

## Chapter 18 Ruthless Business Conflict

Seeing Elyse stand up for Jayden, Hiram laughed, clutching his belly, "Ha, look at you, hiding behind a woman, you coward!"

He and his girlfriend laughed uproariously, causing Elyse's expression to darken further. She retorted sharply, "Even in a wheelchair, Jayden maintains his good reputation. And you? You even need Jayden's help to shop in the store."

The store employees exchanged looks, their expressions altering as they regarded Hiram.

Feeling the scrutinizing eyes of those around him, Hiram snapped, "Who do you think you are to judge me?"

Elyse lifted her chin defiantly and fired back, "And who do you think you are? Why are you leeching off our visit? If you want to shop, do it on your own. I've never seen anyone so shameless, mooching off us and then insulting us!"

"Bitch!" Hiram shoved his girlfriend aside and advanced toward Elyse. Elyse instinctively stepped back, but Hiram reached out to grab her. However, Jayden intervened swiftly, grabbing Hiram's wrist.

"Why are you grabbing me? Let go!" Hiram demanded, struggling to free himself, but Jayden held firm.

"Xander is a loser, and so are you, dragging your elder brother Egan down with you. Do you know why he lost to me? It's because of dead weights like you two!"

"You son of a bitch! You set us up back then!"

In the past, when the Brooks family and Jayden were competing for a piece of land, numerous scandals about the

Brooks family surfaced at a crucial time, leading to their loss. Since then, the Brooks family had harbored a deep grudge against Jayden.

The Brooks family took particular pleasure in Jayden's misfortune when he became disabled. They seized every opportunity to mock him, venting their frustration over past grievances.

Jayden, with a mocking smile, responded, "It's all because you and Xander committed so many misdeeds. Without that, how could I have had the opportunity to seize Egan's resources?"

"Bastard! I'll beat you to death!" Hiram, seething with rage and aware of the truth, blamed Jayden for his downfall. Since the scandals, his family had stripped him of his position in the company, leaving him disgraced.

Jayden deftly caught Hiram's other fist and gradually tightened his grip. As the pain intensified, Hiram's face contorted in fear. Jayden smiled and said, "I told you, you're a loser, but you wouldn't believe me."

With a chilling click, Hiram's bone was broken.


"Ahhh—" He screamed in agony, clutching his injured hand, while the store employees looked on in fright, too scared to intervene.

Elyse, noticing the fury in Jayden's eyes, quickly approached him and said, "How dare you challenge us? Even if Jayden isn't at his peak anymore, you're no match for him!"

Hiram glared at her with venomous resentment in his eyes. "Jayden Owen, I'll remember today. I'll settle all our scores one day!"

With one last look at Jayden's composed demeanor, he quickly left the mall. The woman accompanying him, now silent and no longer mocking, cautiously followed him out.

After they were gone, Elyse let out a sigh of relief and gently patted Jayden's hand, comforting him in a soft voice, "Don't

Chapter 18 Ruthless Business Confl  +120 Points at most  
listen to that jerk. He's nothing but a scoundrel. His words  
mean nothing."

Jayden flexed his wrist casually. "I'm not worried about it."

"But you broke his hand. He's not going to let that go," Elyse  
replied, her voice laden with concern, especially given they  
were to attend a Brooks family wedding the next day. She  
couldn't imagine any good coming from that event.

"Don't worry about it. My history with the Brooks family goes  
back further than this incident. The head of the Brooks family  
even killed several of my buddies when he usurped my  
resources."

Elyse's jaw dropped in shock. "Isn't your business conflict too  
ruthless?"

"Just get used to it," Jayden said dismissively.

He gestured towards the second floor. The store manager, still  
visibly shaken, quickly caught on to what Jayden wanted. He  
composed himself and escorted them upstairs to continue  
browsing the jewelry.

Perhaps influenced by the earlier confrontation, the store  
employees no longer looked at them with any disdain. Instead,  
they were exceedingly patient as Jayden and Elyse selected  
several sets of jewelry and arranged for delivery. Afterward, the  
two of them headed home.



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