

## Chapter 9 Jayden's Support

Elyse kept silent, offering no words to Lanny.

"Mr. Owen, I've married off my daughter to you. Surely you ought to show some gratitude?" Despite his fear of Jayden, Lanny believed he was owed some benefits as the bride's father.

In shock, Elyse raised her head, looking at him with disbelief. She wondered how he could so brazenly request favors from Jayden in front of everyone.

Driven by her own greed, Glenda supported him. "Yes, Mr. Owen, Elyse is our precious daughter. Surely we can't marry her off to you for nothing."

"Precious? Wasn't she locked in the basement?"

The smile on Jayden's face only increased Elyse's discomfort.

"That's enough, stop talking. In your eyes, I'm merely an object. You have no concern for me. You're just trying to recover your losses."

"I'm the one who raised you. Is it wrong to expect some benefits from your marriage? How can you take his side?" Lanny exclaimed, unashamed even after his motives were revealed.

Comforting the embarrassed and outraged Elyse with a gentle pat, Jayden spoke calmly. "Of course I can offer something."

Right after his words, an assistant stepped forward from behind him with a file bag and laid out five contracts for large-scale projects before Lanny.

"These are substantial projects, each anticipating tens of millions in benefits. Consider them your compensation. If

they're acceptable to you, feel free to sign them."

Lanny swallowed, his hand trembling as he held the documents.

He now owned only a small company, and he had never imagined the possibility of collaborating with the prestigious Owen family.

Now, with five lucrative contracts before him, he was set to make a fortune.

He quickly scanned the contracts and, with a joyful expression, signed his name. "There is no problem! I trust you, Mr. Owen!"

After both parties signed, each kept a copy of the contracts.

"Now that you have your compensation, can Elyse go with me?" Lanny asked.

"Of course. She is your wife now. You can do whatever you wish with her. If she displeases you, just inform me, and I'll scold her for you," Lanny offered obsequiously.

Disheartened by her parents' behavior, Elyse turned and left with Jayden.

Once they were gone, Mabel let out a sigh of relief and asked in confusion, "Dad, who exactly was that? Why were you so scared of him?"

"Lower your voice!" Lanny cautioned, looking around nervously before continuing in a hushed tone. "He is notorious for his ruthlessness and cruelty. There was a time he crushed a man's skull for crossing him. The man's a lunatic!"

Glenda was taken aback. "But he seemed so pleasant to me."

"He's been keeping a low profile since his car accident. I haven't heard any rumors about him in the last year. I had almost forgotten about him." Lanny sighed deeply.

"No matter how powerful he once was, that time is past. Now he's just a disabled man. Dad, you're giving him too much



credit."

Mabel, who had been hiding behind her parents and had remained silent until now, now showed a look of disdain. She thought that man in the wheelchair was merely good-looking, nothing more.

"He might be disabled, but he's still an Owen," Lanny warned darkly. "Behave yourself around Elyse from now on. Don't cause trouble for her."

The faces of Glenda and Mabel fell at the same time.

With Elyse having Jayden's support, Mabel could never pressure Elyse into helping her create music again.

Mabel was filled with regret.

If she had known Elyse would marry Jayden, she would have stuck by her side on the wedding day. Sadly, time machines didn't exist.

Sitting in the car and brooding, Elyse muttered, "Can't you see how greedy my father is?"

"I saw it," Jayden responded, closing his eyes to rest them. "How else could I have gotten you out?"

"I could have escaped on my own."

"And how would you do that? Call the police with your dead phone?"