quite the ladies' man, with numerous relationships, and he had never seen Zoey so hostile. Why did she resent Annie so much when he was treating her so well?

"Big brother... You, you actually yelled at me for that idiot..." Zoey was terrified, her face changing from red to pale. She felt a chilling sensation on her forehead from his icy glare, and her whole body was drenched in cold sweat.

"Annie isn't an idiot, I don't want to hear those two words from you again." Vincent declared, his voice deep. "If it happens again, I'll be truly angry, Zoey."

Vincent took a deep breath, his eyes darkening. "When we were young, you were too young to remember. Our father passed away suddenly, and our mother was too busy with family affairs to care for us."

“It was me who took care of you, fed you, and even changed your diapers.”

“You say I don’t treat you well and don’t care for you, but I have taken care of you all these years. I’ve been through everything for twenty years, and nothing has been as painful as this.”

“Big brother...” Zoey was completely taken aback, her voice trembling.

“I don’t treat you poorly, but the way I care for you has changed as we both grew up, and you haven’t felt it.”

Vincent’s gaze darkened suddenly, and he continued, “I don’t understand why you have such hostility toward Annie. What has she done to you?”

“I... I don’t like her. She’s not worthy of being with my big brother!” Zoey stammered, trying to come up with a reason.

Vincent’s jaw tightened, and his gaze turned stern and dark. “Zoey, you have no right to look down on Annie. She is the fourth young miss of the Sawle family, and her status is not lower than yours or mine.”

“Even if she came from a humble background, so what? As long as I like a woman, who can stop me?”

With a parting statement that sounded like a confession, Vincent turned and walked away.

leaving Zoey standing in place, feeling humiliated and gnashing her teeth.

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A week had passed since the termination of the contract with Ada and KS WORLD.

This week, Jordan had closely tracked the members of the planning team, but they had not yielded any results.

“Miss, it’s been a week, and our people haven’t found any leads. What if... we’re heading in the wrong direction with the investigation?” Jordan looked frustrated.

Jordan scratched his head in frustration. “Perhaps there isn’t a mole within the team?”

“Has anyone contacted Shelby?” Chloe asked as she played a video game.

“No, everything seems quiet.”

“Well, under a calm surface, there might be hidden tides. It seems that without a little act, the fish won’t take the bait.”

Chloe hummed a tune while dispatching the last survivor in her game. The bloody scene forced Jordan to close his eyes, and he said, “Let’s gather the project team members and hold a meeting.”

Half an hour later, the eight hotel staff members responsible for Ada’s wedding planning arrived at the meeting room.

After waiting for about ten minutes, Chloe entered the room with a beaming smile.

Even though there had been a contract termination, her mood didn’t seem to be affected at all.

“Ha-ha, I apologize, everyone. I was late because of some important business.”

Chloe took a seat at the head of the conference table with a confident smile. After casting her eyes around at the eight people present, she confidently pulled her red lips into a smile and said, “I’ve already come up with a new wedding planning proposal. I’m preparing to approach Ada again and persuade her to reconsider cooperating with our KS Hotel!”

The crowd reacted with astonishment and excitement. "Is that true, President Thorp? This is fantastic!"

Chloe nodded with a smile, her sharp gaze shifting from one of the eight employees to the next.

At that moment, she noticed that one of the employees, named Justin, had a slightly strained expression, which piqued her curiosity.

Just then, Justin, perhaps unfortunately, raised his hand to ask a question.

"President Thorp, hasn't Ada already chosen to work with the Sawle Group? Considering the circumstances... can we still win her back?"

Chloe tapped her fingers on the table's surface, her keen eyes narrowing, and she asked with a faint smile, "Oh? Ada has already partnered with Sawle Group? It's such a significant development, but how is it that you know, and I don't?"

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With such a pointed question, all eyes were fixed on Justin.

Justin was unnerved by the sharp gaze of Chloe, but he remained composed as he said, "This has already become an open secret within our industry. Previously, the Sawle Group and Ada Wang were vying for the business. Ada Wang was swinging between you and Mr. Sawle. However, in the end, you outperformed them and secured the wedding planning rights."

"Now, our side is faltering, and Ada Wang's wedding is approaching. It's only reasonable to assume that she might switch to Mr. Sawle's side, isn't it?"

His words were carefully chosen and didn't reveal too much.

Chloe, with a slight curve of her beautiful lips, leaned back comfortably and said, “Your analysis is correct. However, you’ve overlooked one thing, as of now, the Sawle Group and Ada Wang haven’t officially signed a contract yet.”

This revelation left everyone astonished. “What? It’s been a whole week, and they still haven’t signed?”

Justin tried to maintain his composure, but his expression had grown stiffer.

“If they had signed, wouldn’t the Sawle Group have already made a big announcement? Their silence suggests that the deal hasn’t progressed. That means we still have a chance.”

Chloe tapped her heel on the floor and swiveled her chair around lazily. “I’m naturally quite stubborn, even more so than a mule. I won’t give up until the very end.”

“So, I’ve devised a new plan and intend to present it to Ada Wang again in the coming days, catching the Sawle Group off guard.”

The team erupted into cheers, President Thorp’s determination and boldness.

Justin had no choice but to put on a smile and join the chorus.

“But President Thorp, ultimately, it’s our KS Hotel that breached the contract. Ada Wang probably has a negative view of us by now. If you go talk to her again, won’t it backfire?”

“That’s right, there are some things that might be impossible to force!”

Chloe, with her lips painted red as lacquer and her eyes sparkling like obsidian, laughed audaciously.

“Life is full of ups and downs. Even if I can’t force it, I will still try my hardest!”

After the meeting, the project team members left.



In the vast conference room, only Chloe and Jordan were left.

Miss Thorp accepted the coffee handed to her by Jordan and stood by the floor-to-ceiling window, gazing at the luxurious view of Medo City. She enjoyed her coffee calmly.

“Miss, during the meeting, you mentioned that you had devised a new plan... Is it a trap?” Jordan stood beside her and tentatively asked.

“Yes, it’s a trap, and I’ve already caught something.”

Jordan’s eyes widened with excitement. “Really? Who is it?”

“I have my suspicions, but no evidence yet. I need you to follow Justin after work tonight.”

Chloe’s eyes darkened slightly. “Jordan, after work tonight, I want you to personally follow Justin.”

“Keep an eye on whom he meets and any unusual activities, and report back to me promptly.”

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The next day, Annie woke up and found herself back home, personally escorted by Joseph.

With her imposing second brother by her side, Aubree dared not voice her displeasure. She knew that if she made a fuss, her father would likely reprimand her for tormenting Annie. Aubree, however, could handle that.

Skyler, on the other hand, remained quiet. After all, she was the one who had played a trick on Annie and didn’t have any legitimate grounds to complain. If her father found out, he would reprimand her too.

In the evening, Annie lay on her bed with a heavy heart, cradling her lost-and-found teddy bear. She tried to recall everything that had happened the previous night, and her heart raced as she remembered it. Her cheeks flushed.

She had some fuzzy memories of the previous night, but she couldn't remember everything that had happened or how she had returned home.

She could only recall the moment when the lights went out, and then the sensation of his lips on hers, tantalizing and

electrifying.

His eyes, burning like flames, had stared into her soul with piercing intensity.

Taking a deep breath, Annie got up from the bed, walked to her desk, and sat down,

She took out her sketchbook and a pencil, closed her eyes in silence for a few moments, and then began to sketch.

After about fifteen minutes, the image of a handsome face with sharp features, a hint of seductive charm, and a slightly mischievous, defiant expression had taken shape on the paper.

Defiant expression had taken shape on the paper.

Annie gazed at her drawing, her fingers gently touching the beautifully rendered eyes.

"Brother Anderson, you look really... handsome."

What Annie didn't know.

Her handsome Brother Anderson had driven a fiery red Ferrari and had arrived at the Mazeland Manor Villa.

“Who’s coming?”

Aubree was accompanying Jake in the backyard, enjoying the autumn scenery. She looked surprised when she heard the butler’s report.

“Madam, it’s Young Master Anderson from the Anderson family.”

“At this time?”

Jake raised his hand to check the time on his watch and furrowed his brows. “He knows that Joseph isn’t at home, and it’s almost dinnertime. Why is he coming now?”

“Oh, Jake, the precious Young Master Anderson rarely comes, why think so much? Maybe he’s here to see Skyler.” Aubree playfully held her husband’s arm, acting a bit spoiled.

“Aubree, what you’re saying... Could it be that Skyler and Vincent...” Jake was astonished.

“You’re usually too busy, and you pay too little attention to your daughter. You can’t even see what’s on Skyler’s mind.”

Aubree playfully poked her husband’s chest with her delicate index finger and reproached, “ Skyler has had her eye on Young Master Anderson for quite some time.”

Jake was astonished. “ Skyler likes Vincent? How come I never noticed it at all?!”

“Oh, dear, she’s just a young girl, and it’s not proper to talk about such matters casually...” Aubree acted all shy and on behalf of her daughter.

“But this is not a small matter. Skyler’s marriage is crucial for our Sawle Group.”

Suddenly, Jake’s expression became serious. “Skyler is my first daughter, my precious gem. Her marriage must be carefully considered, and we have to choose the best among the outstanding young talents in Medo or even the whole country.”

“The Anderson family is one of the prominent families in Medo, and Young Master Anderson is Old Master’s only grandson. The entire Anderson Group will be under his control in the future. If Skyler marries into the Anderson family, she will be related by blood. What a perfect marriage.”

Aubree’s calculations were clear, audible even eight hundred miles away. “Furthermore, Young Master Anderson is Joseph’s sworn brother. If Skyler marries into the Anderson family, they will be even closer. What a great marriage.”

Jake relaxed, feeling reassured by Aubree’s words.

Even though Vincent’s reputation in Medo was not very good, boys from prestigious families, growing up in wealth and luxury, naturally sought new intellectual and emotional stimulation as they matured..

He had been reckless in his youth, but as he grew older and played enough, he would naturally settle down.

Skyler being matched with Vincent was a suitable match. After marriage, with the pressure from the Sawle Group, if Vincent still had any intentions of playing around, he would have to restrain himself.

At this moment, Vincent was already sitting in the villa’s living room.

He often came to the Mazeland Manor Villa to hang out with Joseph and felt quite comfortable, as if it were his own home. He didn’t even need the servants to pour him tea, he helped himself to a cup.

“Vincent, why did you come today?”

Jake and Aubree both came over to welcome him, thinking it was quite unusual since Joseph wasn't at home.

"I have some matters, it was a sudden decision, and I hope it's not too inconvenient for you, Uncle Sawle." Vincent addressed him as 'Uncle,' indicating their close relationship.

"We were just about to have dinner. Why don't you join us?" Aubree extended an invitation warmly.

"No need."

Vincent set down his teacup with a casual tone. "Is Third Miss Sawle at home? I'd like to have a private chat with her."

Jake and Aubree exchanged a glance, their expressions meaningful.

Skyler, upon hearing that Vincent had arrived, was so excited that she wanted to rush out to see him.

However, she remembered her mother's advice. She restrained herself from going out to meet Vincent and instead waited for him to come to her.

Unexpectedly, Vincent, instead of waiting for Annie to come to him, came straight to find her.

Skyler's heart raced as she walked into the tea room.

"Young Master Anderson, are you looking for me?"

Vincent casually held a teacup with his slender fingers, taking a sip. "Yes."

"What's the matter?" She sat across from him, her face flushed with shyness.

“About what happened at ACE last night, don’t you have anything to say?” Vincent’s gaze, cold and piercing, locked onto her. He didn’t waste any time getting to the point.

The color drained from her face as she asked, “What happened at ACE last night?”

“An introverted girl like Annie, how could her teddy bear end up discarded at ACE for no apparent reason?”

With a thud, Huo Vincent set down his teacup, his gaze chilling and piercing as an icicle. “Skyler, there should be limits to jokes, was your behavior last night not excessively malicious?”

Skyler’s face turned deathly pale, her heart racing as if it might leap out of her chest.

“Young Master Anderson, you seem to have misunderstood me... Her eyes welled up with tears, and she desperately portrayed herself as the victim.

“Annie went through your charades last night without shedding a tear. How can you dare shed tears now?”

Vincent didn’t even look at her. He felt that her tears were hot pepper water, too spicy. “In short, I came to tell you two things.”

“Firstly, don’t ever bully Annie again. I’m going to watch over her, and before you act against her, think about who stands behind her.”

“Secondly, stay away from my sister. She’s pure-hearted, and you shouldn’t corrupt her.”

With that, the man stood up, his tall and erect figure, and left without looking back.

Skyler stared blankly at the door that had been slammed shut, feeling as if her soul had been drained, leaving her sitting lifelessly on the floor.

After leaving the tea room, Vincent didn't rush back but wandered aimlessly through the Sawle Group.

It seemed casual, but he had a hidden agenda.

He hoped to catch a glimpse of that always downcast and seemingly helpless figure.

He wasn't exactly a good person.

But that pitiable young girl always stirred something soft in him

"Young Master Anderson? why are you here?" Aunt Gill coincidentally ran into him and asked with surprise.

"Uh... uh... well..."

Vincent looked a bit embarrassed, hesitating for a while before gathering the courage to ask softly, "Aunt Gill, where does Annie live?"

Aunt Gill stared at him, completely puzzled.

It was as if she couldn't connect this man in front of her with Fourth Miss. It was like breaking through a dimensional

barrier.

"What are you up to? Vincent, our Fourth Miss is still very young and rarely interacts with outsiders. Don't scare her!" Vincent furrowed his brow. "Aunt Gill, you've watched me and Joseph grow up since we were kids. Don't you know what kind of person I am?"

Aunt Gill responded by giving a thumbs-up. "When it comes to our young master, it's this." She gestured with her thumb pointing upwards.

"But when it comes to women, it's this." She gestured with her thumb pointing downwards.

Vincent sighed, "I appreciate your concern."

With some effort to portray himself as a reformed man and not the notorious playboy he used to be, Aunt Gill reluctantly agreed to take him to see Annie.

"I'll be waiting by the door. Please make it quick. It wouldn't look good if someone saw us." Aunt Gill sternly advised. Vincent couldn't help but smile wryly. "Aunt Gill, you're not a matchmaker, and I'm not some debaucher like 'Ximen Qing' You don't need to be so worried."

After saying this, he confidently walked into the room and closed the door behind him.

Aunt Gill was left momentarily stunned, and then she regained her composure, glaring with annoyance. "This rascal! Why is he swearing at people?"

Vincent, a little perplexed by her overprotective attitude, entered Annie's room.

Compared to his little sister's extravagant princess-like room, Annie's room was rather simple. It had only the basic furnishings that came with the villa, and there were no decorations. The room seemed as spacious as an igloo.

Vincent heard some movement from the bedroom and slowed his pace, tiptoeing closer.

The door was slightly ajar, and he silently slipped inside.

He saw that Annie's slender back was sitting in front of a wide book table, and she seemed to be writing something on the sand.



Vincent's slender figure was sitting at the spacious desk, engrossed in writing something.

Suddenly, his heart quivered strongly in his chest, and his pupils contracted.

Annie pursed her cherry lips, diligently drawing on a piece of paper, and the person in the drawing was none other than him!

"Phew... I'm done. Annie put down her pen, curved her deer-like eyes, and indulged in her artwork.

"When do you plan to give it to me?"

"Ahi"

Annie let out a sharp scream, jumping up from her chair, and just as she was about to cover the painting, it was too late. Vincent was quick with his eyes and hands, his lips curled in a sly smile as he directly snatched the painting from under her slender arm.

"Give it back to me!" Annie's cheeks turned rosy, reaching out her hand to snatch it back, flustered.

For her, the man's towering figure was like an insurmountable mountain, and in embarrassment, she directly grabbed his tie

with one hand, while the other reached around his waist to grab the painting.

"Cough, cough! Let go, you're going to strangle me!"

Vincent was nearly out of breath, but he had no choice. He had to bend down to lift Annie's slender waist and place her on the table to alleviate some of the suffocation.

"Give it back to me! That's my painting!" Annie's watery eyes glistened, not giving up.

"I'm the one in the painting. Technically, you've violated my portrait rights, haven't you?"

Vincent met her gaze and his eyes gradually warmed. "As compensation, how about giving this painting to me, Sis of vegetable flower?"

Annie blushed shyly, her face turning rosy. She grabbed the man's tie tightly and struggled.

Vincent suddenly widened his eyes, leaning forward abruptly, pressing Annie tightly beneath him.

Their lips were just a hair's breadth apart, about to meld into one

The passionate moments from last night

"Uh... it's itchy,"

surfaced, and he felt a surge of heat rushing to his mind.

Annie quickly turned her face away as the man's warm breath, carrying a hint of tobacco, tickled her.

Her heart was pounding vigorously.

Vincent's mind was in a daze, the girl's body felt incredibly soft, softer than his wildest dreams.

He couldn't bear to let go...

Vincent used all his strength to suppress the unruly desire that had risen within him.

He straightened his posture, his gaze filled with moisture, and his breath grew heavy.

Although Annie was an adult, she appeared frail and delicate, just like someone who had a lack of prenatal nutrition. Curled up on the table, she looked pitiful.

She buried half of her face in her knees and reached out to the man. "Give it back to me..."

"Last night, I saved your little bear. Can you bear to give me a painting in return?"

Vincent's strong arm leaned on the table, and he bent toward her slightly. "I really like this painting. How about giving it to me, okay?"

"The gift... I've already prepared it for you." Annie's voice was timid, and her fair toes hooked onto something.

"Where is it?" Vincent's eyes lit up.

Ten minutes later, Vincent returned to his Ferrari.

In his left hand, he held a cake box, and in his right hand was the rolled-up portrait. His lips kept curving upwards, as he felt a level of satisfaction he had never experienced before.

In fact, ever since he witnessed the painting Annie gave to her grandfather at Rory's birthday celebration, he secretly hoped that he could receive such a painting as well.

One-of-a-kind, a painting made just for him.

He never expected that he would actually receive it.

The joy, the happiness, were indescribable.

Vincent carefully put the painting away and eagerly opened the cake box.

Inside was a simple, even somewhat unattractive, blueberry mousse cake.

He used his fingertip to pick up a piece of cream and brought it to his lips to taste.

Vincent frowned, chewing slowly.

The taste... was a bit sour, wasn't it?

Late at night, Chloe was wearing a face mask, sitting in her study, engrossed in playing a game. She was still awake.

In reality, she was tired a long time ago, but tonight, Jordan insisted on going out to track Justin on her behalf. She was worried and couldn't rest, so she played the game to stay alert.

In the game's background, there were emails from the official inviting her to join the professional league more than once,

but she had declined every time.

Playing the game was for fun, why link entertainment with fame and fortune? Did she need that little extra money?

Ding —

A message arrived, Jerome had logged in.

1- Rose: Let's play a game together?]

I

Jerome and her connected through voice chat, his melodious voice echoing in her study.

“Good evening, Miss Lucifer.”

“Good evening. Mr. Meat Threads. Chloe teased. “Are you the fish-flavored type, or the spicy type?”

“It seems like you have a strong resistance. Ada Wang’s matter didn’t affect you much.” Jerome gently remarked.

“Of course, because I’ve practiced the ‘Nine Yang Divine Skill.’”

“What does that mean?”

“He’s strong, let him be strong. Clear winds brush the mountains. He’s arrogant, let him be arrogant. The bright moon shines on the great river. He’s ruthless to himself, I have enough true energy to spare.”

Jerome couldn’t help but laugh. After a pause, he asked, “Can I help you with Ada Wang’s matter?”

“No need. It’s a battle between me and the Sawle Group. Although it’s not a big deal, it’s not suitable to involve people from the Xavy Group. Thank you for your kind offer.” Chloe politely declined.

“I don’t represent the Xavy Group. I just want to help you as an individual” Jerome’s voice was gentle and filled with

concern.

Chloe raised an eyebrow. “Don’t you trust my abilities? Do you think I can’t handle it on my own?”

“No.”

Jerome smiled helplessly. “I just don’t want to see you burdened. I’d like you to have more time to play games with me. You haven’t been online for several days”

Chloe suddenly froze and blinked her bright eyes.

Could it be... that he had been online waiting for her all these days?

Oh, indeed, he’s the Young Master Karl who just returned from the Stoeyae Nation, with too much time on his hands and not many friends. No wonder he kept pestering her.

A bit pitiful

Just then, a knock on the door was followed by Jordan’s voice.

“Young miss! I’m back!”

Finally, Chloe had someone to keep her company. She hastily said goodbye to Jerome, ‘Fourth Master, something urgent has come up on my end. Good night!’

Without waiting for his response, she ended the voice call.

On the other end.

Jerome looked at the chat interface with only his avatar left, and he softly muttered to himself.

“Good night, Chloe’

Immediately after, his gaze turned cold, and he clicked the mouse twice.

On the screen appeared detailed background information for Jordan and his two other brothers from the Stewart family

## Chapter 215

Jordan rushed back to Chloe's side, his body chilled from the late autumn's cold, panting heavily and sweating.

Chloe didn't rush to ask for the results. Instead, she walked over to the coffee table, personally poured a glass of warm water, and handed it to him.

"Take a break first. Have some hot water. It's quite cold outside, isn't it?"

Jordan took the glass of water, and their fingertips brushed unintentionally, sending a warm shiver down his spine.

"Sit down and rest."

Chloe turning around and sitting on the sofa. Her legs, covered in a silky peach-colored nightgown, were crossed elegantly, and her velvety pink slippers dangled from her toes.

Jordan's cheeks turned slightly red as he awkwardly held the water glass and steadied his breathing. "Miss, you are truly all-knowing. Justin is indeed acquainted with Shelby, and their relationship is far from casual."

Chloe raised her cherry lips and replied, "Even if I were Wu Zetian, wouldn't I need someone as clever as Di Renjie by my side to accomplish anything?"

Jordan shyly smiled and handed over his phone.

She took it and slowly scanned the photos without much emotional response.

The pictures showed Justin and Shelby on a romantic coffee shop date. Justin was gently caressing Shelby's face, and they gazed lovingly into each other's eyes, appearing deeply in love.

"Miss, the evidence is conclusive. We can now interrogate Justin!" Jordan seemed excited, thinking he had found a breakthrough.

"This is far from enough." Chloe calmly placed the phone back down.

"Not enough?"

Jordan raised an eyebrow. "I've already obtained records of Justin and Shelby staying at hotels together for the past two months. They've met at least twice a week during this period, and they had no prior contact."

"Doesn't this prove that Justin was leaking information?"

"It certainly points to Justin as the culprit, but the evidence is not sufficient. You've studied law; you should know that this is only circumstantial evidence and cannot legally prove Justin's guilt."

Chloe lazily closed her eyes and lay down on the sofa. "They could simply claim to be ordinary boyfriend and girlfriend, so what can you do? You can't just arrest them, can you?"

It was only now that Jordan understood that Chloe's intentions were not limited to discovering who had betrayed her. She wanted to uproot the entire operation, from top to bottom, regardless of rank, and make them all pay dearly for their

actions.

"We need to find evidence of Justin leaking company secrets." Jordan stated with a dark look in his eyes.



“I only mentioned the new project I was working on during a meeting, and Justin couldn’t resist sharing that with Shelby. I can already guess what he will do next.”

“For the next few days, you don’t need to approach Justin to avoid alarming him. Instead, have someone tail Shelby and Skyler to see if they have any contact.”

“Also, let’s dig a little deeper into Shelby’s background. We might uncover some more surprises...”

“Understood, Miss.”

Suddenly, the sound of even breathing was heard.

Jordan stared, and Chloe had fallen asleep in an instant. Her lips were slightly parted, and her long eyelashes rested peacefully, her breath serene as a lily.

It seemed that she had exhausted herself, overtaxing her brain.

Jordan’s eyes filled with tenderness and pity, and he knelt beside the sofa, extending his arms, as if he wanted to lift her up. However, he controlled his desire to touch her and fetched a soft blanket, carefully covering her and tucking her in. After all, he was just a secretary, and Chloe was asleep. It would be improper to take advantage of the situation. Moreover, he had always believed that the only men entitled to hold her like a princess were either her father, her brothers, or, in the end, her lover.

As for him, if he could wait for the day when the big and small ladies would marry again and accompany her behind,

personally tidying up her wedding dress, he would be satisfied.

Late at night, in the study.

Joseph sat by the window with a glass of red wine.

The wine glass he was using now was part of the pile of gifts Chloe had given him. It was a pair of Baroque-style crystal wine glasses, and the crisp clinking of glasses indicated their top-notch craftsmanship and quality.

When she gave him these glasses, was she thinking about being together for a lifetime?

Joseph frowned, and the wine he drank suddenly tasted more bitter than pesticide.

At that moment, there was a knock at the door, and Max rushed in with some documents.

“Mr. Sawle, I’ve completed the research you asked for regarding Shelby. You can rest assured this time, I’ve made sure everything is clear, even the location of the Gondor family’s ancestral grave! There’s absolutely no room for error!”

Max confidently assured Joseph. He remembered that his previous mistake had affected his image in Mrs. Sawle’s eyes. This time, he was very dedicated to the task, hoping to make amends

“Good. Scan a copy and send it to President Thorp.”

Using the light, Joseph, under the soft lamplight, swirled the exquisite glass in his hand, admiring it with great interest.

Max raised an eyebrow, “Eh? Send it to Oscar?”

Seeing the cold glance his boss shot his way, he quickly corrected himself with a goofy smile, “Ah, yes, it’s Mrs. Sawle.”

“In the form of an email.”

Joseph added, “And send it anonymously.”

“Why? What’s the reason for that?” Max’s mouth moved faster than his brain.

Joseph pursed his lips, “I’m worried that she might delete it without even looking at it if she sees it’s from Sawle Group.”

Max: Does it have to be this subservient?

At that moment, his phone vibrated on the coffee table.

Joseph picked it up and saw that it was a video call from Vincent.

Puzzled, he answered, “What’s going on again?”

On the screen, Vincent’s face was deathly pale, and he lay on a pure white bed with blue and white walls in the background, suggesting he was in a hospital.

“Joseph... I’m f\*\*\*ing dying...”

“Condolences.” Joseph’s expression remained unchanged.

“Joseph... is your fourth sister... f\*\*\*ing poisonous?!”

Vincent waved his hand, which had a needle sticking out of it, in front of Joseph, his face contorted in pain. “Today... she gave me a piece of blueberry cake, and I barely took a bite before I felt something was wrong with it, it was sour as hell...”

“But when I got home, I started vomiting and had diarrhea. My intestines feel like they’re going to come out called 120 to take me to the hospital.”

“The doctor said I had food poisoning from eating contaminated food... The moment I took the first bite, I knew something was wrong with the cake. It was sour as hell... And then... f\*\*\*! The pain came back!”

Max, who was eavesdropping, couldn't contain his laughter and bent over, clutching his stomach in silent hysterics.

For all he knew, he had diarrhea, but someone who didn't know might think he was in labor.

Joseph suppressed a smile, his lips tightly pressed together. "If you knew there was something wrong with it, why did you eat it all?"

"It was made by the little girl herself, it was a gesture of goodwill. Could I be so ungrateful? Gah... it hurts, it hurts..." Vincent continued to wail in pain.

Clearly, even a tough guy couldn't withstand a bout of food poisoning!

Chapter 216

After the last meeting, the team members once again found hope, and the team that had previously lost its momentum was now reinvigorated.

The big miss was a true leader in this regard. Her employees were not just employees, but in the end, they would be won over by her dazzling personality charm, becoming her devoted fans.

Today, Chloe was beaming with joy as she conducted the regular team meeting.

She said, "Tonight, Ada Wang has agreed to meet with me. Regardless of the outcome, this is a promising start."

The team members cheered with excitement!

Only Justin sat at the far end, with a smile on his face but no hint of joy in his eyes.

“Although we breached the contract first, I believe that Ms. Ada is not the kind of person who lacks flexibility. I am confident that my

latest proposal can outperform the Sawle Group. After she reviews it, she will be even more satisfied than with the first version.” Chloe confidently said.

“President Thorp! Can you show it to us as well?”

“I would love to show it to everyone right away, but after the incident last time, I have to be cautious. It’s not that I don’t trust all of you, but we are in a delicate situation, and there are too many eyes watching us from the outside.”

“As the General Manager of KS WORLD, I cannot let it fall into the same pit twice. So, please understand.”

Everyone understood President Thorp’s dilemma, expressing their hope for her success, eagerly anticipating a great performance.

In the evening, Chloe dined at a western restaurant, while Jordan was in her office, organizing documents for her.

After finishing the task, Jordan left her office while making a phone call.

As he left, Justin rushed into the General Manager’s office like a gust of wind.

Security was not particularly tight tonight, and he successfully entered Chloe’s private area.

He was aware that there were surveillance cameras everywhere, and his every move was closely monitored. But even if he had to face danger, he had no choice. He was running out of time.

If he couldn’t obtain the new proposal tonight, and Chloe managed to re-establish cooperation with Ada Wang, then he would never be able to avenge his girlfriend!

At this moment, Justin was completely blinded by so-called true love, utterly infatuated with Shelby.

He only wanted to please her and fulfill her desires. He would even commit crimes for her if she asked.

Using the flashlight on his phone, Justin conducted a quick and meticulous search of Chloe's office.

He was confident that the proposal must still be in the office.

After all, Chloe hadn't left the hotel yet, and Jordan had left without carrying a bag, so the proposal was likely still in the

office.

With sweat pouring down his forehead, he frantically searched through drawers and cabinets!

Finally, he found the proposal at the bottom of a towering stack of documents.

"Excellent... Just excellent!"

Justin held the document in his hands, tears of excitement welling up in his eyes as he muttered, "Shelby... I've avenged you. I've finally avenged your death!"

Click!

Suddenly, the entire office was flooded with light!

In the next moment, Jordan, accompanied by several bodyguards, entered the office and surrounded Justin.

With all eyes on him, Justin was completely dumbfounded, with no way to escape. He could only stand awkwardly in place, clutching the proposal in his hand.

He knew he would be discovered sooner or later.

But he never expected it to happen so quickly!

At this moment, the bodyguards formed a path on both sides, making way.

Chloe, dressed in a sharp and stylish black suit, wearing black stiletto heels with red soles, entered the office with an

imposing presence.

Her eyes were as sharp as a hawk's, and she strode in like a senior inspector from a Hong Kong action movie.

Seeing Chloe appear in front of him, Justin's body trembled uncontrollably. He was terrified, and if he said he wasn't afraid, he would be lying.

"Justin, do you know that corporate theft is still theft? With just those few sheets of paper in your hand, I can make sure you spend the rest of your life behind bars, and you'll have to pay with your entire fortune."

Jordan's eyebrows furrowed, and a cold gleam flickered in his eyes. "Causing significant damage to the rightful owner of a business secret can result in imprisonment for up to three years or detention and, additionally, a fine. If the consequences are particularly severe, the sentence can be between three and ten years."

Justin's pupils trembled, taking a step back, almost losing his balance.

"Now, with all eyes on you and concrete evidence, do you have anything to say?"

Jordan recalled the suffering Miss Thorp had endured due to this troublemaker. His eyes reddened with anger, and he had already devised several plans for how to sentence him.

“I have nothing to say.”

Despite his fear, Justin’s love for Shelby overcame his fear, making him stand his ground against Chloe and Jordan. “I stole the proposal and sold it to the media. Everything was my doing, and I am willing to accept the consequences.”

Although he said he was willing to accept the consequences, there was clearly an underlying defiance in his voice.

Jordan clenched his teeth in frustration. Seeing Justin’s defiant attitude, he wanted to confront him with force.

“Everyone except Lin Secretary is waiting in the corridor.” Miss Thorp, who had been silent all along, finally spoke, her words filled with authority.

The bodyguards followed her command, swiftly exiting the room.

“Justin, at this point, I can tell you everything.”

Chloe calmly walked to the sofa, picked up a piece of chocolate from a plate, removed the wrapper, and put it in her mouth. “In fact, from the very beginning, there was no new proposal, and I never scheduled a meeting with Ada Wang.”

“What... are you saying?” Justin asked, bewildered and shocked.

Miss Thorp chuckled, “If you don’t believe it, open and see for yourself.”

Shivering, Justin reluctantly flipped open the “proposal” in his hand.



Only to discover that, apart from the first page, the rest of the pages were blank.

He had just confessed to his crime, with all present as witnesses, and Jordan had recorded his confession with a voice recorder.

He had fallen into Miss Thorp's trap!

"Chloe, how did you know it was me?!"

At this point, Justin was done with pretenses and asked straightforwardly, hoping for some clarity.

"Our KS Hotel is impenetrable from the outside, but it can only be taken advantage of from within when someone is disloyal."

Chloe calmly chewed her chocolate, "After the incident, I knew there was a mole among the team members. I secretly tracked each one of you. But you remained very composed, keeping everything hidden and not contacting Shelby."

"If I hadn't set this trap to entice you into taking a risky step, you would have probably gone underground. It was difficult for me to catch you."

"Do you... do you know Shelby? How did you find out?" Justin, despite his own predicament, was consumed with worry for his girlfriend.

"Ha, don't forget who I am, President Thorp." Jordan sneered, finding Justin's question rather foolish.

Justin slumped, feeling utterly defeated.

Miss Thorp, the heiress of the Thorp family, was unimaginably wealthy, and there was no way he could hide Shelby from

her.

The enemy was overwhelmingly powerful, and it left him feeling hopeless....

“Justin, you’ve worked at KS WORLD for ten years. In that time, you’ve been diligent and have planned many high-quality events. Originally, I had planned to promote you to Director of the Planning Department by the end of this year.” Miss Thorp sighed with regret.

Justin’s pupils contracted in shock.

“For the sake of your so-called love, you sacrificed your bright future, and now you face the prospect of prison. Do you

think it was worth it?”

“Of course! I love her, and I’m willing to do anything for her!”

Justin’s expression suddenly turned sinister, and his eyes filled with madness as he took a step forward.

Chloe remained composed.

While Jordan was taken aback and instinctively stepped in front of her to protect her.

“Chloe! Stop pretending to be a good person!”

Justin glared at Miss Thorp’s stunning face, filled with resentment for his beloved Shelby. “I don’t want your mentorship! Everything I did... was for the sake of avenging Shelby!”

“It’s all because of you! Shelby’s father ended up in prison, and you ruined Shelby’s entire life!”

“You, this wicked capitalist, by letting go of a single partnership, you’ve gotten away too easily! In my eyes, you deserve to

die!

Chapter 217

Justin angrily berated Chloe, as if she had killed his mother, bullied his wife, and desecrated his family’s ancestral grave, all

rolled into one.

Jordan, upon hearing this, blushed with anger, while Miss Thorp seemed unfazed. She raised her red lips and said with a

smile.

“Heh, quite interesting.”

“What did you say?” Justin was taken aback.

“I said that this Miss Gondor has some appeal.” Chloe added, greedily reaching for a piece of chocolate.

Seeing that there wasn’t enough sweets, Jordan couldn’t help but smile indulgently.

“You’ve only known Shelby for two months, and she has you completely enthralled. You’ve risked everything for her, even challenging the authority of the corporate magnates.”

“Oh, Miss Gao is truly a role model.”

“Chloe, you have no right to mock Shelby like this! You’re just a malicious woman who abuses her power! If it weren’t for you, Shelby could have lived as a proper heiress of the Gondor family. It’s you who ruined her life!”

Justin shouted, his emotions getting the better of him. “The evil corporate magnates, the scourge of society!”

Jordan didn’t understand why Miss Thorp didn’t immediately send her to the police station. Instead, she engaged in a verbal duel with this love-struck madman.

“Well, I don’t mind if you curse me. After all, you can’t control what others say. My father has survived amidst such criticisms, and he has been assassinated more than once just because he is wealthy and influential.”

Chloe’s eyes turned cold as ice. “But you’ve harmed our Thorp family’s business. Don’t blame me for being ruthless.”

“I’ve always been like this. Those who follow me prosper, those who oppose me perish. Those who go against me and harm my interests never end well.”

Justin was shaken to the core, overwhelmed once again by the pressure emanating from Miss.

Miss’s aura was indeed overpowering!

“I know you want to clear things up, so I might as well tell you. From beginning to end, Shelby never loved you. She was with you only because you were affiliated with KS. She wanted to use you.”

“You’re talking nonsense! Nonsense! You can’t sow discord between us!”

Justin was deeply provoked by Chloe, roaring like a wild beast. “It’s my fault alone. I will avenge Shelby! You won’t tarnish her name! You won’t defame Shelby!”

Chloe looked at him coldly and ordered Jordan to turn on the TV.

On the screen were explicit and scandalous pictures!

And the protagonists of these scandalous photos were unmistakably Shelby, Justin's beloved girlfriend, and Mr. Mayhew, the CEO of A Headline!

Jordan was shocked!

Although he had investigated Shelby before, this information definitely wasn't part of what he had provided to Miss.

"This isn't real... It can't be real! This must be photoshopped! It can't be real!"

Justin clutched his head in agony, watching his girlfriend being embraced by a middle-aged man, both of them wearing nothing, their smiles so seductive. There was no sign of coercion, and he felt like his heart was being torn apart!

Miss seemed completely composed. After all, those explicit photos of Grace were even more scandalous than this.

But Jordan felt uncomfortable seeing these explicit photos. He turned his gaze away as if he had broken his vows like a

monk.

"Their hotel records date back a year. If you don't believe me, I also have their dating videos. Would you like to watch?"

"No!"

Justin screamed in agony, falling to his knees.

“Where did you get these?” Jordan asked in a hushed voice, leaning closer to her ear.

Chloe remained calm. “I’ll tell you

later.”

“Why why would she do this to me...” Tears rolled down Justin’s cheeks, and he felt utterly lost.

“The information you provided not only allows her to vent her anger, but also offers her substantial benefits,” Jordan coldly sneered at him.

“Benefits?”

“You were used by Shelby, and behind her, there are people who have bought her loyalty.”

Chloe tilted her head, supporting her chin with her hand as she smiled. “Otherwise, how do you think she found you so quickly and hit the contract’s critical points so accurately? Do you believe there was no one behind the scenes guiding her actions?”

Justin broke down in tears, overwhelmed by remorse.

He wasn’t regretting his ruined future, he was regretting treating Shelby as a treasure despite her being a schemer.

“President Thorp... I will tell you everything I know now.”

Under Chloe’s relentless pressure, Justin confessed everything about how Shelby had manipulated him to steal business

secrets.

And Jordan, as the secretary, recorded everything on the side.

Justin was secretly transported to the police station, and later, Jordan, serving as Chloe's secretary and legal advisor for KS. WORLD Hotel, would officially file charges against Justin for corporate espionage.

The cicada has been caught, and now it's time to catch the mantis.

Chloe looked at her perfectly tidy desk, sighing, "Ah, even as a thief, he does it so elegantly. Look at how neatly he stacks everything after he's done. He must've put in quite some effort."

Jordan: "Miss, you haven't told me..."

"Joseph gave it to me."

Jordan was astonished, staring at her with an incredulous expression. "Joseph gave it to you?! He and our KS are competitors. Why would he do that?!"

"Maybe he couldn't stand having his work taken by Aubree and her daughter, so he wanted me to help him deal with Skyler."

Chloe suddenly remembered Joseph, who had gently wiped her hair that night. Her heart trembled for a moment, and she coldly smirked, "I'd rather believe in ghosts than believe that dog of a man is doing this for my benefit."

"To avoid exposing his own dark thoughts, he even sent me an anonymous email. He thought I wouldn't recognize him without his disguise."

Is she just a hacker princess with an inflated reputation?

“Now that the rotten fish in our team is taken care of, what’s your plan for Shelby?” Jordan couldn’t help showing a hint of

worry.

“Even if we have Justin’s confession and no solid evidence, we can’t sue her.” Jordan couldn’t help but show some worry. “Who said we’re going to sue her? The law can punish criminals, but it can’t punish b\*\*\*\*es.”

Chloe squinted her eyes, a cold gleam flashing in her gaze as she looked at the images of the couple on the screen who had been stripped of their disguises. “Send these photos to Mrs. Mayhew, the CEO’s wife.”

“Miss, from what I know, this Mrs. Mayhew is a black belt in taekwondo.” Jordan’s expression was intriguing.

“Isn’t that perfect for some exercise? She can get some free practice.”

Chloe’s delicate hand quietly delved into Jordan’s suit pocket, attempting to sneak some chocolates. “I’ve dealt with her father, so I’ll leave her be. Otherwise, I’ll end up like those tyrannical business magnates in those Korean dramas.” Jordan suddenly placed a large hand on top of her pocket, gently stopping her mischievous actions. He softly advised, “Don’t eat too much, or you might get a toothache.”

That night, after finishing work, Joseph didn’t immediately return to Mazeland Manor. He sat in his office, waiting for a message from Max.

Finally, Max returned with a jubilant look in his eyes.

“Mr. Sawle! Mrs. Sawle has caught the mole hidden within the organization, and he’s been handed over to the police!”



“Alright.” Joseph responded indifferently, relieved that the tension had lifted.

“I wonder if you sent what Mrs. Sawle asked you to send.”

“Even if she doesn’t use it, it’s fine.”

Joseph thought of the woman who had been ‘causing chaos lately. “What I gave her is just icing on the cake for her

“With her abilities, even without the information I provided, she could handle this matter quite well.”

He had underestimated his ex-wife for so long.

Thinking back to his former self, he had always regarded Chloe as a dull and uninteresting woman, ignorant and only good at cooking.

Now, he realized not only was he wrong, but he was incredibly foolish.

A lifelong stain on his history!

At that moment, the internal phone rang, and Joseph answered it, putting it on speaker. “What is it?”

“Mr. Sawle, the secretary of KS WORLD Hotel, is here to see you. He didn’t make an appointment. Should I send him away?”

Hearing that Jordan had arrived, Max was furious and retorted.

“Let him in.” Joseph ordered with a cold tone.

Meeting the formidable president of the Sawle Group was never an easy task.

However, because Jordan was working for Chloe, Joseph was willing to make an exception for him.

A few minutes later, Jordan walked into the office with a cold and composed expression.

“Mr. Sawle, I’m here on behalf of our Miss to deliver something to you.”

With these words, Jordan placed a pure white box on Joseph’s desk.

“What’s inside?” Joseph asked, his gaze still fixed on the box, not lifting his eyelids.

“A bomb.” Jordan replied coldly.

Joseph’s lips twitched,

”

“Hey, do you think you’re funny?”

Max, exasperated, retorted, “If it were a bomb, could you have made it through the security check at our Sawle Group?!”

Jordan sarcastically remarked, “So, Mr. Sawle, do you have any questions? In any case, it’s not a restricted item. Miss sent it to you, just accept it.”

Max gritted his teeth and silently cursed, “This guy looks decent, but he has a really nasty mouth!”

Joseph pressed his lips together, his curiosity piqued as he opened the box-

Inside was indeed not a dangerous item but a cute cream cake shaped like a dog's head, a bit goofy-looking.

A faint smile tugged at the corner of his lips.

"Did our Miss make this herself?" His composed eyes concealed a hint of delight.

"Heh, Mr. Sawle, how could you even think of such a lovely gesture? This was purchased for you by Miss Thorp."

Jordan smirked and replied, "Mr. Sawle, do you think you deserve our Miss to cook for you?"

Joseph was left speechless, and his jawline tightened.

"Your words are really insincere. Miss Thorp has cooked for our Mr. Sawle before. If he didn't deserve it, she wouldn't have done it for three years." Max retorted, clearly exasperated.

Jordan fixed his gaze on Joseph with a look of contempt. "Miss Lewis can make dog food, but our Miss certainly can't."

Max completely lost his temper, clenching his fists as he was about to engage in a fight. "You're out of line!"

"Alright, Max."

Joseph halted him and then asked, "Chloe, why did you send me this?"

"Miss asked me to tell you that she received the items you sent her anonymously, and this is her gift to you."

Joseph was momentarily surprised.

She... she knew already? So quickly?

“She’s sending you this cake to remind you not to underestimate her. She’s extremely clever and has capable people by her side. She doesn’t need the assistance of a ‘dog-headed strategist.’”

Having said that, Jordan left the office without any further ado.

“A dog-headed strategist’? Are you referring to yourself?”

The secretary, seeing through the situation, couldn’t help but point it out.

Only when he saw Joseph’s dark, displeased expression did the secretary turn pale, retreating to the corner, appearing helpless.

Chapter 218

The next evening, in a luxurious hotel suite.

A steamy affair was unfolding, filled with moans and heavy breathing.

“Brother... you’re amazing... How can you be so amazing?”

“Baby... I love it when you call me that, call me ‘Brother... say it a couple more times...”

Mr. Mayhew was uttering obscenities, but deep down, Shelby was hoping he would finish soon.

To climb to the position of the Director of the News Department, she had to sacrifice her body time and time again.

As they were getting passionate, the room’s door suddenly burst open with a loud crash!

“Ahh!”

Shelby let out a piercing scream and hurriedly rolled off the old man, diving under the covers.

Mr. Mayhew, stark naked, hastily got out of bed, picked up his underwear, and, upon looking up, was shocked!

“D...Darling?!”

“Zaiden, is this your little slut you keep outside?”

Mrs. Mayhew looked down on Shelby with contempt. Standing at 1.75 meters tall, she appeared-exceptionally sturdy compared to an average woman.

She removed her coat, revealing a pair of muscular arms that made Shelby shiver all over. “Hmph, I thought she’d be something extraordinary, but she’s just a wilted cabbage.”

“She’s not even worthy of being called a seductive vixen, she’s only fit to be a chamber pot!”/

Before the words even finished, Mrs. Mayhew went straight to Shelby, seized her by the hair, and yanked her out of the duvet. She raised her arm and smacked Shelby three times, drawing blood from her lips.

The wind roared, providing such a satisfying relief!

“Ahh! Mr. Mayhew Save me... Save me!” Shelby cried in pain, her head throbbing, tears flowing.

But Mr. Mayhew didn’t dare to intervene, he was as meek as a quail, trembling in fear!

At this moment, Mrs. Mayhew's assistant, accompanied by two large and burly bodyguards, walked into the room.

"Come on, come on! Everyone, come and witness this! A fresh 'little third party' hot off the press! A disgusting

home-wrecker who seduced our big sister's husband! A pair of cheating lovers caught in the act by our big sister! Don't miss out as you pass by!"

The assistant held up her phone, recording and livestreaming the entire scene.

Mr. Mayhew and Shelby were both dumbfounded!

"Zaiden, kneel before me!"

Mrs. Mayhew roared, Zaiden immediately complied.

"Back then, you were a useless failure who couldn't even hold up a wall. It was my family's money that helped you start your business and achieve the success you enjoy today."

Mrs. Mayhew seethed with anger. She kicked her husband right in the face, and the live stream chat erupted with approval. "Now that you've soared to the top, you dare to play around with women for a handful of dirty money. You're as lowly as dirt beneath our feet."

"With a few coins in your pocket, you start looking for mistresses, playing around with women, and trying to put a cuckold's hat on me?! Without me, you're nothing more than a piece of excrement under a bridge!"

"I'm trash. I'm trash..." Zaiden repeatedly berated himself, his once-authoritative demeanor now completely vanished. Shelby knelt before Mrs. Mayhew, her face covered in tears. She had no idea how their affair had been exposed. They had been secretly involved for nearly two years without detection, so why were they suddenly caught today?! Next, Zaiden was subjected to a brutal beating by two burly

bodyguards, while Mrs. Mayhew herself delivered a fierce beating to Shelby, knocking out one of her front teeth.

The assistant, understanding the situation, promptly stopped the live broadcast.

In the end, Zaiden was left battered and bruised, not even having time to put on his clothes before being escorted away by the bodyguards.

Shelby cowered in a corner, her face scratched and bloodied, disheveled, and her mental state on the brink of collapse.

“Harlot, are you wondering how I found out about your affair with Zaiden?”

Mrs. Mayhew looked down at her with disdain, saying, “Humph, you little brat, everything that’s happening to you today is of your own making. Think about what you’ve been up to lately, who you’ve offended, and take a good moment to reflect!”

Afterward, Mrs. Mayhew spat on her disdainfully and walked away with her head held high.

The air fell into a deathly silence.

Shelby shivered all over, trying to recall everything she had done recently and who she might have offended.

Suddenly, a name flashed through her mind like lightning.

“Chloe... Is it you... Chloe?!”

Just then, her phone vibrated twice on the bedside table and then stopped.

Trembling and unsteady, Shelby got up, grabbed her phone, and opened the email that had been sent. It contained an audio clip.

She hesitated for a moment, then pressed play.

From beginning to end, it was Justin pouring his heart out, confessing how she had enticed and manipulated him into stealing the KS Hotel project plans. He detailed everything.

Clang!

The phone fell to the ground.

Shelby's legs gave way, and she collapsed, feeling like her world had fallen apart.

#

In the middle of the night, Skyler was taking a bubble bath, sitting in front of her vanity and meticulously doing her skincare routine.

Ever since the day when Vincent had given her an ultimatum regarding Annie, she had felt like a heavy stone, sinking deeper into her chest, making it impossible to sleep soundly.

What was so great about that fool? Why was Chloe interfering, and now Vincent was trying to support her?

“That flirt who pretends to be a fool!”

Skyler picked up her lipstick and inscribed “Annie” in bold letters on her mirror, adding a large X, her face contorted in anger. “I don't have time to deal with you now.”

“You wait, once I become the general manager of Sawle Group Hotel...”



Just then, her phone rang.

Seeing that it was a call from Zoey, Skyler frowned, put on a fake smile, and answered, "Zoey, why are you calling so late? What's the matter?"

"Something big happened!"

Zoey's tone was very serious, and he lowered his voice. "I just got news that Chloe has uncovered the mole hidden within the planning team. The police have already arrested the person!"

"What?! How could this happen?"

"And what about Shelby?" Skyler exclaimed, sitting uneasily.

"Don't you know about the affair exposed tonight? Shelby and her boss were caught in the act by the original spouse, and she even livestreamed the whole thing. They didn't even have time to put their clothes on, it's all over the world now!"

Skyler's head was spinning.

In the time it took to take a bubble bath, the whole world had changed.

"You need to delete all chat records and anything related to Shelby immediately. The police might trace back to you." Zoey warned, his tone dark.

"Understood!"

Just then, another call came in on Skyler's phone, from her secretary.

“Zoey, wait for a moment. I need to take this call!”

She switched over and picked up the call from her secretary. “What’s the situation with Shelby?”

“Miss Sawle! It’s bad!”

“Shelby was in a serious car accident near Cloudview Road tonight. She’s in critical condition, still in a deep coma, and her

life is in danger...”

“Wow! This is great!” Skyler couldn’t contain her excitement.

“Good?” The secretary was baffled.

“Chloe has already caught the mole, and she’s likely to trace it back to Shelby. Shelby’s accident is a godsend for me. This is heaven helping me get rid of a big problem!”

Skyler’s eyes flashed with ruthless determination. “That woman helped us ruin the cooperation between Chloe and Ada Wang, and now that she’s served her purpose, let her stay in the hospital quietly. She shouldn’t come out and cause more trouble for me!”

Shelby’s accident was naturally known to the young mistress.

At this moment, Chloe was in the underground wine cellar Oscar had prepared for her, selecting wine. She intended to enjoy a good drink before going to sleep.

“I heard that Shelby had an accident because she was distracted while crossing the street and didn’t look both ways. It’s probably because of the mental stress from the livestreamed affair.” Jordan, holding the ladder, helped her carefully to avoid a fall.

“It’s a self-inflicted disaster. She’s quite a pretty girl; why did she rush to steal someone else’s man?”  
Chloe’s face remained cold and indifferent.

“Then Mrs. Mayhew was ruthless when she made her move.” Jordan clicked his tongue.

“This is to set an example for all the home-wreckers in the world. Interfering in other people’s families  
will bring divine

retribution.”

Chloe had also been a victim of a broken marriage due to Grace’s interference, she had been a mistress  
herself.

Despite being married for three years, Joseph felt no affection for her. However, that didn’t give Grace  
the right to trample on her dignity, using it as an excuse to meddle in their marriage.

“Miss, we’ve dealt with the cicada, and the praying mantis too. Should we move on to the yellow  
sparrow next?” Jordan raised his fresh, clean face, gazing deeply at her.

“Well, no rush. Shelby’s incident must have brought some relief to Skyler. Let her enjoy her moment for  
a couple of days.” Chloe responded.

Assisted by Jordan, Chloe had just jumped down from a ladder when her phone rang.

She checked it, her brows furrowing in annoyance.

It was a call from “Strategist with a Dog’s Head.”

“Jordan, take this bottle of Lafite to be opened.” Chloe raised her eyebrows slightly and took the phone from Jordan’s hand.

Jordan felt a pang of disappointment deep inside, knowing that Miss was telling him to back off.

“I know what you’re thinking, Jordan. Although I and Joseph had a failed marriage and I genuinely dislike him, it’s not like we won’t have any contact in the future.”

Chloe’s beautiful eyes curved with a sense of understanding as she patted his shoulder. “In the future, I need to establish myself in Medo, and as we expand KS, I’ll undoubtedly have to deal with him. When the enemy comes, we’ll stand our ground, when the water flows, we’ll cover the earth.”

“But, Miss...”

“What are you afraid of? Afraid he’ll eat me? If he dares to touch a single strand of my hair, your big brother doesn’t need to get involved, your fourth brother can make him disappear from Medo without a trace.” She snorted, not taking it seriously.

No, it’s not like that.

I deeply admire you, and I’m not afraid to sacrifice my life for you.

I’m just afraid that your old feelings for Joseph will be rekindled. I can’t bear to watch you jump into the fire pit again.

Jordan sighed with frustration and picked up the red wine.

Chloe saw her phone in her palm still vibrating persistently, not behaving as it should, which perfectly matched Joseph’s stubborn and unyielding character.

“Mr. Sawle, what can I do for you?” She answered with her usual cold indifference.

“Thank you for the cake; it was delicious.”

Chloe’s breathing became lighter, and her long eyelashes drooped slightly.

In the dead of night, all was silent.

Joseph’s voice was magnetic, low and mellow, with a hint of depth that could easily enchant the heart.

She used to enjoy calling him, and she loved hearing his voice. Even if he was distant, she would still get excited under the

covers.

But now, her heart remained silent.

Her self-control was always strong. She could quit any addiction, even her emotional addiction.

“Don’t mention it. I hope Mr. Sawle can remember next time before meddling in other people’s business and understand the symbolism behind the dog-head cake.” Chloe’s tone turned cold, and her eyes revealed a chilling intent.

“I don’t think I was meddling in other people’s business.”

Joseph’s tone became serious. “Your situation isn’t someone else’s business.”

Chloe smirked, showing no gratitude. “Indeed, it’s not someone else’s business. After all, even when slaughtering pigs, you need a butcher’s knife. With my sharp blade unsheathed, I can help you cut down Skyler’s arrogance.”

“If she really manages to rise to the position of General Manager at the Sawle Group Hotel after this opportunity, your stepmother will have her hands full again. You certainly wouldn’t want your situation within the Sawle Group Group to become difficult.”

Joseph listened to her words, his brows furrowed deeply.

The previous Raya had placed him at the center of her heart, caring for him in every way, and wholeheartedly looking after him.

But now, with Chloe, her words were sharp and her actions more like a top general, planning tactics and strategies.

Yet, even though she was this kind of woman who had brought him to misery, he couldn’t forget her, and he couldn’t let her

So, how many steps are there from being a scumbag to a despicable man?

“Chloe, do you think I care about Aubree and her daughter? They’re under my nose, and they can’t make much trouble. Otherwise, what was the point of me being the CEO of the Sawle Group Group for all these years?”

Joseph remained silent for a moment, struggling to find words to say.

Chloe tightened her grip on her fingers, the knuckles producing a faint cracking sound. “Joseph, I suggest that from now on, you stop meddling in my affairs. This is my final advice to you as your ex-wife.”

“When I get ruthless, not even the mosquitoes passing by would dare to approach. If I start dealing with someone, I may

harm others in the process, dragging you into it. Don’t blame me for being unrelenting.”

“What you want to do, go ahead and do it.”

Joseph's voice, magnetic and pleasing, caressed her ear like a night breeze. "In other aspects, I can't intervene, but with me at the helm of Sawle Group, who can touch you?"

Chloe furrowed her eyebrows, finding his words...as if stinky tofu had been mixed with ice cream, making for a flavor that could only be described as bizarre.

The air suddenly grew quiet.

Both of them, in perfect harmony, remained silent.

After a brief pause, Joseph cleared his throat and hastily concluded, "I have nothing else to discuss. Goodnight.""

"Hey! What are you-"

Before Chloe could finish her sentence, the call was abruptly ended.

"What nonsense is he talking about, afte

just a few drinks?" Chloe looked at the darkened screen in bewilderment and shook

her head.

Meanwhile, on the other end...

After ending the call, Joseph realized his palm was sweaty, his mouth dry, and his heartbeat irregular.

He closed his eyes, took a deep breath, and murmured to himself, "The one who abandoned me yesterday cannot stay. The one who unsettles my heart today brings many worries..."

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After a severe car accident, Shelby fell into a deep coma and showed no signs of waking up.

Skyler had heard from the doctor that she was essentially in a vegetative state, and the chances of her waking up were extremely slim.

It seemed like the heavens were truly on her side!

Otherwise, exposing the KS WORLD contract through Shelby's bribery would have been difficult to conceal.

While that trouble had been resolved, Skyler's situation had not improved.

Last time, Ada Wang had been quite clear about her stance. She wouldn't sign a contract unless Joseph got involved. Rumors were spreading that Ada's team was already considering other hotels, making it clear that she wasn't limited to the Thorp and Sawle partnership.

One afternoon, Skyler visited the Anderson family again.

She was frantic, pacing around like an ant on a hot pan, while Zoey remained calm, sipping her afternoon tea.

"As for Ada Wang, what's your plan?"

"Previously, that woman set a bizarre condition, requiring both Sawle Group and KS to find top-tier jewelry for her! My second brother had been trying to get Alexa to make an appearance, even going abroad to invite her."

Zoey's eyes sparkled when she heard this.



“All because of that, at the welcome banquet, Chloe was able to captivate Ada Wang with just a small brooch!”

Skyler was frustrated and stomped her foot. “It’s infuriating! Just thinking about it makes me mad! If only I had Alexa’s jewelry, I wouldn’t have so many problems!”

“Well, who says you don’t?” Zoey said enigmatically.

Skyler was suddenly surprised. “What do you mean, Zoey? Don’t tell me... you’ve obtained Alexa’s jewelry?!”

“As far as I know, Alexa is an incredibly mysterious woman. She hasn’t shown her face to the public even now. Very few people have seen her jewelry.”

“So, why not make a replica and privately gift it to her?” Zoey said casually.

“What?! You mean you want me to give Ada Wang a fake?!”

Skyler was shocked, her eyes wide. “If it’s discovered, I’d be humiliated!”

“Tsk, how could it be found out? You can’t even distinguish the authenticity of a painting at an auction, let alone a piece of jewelry. It’s just a bunch of stones, after all. Unless the master is present, who could tell?”

Zoey leaned forward slightly, speaking in a low voice, “Moreover, when I was studying in Puplen, I met a jewelry designer who, you might not believe it, was once Alexa’s personal apprentice.”

“I can have him replicate a piece of Alexa’s jewelry for you to present to Ada Wang. She’ll undoubtedly be thrilled to

cooperate with you.”

Skyler was still skeptical of Zoey's idea.

However, with little time left and no other options, she had to take a chance.

## Chapter 220

Third Madam Sia's birthday was approaching, and these days, Miss spent her days working, dedicating her nights to crafting a birthday gift for her aunt.

She had prepared a ring made of 18K gold, natural aquamarine, and diamonds.

The craftsmanship wasn't particularly complex for a top-tier jewelry designer like her, but the value lay in the quality of the aquamarine – it was exceptionally large and pure, a collector's grade gemstone, with a value no less than precious gems.

When it came to gifts for her loved ones, she was neither stingy nor indifferent. Her gifts were always thoughtful and carefully crafted.

Once upon a time, the gifts she had given Joseph were no different.

However, that man had never truly appreciated her gestures.

At this moment, her mobile phone displayed a video call, and it was Sliva, the head of her jewelry studio.

"You're calling me at this time; there must be something you want to report, right?" Chloe asked as she diligently polished the gemstone.

"Alexa, do you remember Tyler?" Sliva inquired.

“Of course, he worked as my apprentice for three years, and then he left to start his own business. He’s a very talented young man, and his craftsmanship is quite good. What’s up?”

“The day before yesterday, someone got in touch with him, asking him to replicate your jewelry. Heh, do you feel annoyed? If you don’t re-emerge in the industry soon, there’ll be counterfeit versions of your creations everywhere!”

Chloe said as she continued her work, seemingly indifferent. “What’s there to get angry about? I’m just too awesome. If someone can’t have me, they can only satisfy their vanity with fakes.”

“Tyler couldn’t reach you, and he came to tell me immediately. He really didn’t want to take the job, and he was afraid to. Beyond the issue of it being an affront to his integrity as a designer, imitating his master’s work would practically be treachery!”

“Well, after spending a long time with Miss, the blue-eyed foreign girl had even learned difficult words like “treachery.”

Chloe’s curiosity finally got the best of her. “Let me ask, who is the person who wants him to replicate my work? Honestly, if – they can find someone who used to be my apprentice, they must have some substantial background, right?”

“I don’t know where he met that person. He said the girl is from Medo, and she’s a wealthy young lady with the surname Anderson.”

Chloe: ?!

“Oh, by the way, she’s also the apprentice of the renowned pianist Christian.”

Miss blinked with a hint of shrewdness.

Oh, that’s how it is.

Since they're practically looking for trouble, she won't be polite.

"Sliva, tell Tyler that, following his master's intentions, he should take on this job from Miss Anderson. He should do it well, and make sure not to tarnish his master's reputation." Chloe's beautiful eyes revealed a hint of malice as her lips curled up.

"Huh? Why?" Sliva was utterly puzzled.

"Not only should he take it, he should do a good job. He mustn't tarnish his master's reputation."

Five days later, just after finishing a meeting at the corporation, Joseph received a message.

Ada Wang, who had been stubbornly against the deal, had surprisingly agreed!

"What's going on?" Joseph stood by the window with a dark and brooding demeanor.

Max was anxiously speaking beside him, "I heard that it was Miss Anderson who somehow got her hands on a jewelry design by Alexa and gave it to Ada Wang, which facilitated this!"

Joseph sneered at him, "Huh, fake goods."

"This... I don't know. But Ada Wang is a collector of jewelry herself. If it's really fake, can she not see it?"

Max was full of regret, his face downcast, "Ah! If Miss Anderson really signs a contract with Ada Wang smoothly, then the Sawle Group will become the mother and daughter's possession."

"At that time, they may get so many benefits that they'll even drink up all the peanut oil in the kitchen!".

"Chloe probably already knows this news." Joseph muttered softly, his long eyelashes flickering.

Currently, with Skyler taking Ada Wang, he would face a new round of power struggles and power acquisition, undoubtedly more troublesome than Chloe.

However, he was solely concerned about the situation on Chloe's side and couldn't think about his own situation.

Max sighed, "Madam Sawle has been very quiet these days, she may have given up the struggle."

"Give up? How is that possible?"

Joseph, with a slight frown, spoke softly, "Others might, but Chloe will never give up easily."

"These past few days, she's probably keeping a low profile. I believe she'll find a way to counter Skyler's moves."

After all, Skyler, with her limited intelligence, was no match for his clever wife.

No, his former wife.

Unexpectedly, Joseph felt a twinge of discomfort in his chest.

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That evening, the Sawle Group gathered for their monthly dinner at Morning Moon Bay to accompany the Old Master

Sawle.

During the meal, the atmosphere seemed harmonious and joyful, with Skyler even pouring drinks and serving dishes to Annie, as if they were the most loving sisters.

Annie sat beside her second brother, her head down, silently eating her food without speaking a word.

Despite her introverted nature, she was a woman of integrity.

She hadn't taken a sip of the water Skyler poured for her, and the dishes she offered were pushed aside, untouched.

"Dad, recently, Aubree and I have been discussing an important matter. We've already given it some thought, and we came here to inform you and seek your opinion." Jake put down his chopsticks and, being the gentleman that he was, displayed impeccable table manners.

"You're a couple, and you've agreed on everything, so why come to this old man and talk about it?"

Rory's eyelids drooped as he enjoyed a piece of Dongpo pork, "Anything your little wife can't solve? With her help, you've -done well for these past years, right?"

Aubree forced a smile and her

gaze hinted at a trace of bitterness.

Every month, the most painful experience for her was coming here to dine with this old man, who would take any opportunity to ridicule her, leading to sleepless nights the evening before.

When would this old man finally rest in peace?

Jake coughed, then discreetly held Aubree's hand under the table, "Dad, now Skyler is at the age for marriage, so we think her marriage should be on the agenda."

Skyler shyly bit her lip, her cheeks blushing.

“Marriage?”

Rory’s chopsticks paused, his brows furrowed, “My granddaughter is only twenty-five years old, she’s still so young. I was thinking of having both my granddaughters stay with me for a few more years before getting married. What’s the rush?”

Jake: “...”

“Besides, our Sawle Group’s daughters don’t need to worry about finding a husband. Even if she’s fifty-two, she’s still a beautiful flower, and there’s no shortage of men wanting to marry her!”

Suddenly, the old man skeptically examined Jake, “Heavens... it isn’t that the group is facing some problem lately, and you’re in a hurry to use a commercial marriage to solve the crisis, is it?”

“Dad, you’ve misunderstood.” Aubree quickly said.

“Jake, let me tell you, even if the Sawle Group’s financial chain breaks tomorrow and it’s on the verge of bankruptcy, you must not use our daughter for your glory! Our Sawle Group’s daughters cannot be married off in a business alliance, do you hear me?!”

“Oh, Grandpa, where are you getting these ideas from?”

Skyler hurriedly placed her hands on Rory’s arm, shaking it playfully. “Mom and Dad are just looking out for me. It has nothing to do with business. It’s my own choice to get married.”

“Skyler, you want to get married?” Rory looked surprised.

Skyler nodded shyly.

Well, it seemed that she couldn't stay single forever!

"Dad, you really misunderstood Guangjing. We didn't force Skyler. All of this is her own decision. She has someone in her heart." Aubree said, smiling at her daughter.

"Oh? Who's the lucky guy?" Rory inquired.

"The man in Skyler's heart, Dad, you might not be familiar with him."

"It's Vincent, Dad." Jake said with a smile.

Joseph calmly chewed his food, his peach blossom eyes darkened slightly, but he didn't show any emotions.

"Vincent? Vincent? Young Master Anderson?!" Rory stared, needing confirmation.

Aubree: "Yes, Dad, it's Anderson Vincent, Anderson's young master."

Clang!

Just then, an out-of-place sound interrupted the conversation, and everyone turned their heads towards the source.

Annie lost focus and her hand trembled, causing her chopsticks to fall to the ground!

In the Sawle Group, known for their refinement and strict etiquette, such behavior was highly impolite.

"S-sorry!"



Annie's face turned pale as she stammered, her heart in disarray. She wanted to pick it up but Joseph had already bent down and retrieved the chopsticks for her.

"It's okay, let's get another pair." He smiled gently at his little sister, easing her embarrassment./

"Thank you... Thank you, Second Brother..." Annie lowered her head, murmuring softly.

Skyler's dark eyes swiveled, and he glanced at her pale face. His lips curled into a slow, smug, and disdainful sneer.