## **CHOSEN 1761**

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Damon and Chloe were on their way to the international convention center, but they made a detour to a Mexican comfort food diner. As the car pulled over, Chloe raised an eyebrow but didn't comment, simply following Damon out of the vehicle.

Nathan and Kane, who had been trailing behind, also alighted and fell into step behind them.

"Hey, guys, I think we've got our wires crossed. This isn't where the summit's being held."

Chloe, wrapped in a coat, gave a small smile. Damon merely took her into the diner

Kane looked puzzled "Did they change the venue?"c2

Upon hearing this, Nathan glanced at the diner before them

Wouldn't holding the Global Economic Summit here be a bit shabby? It wouldn't even accommodate half the guests.

But considering his brother's affection for his sister—in-law, the reason they came here was obvious. He was just terrified of a repeat of last night's chaos. Before attending the banquet, he needed to make sure Chloe was well taken care of

"Let's just have a meal before we go

Kane grimaced "Is this really the time for a meal? Do you understand the gravity of the situation?"

Nathan gave him a cool look and snorted derisively. "Who's more important, in your opinion?"

"Obviously Kane was about to blurt out a reply when he seemed to realize something and quickly changed his turie "Chloe is the most important."

Nathan gave him a look that seemed to say 'not as dumb as I thought, and put his arm around his shoulder and headed inside

"Exactly, Chloe is the priority. And it's actually better to arrive when it's crowded With all the attention my brother is getting, there's bound to be a lot of gossip. As long as we're not late, we're good"

Hearing this, Kane seemed to understand. "No wonder she didn't say anything, she must be thinking the same thing"

Nathan gave a haughty snort "Of course Chloe is smart, and shed figure this out."

Actually, Damon and Chloe each had their own motives.

Damon simply wanted to ensure his wife was well–fed before the banquet, to avoid a repeat of last night's debacle. While Chloe initially didn't understand Damon's actions, once the car pulled up in front of the diner, she went along with it.

She knew that Damon was doing this for her, but she also shared Nathan's sentiments. She didn't want to hear the whispers and gossip about Damon. Neither good nor bad comments were acceptable. She never wanted Damon to be the subject of people's gossip.

And she trusted Damon. Even if they were late for the Global Economic Summit, she believed he would handle it.

It was best to have a full stomach before leaving, lest they eat something that disagreed with them at the banquet and caused a scene. After all, she couldn't predict how these two little tyrants in her belly would react

After their meal, Kane and the others, satiated and content, followed Damon and Chloe

can't stand the sweet stuff they serve at these banquets." "Yeah, this is much better". However, the others didn't look too pleased. They didn't like sweet food, and spicy food was even less to their taste. This was pure torture Outside the H City International Convention Center, representatives of internationally renowned companies had mostly arrived. And as the time drew closer, there was still no sign of the people they were most looking forward to seeing "Where are they? Weren't they supposed to be here? Where are the CEOs of Harper Group and Obsidian? "And where is the newly crowned Princess of Y Country? If both granddaughter and grandfather are absent, has something happened?" "Can they really afford to skip such an important event like the Global Economic Summit?" Just as everyone was getting anxious, a black sedan slowly pulled up at the end of the red carpet. The reporters stopped their speculations and quickly raised ther cameras, pointing them at the car. The car door slowly opened, and Robin, the first to alight, helped an elderly man out of the car. While Robin was dressed in a smart suit, the elderly man was clad in a traditional suit, leaning on a cane, his face stern and his eyes sharp As the leader of a super rich corporation, he naturally became the center of attention. Even though the outside of the convention center was lit up brighth, the flashes from the péporters' cameras never ceased.

"Be careful, Father

Robin warned gently, but Presley simply pushed his hand away, insisting on walking on his own

Robin's face darkened, and could only follow closely at his side

As they entered the convention center, a few unassuming but luxurious cars pulled up one after the other The reporters attention was instantly diverted

From one of the cars, Damon and Chloe emerged, followed by Kane, Nathan and the others. Then arrival, unsurprisingly, was met with a frenzy of camera flashes and murmurs from the reporters

"Finally, they're here. I wonder what interesting things will happen tonight?"

"The arrival of these powerhouses is quite a sight. And now, with the addition of the Princess of Y Country, it's simply "The reporter's words trailed off, his gaze fixed on Damon. Unsure whether to continue, he fell silent

The bamera flashes and clicking shutters never ceased as Damon, his face impassive, escorted Chloe down the red carpet, seemingly unfazed by cunous looks

Until they all entered the conference center, the topic of Damon was still ongoing

Tve heard of his exploits before, he's a legend in the business world. I didn't expect him to have fallen so far. Women can really be a man's downfall."

"But what was he thinking? He's such a wise and ambitious man, and even if he loves women, he wouldn't ruin his reputation like this, right? Can't he think of a win win solution? Does he really have to choose between the two?"

"Who knows" With a princess in his grasp, he has plenty of opportunities to start over, and with his abilities, and the benefits granted by the royal family, building a Harper empire shouldn't be a problem."

"So, it all comes back to relying on a woman?"

\*Strange, it's time. Why hasn't the head of Obsidian showed up?"

"Right, isn't he supposed to attend this summit?"

"Let's wait a little longer

Everyone was looking forward to it, their eyes scanning the entrance and the distant places, trying to catch the first glimpse of the person they were expecting. But in the end, the doors of the conference center closed on time, and they didn't see the person they were hoping to see

This made all the journalists disappointed. They shook their heads and sighed, carrying their cameras they entered the conference center. Although they didn't see the legendary international business tycoon this time, he hadn't been there in previous years either.

This year, there should be another show inside.

Meanwhile, inside the conference center, the atmosphere was indeed awkward. Ever since Presley walked in, he had undoubtedly been the focal point of attention. Many corporate leaders wanted to connect with him and flattery was inevitable. Presley s face, which used to be cold, was now filled with a few more smiles.

It wasn't because his pride had been greatly satisfied, but because after so many years in the business world, he was used to flattery and insincere gestures. He was also used to the hypocrisy and backstabbing. At this moment, he was forced to have a polite conversation with the people around him

Even if he wouldn't collaborate with them in the future, it was always better to avoid making enemies unnecessarily

The atmosphere was just night when suddenly, there was a low commotion from the crowd at the entrance

Looking over Presley's forced smile immediately sank when he saw the people appearing at the door

Chloe's gaze swept over the conference center, capturing all the top business elites in the world.

Each of them exuded the aura of successful elites. She took off her coat as soon as she entered the conference center. Her fiery red embroidered dress was

particularly eye-catching

Everyone thought her usual elegant style matched her temperament, but her appearance tonight totally overturned everyone's impression of her. And the slight bulge in front of her belly didn't detract from her outfit, but rather evoked a strange emotion in everyone

It was curiosity, anticipation for life, and a kind of tenderness that came with it. Indeed, every pregnant woman gave off something called gentleness. She was not a business leader not a formidable woman who scared people, but just a simple woman.

With this understanding, when they looked at her again, they felt that the man with a strong aura and unparalleled handsome looks by her side was completely different from the one being discussed on the internet.

Chloe slightly hooked her lips and glanced at Damon, who slowly led her into the conference center

Everyone was watching them, their expressions varied, but no one took the initiative to greet them

A company that had just risen to prominence this year was not enough to make them lower their status and actively seek a relationship with her. They were aware

of her other identity as the princess of Y Country, but there were only capitalists here, not politicians.

"Ah, I remember you. A surprised voice rang out, pointing at Chloe with a somewhat happy expression.

Chloe looked over and saw it was the woman she had met at Chill Inferno the night before it must be Mrs. Steve

Chloe smiled slightly and nodded at her. Hello, Mrs. Steve"

"It really is you I was a bit confused last night, but then I realized, Princess Chloe, Princess Martilda misses you a lot

Chloe was slightly surprised, but knew in a moment. As the leading company in F Country, it was not surprising for them to be acquainted with Princess Martida.

Thaven't had the chance to see her again I miss her too"

Mrs. Steve happily walked over and hugged her lightly "Matilda said her perfume has been used up for a long time and she hopes you can send her another bottle Um, it's a bit presumptuous, but I also really want to have a bottle of perfume designed by you

Chloe smiled gently, "Of course, it's my honor that you like my design. When I go back, I'll start preparing

"No" Before Chloe could finish, Damon interrupted her sternly. His tone was firm, with no room for negotiation.

Mrs Steve's face momentarily stiffened as she turned to look at the man with the exceptionally strong aura beside her

Perhaps it was his overpowering aura, unintentionally exuding a strong and intimidating presence, which prompted Steve to step forward and tightly hold his own wife in his arms "What's going on?"

Chloe hurriedly tried to explain, but Damon held her tightly, still looking displeased "Prepare what? Have you forgotten about your pregnancy\*\*

He glanced at Chloe's protruding belly as he spoke, reminding her of the two little bunnies being neglected at this time Chloe instinctively put her hand on her belly

Mrs. Steve listened with confusion, but when she saw Chloe's actions, everything suddenly made sense to her Tm so sorry, I was too overbearing. I totally overlooked your condition. I'm not in a hurry Your priority now is to safely give birth to the baby'

Chloe looked apologetic, I'm really sorry"

Steve also understood the situation and gradually let go of his wife. Mrs. Steve looked at Chloe happily and said. "But with your pregnancy, isn't your makeup a bit too heavy today? There are a lot of chemicals in makeup products, which can be dangerous for pregnant women.

Mentioning this, the face of Presley on the side suddenly turned incredibly dark. No matter how harsh his words were, he subconsciously considered the babies in

Chloe's womb descendants of the Harper family Upon hearing that she

motivety applied makeup today withou

I considering the babies health. No wo

babies, he was filled with rage yet again. To sho coff at this sumrumut After all, it's their own flesh and blood. How heartless and cold-blooded doet one hava (

Mrs Steve felt somewhat awkward as the atmosphere in the room tightanad, puan muta

It was well known that Presley didn't like Chine hur në ane departat him in Mira Harper lineage so upon reflection Presley did have a ramane to be angry

Chloe raised her eyebrows dighth, deve Maria, a dremmeatus gianna and than cast in My Otava 1ỷ mỷ đừn Beauty company itself, which guarantaen thers ya sharkdal, kui kuningda hpondit to prograet anmas

Mrs Steve wat surprised as were the other windhar pronari "Dush, \tau

Presley was fuming. No chamizale" Thug's abeslut. KUKATAA

The atmosphere ammund them was hacnming namn collar

Presley | hope you can mind the secasion. This left a plane for presi

onsidering the health of the unkom the wont would do much a ovoli

handle it get net. Do you think you are all that great by attending the disbal fearance Summar

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Chloe closed her eyes tightly, striving to maintain her composure and not engage with him. Then, she opened her eyes and gazed at him with silence.

"Maybe you should remember your place. Even if I were to shoot for the stars, it has nothing to do with you. Also, you didn't organize Global Economic Summit. I was invited here if you're so adamant about kicking me out, then please ask the permission of the organizers first if they agree with you and retract their invitation, then I'll gladly leave

"Or, are you implying that you don't care about the organizers, and they must listen to your commands? if that's the case, then I guess I have to leave."

"You "Presley was left trembling with anger by Chloe's words

The organizers of Global Economic Summit functioned like the United Nations, and its role was just as significant. It was responsible for understanding global economic statistics, proposing development policies, and making decisions for major economic meetings c2

Chloe's words suggested two possibilities either Presley was disrespecting the organizers by trying to kick out an invitee, or he, as the director of the Harper Group. was arrogantly dismissing the organizers authority

Either way, Presley would not come out unscathed, and might even bring trouble upon himself that he could not handle.

In just a few sentences, she almost made him disrespect the entire Global Economic Summit. This woman's cunning was unmatched.

The crowd's expressions became serious. This association was not something to be offended lightly. The Harper family could be targeted at any time, for any

reason, in any way

"Stop stiming the pot he bellowed, glaring at Chloe with widened eyes "You're so devious."

Chloe raised an eyebrow, "Since you look down on me, I've never tried to reach your level Sir, we could've had a peaceful evening, but you seem to forget that you were the first to insult me

Everyone nodded Indeed, it was Presley who started the argument.

"You The babies in your womb are the Harpers"

"Don't you see the contradiction here?"

Presley couldn't let go of the babies Chloe were carrying, and his words made her expression turn dark

"You kick Damon out of the Harper family and don't acknowledge me as his wife, yet you're deeply concerned about my unborn babies What's this? You don't want your grandson, and in your eyes, I'm just a mere tool for bearing children for the Harper family, as if giving birth to a child for you is an obvious thing?"

Presley felt silent

"I can't control your archaic thoughts. I can respect you as an elder and not quarrel with you, but when you disrespect women! I can't accept that. I owe you nothing. and I owe the Harper family nothing. And I certainly won't use my unborn babies to pay you back"

"You

"What I'm saying might be harsh, but it's the truth. Although this isn't the right place, you've never given me the opportunity to say this elsewhere. This is the World Economic Summit, and many prominent business leaders from around the world are watching. Let's not become the center of gossip, shall we?"

She had already said everything that shouldn't have been said, and now she was considering the bigger picture. Presley was left fuming.

But Chloe had already turned her attention to the crowd, scanning them before saying, "Hello everyone, I'm Chloe, the head of Starlight International. I look forward to working with you all

Everyone exchanged glances and their expressions became strange. They couldn't afford to work with her

They'd heard about her feud with the Harper Group, but they didn't expect her to make a scene at the World Economic Summit. Instead of choosing her a nobody. they wouldn't dare offend the Harper family

At least not openly

Chloe just smiled. "It seems you re all hesitant to associate with me, that's fine. All relationships should be mutual. I'm happy to meet you all today"

Facing different cultures and communication styles. Chloe tried to keep her words simple and straightforward.

Mrs. Steve looked at her cunously. "I know this is your first time attending the World Economic Summit. Are you looking for business partnerships?"

Im just stating my position I'd love to make friends with everyone here. Even if we can't reach a partnership, at least I won't be singled out"

Her frankness surprised Mrs Steve, "Are you also open to discussing partnerships today?"

The word "also made everyone's expressions change Discussing partnerships here would certainly be a matter of interest for everyone

Chloe smiled, 'It's always good to make more friends if there's a good opportunity, I will certainly consider it

"Consider?" Presley sneered at Damon, "Do you even have a chance? I'd like to ask all the businesspeople here, who would want to work with you?"

Damon's eyes were veiled in a dark must as he watched Presley It seems like you can speak for everyone here."

Presley let out a scoff. "Use your noggin for once What the hell is she on this occasion? Only you are treating her like she's some precious gem. Who would collaborate with a small entertainment company like hers?"

At this, Chloe let out a soft chuckle, leaning into Damon's embrace, retorting. "It is none of your concern in the matters of business partnerships, it's all about whether I am interested I don't just accept every

Tom, Dick, and Harry's proposal. To be honest, some people just don't have what it takes to negotiate with me Presley's facial muscles twitched, "Ignorant! Arrogant Chloe smirked, "Well, you got to have the chops to be arrogant." "I'm definitely going to talk about partnerships. You Harpers may consider yourselves high and mighty, but in my eyes, you aren't even worthy of partnering with me At least, I'm not interested" The expression in Presley's eyes suddenly turned fierce, the anger on his face making the atmosphere notably tense Chloe remained unfazed, her expression also hardening. She could take his mockery, but not when it was directed at Damon. He had been given chances time and again, yet relying on his status and power to act high and mighty in front of them. No one had endless patience or infinite tolerance You only strut around here because of the respect others afford you out of decency and integrity, not because you are truly respectable. If we must count, even at your best, you're only second best globally The room erupted in whispers at her words. Just second best globally. That was quite a bold statement! And her words hit exactly where it hurt Presley the most.

As Presley fumed, Robin stepped forward, his face stem, "Ms. Summers, I hope you remember your place as the younger generation No matter what Presley does, you cannot deny that Damon is his grandson. Your disrespect is unacceptable Have you thought about how you'll face him in the future?"

Second, second

"Robin," Chloe responded, "Just as the younger generations should behave appropriately, the elders should also act their age Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Respect is mutual. In fact, if Presley hadn't been so aggressive, none of this would have happened. He said, that his attendance at the Global Economic Summit somehow means I'm not allowed to be there. I don't see the logic in it

Robin frowned, taken aback by Chloe's sharp tongue and relentless rebuttal

"Stop wasting your words on her Presley cut in, "A small company, fresh off their first Summit, laughing at the Harper Group for being second—best. It's the joke of the century, utterly ludicrous

Chloe sneered. "Well, that makes two of us. We're both attending the Global Economic Summit, and we re both elite businesses on the global stage if you're so superior, why don't you try being number one before you jeer at me? You're second, and I'm bottom of the pile. That makes your jab kind of ridiculous. Both the second place and the last place are losers, but some say that second place is the biggest loser Do you still think you're better than me? You're just a bigger loser that's all

The room fell silent, even Nathan, Kane, Seth, and others who had been watching from the sidelines were taken aback by Chloe's words

Nathan muttered. "She's not here for the Global Economic Summit, she's here for a global roast show. Her eloquence is just unbelievable."

Kane nodded, adding. "And she is really bold

Publicly confronting Presley in such a setting, if she was not bold, who was?

Seeing Presley, red—faced and speechless, Damon let a small smirk creep onto his face. He had lived long enough, and it was about time he experienced the harsh reality of society

Did he really think everyone would cater to his every whim, and not defy him? The world had never belonged to him

But Chloe wasn't done yet.



Chloe's words were truly shooking Her backing was Obsidian Corporation?

This was the topic they were all waiting for tonight Rumor had it that the head of Obsidian Corporation would make an appearance tonight, but where was he?

They scanned the room, trying to spot this so—called head of Obsidian Corporation, but they didn't even know what he looked like.

Their attention returned to Chice, and just as they were about to ask, reporters nearby rushed over

"Ms Summers, do you know Obsidian? Could you tell us where the head of Obsidian is now? We've been waiting outside for a long time. In fact, you guys were the last ones to arrive at the venue

"So Obsidian is skipping the Economic Summit again this year, huh?"

"Do you have any way to get in touch with him?"

The journalists' words left those around deeply disappointed Clearly, if they were the last to arrive, it meant that the Obsidian Group was likely a no–show again this year

"My only wish this year was to meet this legendary figure"

'Same here I was hoping for a chance to collaborate with them, but it seems like another disappointment"

"Obsidian? You know its CEO? I've always been curious and admire the group Perhaps Ms Summers, you could introduce me to him?" Mr. Steve

Chloe with an eager look in his eye

Reporters jumped at the opportunity. Ms. Summers will anyone from Obsidian be here today? Who's the the executive" What's his
from? How did you come to know him?"
Chloe replied nonchalantly. "Of course he will come. He's from the same country an
so we've just kept in touch
Kane and Nathan clinked their beer mugs together but upon hearing (hise's words, Vane sprayed him (full of be
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Wiping his face. Nathan cursed under his breath. "Damn! Are you losing your mind, man? Can't keep your food in your mouth?"
Kane hurried over to help clean him up. He absentmindedly wiped Nathan's face, but his eyes were fixed on Chloe and Damon.
Before he could speak, the room was shocked by Chloe's words.
"So, the head of Obsidian is this kind of person?"
"Why did you guys meet at the hospital?"c2
"No, no, no. That's not the point. The point is that you and the head of Obsidian, were you were you two in a relationship before?!"
The room fell silent at the words. All eyes were now on Chloe. She had dated the head of Obsidian?

This revelation had everyone's gaze shifting to Damon For his woman to openly discuss her past relationship with another man in such a setting, whether this man was a kept boy or not, it was not exactly pleasant

However, Damon simply looked down at the delicate, playful woman in his arms, a light smile playing on his lips. His hand, wrapped around her waist, tightened slightly His warm paim gently moved over her dress

The heat from his hand seeped through her dress and onto Chloe's skin. The intense sensation made her body tense up.

Not long after, a deep voice echoed from above her. "Are your legs still weak?

At a loss for what expression to make, a blush crept onto her face. She awkwardly tried to stand up from Damon's arms. However, Damon's hold on her only tightened

People hadn't thought much about it, yet Chice's reaction gave them cause for speculation.

However, right now, their focus was on the head of Obsidian, not on their public display of affection.

"Ha" Presley scoffed at this moment. This is truly embarrassing You hold this woman in high regard, yet she's been playing around with other men. Now that i think about it, the only reason she could attend the Global Economic Summit today is because she had a sugar daddy backing her up. And you you're serving a woman who's been kept by another man, what a joke!"

Chloe raised her eyebrows in annoyance. This old man seemed determined to crush them.

"I'd like to see how you'll face him when he arrives."

Everyone fell silent. The atmosphere was incredibly awkward.

Another man had kept the woman in Damon's arms, and he was attending this summit because of this woman. This woman was able to attend the Global Economic Summit today all because of another man When that man showed up, his presence would indeed be incredibly awkward. While everyone was busy processing this new information, Kane suddenly jumped forward, circling around Damon before standing in front of him, still looking shocked "Damon, she said at the hospital.." Chloe thought for a moment and realized that Kane knew about her hospitalization due to a neardrowning incident. However, he probably didn't know that Damon was the CEO of Obsidian Nathan, who knew nothing about Damon and Chloe's past, rolled his eyes at Kane's antics. "Are you trying to stir up more drama? Isn't this messy enough?" Presley was always picking fights and causing trouble. Had he lost his mind? Kane pointed at Damon, then turned to Nathan, "You you don't know either? Damon, he he..." Before Kane could finish his sentence, he was pushed aside by the throng of reporters. "Excuse me. Ms Summers, when will the head of Obsidian be arriving?"

"It's no secret that the head of Obsidian has been invited to this year's summit, so why did you choose to come?"

"Does Mr. Harper know about this?"

"Well, Ms Summers, can you tell us why you and he broke up?"

The barrage of questions from the reporters made Chloe frown "Who said we broke up?"

A collective gasp echoed around the room What do you mean you didn't break up?!"

Presley's face darkened even further, unable to contain his anger "Are you playing with the Harper family? You shameless woman! You dare to make a fool out of the Harper family, and now you

Chloe took a deep breath, imitation flashing in her eyes Tm carrying his babies Why should we break up?"

Another gasp swept through the room. She was carrying the babies of the head of Obsidian?!

Then what role was Damon playing tonight? Was it just because he was handsome, Chloe brought him out to keep her company?

This woman was truly ruthless

Bringing a man into such an awkward situation, not anyone could pull that off

But that wasn't the point. Whether Damon was a pawn wasn't what they cared about. What they cared about was Chloe's relationship with Obsidian. If she was carrying his babies, then if they could establish a good relationship with her, they might be able to connect with Obsidian directly

The reporters were outnumbered and pushed to the sidelines Chloe was surrounded by people, who were either trying to get on her good side or fish for information about Obsidian

At this moment, Nathan, who had been silently mocking Kane, was standing in shock, his mouth hanging open

The babin Chloe's belly was the CEO of Obsidian's?

But he was certain that the babies were his brother's.

So his brother was the CEO of Obsidian?!

Oh my God! Just what kind of crazy assumptions had he been making?

Such a complex situation, and he had figured it out. Unbelievable!

His brother his brother. Ahi

Unable to put his feelings into words, all he knew was that his heart was racing, like a prairie dog caught in a sudden spotlight.

Was his brother really that good at hiding secrets?!

Chloe found herself in the center of everyone's attention, their questions barrage her like a hailstorm, turning her complexion several shades of unpleasant

"Well, who's the belle of the ball?" A playful voice echoed, not loud, but enough to hush the crowd

Everyone turned to look at the source of the voice, a man they didn't recognize, but his tall stature and handsome face were hard to forget. The man beside him, however, was a familiar face to many of them Mr. Asher, the spokesperson of the World Economic Union, who was responsible for hosting and organizing every Global Economic Summit

Everyone watched with curiosity as the two men approached.

"Mr. Asher, who is this gentleman""

Mr. Asher responded with a sly smile. This is Mr. Azriel, the executive CEO of Obsidian"

The room fell into a stunned silence Even Presley couldn't help but fox his gaze on Azriel. Wasn't that the man who had appeared at the Alonso family's annual gala in P City? Back then, he was particularly close to Phoebe. So he was the head of Obsidian?

His lips pressed tightly together, his face darkened. This was the man who had appeared out of nowhere a few years ago and stolen the glory of the Harper family.

Everyone was watching him, and without realizing it, they all stepped aside to make way for him.

The meaning was clear as daylight.

Facing Azriel, Chloe raised an eyebrow, with a faint smile on her beautiful face. As expected, she had known that Azriel and Damon were connected, but she just hadn't bothered to investigate

Now, it was clear as day

Looking at Chloe Azriel was reminded of the so—called new performance evaluation content that Damon had mentioned. To turn that rigid, aloof, and arrogant man into a doting husband was indeed a great accomplishment

His eyebrows lifted slightly, a warm smile playing on his face as he walked directly towards her, totally ignoring the icy glares from the man behind the woman

When he finally stood in front of Chloe, he looked down at her, while she looked up at him. Both had smiles on their faces, as if they had long seen through each other

To the onlookers, the two seemed to be deeply in love. However, the atmosphere around them was as cold as ice, making everyone shiver

After a while, Azriel reached out to Chloe. Midway, he glanced at the man standing behind Chloe The amusement in his eyes deepened a bit. Suddenly, the hand that was reaching out changed direction, and his straightened posture bent slightly. Chloe was slightly taken aback.

At this moment, facing his outstretched hand, she had no choice but to extend her hand in return, out of basic courtesy

Her fingers were gently held by Azriel, slightly lifted, then he leaned down as if to kiss her knuckles. But before she could react, Azriel stopped, turned his hand to hold hers, gave it a gentle squeeze, and said with a warm smile, "Long time no see."

Chloe breathed a sigh of relief and replied with a smile, "Long time no see"

Their polite interaction confused the onlookers "Do they really need to be this formal? They already have babies together someone murmured.

Aznel responded with a faint smile, Ive always wanted to have a proper chat with you"

Chloe raised an eyebrow, "Am I that intriguing?"

Aznel replied. Thanks to you, none of our employees at Obsidian received their performance bonus this month'

Chloe was taken aback, Tm sorry I don't understand what you mean?"

"Not long ago, a question was added to our company's performance evaluation form, about the CEO's wife. Everyone failed that question"

Chloe couldn't help but twitch her mouth. "You're kidding A performance evaluation wouldn't include such a question "Her words faltered, as she wasn't sure that Damon wouldn't de such a thing
Azriel raised his eyebrow, "However, that is indeed what happened A normal person wouldn't do such a thing, don't you think?"
Chloe had no response Indeed, such an idea wouldn't cross a normal person's mind
The interaction between the two puzzled the spectators
Damon, who had been silently standing aside with a gloomy face, suddenly stepped forward, harshly slapped Azriel's hand away, and forcefully pulled Chloe into his arms The sound echoed, shocking everyone
"What
Everyone was stunned by Damon's audacity
is this guy really that bold? He dares to provoke the CEO of Obsidian?!"
"Has he not understood his position?"
"Exactly, he relies on Chloe, and Chloe relies on Mr. Azriel in a word, isn't he indebted to Mr April?
"To put it simply, he's indirectly kept by Mr. Azriel
Pit He could have heard that."
Chloe couldn't help but grimace Were interpersonal relationships really this complicated now?

At this moment. Damon's face was even more frosty His icy gaze swept over the wor
A few people were scared by his aura and quickly took a few steps back
"What did you say?
Azriel, on the other hand, gently stroked his hand, with a faint smile on his face. As he looked to the side he cae Presley with a rather unglestant expression, and his gaze then fell on Robin
With a shift of his eyes he suddenly turned and extended his hand towards. Boban am not mistaken, petes must be the new CEO of the Harber about your recent inquiries for a potential collaboration with our company. Perhaps after this soment we could have a more in—diet domutter
Everyone was stunned
Robin's face stiffened abruptly. Upon witnessing Aprats offarad handehaka ha arai lah wahi An choice but to ann
Presley's expression was equally tour. Azriel's words, had resentially reposed the Harper Family + Fylker attempts at iymbly seeking cooperation
The thought of the mighty Harper Group bowing to another company was a hart pill to swallow However Robin soulde lat
situation
Moreover collabomiting with this man would more easily bruise Damon's ego
Once Dam
lized that power was more significant than a woman he would naturally apologize and

With this in ming. Robin's lips curled into a smile and he addressed Agnel. Obaidan has always been elusive and mysterious. Ti a vou today. ?' than"s a chance for collaboration. (helinge in will definitely be a win—win situation

Aznel neither confirmed nor denied but responded with a meaningful smile. "Absolutely. After the summit,

down and

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Robin just nodded, grinning like a Cheshire cat. "Of course"

The others remained silent, clearly affected by the situation.

Everyone was eager to see their businesses thrive and prosper. They wanted to get along with the Harpers, but they were even more eager to maintain good relations with the Obsidian Corporation

In this dog—eat—dog world, everyone wanted to ally themselves with the truly powerful They were well aware of the Harper's and Obsidian's rivalry and secretly delighted in it. As long as the two powerhouses didn't join forces and leave them in the dust, they were more than happy to see them at odds. And they were trying to play both ends against the middle, hoping to manoeuvre smoothly between the two giants

In this world, might was night and connections were everything Building relationships was crucial not only in politics but also in business Otherwise, there wouldn't be departments of foreign affairs and PR departments in corporations c2

Take Damon, for instance Even though he didn't have much to his name, he managed to snag Ms Summers of Starlight International and hence, managed to land a spot in the prestigious Global Economic Summit

No one expected that the Harpers would extend an olive branch to the Obsidian Corporation today

## Such a pity

Everyone's thoughts were all over the place, their gaze shifting to Damon Although no words were spoken, the looks exchanged were clear as day

It was common knowledge that the patriarch of the Harper family had recently held a press conference that sounded like he was severing ties with Damon. However, judging by his reaction today, he clearly wasn't ready to let go of his grandson

His every word and action showed his concern for Damon. Although his words were often laced with sarcasm, they did reveal a certain stance Since he still considered Damon his grandson everyone had witnessed Damon openly offending Mr. Azriel.

Mr. Aznel didn't reject the idea of negotiating with the Harpers after the summit. So the sincerity of his words was anyone's guess.

Everyone understood this and there was no way Robin couldn't see through it. After a moment of contemplation, Robin took a few steps forward and spoke to Damon "Damon, you're aware that your grandfather's actions were driven by his high expectations of you No matter what, you're still a Harper Since the Harper family might form a frendly relationship with Obsidian, I believe Mr. Aznel won't hold it against the Harper family if you apologize to him for your earlier actions Everyone nodded in agreement. That made sense. If the two families wanted to collaborate, it was only night for Damon to swallow his pride and apologize to the CEO of Obsidian

Damon furrowed his brows and shot a cold glance at Azriel, who seemed to be enjoying the show

Chloe, however, was amused by Robin's words "Has the Harper family become so humble just for a successful cooperation with Obsidian? Are they so afraid the deal might fall through that they re making the guy they kicked out apologize?"

Upon hearing this, Robin's brows knitted together 'Damon offended Mr. Azriel because of you, Ms. Summers

Chice raised an eyebrow "is that so? But I see no need to apologize"

"You

"Damon, if you still consider yourself a Harper, then go apologize to Mr Azriel Presley finally spoke, his icy gaze fixed on Damon. If you're still upset about my past actions, I admit that I let my emotions get the best of me I could apologize to you if you want. But today, you must apologize to Mr. Azriel

Indeed, he didn't want to lose his grandson. Some of his past actions were indeed driven by anger. When he had cooled down, he realized that he had been too impulsive

Now was the perfect opportunity. He could show Damon what it felt like to bow down to the powerful, and also find a reason to apologize for his past fictions.

Damon was still his grandson He could not afford to lose his grandson over a woman Otherwise, he would be the only loser

Nathan rolled his eyes "Grandpa, it's the Harper family who wants to cozy up to Obsidian, not my brother. Since you still consider him your grandson, have you ever thought that your decision is no different from begging Obsidian for mercy? How desperate is our family to stoop so low just to cooperate with Obsidian? Aren't you feel ashamed?"

Presley shot him a furious glance Keep your mouth shut if you don't understand anything! Does he even have any dignity left? Look at him, he's a laughing I'm doing him a favour by acknowledging him as a Harper He still wants to be ungrateful and act against me?"

This old man really had a high opinion of himself Nathan was so frustrated that he didn't bother responding

That woman is carrying Mr. Azriel's child, and you're still in denial. How does it feel right now? is it pleasant?"

Aznel, who had been silent till now couldn't help but raise an eyebrow at the turn of events What in the world was going on? Chloe was carrying his child? He glanced at the woman in Damon's arms, his face turning ashen But he had to admit that she was a stunner tonight However, the idea of having a child with her was quite scary "Do you want me to gouge your eyes out?" Damon's voice rang out coldly, his expression frosty Everyone was still surprised by Damon's attitude, but Azriel averted his gaze coughing awkwardly into his fist Robins eyebrows furrowed slightly, sensing that something was off Damon was a man of pride and it was hard to imagine him apologizing to anyone, let alone Aznel His arrogance was already a given But Aznels behavior was unexpected especially for someone of his stature. He had been disrespected, yet he hadn't said a word, let alone showed any anger This was beyond his expectations Aznel ran his fingers through his hair and said. "He doesn't need to apologize to me I couldn't handle it, anyway. His honesty was evident His CEO, even if he was wrong was always right. Asking him to apologize was too much Besides, he wanted to live a peaceful life for a few more years, and not be under the constant scrutiny of his boss However, everyone else took it the wrong way and thought he was genuinely upset Presley frowned, sending a cold glance at Damon befom turning to Azriel with a smile 1 sincerely apologize" he said. "My grandson has always

| headstrong.

and I'm afraid " Azriel held up his hand to stop him "Mr Presley," he said. "I believe there must be some misunderstanding. Ms. Summers and I are not in the kind of relationship you think we are. And the babies she's carrying are not mine. You don't have to apologize to me" Silence filled the room. Everyone was puzzled Presley felt a lump in his throat, almost choking on his anger "What did you say? The babies she's carrying aren't yours?" Azriel nodded. 'Of course not Ms Summers is out of my league and I am not fortunate enough to win her heart" The surrounding crowd and reporters, however, were not calm anymore "The babies aren't yours? But she just said she was carrying your babies "She also said you were her support! So that's not true?!" "Oh my God, her lies are being exposed on the spot. This is so embarrassing! But why did she have to say Obsidian was her support? Was she just trying to scene at the summit?" "Exactly! Look at how she's dressed tonight she's clearly trying to steal the show"

People always stuck with their first impressions

Aznel rubbed his forehead, feeling a headache coming on

It was so obvious what was going on, so why wouldn't everyone just put the root of the matter on Damon, and instead always assumed he was a complete and
utter boy toy?
He shook his head and looked at Damon, who was wearing an expression of utter resignation 'It seems you play the role of the boy toy better than anyone else Damon, he said "Everyone here is so convinced that you're the one being kept, I don't know whether to admire you or the gmat Mrs Harper"
Damon's face hardened "Her of course" he said coldly
Nathan and Kane smirked. Damn, even when he was angry, he still sided with his wife
Whether right or wrong, the wife was always night. Whether good or bad, the wife always got the credit. And no matter what, they were always showing off their
love
It was infuriating
Aznel couldn't help but laugh at Damon's response. He looked at Chloe and said, "She is indeed extraordinary
Chloe forced a smile.
The conversation between Azriel and Damon had finally made everyone realize that something was amiss Everyone was completely lost.
What was going on? It seemed like Mr. Azriel wasn't actually angry, and it also seemed like he and Damon knew each other

The babies in Chloe's belly wasn't his? But hadn't she said earlier that the babies were the head of Obsidians? What on earth was happening?

Meanwhile Asher checked his watch, his expression growing senous Alright, it's about time. Everyone, please take your seats in the next room for the Global Economic Summit roundtable discussion That's the real reason we're all here."

The most important part of the Global Economic Summit was the roundtable discussion, where all the international entrepreneurs present would discuss past achievements and future prospects for various businesses

These discussions often required approval from the World Economic Council

If any controversial methods or tactics were proposed, they would need to be unanimously agreed upon by the representatives of all countries before they could be

implemented

Given the sheer scale of the event, the Global Economic Summit usually lasted several days.

"This year were fortunate to have the head of Obsidian in attendance. Their aggressive and sharp business tactics, as well as their unique and accurate understanding of the world economy and future trends, will be invaluable. We will begin the Global Economic Summit roundtable discussion by inviting the head of Obsidian to deliver a speech, helping us analyze future economic developments and predict trends. I believe this is something everyone here is truly interested

The Obsidian Group had risen to prominence in just a few short years if they could leam from Obsidian's success, it would undoubtedly be a great boon. There was enthusiastic appliance from the audience Led by the emcee, they all headed to the next room

A conference room of similar size to the banquet hall awaited them, its round tables arranged in three concentric rings. The seating

delineated by rank with the highest rankung individuals seated closest to the center
rangemen
Presley didn't look pleased. Though seated in the middle, he was slightly off center from the prime position at the head of the table a spot that had always been reserved for the Harper family in the past years.
Being placed second in the hierarchy was a bitter pill to swallow, but to add salt to the wound, Asher had led him to the third seal with a well–known businessman who usually occupied the second seat, was relegated to the third
Although slightly disgruntled Steve graciously moved back a position with his wife Presley, initially consider
Steves acc
nce and took his place at the third
Seating arrangements were a delicate matter. The
ser you were to the host, the higher your status was However, the
conspicuously empty
Watching Presley's obvious discomfort. Robir
his breath. "If everyone keeps being

do you think Ms. Summers and Damon wil
without a sear?"
Presley gloomy face lightened a touch. That would serve them right this situation
› mediona ka fur that
When everyone was seated, Kane, Nathan and his group made a leisurely entrance from the back of the room Naturaly, they Chloe and Azriel were at the tail end
Perhaps sensing the awkward uation they were about to face, everyone i
Nous expressions, pet
society
Presley watched them with cold eyes
"Thank you all for attending this year's Global Economic Summit Asher stood at the head of the table and announced warmest welcome and gratitude to all the distinguished antepreneurs present "
Applause filled the room. However, everyone's gaze was freed on the three people who had yet to take their seats
Damon silently led Chloe to the second seat on the left pulling out the chair for her to at. Predlay's face darkened, and he addrettet Ashar dæctly
there a mistake in the seating arrangement":

Asher's smile stiffened slightly as he turned to Arnel who marply emilled and gestured that it was so big deal causing a dir among the attendees

"Actually Mr Aznei specifically requested this seating arrangement and (nouldn't safuma Kopa 16 Bobin will understand. Acha ngisinet withi

After his speech, he led the applause which was quickly achined throughout the room

As everyone's gaze followed Apriai: they saw hon quietly take the second seat or

expressions

And now besider Acher the only person left standing was Damon

Ther ever were fræed on him. Robin's expression changed drastically as if he had malized

"How embarrassing

But before he could finish his sentence, there was a collective gasp. Looking

The applause gradually ded down and everyone

Chapter 1765

The room was filled with a perplexed silence, underscored by sheer astonishment. They all had a bold suspicion stirring within them. Yet, they dared not believe it

if their suspicions were true, then the recent actions of Presley, from his press conference to deny any relationship with Damon, to his eviction of Damon from the Harper estate, and his constant attempts to publicly ridicule Damon, were all inexplicable

They had heard him accuse Damon of being a penny—pinching gigolo, of being unremarkable, and even of becoming a cuckold's. He had even demanded that Damon apologize to Mr. Azriel, using the Harper name as a shield

Was it possible Presley was simply ignorant of his grandson's true identity?

All eyes turned to the second seat on the left, where Presley sat His face was twitching slightly, his gaze shifting rapidly between Damon and Azniel, his expression unreadable Mr Azriel, what is the meaning of this? Have you perhaps taken the wrong seat?" he demanded c2

Azriel gave a polite, nonchalant smile Mr Presley surely you jest. Since I am attending this Global Economic Summit, I certainly wouldn't be foolish enough to not

know my own seat

Presley's expression changed dramatically, his hand gripping his walking cane tightly. "What are you implying?" he asked, his voice deadly calm

Azriel simply shook his head, choosing not to answer. He knew that Presley understood the implications, but was simply unwilling to accept them

The room fell into an uncomfortable silence. All eyes turned back to Damon Dressed in a tailored three–piece suit, his posture was impeccable. His hands rested lightly on the edge of the conference table, a diamond–studded cufflink sparkling at his wrist. His demeanor was one of effortless elegance and commanding

presence

His eyes swept over the room, and everyone present felt an involuntary tightening of their muscles, as if they were facing down a loaded gun

Gone was their initial perception of him as a mere gigolo All it took was a change of perspective, and everything was turned on its head.

Even now, they could hardly believe what they were seeing. The man they had dismissed as insignificant, the man they had ridiculed and underestimated, was actually

Damon slowly leaned into the main seat and gracefully took his place.

A few seconds later a deep, icy voice pierced the silence of the mom, transmitted through the hidden microphone on the table. I am Damon, the founder of Obsidian

The room fell into a stunned silence. Despite their earlier suspicions, the confirmation sent shockwaves through the crowd

He wasn't just the CEO, but also the founder The mastermind behind the number one ranked global enterprise was so young

Presley, too, was taken aback, his eyes widened and his lips trembling "What what did you say?"

Damon glanced at him coldly Tm sorry to disappoint you, but I am indeed capable of supporting myself"

More than just capable

"You're the founder of Obsidian? Presley asked, shaking his head in disbelief "How is that possible? How could you establish such a large corporation, and ascend to the top of the international market in just a few years? Are you trying to show off in front of me? Do you feel like you're in a movie? Is this some sort of game to you?

Aznel simply laughed, lounging back in his chair "Mr Presley, you seem to be more willing to believe that I could be the founder of Obsidian than your own grandson" he said. "Isn't that a strange attitude? I believe you should be well aware of Damon's capabilities"

Presley's cane tapped against the conference table, making a "thud thud" sound. He lowered his gaze, his expression inscrutable. Eventually, he let out a bitter laugh. "I see. I see"

It was a joke. He had been the butt of the joke from the very beginning.

No wonder Damon had been able to give up the Harper Group without a second thought, he had bigger fish to fry

His pride and joy, the Harper family, was nothing more than a stepping stone to Damon it wasn't even worth comparing to the woman he had chosen.

His mind was a whirlwind of thoughts and memories, of all the times he had mocked and belittled Damon. Now, the tables had tumed, and it was he who was the fool

There was no more room for embarrassment, only the harsh reality. The room was filled with the same sentiment.

Presley's recent actions had been a series of ill—advised moves, the details of which were well known to everyone present

The man who had once held the Harper family on a pedestal had repeatedly used the family name to belittle and coerce Damon and Chloe. This was public knowledge And now, looking back, it all seemed so laughable and embarrassing

Robin's expression at the moment was particularly grim. It wasn't until now that he finally understood why the Harper family had been constantly targeted by the Obsidian Group recently, with a series of big and small issues eating away at the company bit by bit Compared to a swift death, the slow torture was far more terrifying

When Damon said going all out against the Harper family, he really meant it

He had underestimated Damon

But who would have thought that the only strong opponent of the Harper family would be Damon, of all people in the entire world?

What a joke! Initially, he was unwilling to hand over the vast Harper family business to his elder brother, then to Damon After much effort and struggle, he finally took hold of the family business To his surprise, Damon had already dismissed the Harper family as unworthy

It was truly ridiculous

Sensing the tense atmosphere, Mr. Asher stepped in to break the ice "Mr. Harper, why don't you start by telling us about the development history of Obsidian?" Everyone snapped back to reality, their attention focused on Damon.

"There's nothing special about it," Damon said nonchalantly "It was just a college project I didn't expect it to grow to its current scale"

1/3

Silence filled the room. His words shocked everyone

Now, Damon was sitting among the world's elite international businesses, holding the top position, and they thought he would have a heart—wrenching story of struggle and grandeur. But it turned out to be just a college project?

Did he even realize how hard it was for college students to find jobs these days, let alone start a business?

And judging from his attitude, starting a business in college was clearly just a game for him As a result, he inadvertently created a world—leading corporation.

How could people, who had struggled for decades, even inheriting businesses established by their former generations, accept this?

Chloe raised an eyebrow in surprise Was that really the case? She had thought he was looking for a good alternative platform for his arms dealing business

So, Obsidian Group was founded when he was in college? That meant that Obsidian Group had been around for some time

Everyone gritted their teeth in annoyance Even Mr. Asher looked rather embarrassed "So could you tell us what were the key factors that contributed to your group's success? Such as the business scope and direction"

Damon responded casually. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack. We encompass all industries Whenever we hit it big one year, we make a fortune

Everyone was grinding their teeth. Could someone take this freak away? He was so damn annoying!

Did he mean that if gold prices rose this year he would trade in gold? if diamond prices rose next year, he would trade in diamonds? If real estate was profitable the year after that, he would trade in real estate?!

This was like a weathervane swaying in whichever direction the wind blew What was there to learn from that?i

Kane and Nathan were almost choked with laughter at Damon's answer. He had managed to draw the ire of everyone in the world.

Chloe was also somewhat helpless at Damon's response, looking at him with a hint of skepticism

Damon happened to glance over and noticed her expression, his eyebrows slightly furrowing. Are you doubting me?"

Chloe raised an eyebrow, neither confirming nor denying

Damon's eyebrows lowered further, his lips tightening. "You're not allowed to doubt me. Everything I said is true"

Despite her surprise. Chloe obediently nodded her head

Everyone else was speechless Was this really the highly anticipated Global Economic Summit? Why did it feel so different this year?

Mr. Asher seemed somewhat drained. "Mr Harper

Damon's eyes flashed with impatience as he turned his gaze away from Chloe and scanned the large conference room before speaking again

"Perfect business planning, progressive concepts, innovation ahead of its time, recruiting talented individuals, understanding your own position, and learning more about financial management. The success of a company depends on how well you understand financial management. That's all. The successful economists have said all these things before They're all worth studying I believe everyone here is successful, and you should feel related to what I have just said."

His summary was both genenc and vague

Perhaps feeling that he had been a bit too blunt earlier, Damon surprisingly took the initiative to add something. "Don't just adapt to the times, or try to push the times forward instead, stay ahead of the times and lead them. That way, if you go east. they naturally wouldn't dare to go west "

Everyone got what he meant, but it also became clear that this was a call for them to take risks. While they were all outstanding entrepreneurs, doing something that was ahead of the times would mean spending a lot of money and taking the biggest risks.

But it seemed that Damon had said all he wanted to say Seeing everyone's troubled expressions, he turned to look at Azriel "You're the executive president of the company You handle the specifics

As soon as he finished speaking, the conference room erupted into applause. Everyone was eagerly waiting for Damon to step down

Azriel rubbed his forehead, finally standing up reluctantly under Damon's intense gaze. This was the privilege of being the chairman if he didn't want to do

something. Azriel had to step in

Just as he was about to sit down, he saw Damon wheel his chair over to Chloe without getting up.

Aznel paused his expression turning slightly sour

Unfazed Damon ignored him while Chloe gave him an awkward smile before turning to Damon "What are you doing? This is a serious occasion."

"What am I doing? isnt everything going smoothly?"

If he was really causing trouble would the Global Economic Summit be able to continue?

Chloe was somewhat helpless. After this summit, some people will definitely be extremely displeased with you"

Damon smirked, they re not afraid of being jobless, they're more than welcome to be displeased with me

Chloe paused. You certainly talk so big"

Damon raised an eyebrow. If I wasn't big, how could I be worthy of being your husband?" With a vein threatening to pop on his forehead, Azriel cleared his throat heavily and announced. "Good evening, everyone | am Azriel, the execut Obsidian" His voice instantly pulled back their attention Chloe's face turned beet red as she lifted her gaze towards Azriel, not sparing Damon another glanc Azriel, burdened with the task Damon had assigned him, sat at the head of the table. After an eloquent dissertation of about ten minutes, he finally completed his duty Afterward was a session for free questions Damon played the role of an outsider, not giving woman beside him the chance to consult him. His focus was entr However, Chloe felt that the atmosphere on her other side was the truly eerie one. Robin and Presley sat in their finish The others tactfully kept their distance, not wanting to add fuel to the fire not uffering I word from stan Not long after, Presley suddenly rose from his seat, leaning heavily on his cane. His lips were pressed into a thin line as he looked towards Damon. "You have been keeping the Obsidian thing from me

The expression on Damon's face gradually turned cold, 'Are you referring to today's Global Economic

Summit, or the fact that you would eventually kick me out of the Harper family""

because you knew this day would come, night?" he asked

Presley's mustache quivered with rage. "You know very well I wouldn't really kick you out of the Harper family!

After his outburst, he took a deep breath and said, "Regardless of what I mean, you only need to answer my question."

Damon's demeanor was icy, his voice devoid of any emotion. You're overthinking I never once thought that you would actually kick me out of the Harper family"

The room gradually fell silent Chloe's expression had also turned icy

Presley's expression stiffened slightly before he managed to say, "Then why did you establish Obsidian? And why did you hide it from me? Isn't it to have enough capital to confront the Harper family someday? How long have you been harboring this plan, hiding in my shadow for all these years?!"

Chloe's face had become too dark, but Damon was subtly holding her hand, his thumb soothingly caressing her knuckles I never intended to confront the Harper family its growth was simply a result of your teachings," he replied.

Presley looked puzzled. "What?"

Damon lifted the comer of his mouth into a smirk, gently placing his hand on Chloe's shoulder before slowly standing up His tall figure immediately rose above the rest Looking at Presley, he slowly said. "You said alcohol shouldn't be touched, and women are even more dangerous. Women are vulnerabilities and burdens, and one must not be infatuated, addicted, or deeply involved. Everything that can make a person addicted is forbidden Don't let any factor influence my thoughts or affect my judgment. But why should I be bound by these things?"

"What I want to give, I can give without hesitation What I want, I can possess without restraint. Be it a vulnerability or a burden, if I choose her, then I must be ready to grant her a lifetime of peace and security

"What you said is actually correct, and I agree and have been implementing it. I indeed won't let anything in this world easily influence my thoughts. For instance, when you used the Harper family to threaten me to do something I didn't want to do, the existence of Obsidian allowed me to refuse without any hesitation"

Chapter 1766

As Damon's words fell, the entire conference room fell into silence for a moment.

The reporters, who had been quietly standing by their tripods, couldn't help but swing their cameras in his direction. They were specialists from an economic radio network who had been invited to cover this major international economic conference. It was a grand cooperation with the official TV station, and the broadcast would be a piece of news for the general public. They felt both the weight and honor of their task

Reporters from renowned radio stations and magazines from all around the world had gathered, all for the sole purpose of providing the most comprehensive coverage of the conference

To the average person, the Global Economic Summit was just a spectacle, a grand spectacle like no other it was a chance to see what the rich looked like, how they lived, and just how nich they really were

For some economists and entrepreneurs, however, the insights gained from the summit could lay the foundation for their success, and could potentially drive global development c2

That was why the Global Economic Summit was so important. It contained elements that could influence the world.

In this global spotlight, Damon's words struck a chord more profound than any expert advice

"If you don't want to be tied down, be the strongest

Damon embodied the extent of human ambition Weaknesses, burdens if he wanted something and couldn't prevent others from interfering, he'd reach a height where others would have neither the grounds nor the qualifications to interfere.

Damon, despite his young age, had already reached the pinnacle of life. He was at the top of the food chain. And all of this was for a woman he wanted without

any reservations.

Everyone's gaze fell on the woman in Damon's arms, their eyes full of envy, regardless of gender

If Damon was the man at the peak, then she was undoubtedly the biggest winner in life

But in Chloe's heart at this moment, there weren't many complications. She only knew that her heart was filled with gratitude and deep affection. She wondered what she had done in her life to deserve such a man. Her past life had been so tough that she had never imagined crossing paths with a man like Damon let alone being with him

Presley was equally stunned by Damon's words. Yes, these were the things he had instilled in Damon from a young age. However, it seemed he had been naïve Damon was still obedient, but he had completely stepped out of Presley's control, even reaching heights that Presley couldn't touch

And the person who had brought Damon to such heights wasn't him, but this woman who had appeared out of the blue.

It was just laughable

Presley, feeling a mix of resentment and anger, scoffed. "So you've been on guard against me all along. You guessed that I'd use the Harper family to control you. and that's why Obsidian exists

Damon retorted, "If your desire for control wasn't so strong. Obsidian could have been a boon for the Harper family. Before all this, Obsidian could have been the Harper family, but now, it only belongs to me, Damon

Presley's gaze passed over Chloe, and he sneered, 'All of this for a woman"

Damon frowned, "No matter what the reason is, you have no grounds to judge me here today."

Yes, he didn't

This was the Global Economic Summit, a place where only the strong had the right to speak

Presley was supported by Robin as he swayed. Damon, you're being too harsh. He's your grandfather! Your achievements today are a result of his guidance.

Damon coldly replied. 1 should indeed thank him for that. But today, things are different. When he tried to disgrace me he didn't seem to think, that the man who relied on a woman for support was also someone he had nurtured

Robins face darkened. Damon, you are out of line. Even if he was wrong, he doesn't deserve this. Have you considered the negative impact your actions today could have on him?"

Chice suddenly spoke, Damon has also had to endure plenty of slander because of his actions Not long ago, he was seen by everyone as a boy tury Robin frowned at her "Do you think it's right to treat an elder this way?"

Chice shook her head "Damon was misunderstood, and I know that part of that was my fault. But the person who escalated things to this port was due to his prejudice and stubborness Respect is not a given, it is earned through ones actions You ask me to respect elders, but please also tert care of the young To put it bluntly

She paused then Continued. "We're all human for the first time, so why should I have to unconditionally cater to you? Don't use the excuse that night and we are always wrong to blame us and don't label us as disrespectful of heartless simply because we disagree with you.

Presley squinted

ted at her dangerously "Even if I'm the worst man alive. I'm still Damon's grandfather, a fact he can't change in his thetime but can't get my approval. You find that fulfilling?"

Chloe raised an eyebrow her smile light in my life. I've been a villain, done bad things, and I've never really considered mysat a good person. Why no about anyone's approval? Well that's not entirely correct | believe if that person in this world approves of me, it s mnough. Everyone else i operson doesn

It wasn't hard to guess who that one person was

Presley tightened his lips. huffed, then left the meeting room with the support his cane

The opening of this year's Global Economic Summit had been quite turbulent. After the departum of Presley, the it dispersed

On the internet, where billions of people congregated. banquet hall

i for mu

before

broadcasted yet. The only thing discursed was what happened

What the hell? Ms Summers babies weren't Damons? That's shocking | |

He lost everything indeed. He gave up the Harper empire for a woman and now look where he is]

I knew Obsidian's CEO would show up at the Global Economic Summit today Chloe was planning to embarrass him in public, wasn't she? What kind of grudge la she holding?]

(For Christ's sake, who does he think he is to act that way towards Obsidian's CEO? Just because he's a guy kept by a wealthy woman?]

I've been following this whole thing, and it all started because Mr. Harper peeled some fruit for Ms Summers at the coronation is it necessary to insult someone over that? Ms. Summers is pregnant, and he's her husband What's wrong with him taking care of her? Would you rather have your husbands beat or ignore you when you're pregnant?

Exactly, some people online seem to have a masochistic tendency. These days, if a man treats his woman nicely, he's labeled a kept boy? What kind of twisted logic is that? No wonder you only meet terrible men in your life]

[Ms Summers babies aren't even his, okay? He's been cheated and still thinks he's doing great? Look at him, still worried Mr. Azriel will take advantage of Chloe Isn't that ridiculous? They already have babies together]

Exactly, he's been cheated and still fawning over a woman who's pregnant with another man's babies. No man can bear that Doesn't this prove he's just after Ms. Summers princess status? What else is worth sacrificing his dignity for?]

No matter what, it's their business. Do you have to gossip about it? Have you handled your own affair? Do you really have the energy to meddle in others:7|

[Ugh you're defending the boy toy now Your whole family must be made up of gigolos or prostitutes |

Hahaha birds of a feather flock together Go ahead, show us how many gigolos and prostitutes are here

You attacking someone personally is extremely shameless |

Well gigolos and prostitutes are calling others shameless, haha, that's hilarious]

[You've been fucked by everyone, and you still have the nerve to call others shameless? I wonder who's really shameless

Online Chloe and Damon quickly became a hot topic especially with the mockery aimed at Damon Occasionally some people would speak up for them but they would be attacked by a group of people, ending up silent and making others afraid to say anything more.

However, they still couldn't stand it and left encouraging messages under Chloe and Damon's Twitter posts, celebrating and believing in their unbreakable bond

Even those few who had been attacked were there. Others recognized them and comforted them under their comments

But there were also many trolls targeting Damon and Chloe's accounts. Seeing their comments, they ridiculed and insulted them relentlessly, making ther pr

known

One of them, an ID called 'Daily PDA, couldn't stand it anymore and said angrily to those people who were relentlessly mocking others beneath her comment. you stop already? This is their private account. Do you have any morals? Slandering others is illegal, you know?]

[Why are your words so vicious and your thoughts so dirty? Even though there's a screen in between, it's not kind to be so unrestrained Remind yourself to be a decent human being, okay? What benefit does this bring you?]

Building your happiness on others pain, do you think you're any better?]

Any better? Hahaha, so you admit you re a prostitute?]

Someone was nitpicking, forcing their own rhythm onto "Daily PDA's words, resulting in many accounts mocking her.

This went on for over half an hour Just when everyone thought "Daily PDA" wouldn't respond anymore, she suddenly reappeared, but her statement made everyone

watching a bit afraid

This social media platform is now a real name system Even though there's a screen in between, we absolutely cannot tolerate you trampling on others self—esteem insulting and attacking them if society continues to allow you to be so rampant, then I fight you with my life. Believe me, if my death makes you (HR). then I'm willing to die Goodbye, you filthy people Let the world see how detestable your words and actions are]

After she left those words, no matter how vile the words used to ridicule and insult her, there was no response

Just when everyone thought "Daily PDA was just trying to scare them before going to bed, someone posted on Twitter that Daily PDA had committed suicide by

wrist-cutting at home

The initial worry led to some unconventional tactics to track down the address of the individual known as "Daily PDA Found unconscious on their bed at home. they were now in the ER, awaiting results. The local police had already been involved

The news dropped and the internet went wild

That's it The end is near for those keyboard wamnors and trolls)

Kyber bullying is truly terrifying hoping for peace here)

Some people are pst too vicious]

Yet some didn1 believer, continuing their sarcasm Who are you trying to scare? Do you think we don't know it's you just becaur you've changed i

[You re really going to great lengths to grab attention, if s a shame you had to use that garbage filled brain of yours to come up with this idea.
Ha-ha-ha, this person is too funny
Alyssa who had seen following Chlor and Damon's saga online, was also worned She contacted the police and rushed to the hospital
By this time, the person had been in the operating room for nearly ninety minutes
When the operating room door opened. Alyssa asked anxiously. "Doctor how's the pati
The doctor sighed. We've managed to stabilize her but what happens next is up to her. If she young
needs
Alyssa looked concerned After all, this person had been driven to do something so foolish because of Chloe and Damon
Recalling the relentless humiliation Damon had suffered online from the old troll Alyssa closed her eyes tightly in anger, despair, and disappointment, her whole body trembling
After a while, she said slowly, "Hannah, give me my phone"
Hannah was worried. Ma am, let's wait until Presley returns
Alyssa opened her eyes, her tone utterly calm 'Give me my phone.
Chapter 1767

The worry on Hannah's face deepened "Ma'am, Mr. Damon and his team will be busy at the moment. It's not a good time to call. Perhaps we should wait until get back. Well, wait until they're done.."

"I said, give me your phone"

Hannah was startled and no longer dared to delay, pulling out her phone from her embrace and dialing Damon's number

Damon's phone was with Nate, and seeing the call from the elderly lady, he was slightly taken aback and quickly answered the call. "Hello?"

"Hello, Nate, it's Hannah There's something important here Ms Alyssa insists that Mr. Damon take the call "c2"

There was a pause on Nate's end, but the urgency in Hannah's voice left him with no room to refuse. He stepped out of the car, walked up to the front door, and negotiated with the staff to get the message to Damon.

Just then, Damon, arm in arm with Chloe, emerged Nate quickly approached, "Mr. Damon, your grandmother insists that you take the call"

Chloe looked worned. "She must have seen what happened at the summit

Damon's brow furrowed as he took the phone, guiding Chloe to a sofa in the lounge area Stepping away, he picked up the call, "Grandmother?

"Hmm If there's nothing else at the summit, you need to come home immediately

His face was unreadable as he asked quietly. "What happened?"

"There's been an unexpected situation. Regardless of who is at fault, I don't want to see this again. I'm not blaming you, or complaining, but I don't have anyone else to turn to Damon, do you understand what I mean?" His grandmother's voice trembled. Despite the distance, he could clearly sense her helplessness and disappointment. His eyebrows drew together, "I understand. You have a rest, and we will talk when I get back "Okay." She sounded drained, weakly acknowledging before asking, "Is Chloe okay?" "She's fine" Take good care of her, Damon She shouldn't suffer because of the Harpers" Damon pursed his lips, "Okay" She didn't say anything else before hanging up. Hannah, fearing Alyssa might call Presley in her anger and say something irreversible, rushed to take back the phone. However Alyssa was already holding the phone to her ear raising a hand to stop Hannah. Meanwhile, the summit had ended due to the standoff between the Harper family's grandfather and grandson, Robin, supporting his father left the conference center Robin's mood was low, and he answered his ringing phone with clear annoyance. However, seeing the caller ID, he glanced at his father, hesitated, and said, "It's Mother

Presley's face turned colder
Robin answered the call. "Mother
"Let your father take the call"
Alyssa's sharp and commanding tone startled Robin. He offered the phone to Presley, "Mother wishes to speak with you."
Presley's lips tightened, and he stared at the phone for a long time without taking it. I'm not in the mood to talk to her
He pushed the phone away and shrugged off Robin's supporting hand, staggering towards the parking lot.
Alyssa heard his refusal clearly through the phone, her expression icy
"Mother Father is not in a good mood right now. If there's something
"If he refuses to take my call, then you can relay my message if he is so disrespectful and shameless, then he shouldn't mind adding a divorce to his list of issues
at his age
If it weren't for Presley's concem for his reputation, believing that a divorce would reflect poorly on him, she would have divorced him long ago during the rocky phases of Royce and Elizabeth's relationship
if it weren't for that stubborn old man's later compromise, she wouldn't have compromised either

Back when he took over the Harper family, it was a tumultuous time. The line between the underworld and the business world was blurry Despite being a businessman, he had the demeanor of a gangster, a quick temper, and many habits that didn't look promising Still, he had saved her life several times.

He was a typical macho man, unable to express his feelings with sweet words Still, his straightforward actions clearly showed his feelings for her

She owed him her life Without him, she wouldn't be alive today She was grateful to him in that era, his personality and appearance were indeed attractive to women Many factors led her to be with him.

The first few years were good, really good

She understood the decisions he made for the sake of the family and never stopped him from strictly raising their children And the children never disappointed him. Watching her children grow and excel brought her great joy

But she never thought he would interfere with their children's marriages. Her son didn't even have the right to choose the woman he loved.

Their disagreements started then, and the distance between them grew. She began to doubt whether being with him was the night choice

What was he thinking when he married her? if he truly loved her, how could he break up a loving couple? Only those who had never been in love would prevent two people in love from being together, because they didn't understand how precious it was to be in love and how painful it was to be separated

But when Royce and Elizabeth had their children, he compromised, and she didn't pursue the matter further and moved out.

1/3

11:50

And she had grandsons, which was enough to distract her

Since then, there had been peace for a long time. Her greatest joy each day was caring for her grandchildren.

For thirty long years, she had never imagined that stubborn old man, her husband, would still be so obstinate, resorting to his old tricks. It seemed like he was regressing with age

The Alonso family had been left in ruins, wasn't his hand partly in it?

Now, he had pushed Damon out of the Harper family, even going as far as to publicly humiliate him.

He always talked about the Harper family's reputation, and their dignity. Did he even understand the meaning of family honor?

In the end, Damon's own grandfather proved to be no better than a complete stranger Chloe was ready to risk her life to protect Damon and Chloe, while Presley was the one ready to take lives

She had made a mistake, she should have severed ties with him thirty years ago. Perhaps then, things wouldn't have spiraled into this mess

Her words left Robin stunned, "Mother, you shouldn't be so rash Father had his reasons."

"His reasons led to consequences he alone couldn't bear What's so bad about his feelings? He should be thrilled that Damon managed to humiliate himself. If he's satisfied, he should hurry back. After dragging this on for thirty years, this time, I won't compromise I'm giving him one day. The day after tomorrow, I want to see him. If he doesn't respond, then I'll consider our negotiations to have failed"

"Mother, you...

Alyssa didn't give Robin a chance to speak, and hung up the phone.

Hannah, standing by her side, helplessly shook her head, "Madam, why go through all this trouble? After all these years, what's the point of stirring the pot? The current situation isn't what he wants either Miss Chloe is pregnant now, and I believe he will come to his senses sooner or later"

Alyssa shook her head, "If he was going to come to his senses, he would have done so already. Back then, Elizabeth almost lost the child in her womb due to his foolish decisions Now I won't allow Chloe to face the same danger Even if I don't have many years left, I want to correct the mistakes I made in my lifetime)

As she spoke she let out a long sigh, Hannah, perhaps I've never been loved by him in my entire life"

Hannah was moved, her hands gently touching the old lady's shoulders, "Madam, you can't measure your relationship with him with these standards. Times have changed, and people's perceptions have changed. He also cares a great burden"

"I know he had his reasons I can understand, but I've been understanding him my entire life. When has he ever compromised for me? If I continue to understand him, I don't know what irreparable things will happen."

"But Madam

"No more Hannah, my mind is made up."

Hannah was helpless, finally letting out a sigh, shaking her head in resignation.

Damon hung up the phone, and Chloe, who was sitting on the sofa with her phone in hand, looked up. Even though she was looking down, Damon could still see that her usually smooth forehead was now creased with worry, her elegant eyebrows were pressed down, her face was tight, and her whole aura was clearly off

She was upset, more accurately, she was angry.

"What's wrong?" He asked softly as he approached her. Chloe slowly looked up, her delicate features now covered in a dark shadow Damon's eyebrows slightly furrowed, his gaze slowly moving to the phone in her hand. But Chloe coldly opened Twitter, typed a message that simply read – Just wait.] After that, she put away her phone, and slowly stood up, her icy face filled with restrained anger "Damon, let's go back to P City." Damon didn't ask further, he just nodded, "Alright." Nathan and Kane rushed out, heard what Chloe said and asked what was wrong, but Chloe's expression was so terrifying, they didn't get a response. They practically left the convention center and headed straight to the airport Nate had already received orders and arranged everything. It was only after they boarded the plane that Nathan and the others found out what had really angered Chloe The current trending topic online was now 'Just wait Clicking in, they found that it was a tweet from Chloe just a while ago Just two words, but in less than half an hour, there were already tens of thousands of comments [Yo, who is she telling to wait?] She must have seen someone slandering her pretty boy online She's probably coming back for revenge, right?|

[You're talking nonsense! She's already cheated on the pretty boy herself if she wants to settle accounts, the first person she should find is herself |

[Watch your mouth You're pushing people to suicide Aren't you afraid of criminal responsibility?]

[Who would believe that childish trick? They say the police are involved, but there's still no official announcement. Only idiots believe that!

You are unbelievable. Since warnings won't stop you, then wait for your punishment People like you are the same as murderers, and you should be shot]

Following these comments to the root of the incident, they saw the unsightly words that people were using to ndicule and slander Damon online. Even worse, they had driven a fan who stood up for Damon and Chloe to the brink of suicide

Kane kicked the seat in front of him in anger

"Damn! These people deserve to diel

11:50

Anyone who defended Damon was labeled as gigolo or prostitute by those people, forced into a comer, with no chance to deny the allegations.

They had a clear "You're guilty because I say you are, and I won't listen to your explanations" attitude, which was infuriating

Nathan and Kane never cared about these things, because they felt there were more interesting things to do

They thought that arguing with those brainless idiots was lowering oneself, so why bother with a bunch of jerks

But now, seeing these comments, they were easily provoked into anger

When did public opinion online become like this? They found it baffling How many people were crushed by these comments online?

Depression, suicide, these phenomena were rampant And now it was happening in their own circle Looking at these comments from a personal perspective, how could anyone endure it?

Nathan was also furious. "Damn it. I'll find these people and make them pay"

Nate chimed in from the side. We're already on it

It was past nine in the evening now and their flight was set to touch down in P City around eleven

Chloe remained silent, slumped in her seat the entire time. Damon tilted her chin up to meet his gaze, his dark eyes bore into hers

"We'll sort things out Don't worry about it now"

Chloe closed her eyes briefly, and when she opened them again, they were still tinged with red.

They don't deserve forgiveness Those hiding behind their screens, they re murderers."

Her body was shaking subtly, and her defiant eyes gradually filled with tears. Her current state was worse than when she was the one being victimized by cyberbullying

After all, a life was almost lost And knowing the pain firsthand was what made her so emotional.

Damon rested his forehead against hers, gently stroking her back "Yes, they're murderers, and they will pay for what they've done Thanks to Damon's soothing words, Chloe felt a little better. She buried her face in his chest and stayed silent Everyone around her kept quiet too, careful not to say anything that might upset her further The two-hour flight passed with Chloe dozing off a bit under Damon's comforting presence. While she rested, some content from the Global Economic Summit was posted online [Shocking! The head of Obsidian is -] Chapter 1768 Push notifications from various websites were streaming into everybody's phones. Upon opening the notifications, a video was revealed. It was the entrance to the Global Economic Summit. The moment people saw Damon slowly take the main seat at the conference table and introduce himself, everyone was blown away [The founder of Obsidian is gigo no, no, no, it's Mr. Harper?] [OMG, how is this possible? One second he's just a boy toy, and now he's the founder of Obsidian? is the world this mystical? How young is he to be the founder of the top international corporation? [But what about Presley's previous actions | c2

[Indeed, he said that without the Harper family, Damon is nothing claiming Damonis a gold–digger, and just a few days ago they even held a press conference to publicly expel him from the Harper family]

[Presley used to look down on Ms Summers because of her background and they preferred Wendy But now Ms Summers has transformed into a high—ranking princess in \* Country, while Wendy is just a homewrecker's daughter Presley thought expelling their grandson from the Harper family would force him to crawl back to them begging but he's actually the founder of the world's top corporation, and he doesn't need the Harper family at all This old man really is

[And all the previous public mockery of Ms Summers and Mr. Harper, acting all high and mighty, is also quite something I

[Now they must be really embarrassed]

The online sentiment had suddenly shifted, the sarcasm was still there, but this time the target had changed

As the plane was preparing to land, Chloe woke up. Nate came to inform her, "A total of three hundred and sixty four people have made derogatory comments online about this matter, from various cities in the country. But over a hundred of them are in P City Due to the scattered locations, we've only caught a dozen or so, including a few who made the most vicious comments

Chloe, with a cold face, said, "I want to see them right now."

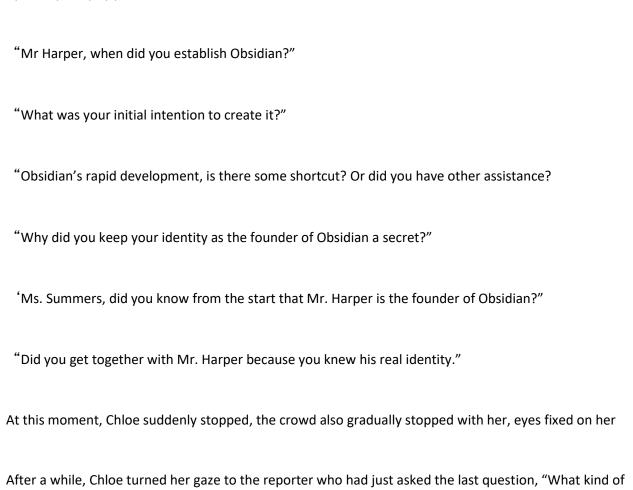
Nate, who could vaguely guess what Chloe was going to do, hesitated, "Madam, somet crowded with

already know about your sudden return to the country, and the airport is

"Get to it" Damon interrupted Nate's words, and Nate quickly ordered his subordinates to bring the individuals

in question

The plane needed some time to tax. By the time Chloe and her group disembarked, it was already
twenty minutes later. As soon as they reached the exit, they were surrounded The bodyguards arranged
by Nate promptly protected them



Her face was gloomy, her aura strong and icy, and her gaze towards the reporter was like a blade of ice.

"Before, it was said that Damon was after my princess status. Now, it's said that I was after his Obsidian founder status? Which answer will you all be more satisfied with? How about we say we both had our own molives? He was after my princess status, and I was after his Obsidian founder status. Are you satisfied with this answer?

The reporter was left speechless by Chloe's words.

outcome are you all looking for to be satisfied?"

"The intention of the company's establishment, why it developed so quickly, and why we kept it a secret? The company was established as a safety net in case of circumstances like being expelled by Presley. The rapid development is due to the backing of an underground power With so many secrets, of course, it had to be kept hidden I'll tell you the answers you all wanted to hear Are you all satisfied now?"

Chloe answered all the questions about her and Damon in one go, leaving the reporters stunned and speechless.

"And, regarding the public reveal of Obsidian's founder, there's no need for the sarcasm on social media. It's not up to you to judge what kind of person Presley is, whether I'm vicious or a princess, whether Damon's a gold digger, or the founder of Obsidian Honestly, even if he was a gold–digger, he wouldn't take a single grain of nice from your tables

"I'm curious, where does this bitterness come from? The need to mock everyone it's as if the people you mock have defiled your family graves Do you even know where your family graves are? if you do, have you thought about behaving in a way that would bring honor to your ancestors?"

The airport ext was packed with people, but at this moment, all one could hear was Chloe's clear voice. Her words left them with no rebuttal

She had said everything What else could they say?

The live broadcast was uploaded online, most of those who had been continuously mocking Presley for his foolishness and disspeci fell silent.

Everyone was looking at Chice in the video Even if she didn't say anything they were all quietly waiting it seemed this woman really had a kind of magic about her, always making people unconsciously focus their attention on her

The silence had stretched on for a while before Chiog who had been mute till now, suddenly shifted her gaze toward the airport exit. As she spotted Nate approaching with. a small group of people, her eyes narrowed, and she took a few steps forward

Nate came to a stop in front of her "Malam, these are the people from the internet

Chloe looked at the group of young men and women in front of her, among which there were even several physically disabled individuals, totaling up to four or five people

She turned her head towards the able boded ones standing by her side, scoffed Took at who is standing here sharing your ideals? They physically disabled, so what about you guys, mentally disabled?"

The surrounding reporters swarmed up, taking photos of her like mad.

Those who Chloe had sarcastically targeted looked both scand and angry "Mind your language What gives you the night to call us mentally

One of the disabled individuals spoke up. "What's the meaning of your words just now? Are you discriminating against us because we're disabled?"

Chloe only scoffed her gaze fixated on the able—bodied individuals, "Can't handle being called mentally disabled? At least I have the guts to face it, unlike you guys who behind screens, using keyboards as your weapon if you can't handle it, feel free to confront me I'm right here Come at me if you dare

As her voice died down a few bodyguards immediately surrounded her, their sharp and icy gaze directed towards the individuals on the other didn't dare to step forward

"Of course you guys don't have the guts You live in the light, umwilling to offend anyone, hence acting like snakes hiding in the dark."

Her gaze slowly swept over the disabled individuals finally resting on a woman seated in

"You got it wrong I do not discriminate against the disabled"

Those individuals clearly

The group was intimidated by the inexplicably cold aura around her watching her warily. The next second, the After a few crisp slaps the woman was tossed onto the ground by her
nan in the wheels
rked up by Chice
Her legs were completely atrophied below the knees, making it impossible for her to stard
Everyone was shocked still by Moe's actions, stepping back a few steps
everyone equally
Chloe looked coldly at the woman on the ground her expression icy her voice bone chillingly cold. "As human beings. Lobviously tre excuse that I'm bullying you because you're disabled. No one can say I discriminate against the disabled Thit normal people, and i hit disabled people ton " As her words fell the able—bodied individuals around her, who were stunned, suddenly rec
slap on their
Everyone stared at Chloe in disbelief feeling that this woman had truly gone mad today. She had just disembarked from the plane and immediately Now she was openly slapping a few individuals right in the middle of a crowded place
What was more the even hit a disabled person. Such behavior would easily invite criticism.
What the public opinion would turn into was unimaginable. After all, she was a businesswoman who had just made it to the Global Economic Summit. Even i backing of Damon the founder of the Obsidian Group, she couldn't act so recklessly
The societal impact was huge Without a doubt, she would have to pay a price for her actions today

But her words just now seemed to make some sense

The disabled individual who had just been hit and fallen to the ground wanted to reproach Chloe, but was scared silent by Chloe's following words

course Chloe didn't discriminate against the disabled. Chloe hit normal people, and treated her, a disabled person, the same

However in the eyes of society, they were a group of people who received special care, and her actions today were unjust

After being scared for a long time, she finally stuttered, covering her face, "You dare to hit a disabled person, you will pay for what you did today."

"Now you're emphasizing that you're disabled again? What disabled people aren't normal human beings?"

Chice stowly approached her scaring her into retreating a bit, staring at Chloe with a face full of fear and defense: "What what are you trying to do? Chide's face was indescribably cold her icy and domineering aura skyrocketing

tions.

"Do I know you? Or does Damon know you? Did we cause your disability, or did we conspire to kill your entire family, to the point where you hate us so mu even spare the people who speak up for us\*\*

She slowly bent down forcefully gripping her chin, her powerful and icy aura instantly striking her face

How m do you despise society, thinking that disparaging others to nothingness is what gives your life

hers are gigolos and prostitutes, so do you feel that you are superior to them? You trample on others every day to elevate your you'll be the best is that it?

Chloe scoffed, gripping her chin even harder, causing the woman to wince in pain.

treatment society gives you is not to nurture a group of psychologically deranged murderers. We don't expect trouble for society or the country You've driven an innocent person to attempt suicide. Do you know how much turmoil you've caused society i to contribute much adn't been saved I would have made you pay with your life"

the end of her speech Chloes voice had suddenly intensified her cold and stern vo like a heavy hanumer Seeing the

face and trembling lips Chloe nolently pushed her aside and slowly stood up

Hai gade Swept over the able bodied individu and the disabled ones. "You're i laws are so flawed 11 force them to perfect it if that child dares to bet her life. I dare to

Everyone was stunned by Chicës

Combining (

Kurds not knowing what to say No one doubled the sincerity of

from her body made it impossible for anyone to question her. And from Tad to commit suicide. They how knew the reason behind Chicas anger

words just now indeed, these

Chapter 1769

Naturally, there were dissenting opinions

Nathan and Kane leaned against each other, watching Chloe's receding figure, shaking their heads in disbelief

"Look at Chloe What a spitfire"

"She's really one of a kind Damon's a lucky guy"

Nathan snorted. "Exactly, didn't you hear what she said at the Global Economic Summit? Damon is just too clingy, and she can't shake him off. She can only make do and go along with it So you know, sometimes men should be a bit persistent and shameless "c2

Kane glanced at him, looked ahead for a moment and his expression suddenly stiffened. He silently distanced himself from Nathan, who seemed oblivious to the impending trouble

Nathan received no response, so he turned his head to look at Kane, only to find that he had already moved far away from him. He was about to curse at him, but he noticed two cold gazes falling on him. His body stiffened instantly, staring at Kane's eyes as if he wanted to pierce him.

Kane whistled and turned his head, pretending to know nothing.

In a moment, the intense gazes disappeared When he turned his head, he found that Damon was walking towards Chloe

By this time Nate had already had the woman who was beaten and unable to move placed onto a wheelchair

Damon walked up to Chloe, cast a cold glance at the people in front of him—just a casual look, yet it carried a force several times stronger than Chloe's. These people stood frozen in place, unable to make a single move.

"Take them all away"

The group was completely panicked, "Where are you taking us?"

Damon gently stroked Chloe's back, not even giving them a glance, and said indifferently: "If the person is not dead, you'll pay an equivalent price. If she is dead, it's life for a life. It's only fair"

The group turned pale with fright. "You don't you don't have the right...

Damon raised an eyebrow, "Obsidian has such a powerful dark force behind it. It's a good thing to make you deserving people pay a little price. I'm not going to hide this matter. The relevant authorities better come to me, as I need to discuss with them when this law of life for life will officially be established

"No. There is no such punishment now it is illegal!"

Damon watched as the woman in his arms gradually calmed down, then he gently held her in his arms, his indifferent gaze slowly shifted to the person, and he said lightly "If there isn't. I'll make it happen. If it's illegal, I'll make it legal. Once I've settled things with them, I'll let you pay the price. What do you think?"

Everyone fell silent. At this moment, the group was even more panicked, some even fell to the ground with trembling legs.

The sensible ones already understood the situation. As the top international group, nobody would believe that Obsidian was entirely clean and aboveboard.

He could have secretly dealt with them, but he chose to bring them here openly If he wasn't absolutely confident, he wouldn't have done so. Since he dared to say these words, he could certainly do it

There was nothing impossible for Damon

Just like when he initially declared his full–scale crackdown on the Harper family, everyone mocked him. However, he casually transformed into the founder of the international conglomerate Obsidian Group, in the blink of an eye.

And what he said today, was entirely within his capabilities.

Everyone knew this principle That was how the world, the society worked. If you were inferior to others, you deserved to be trampled underfoot, and at the mercy of others. And this was the greatest motivation for everyone to not be mediocre.

Nate ordered his men to take the group away one by one, protecting Chloe and Damon as they left the airport.

Reporters reluctantly followed behind them, "Mr. Harper, what are your plans for the Harper family in the future?"

"If Presley gives in, will you forgive him?"

"Ms Summers, how do you see your relationship with the Harper family?"

The relationship between Damon and Presley was now the focus of everyone's attention, after all, it was highly observable for the reporters. However, their questions. received no response

After leaving the airport and getting in the car, Chloe asked to go straight to the hospital

"No" Damon's refusal was absolute

Nate started the car and said, "Don't worry, ma'am. That young lady is out of danger. Even if you go now, she will be unconscious. It's too late today, and considering your current physical condition, you should rest first. It's not too late to go to the hospital tomorrow."

Hearing that the girl was out of danger, Chloe's expression gradually improved, and her somewhat tense body gradually relaxed "That's good."

it was an innocent life, and it was because of them if she really paid with her life for this, it would be a lifelong guilt for Chie

She didn't kill innocents, but innocents died for her Although she considered herself not a good person, she would never harm or implicate innocent people

Damon silently hugged her into his arms, gently patting her shoulder. Til handle this Now that the Global Econetic Summit is over, you should rest at home and take care of our babies'

Chloe buried her head in his chest, exhaling deeply "Okay. As long as the kid is okay I'm relieved"

They were dropped off at a downtown apartment, and Nate's work for the day was temporanly over

The internet was flooded with news about Damon and Chice The identities of the two, revealed one after the other were simply unbelievable. Even movies would be so dramatic

Those who said that Chloe wasn't good enough for Damon, or that Damon wasn't good enough for Chloe, had almost disappeared from the internet

The incident tonight was so big that not long after it happened, the local police department issued a statement confirming that the girl with the internet D Daily POA" had indeed been taken to the emergency mom

Even more so the situation had become alarmingly severe, and the inchement of Damon and Chloe had only fueled the fire. The heat was so intense that lawyers and

relevant legal departments jointly appealed for the establishment and improvement of internet regulation laws.

Although these measures had not completely sanitized the online environment, significant improvements were inevitable.

Several related departments contacted Nate in the dead of night, volunteering to take custody of the arrested individuals and promising a satisfactory resolution. With Damon's consent. Nate handed them over. After all, it was just a means to lessen their own troubles. With the legal authorities taking the suspects from them, it was a form of goodwill, intended to minimize their own attention and scrutiny. It also allowed the suspects to be detained legally and reasonably reducing unnecessary complications for everyone involved and improving their public image

Since things were moving in a favorable direction, they didn't need to invite any unnecessary trouble

Upon returning to their apartment, Jane and a few others were already waiting for them. Seeing their return, she took a deep breath and looked at Chloe with concern

Once inside. Jane and her team conducted a comprehensive prenatal check up on Chloe. Finally, standing before Chloe, she announced with a stem expression, "Both your babies' heart rates are accelerating to varying degrees

Alarmed, Chloe immediately asked. "What's going on?

Jane shot her a cold glance, her voice ice cold. "It's caused by your emotional instability"

Chloe frowned, her hand resting on her slightly protruding belly, her face pale.

Jane continued Expectant mothers should avoid emotional instability, especially anger, which can severely affect the development of the fetus. If the mother is angry, the baby can sense your emotions and will also be upset. Even if they are born safely, they may grow up to be unhappy. Moreover, if the mother's heart rate accelerates due to anger, the baby's heartbeat will also speed up, potentially causing oxygen deficiency. In severe cases, it could lead to fetal deformities or even spontaneous abortion

"The emotional state of a pregnant woman is of utmost importance to the whole family. That's why the pregnant woman will receive queenly treatment for ten months if you want your babies to be sad

or, in the worst case, face dire consequences in the future, go ahead and indulge your emotions. I'm warning you the heart rates of both babies are currently elevated. If you want them to be healthy, put all matters aside."

With that, Jane looked at Chloe with a grave expression "Mrs. Harper, you must prioritize. Think about what you have been through in the short three months since you became pregnant and what experiences you have passed onto your babies. If you don't focus on them completely, you will have plenty of time for regret later"

Chloe bit her lip, her face filled with worry and tension. "What now? How are they? Will they be okay?"

"I will prescribe some medication to stabilize your condition, but if you yourself...

"I understand. I will rest at home and take care of the babies I won't involve myself in other matters anymore

Jane smirked, looking at Damon who was standing aside with a grim expression "Mr. Harper, I need to prescribe some medication for your wife. The medicine is in my car Can you come with me to get it? I can also take this opportunity to talk to you about the responsibilities you have as a soon—to—be father

Damon frowned, but didn't say anything. He stood up and followed Jane out of the apartment. In her car, Jane took out two medicine bottles, emptied one, and poured the contents of the other into it. She handed the filled bottle to Damon

"What's this?

"It's the medication I mentioned"

Damon looked at her coldly Jane sighed. "It's just vitamins"

"All of what I said earlier is true, but I may have exaggerated a bit. I know Chloe is not one to sit idle, so I thought a little scare would do her good. Cheer her up when you get back, and distract her a bit. When she finishes the vitamins, let me know I can arrange for more"

Hearing Jane's words, Damon's grim expression eased a bit. He glanced at the medicine bottle and gave a slight smile. "Well done this time."

Jane snorted. "If you're satisfied, maybe consider donating some medical equipment to my hospital There's a new batch that just came out overseas."

"We'll talk about it after the babies are born! Without giving Jane a chance to continue, Damon cut her off.

Jane felt upset, pursed her lips, and said in an irritated tone, "See you around as she opened the car door.

Those capitalists!

After the babies were born? Did he even know how restless his wife was? How high maintenance she was?

Being her doctor was more tining than performing continuous surgeries

Returning to the apartment. Damon found Chloe sipping water on the couch while watching TV with a serious expression. She quickly asked, "Did you get the medicine?

He handed her the medicine bottle 'Don't worry too much. Since Jane says it's fine, then it must be fine. She said all that just to make you more careful in the future."

Chloe looked at the instructions on the medicine bottle, poured out two pills, and looked up at him, "Can I take them now?"

Damon glanced at her and nodded. "Yes, three times a day Given the current situation, you can take it once now"

Chloe put the pills in her mouth and swallowed them with water She closed her eyes for a moment, feeling no different, then slowly opened them. Her hand rested on her belly, her expression still lacking joy

"Will you stay home now and take care of yourself and the babies!

Chloe nodded, "I definitely will

"Do more of what you enjoy outside of work, or develop some new hobbies. It's a form of prenatal education for them

Chloe nodded again, then looked up at him, "You should abstain from now on"

Chloe stroked her belly her beautiful brows furrowed, it's not good for the babies What if something happens to them? it's just too risky. I appreciate your sacrifice"

Daron's face looked more sour than ever before Reward? In her dreams!

At this moment, Jane, who was driving suddenly shivered and cranked up the car's heater a notch higher

Damon frowned, if you just stay home and take care of your pregnancy it's okay to have sex"

"Taking care of a pregnancy is all–encompassing. They need to be well taken care of and not disturbed if this goes on for a long time. I think they would get annoyed too Lately, you have been disturbing them too often Chloe's face turned a shade of pink, uttering those words was downright embarassing

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Damon's face turned a ghastly shade of grim, and Chloe, with an air of resignation, gave him a comforting pat on the shoulder

"object"

Chloe frowned in response, then, gripping the medicine bottle in her hand, stood up slowly 'I don't care whether you agree or not. I disagree with your disagreement"

Damon was speechless What goes around comes around, he thought Was Chloe starting to take petty revenge on him?

As Chloe's figure slowly retreated, he remained seated, choosing not to argue further. Her mood seemed stable now, but he knew it was just a facade. She was forcing herself to keep her emotions in check She was clearly frightened by Jane's words, so now she didn't dare to let herself worry about anything at all.c2

But was it healthy to suppress one's emotions?

He decided not to confront her, especially at such a sensitive time

Sitting on the sofa for a while, he finally moved towards the kitchen Minutes later, he returned holding a warm glass of milk and headed upstairs

Chloyou, too." either, but seeing Damon's sour face, she couldn't help but chuckle

She accepted the milk, sipping it as she studied him through the glass. She knew this man too well. He always appeared so cold and reserved, but being with him had revealed a different side to him

Just how deep was his resentment over this issue? At the summit earlier that night, his face hadn't looked this grim

She couldn't help but recall the time he had surreptitiously found his way to Peck's Manor, sneaked into her room, and adamantly declared that if they didn't do it, he'd be devastated

<sup>&</sup>quot;Oops Halfway through her drink, Chloe burst into laughter, spraying the milk all over the glass."

Damon looked at her in surprise, raised an eyebrow, and handed her a tissue. He gently patted her on the back, his voice filled with confusion. "Were you thinking naughty things just now?"
Chloe shook her head as she wiped her face "No, no, not at all."
Damon clearly didn't believe her.
"I just choked on my milk, that's all."
"Hmph" Damon snorted in disbelief.
Chloe remained silent, hoping to shift the topic. After cleaning up, she finally crawled into bed
Damon, wearing just a shirt, sat next to her Chloe looked at him and blinked. "Aren't you going to shower?"
Damon shot her a glance before suddenly leaning towards her
Caught off guard, Chloe's heart fluttered as she felt a soft warmth press against her lips. The sensation lasted only a moment before Damon pulled away. Their breaths intertwined, creating an intimate atmosphere
Chice stared at him in confusion, while Damon rested his forehead against hers, his voice filled with a hint of disappointment. "Can we negotiate? Maybe we can adjust based on the situation?"
Chloe's eyes flickered as she pondered his words. After a few moments, she shook her head. "No, Jane said I need to focus entirely on my pregnancy I can't risk anything happening to our babies"
Damon's gloomy expression deepened. 'You're so cruel. How am I supposed to survive these months

with you around all the time?"

Chloe looked at her sympathetically 'For our babies sake, I'm afraid you'll have to endure it'
Damon's hopeful expression deflated. He nipped at her lips before straightening up. Chloe touched her slightly sore lips and looked at him reproachfully
Damon caressed her face "Go to sleep. it's late"
Chice relaxed 'Are you going to stay with me?"
Damon pursed his lips "Just go to sleep"
Chice was touched
It was indeed late They had spent an entire night at the Global Economic Summit, then flew back from another city. She had even thrown a tantrum at the airport. She was exhausted
But with Damon by her side, she felt at peace
if he had left the anger and Jane's harsh words would have been too much for her to bear, but now, all she felt was gratitude and relief. There was no room for anything else She closed her eyes, comforted by the warmth of Damon's hand on her face
It wasn't until Chloe's breathing became steady that Damon leaned in to steal another kiss "Such a tormenting little devil,' he murmured softly
Chloes lips moved unconsciously in her sleep, making her look incredibly adorable
Damon smiled faintly at the sight. He could just imagine how cute she must have been as a child. He tucked her bare hands under the blanket before heading to the
bathroom

Chloe woke up naturally the next day, and the internet was a mess

Everything that had happened was too much for the online community to process The Global Economic Summit, Damon's transformation from a kept boy to the founder of Obsidian Group, his words and actions at the summit, Presley's current state of mind, Chloe's physical assault on the cyberbullies at the airport, the current condition of the victim, and the whereabouts of the arrested cyberbullies

All these issues were so overwhelming that people didn't know what to make of them.

After right's rest, Chloe's mood had improved significantly She was unfazed by the online uproar and calmly announced her intention to go to the hospital after break

Damon watched her for a long moment, making sure the was genuinely okay before deciding to take her along himself

The hospital was already swarming with reporters, all of them eager to know the condition of the victim Upon seeing Chloe and Damon arrive, they immediately huddled

over

"Ms. Summers"

"Mr. Harper"

However, all their questions were met with stony silence. Both Chloe and Damon wore expressionless faces as they were escorted into the hospital by their bodyguards.

The girl behind "Daily PDA" had already woken up around four or five in the morning and was later transferred out of the Intensive Care Unit

Jane helped Chloe put on a protective suit, and only after she was fully covered did Chloe enter the patient's room

Upon seeing Chloe and Damon, "Daily PDA quickly blinked her eyes and struggled to sit up, but Chloe gently pressed her shoulder down. "Just lie down Her voice was soft, but it camed an authority that wouldn't allow for any dissent.

"Daily PDA" obediently lay still, her eyes fixed on Chloe Her face was still pale, and her lips, somewhat dry, trembled for quite a while before she could speak Before her words could come out, tears were already trickling down her cheeks.

Chloe pressed her lips together and looked at the gut lying on the bed. She seemed to be barely of age, or maybe not even that Chloe said, Tm really sorry that our situation has caused this, and I'm also really grateful for your support and trust. We've never met before, and to receive such trust from you. I'm truly moved. But you shouldn't have risked your life so casually Do you think it's worth it?"

The girl lying on the bed shook her head but her tears seemed to flow even more fiercely.

Chloe quietly watched her and said. "In this world, no one is more important than yourself, you know? We all deserve to experience the most beautiful encounters and life. Please remember the only task in your life is to become the person you aspire to be"

These were things she hadn't understood before Back then, she never thought about living for herself, only about protecting what she thought she had

However the one who truly made her understand the meaning of life was the man quietly accompanying her by her side. She wanted to stand side by side with him, to become the best woman

she could be. That was why she had been striving for that goal all along

Happiness wasn't something you protected, it was something you earned.

The girl nodded, her face wet with tears, and her lips trembled for a long time before she finally spoke. I know If my sister had met you earlier, she wouldn't have left me so soon"

Seeing the girl cry so painfully, Chloe's throat tightened and her eyes began to redden. Perhaps it was because of the pregnancy, her emotions were easily affected.

"My sister ended her life because she couldn't bear the comments people were making about her on the internet."

Chloe's brow furrowed instantly

The girl clumsily wiped the tears off her face, "She was a somewhat famous livestreamer, and as soon as she gained a bit of fame, people started mocking her appearance There were also indecent remarks from men. I could see that she cared about those comments. She had a decent income and could support herself, but she was becoming more and more unhappy. At first, she vented to us, but then one day, without any warning, she ended her life. Her diary was filled with questions about the world and doubts about herself I hated her for treating her life so lightly, but mostly, I felt sorrow and resentment

"My sister was driven to suicide by cyberbullying, but after she died, those people didn't pay any price. They continued to hurt others from behind their screens. I couldn't accept it My sister didn't deserve to die like that. They shouldn't have been able to bring you down without any evidence. I knew you were popular, so if my death could draw public attention and even punish those who engage in cyberbullying, or improve the laws in this area, then my sister wouldn't have died in vain, and I would have died

for a cause

Chloe closed her eyes tightly in the end, it was another victim of cyberbullying

"But now it's okay, I saw the news. Finally, people are paying attention to this problem, and those who were disrespectful to you are also being punished. In the future, it will restrict others behavior online, so all of this is worth it."

Chloe's face didn't light up much sensing her discomfort, Damon moved closer to her.

Without uttering a word, Chloe's eyes flickered and she closed them. "Was it worth it? Chloe's light question was heavy and icy

The girls smile on her face slowly froze. She watched Chloe for a long while before saying, "I won't do this kind of thing anymore."

Chloe opened her eyes and glanced at her The girl's expression was full of fear

Damon led her out of the ward room and took her straight back to their home in Greenfield Village.

The journey was quiet and peaceful Chloe took out a thermos to drink water, casually downloaded a game on her phone, and even turned on the music in the car

However everything seemed too forced. She appeared to be carefree and happy, but Damon's expression became increasingly grim

Upon reaching their mansion, Damon got out of the car and directly carried Chloe into the house Chloe was initially startled by his actions, but she then just let him lead the way Finally she was placed on the sofa Damon removed her hat and scarf, knelt down in front of her, and looked at her senously "Chloe, do you know that your current situation isn't good?"

Chloe's puzzled expression gradually became stiff, Damon stroked her hair and continued. "Today's situation has nothing to do with you, okay? You don't need to worry or blame yourself. The things you

want to do, I'll handle them. Or is it that you never believed I could handle things?"

Chloe shook her head lightly. "It's not that.

"Then what are you still worrying about?"

Chloe pursed her lips and slowly rested her head on Damon's shoulder

"I don't know I used to brush off certain comments, not thinking much of them. But now, I can't quite describe how I feel. The remarks used to be indifferent to, are now unbearable to even think about I even worry about the future You, me, and our babies may face such ruthless verbal attacks. They might even doubt themselves, feeling like the whole world is hostile towards them I can't bear the thought of them going through that What if they cant handle the pressure

You're thinking too much," he said, kissing the top of her head Nobody's going to let it get that far We all love you How could we ever abandon you? Our kids are going to be the best, and they wont give anyone a chance to criticize them, right?

Chloe nodded gently. Although she heard the words, she didn't fully registering them

"So right now you just need to keep your emotions stearly and let them grow up healthy. We're going to have a pair of beautiful, handsome, and smart babies just like you All they'll ever receive are endless compliments and admiration

Slowly, Chloe sat up and looked at him, murmuring I hope they'll be as smart as