

Under the Heiress' Facade

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"Oh, really?" Hera took her phone meaningfully. "I should buy you a welcome gift then. Raven's so unfortunate to have such a repulsive fan."

Frederick couldn't follow her words, and Leon was silently praying for this poor man.

"You-"

"Let's get down to business," interrupted Leon, worried that Hera might storm away if Frederick put his foot in his mouth again.

Frederick glared at Hera, blaming her for distracting him from business.

Suppressing his hatred, he ignored her and instead smiled at Leon. "Killian Corporation is willing to offer 30 million dollars plus 2% of profit to recruit Raven to develop the chip."

"Raven has conflicts with Miridian. Are you not afraid of that?" Leon asked implicitly.

"Are you talking about the warrant? It's not a big deal. We can help him settle it," replied Frederick languidly.

Hera, who was scrolling her phone, exchanged glances with Leon after hearing that.

Since Fredrick wanted to collaborate with Raven, he would have done his research. The Killian family prioritized their reputation a lot, so why would he look for Raven while knowing he was involved in the conflict?

What was Frederick hiding?

"How should we deal with this?" Leon asked further.

In order to express his sincerity, Frederick repeated Rhett's words to convince Chad. "Miridian is trying to win Raven over with force."

Hera became speechless at that.

"What in the world? Are you serious?" Leon exclaimed.

Was his boss so powerful that Miridian became obsessed with her?

"If God Raven works with us, we will use our power in Miridian to revoke the warrant," Frederick promised confidently.

Leon wished the warrant would be revoked as soon as possible. Even he didn't dare to go online whenever he liked because of this. He was worried people would kidnap him just for Raven's location.

He shifted his gaze onto Hera, silently asking for her opinion.

"Only 30 million?" She sounded unimpressed as she kept looking at her phone.

Leon became helpless.

Frederick gritted his teeth, repeating, "And 2% of profit!"

The base offer of 30 million dollars was a considerable offer! In addition to that, there would be a long-term commission of 2% of the generated profit.

On top of that, Killian Corporation couldn't solely rely on Raven to develop the chip. They would invest billions for the initial development.

Meanwhile, Raven could make use of his expertise and ability at Killian Corporation with a long-term handsome income in return.

"Well, sounds like an unattractive offer to me. Your attitude is disgusting too. We won't accept the offer." She kept her phone and took her book, standing up. "Let's go to XS Corporation. Let's see how much they'll offer."

Frederick became all jumpy. "Who are you to decide for God Raven?" He faced Leon. "Mr. Kirkland, please convey our offer to God Raven."

"Her wish is my command." Leon rose from his seat and followed behind Hera.

Hera's wish was his command? Why would a superior listen to a mere assistant?

Frederick couldn't believe how passive Leon was

Frustrated, Frederick regretted not asking for Raven's contact number earlier to speak to Raven directly. He shouldn't have wasted so much time on Raven's two assistants.

As she walked out of the door, Hera stopped to remind him, "Oh, don't forget to accept the welcome gift."

He rolled his eyes at her and stormed out of the room.

Along his way, many staff members threw a strange look at him. When he arrived on the first floor, other people continued looking at him. Some of them even began gushing while holding their phones.

His expression changed as he asked his assistant, "What's going on?"

Henry went to ask the employees around them. It wasn't long before he came back with hesitation.

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"Spill it," urged the impatient Frederick.

"Mr. Frederick, did you accidentally share your pictures?" Henry asked gingerly.

Frederick frowned. "What pictures?"

Henry stammered, "Your intimate pictures. They were shared to nearby group chats through Bluetooth." "What?" Frederick had no idea when he did so.

He was in the private room the entire time, and he didn't even touch his phone!

Henry showed Frederick the shared intimate pictures on his own phone, causing Frederick to look grim.

Those pictures had been encrypted with a password. They were his valuable collection. Why were those pictures shared through Bluetooth?

Who did it?

Recalling the welcome gift Hera talked about before she left, Frederick gritted his teeth.

Was it Hera?

She had only just started learning the D language and lacked the skills to do such a thing.

Leon! It had to be him!

When Frederick shook Leon's proffered hand, he had brushed against Leon's palm. It was known as a suggestive invitation within their circle.

Frederick never expected Leon to be this petty. It was a mere invitation, but Frederick did not expect that it would snowball into such a big deal.

"Oh my goodness! Mr. Frederick swings the other way!"

"I thought he was dating Ms. Caddel. How could he do this to her?"

"I bet she doesn't know about this yet. I heard that they're going to get engaged soon."

"This is a scam!"

The discussions jarred into Frederick's ears, and he wished he could dig a hole out for himself at this moment. He quickly left the hotel. Then, after entering the car, he ordered Henry, "Suppress this now. If someone edits and shares my pictures to ruin my reputation, send them to prison!"

If his parents and Chad found out about this, he would be dead meat!

Having worked with Frederick for years, Henry was clever enough to know that those weren't edited pictures. Frederick was just trying to cover up the truth.

Still, he suppressed his displeasure as he had to keep his job.

Over at XS Corporation, Theo informed his staff to use the company's name to invite the top 99 hackers from the Global Hacker List.

However, only 11 of them agreed to attend, which was too little.

Then, he asked someone to spread the word that Vulcan would come. The number of attendees proliferated to 68 on the same afternoon!

At night, he released the news that Raven would come. Such news resulted in all 99 confirmed attendees the next morning!

Finally content, Theo forwarded the name list to Bernard. "Bernie, here's the list of hackers who will be attending on the 1st of the month."

Bernard, who was in the skyscraper of Astral Nova, opened and scanned through it. Raven's name was right under S's.

He looked at the two names that of the mentor and mentee for a moment before accessing Astral Nova's financial system on his computer. Soon, he found the auction history of Hera purchasing the Eclipse Stone.

The trade record was deleted through the internal system. Even the history of the deletion process was wiped out.

Everything was clean.

His fingers flew over the keyboard as he attempted to restore the system's record. Although he failed to restore the name of the operator, he managed to restore the time of the deletion.

It was on the same day that Hera and he arrived in Astral Nova together.

He recalled Hera and Tyler fought that very night.

At this recollection, Bernard's eyes darkened, showing gleams of excitement.

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Leon and Hera were on their way back to Youngworth Miracle.

"It's 30 million dollars plus 2 percent of profit. XS Corporation might not be able to provide such an enticing offer. Are you trying to leave the Killians hanging?" Leon was driving while asking Hera, who was in the passenger seat.

"It takes more than one or two years to develop a chip,' she stated while texting Samantha

A self-developed one would at least take up to ten years, and slow progress might stretch the duration further.

"I know. It's just that, although XS Corporation has a bright prospect, their funds are not as much as the Killians. They might offer a lower price for recruitment. If you're trying to rip the Killians off more than that, XS Corporation might not help. Leon pointed out.

Hera became speechless. Her main purpose for visiting XS Corporation wasn't to inquire about their offer but to find someone.

"Oh, what are you going to do with your warrant? Should I ask Damian to find someone to verify it?" he asked. No one knew that an international arrest warrant could be a mere game. It was absurd to think that it wasn't issued to arrest someone but to find someone.

However, both of them couldn't trust Frederick, so it was better to verify the information.

"It's fine. I've asked Samantha to verify it," she said.

When they arrived at the entrance of the clinic, she unbuckled her seatbelt. "I'll contact you on the 1st. We'll attend XS Corporation's third-anniversary banquet together.'

"Fine by me."

She got out of the car, and Wayne ran up to her from the entrance. "Hera, after you left, Giselle came to look for Dr. Youngworth."

Hera frowned. Why did Giselle come here when she should be afraid of Hera's territory?

Then, Hera passed the coffee she bought on the way back to Wayne, asking him to distribute it to the others. Placing her bag aside, she washed her hands and knocked on the door to enter the consulting room. Catherine had just finished performing acupuncture on a patient. Hera told her to get some rest so she could take over the final patient.

The final patient happened to know her and was excited.

After Hera exposed Camille's true color, Youngworth Miracle Clinic became the talk of the town. Everyone visited the place just to see her.

However, according to Hera's rule, the clinic would only be open for five days a week and take in only ten patients daily. Appointment requests were accepted a week prior.

Patients would book an appointment online and upload their medical history records beforehand, with those having complicated diseases taking precedence. The clinic didn't accept walk-ins and patients with urgent cases or ailments.

As for the medical bills, the figure changed according to their mood. It could be free of charge sometimes. Yes, this was how capricious the clinic was.

Like opening a mystery box, patients would feel lucky to meet Dr. Shadow. Of course, Catherine was a skillful doctor too. The only difficulty was to book an appointment.

Hera wrote a prescription for the patient and informed Isla to hand it to Everly. Then, Hera headed to the western wing

Catherine was playing with Tiramisu in the hall. When Tiramisu noticed Hera, she ran like a bolt toward Hera

and nuzzled her foot.

Squatting down, Hera caressed the little fellow. "Why did Giselle come to see you?"

"She told me to go with her, and she'll open a clinic for me in Jedburgh," Catherine answered truthfully.

Giselle was being greedy.

"Don't worry. I won't go." Catherine gave Hera a definite answer before the latter asked.

Hera was worried that Catherine might be deceived by Giselle, but it seemed like it was an unnecessary

concern.

She scurried over and hugged Catherine. "Whether you're leaving or not, I respect your decision. I won't stop you from contacting her either. But if she hurts you again, I won't let her get away from it!"

Hera hadn't settled the score with Giselle about the loan shark

Catherine wrapped her arms around Hera, the tip of her nose and her eyes red

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How could she betray her granddaughter when she was so caring? Catherine couldn't bring herself to do that.

Three days later, it was Children's Day.

Hera received a box of chocolate from Bernard early in the morning.

Puzzled, she emphasized, "I'm a grown-up."

He planted a kiss on her forehead. "This is compensation for the past 11 years of celebration."

She unwrapped the packaging of a chocolate piece and tossed it into her mouth. "If so, I should be getting 11 gifts. This is only one.

"Once per year. I'll make up for it in the future," he said gently.

"Okay." She smiled. It was quite sweet. She unwrapped and had another chocolate again.

After they had breakfast together, Bernard was preparing to go out. "I'm going to attend an event tonight. It might end late, so I won't be coming home tonight. I'll stay at Skyview Heights for the night. If you're bored, you can call Samantha over to keep you company."

Her eyes lit up at that. What a coincidence! She wouldn't be returning home tonight because she was going to attend XS Corporation's third-anniversary party.

"Okay. Don't drink too much," she hurriedly responded.

Bernard was slightly surprised that Hera wasn't going to accompany him to work today. She would do that every day in the past. Work could be cumbersome sometimes, but at least her presence gave him comfort. Now that she wasn't going to accompany him for the day, he couldn't get used to it.

Still, it was XS Corporation's third-anniversary party today. His eyes darkened at the thought of Raven's name on the guest list.

"Alright. I won't. Bye."

"Hurry up or you're going to be late. I'm going to sleep in." Hera waved her hand lazily while yawning as though she was going to return to the room.

Ignoring the urgency in her tone, he lifted her chin and kissed her lips before leaving the house.

Hera returned to the bedroom. After the sound of the car engine died down, she quickly got changed and called Leon. 'You can pick me up now.'

After picking her up, Leon drove to a hair studio for styling. Damian was there as well, in a different room. As the ambassador of XS Corporation's Shirka OS, he had to attend the anniversary party.

The stylist curled Hera's hair and gave her sexy makeup with striking red lipstick. Next, she changed into a strapless slit gown. The black color complemented her fair skin very well.

Black was the color of a raven, mysterious, silent yet smart. In addition to her sexy makeup, she looked stunning.

Leon knocked on the door before entering the room. His eyes widened at her makeover, which was completely different from her usual minimalist look. "You do look like a villain now."

Even Damian, who had seen countless beautiful and handsome men in the entertainment, couldn't help but glance in her direction. He quickly blocked Leon's view with his body. "Don't lose yourself over this."

Hera was rendered speechless.

Leon slid out from behind Damian to pass her a black golden invitation letter. 'Here's Raven's invitation letter. Later, I'll be going in with Damian from the backstage.'

"Better be careful when you enter through the front entrance. I heard that the top hackers of the Global Hacker List will be there. When Mr. Smith first sent out the invitation, only a few accepted the invitation. But when

news of you attending the event got out, everyone wanted to attend."

Hera blinked her eyes

It seemed like everyone was aiming for the bounty of 100 thousand dollars.

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Rhett and Frederick were in the CEO's office situated in the headquarters of Killian Corporation.

After listening to Frederick's report, Rhett asked, 'Did you manage to contact Raven?'

"Not yet." Frederick dipped his head low.

Frowning in disapproval, Rhett chided sternly, "What have you been up to the past few days?"

Frederick had been busy keeping his controversy under control, but he didn't dare to mention a word about the private pictures.

Thus, he reported what happened that day, "I contacted Raven's assistant, Leon Kirkland. The discussion went on smoothly, but it was disrupted by Hera. She was there that day. She said that our offer was too low and wanted to compare it with XS Corporation's offer. She's trying to bait us into increasing the offer."

"Why was she there?' Rhett asked.

"Leon said that she's his assistant, but I doubt it. I think she's helping Uncle Bernard. She's approaching Leon to fish for Raven's information," Frederick guessed.

After all, whoever could clinch a contract with Raven would be the winner.

Chad only looked at the results, not the process. It had been more than two years since Bernard was dispatched to a subsidiary in Norburgh. Frederick believed that Bernard was trying to claim credit so that he could return to the headquarters.

"When are you going to take action then? Are you going to sit still until the day they signed Raven?" Rhett urged.

Bernard's presence was already pressuring the whole family. Now with Hera in the game, they felt more threatened.

They couldn't afford to spare Bernard and Hera, but especially Hera. If she brought up the incident that happened that year, Rhett's family would be done for.

Frederick responded, 'I'm heading to Norburgh soon. According to our reliable sources, Raven will be attending XS Corporation's third-anniversary party tonight. I'll meet up with Raven for a face-to-face discussion.'

"I'm coming with you. We must sign the contract with Raven tonight," said Rhett

Rhett asked his secretary to look for the invitation letter from XS Corporation. Before this, he wasn't planning on going, but since Raven was going to show up, he changed his mind.

They had to sign the contract with Raven before XS Corporation would beat them to it!

If XS Corporation found out that Killian Corporation intended to collaborate with Raven, XS Corporation would surely try to preempt them! Based on how they had been going against Killian Corporation, it was something XS Corporation might do.

That was why Rhett wished to go in person. He had to get the job done tonight!

Besides, taking advantage of the opportunity, he could scout a few famous hackers. He believed that there was no way XS Corporation was going to sign with all of the 100 hackers.

In the evening, at Norburgh, James, Gideon, and Gino were dressed in suits, heading to XS Corporation to attend their third-anniversary party.

Their car moved like a snail throughout the way. Traffic police and police officers could be seen everywhere. In addition to that, many SWAT police were on duty, as the entire city was on alert.

"What's going on? Is someone famous coming to Norburgh for inspection?" James got curious.

Gideon, who was scrolling through the news article, explained, "The security at railway stations, the airport, and ports is tighter than it is here. I heard that people were coming just to see the 100 hackers invited to XS

Corporation's third-anniversary party.

"Hackers don't usually expose themselves in real life, but XS Corporation is making it happen. They managed to gather them. Many travelers and senior executives from technology companies came after hearing the news. The number of foreign tourists visiting Norburgh Airport hit its highest record these two days." "More precisely, they're here to see Raven,' Gino corrected. He showed them the latest articles on the Cyber Web.

"It's not only tourists, hackers, and the representative team of Miridian National Space Administration. International police officers are here too. I heard that Miridian dispatched a team of special forces disguised as travelers into the country, but they were caught and stopped at the port. They tried their luck to enter the country, but they were driven away by the army. But they're still staying near Miridian port, waiting to catch Raven. They're determined to complete the mission this time.

"Unfortunately for them, our strong national defense is dispatched. Armies are securing the ports. They even dispatched a team to XS Corporation for security. The country is protecting Raven in case he's taken away to another country.