

Under the Heiress' Facade #Chapter 71 - Read Under the Heiress' Facade Chapter 71

Chapter 71

Chapter 71

Hera spotted him standing there dumbstruck and snapped, "If you have something to say, spit it out otherwise, stop blocking my way like a moron."

Zyler snapped back to reality, realizing she had just called him a moron! Hera, with her unsophisticated behavior, struck him as a real waste of good looks.

"I'm warning you, don't you dare mess with Gigi again! And don't even think about playing tricks on me!" Zyler warned.

Hera raised an eyebrow. "Play tricks on you?"

Seeing her denial, Zyler found her audacity irritating.

"I know you've got a thing for me and you're trying to shake up my engagement to Gigi Well, forget it! The only one worthy of me from the Everett family is Giselle, the true heiress. You, as an adopted daughter, are not!" he deliberately emphasized his last sentence.

Hera chuckled lightly. "Where'd you get that confidence from?"

"You!" Zyler was taken aback by her unexpected response. But then he figured Hera must be feeling pretty embarrassed after her secret got out, hence the denial.

He continued, "I won't even start on what you've done to Gigi. Didn't you cheat on the Cavenridge entrance exam just to cozy up to me?"

"And what you're wearing now is an imitation of Gigi's style. Isn't that just to grab my attention? Well, cut it out! Even if what you're wearing is genuine, I won't be interested in you. My heart's set on Gigi"

Gigi, Gigi, Gigi! Hera was tired of hearing it. Was Giselle trying to annoy her by sending over a lapdog?

"God gave me my looks, and you're calling me proud because of that? Get lost and leave me alone, Hera said.

Bold, confident, and commanding! Hera's presence held the crowd in thrall

Maybe only Hera in all of Norburgh would have the guts to steal the spotlight from the event's main character and tell him to leave!

Zyler was completely thrown off by Hera's smooth reforts.

"No wonder Gigi was bullied so badly. Hera's just playing hard to get because she's obviously into me! All that was just to catch my eye. Oh, women!" he scoffed internally, "Hera! What's going on?"

James and the Gaskell couple came out of the study to find a crowd surrounding Hera and the others. Their smiles vanished instantly, their first thought being that Hera had stirred up trouble.

"Welcome, everyone, to our son's celebration banquet. Enjoy yourselves," Terence, the head of the Gaskell family, was calmer than James and quickly sized up the situation. He greeted everyone with a hearty laugh along with James and dismissed the crowd.

As the onlookers dispersed, Queenie Killian's expression darkened as she eyed Giselle's gown.

Last time, it was a scandal. Now, she was wearing a knockoff. Her fondness for Giselle had plummeted to zero, but in front of so many people, she instructed Zyler, "Zee, take Gigi upstairs to change her clothes."

Giselle felt a mixture of emotions as Queenie's concern alarmed her. She feared Queenie yet took satisfaction in seeing Hera in trouble this time for offending Queenie. After Zyler accompanied

Giselle upstairs, Queenie turned her gaze to Hera, and their eyes locked.

Hera, in her ethereal white gown, looked stunning while Queenie exuded opulence in her elegant silk dress with a fur scarf. Their looks were in contrast with one another, and they were silently vying for dominance.

"What's your game?" Queenie's mood soured due to the disruption at the celebration. Being a perfectionist, she couldn't stand any disturbances.

"I'm here to spoil your fun," Hera retorted illy.

"How dare you! Just because you're the Everett family's adopted daughter?"

In all of Norburgh, everyone knew that Queenie was a fiery and competitive woman.

Act Fast: Free Bonus Time is Running Out!

Chapter 72

Chapter 72

Hera's words undeniably provoked Queenie.

"Someone, get this wretch out of here," Queenie called for a maid while James quickly approached.

"Mrs Gaskell, please calm down. I'll handle this."

James didn't want Hera to be kicked out of the Gaskell residence in front of so many elites as it would tamish the Everett family's reputation.

"You're too audacious, Hera! Who asked you to come? James led Hera forcefully to the backyard.

He knew Hera was a nuisance and never intended to bring her along. But she managed to come anyway.

Without waiting for Hera's reply, he pointed to a path. "There's a back door here. Get out of here immediately!"

With that, he turned on his heel and headed back to the banquet hall

Hera chuckled lightly, but her gaze remained cold. She hadn't done anything yet, and he was already furious?

In fact, this wasn't the first time she had met Queenie. Back when she was with the Killians, she attended a family banquet where she had a nin-in with Queenie.

Queenie accidentally bumped into Daphne, causing a herbal remedy Hera had worked late into the night to prepare for Albert to fall to the floor. Not only did Queenie not apologize, but she also dirtied

Daphne's dress, resulting in her being scolded by Albert.

At that moment, pig grunts sounded from a nearby flowerbed

Hera snapped out of her thoughts and saw Tiramisu poking its head out of the greenery. It grunted twice at her before disappearing back into the bushes

Following the floral path, Hera trailed after Tiramisu for a while.

The Gaskell family was indeed wealthier than the Everett family. Their backyard was an expansive garden, stretching to a small grove at the end. It was filled with valuable trees. In the secluded grove, she caught sight of a small gray cabin

Tiramisu nosed around the bed of dry leaves and unearthed something. Hera picked it up. It was a bunny hairpin with only one ear.

The hairpin was the one Isabella used to wear on her head. It seemed Isabella's disappearance was indeed tied to the Gaskell family.

"Good job." She patted the Tiramisu's head, stood up, and headed toward the small cabin nestled in the woods

Giselle changed into a fresh outfit and descended the stairs, scanning the room but finding no sign of Hera. It appeared Queenie had already kicked her out...

Asly smile played on Giselle's lips. She then gracefully approached Queenie to apologize for her blunder tonight.

Giselle knew Queenie was a perfectionist who couldn't tolerate any flaws. Queenie must be turning that she was publicly exposed for wearing a knockoff tonight, so she needed to apologize promptly.

However, she was stopped by the butler before she could reach Queenie.

"Ms. Everett, I'm sorry, but Mrs. Gaskell doesn't wish to see you right now."

Giselle's face paled instantly as she watched Queenie engage in lively conversation with the guests, ignoring her completely.

Though Queenie reluctantly approved of her relationship with Zyler, she didn't endorse it. Now with this debacle, life wouldn't be easy even if Giselle married into the Gaskell family.

"Gigi, are you all right? You look a bit pale, Lily asked as she approached with a glass of wine.

"I'm fine, just feeling a tad stuffy, I'll step outside for some fresh air. Giselle hurriedly made her exit as she was worried that Lily might pick up on Queenie's disdain for her.

Upon stepping out into the courtyard, she crossed paths with a maid escorting an elderly lady with silver hair and clad in a simple dress

Giselle panicked at the sight of the old lady. Why was Catherine here? Could it be that Hera deliberately had her brought here to publicly expose her identity?

If the shell family found out she wasn't the real heiress of the Everett family, then her marriage to Zyler would be over!

At the thought of this, Giselle broke out in a cold sweat.

Chapter 73

Chapter 73

"Giselle Catherine recognized Giselle too, but before she could finish speaking, she was cut off.

"Why are you here!" Giselle demanded.

Seeing that the two knew each other, the maid spoke up, "Ms. Everett, do you know her? This lady is

"No need for introductions. You can go," Giselle interrupted sharply.

The maid was caught off guard and glanced at Giselle. Wasn't Giselle always polite when she came before? What was going on today?

Giselle, worried about being seen, pulled Catherine to the backyard.

"Did Hera send you?" she asked aggressively

"No." Catherine noticed Giselle's displeasure and frowned. "Do you have a disagreement with Herie?"

Catherine affectionately referred to Hera as "Here."

"You're still insisting that Hera didn't send you!" Giselle was feeling uneasy because of Queenie's attitude. With nobody around, she dropped her pretense and poked Catherine's chest with her finger

"Hera cheated on the exam. She disgraced the Everett family and almost caused us to go bankrupt! Isn't that enough? Does she want you to expose the Everett family's lies and ruin us completely?"

"Cheating on the exam? With Hera's intelligence, does she really need to cheat? And could her cheating on the exam almost bankrupt the Everett family?" Catherine thought to

bersell

But Catherine gleaned a key piece of information. Hera wasn't doing well after returning to the Everett family.

Although they occasionally contacted each other, they mostly talked about alternative medicine. Hera never shared anything negative about her life with the Everett family.

Now it seemed that Hera just didn't want her to worry, which was why she kept silent. Hera was too considerate sometimes, which made Catherine heartbroken.

"What lies? Catherine asked with a stern expression.

*Stop taking it! She just wants to reclaim her position as the Everett family's heiress and doesn't want to be an adopted daughter anymore, right?" Giselle wasn't afraid of Catherine spreading gossip.

She sneered, "Even if she regains that position, the Gaskell family won't accept a country bumpkin as their daughter-in-law. Isn't that clear from what Zylar said at the banquet? His heart belongs to me!

"You guys better stop these tricks! Exposing the Everett family's secrets won't benefit anyone. Just leave!"

Catherine was stunned by Giselle's words and stood still, allowing Giselle to poke her chest. Did the Everett family take Hera back just to publicly announce she was an adopted

daughter?

Even if Hera wasn't her biological granddaughter, she was still her precious grandchild whom she had raised with her own hands! If it weren't for Hera back then, she might not have been able to bear the pain of losing her own daughter.

Yet, they actually treated Hera like this! .

If Catherine hadn't come here, she might never have known how the Everetts were treating Hera

"How could you snatch her position and refuse to give it back! Catherine gripped Giselle's wrist firmly

"Isn't that her position? This was my position in the first place!" Giselle tried to shake off her hand but couldn't

"You couldn't even identify the right child 17 years ago. Doesn't that mean I'm destined to be the Everett family's heiress? I'll always be the heiress of the Everett family! Let me go!"

Though Catherine was aged, she was surprisingly strong and tightly gripped Giselle's wrist.

Giselle grew furious and raised her other hand to deliver a slap to Catherine's face.

The sharp sound of the slap resonated in the backyard, Giselle's head jolted to the side while the slap rang in her ears. If her other hand hadn't been restrained just now, she might have stumbled from the force of the slip

"Hera.." Catherine looked at Hera, who emitted an icy demeanor,
, momentarily stunned.

It was the first time she had seen Hera like this.

After a moment, Giselle turned back with her hand covering her swollen face. Her eyes were flaming with anger. "Hera, how dare you

Chapter 74

Chapter 74

"I'm teaching you a lesson!" Hera forcefully pulled her hand away. Harming Catherine was challenging her limits!

"You!" Giselle staggered back

Zyler, who had come out to find Giselle, witnessed the scene. "Gigi"

He rushed over and supported Giselle. Noticing the red handprint on Giselle's face, he glared angrily at Hera. "Hera Youngworth!"

Hera ignored him, focusing on Catherine, "Grandma, are you alright?"

"I'm fine, don't worry," Catherine assured her, shaking her head.

"Why are you here?"

Hera inquired.

"I had some errands to run and thought I'd check on you," Catherine explained.

For the first time, Zyler felt what it was like to be ignored, especially by a country bumpkin like Hera. He couldn't quite describe the feeling in his heart.

"Well done, Hera, you've successfully caught my attention!" he thought.

Zyler's gaze shifted to Catherine. "Where did this beggar come from? How dare she intrude into the Gaskell family's territory! Security, get her out of here!"

Hera seemed to care a lot about Catherine, so he would start with her!

"Zee, no, she's Hera's grandmother." Giselle immediately stopped Zyler.

Several of her classmates had been watching the scene behind Zyler, When security was called, it alarmed even more people at the banquet.

Fearing Hera might expose their identities publicly, Giselle acted quickly to announce their relationship in front of everyone.

"Didn't Mrs. Gaskell just kick her out? Why is she still here, and why did she bring her grandmother?"

"Are they here to freeload off the food and drinks? Well, country bumpkins don't know their place."

"These peasants are embarrassing."

"Get them out quickly. Their presence is ruining the mood for everyone"

The onlookers began gossiping

After publicly announcing their relationship, Giselle continued, "Zee, I'm sorry, I accidentally lost the diamond bracelet you gave me. I was anxious, so I asked the maids to help

"They mentioned seeing this lady with a similar bracelet here. I just wanted to ask her about it, but then Hera." As she spoke, she sorrowfully covered her face and numed to Loveal the area where she'd been slapped.

Someone with sharp eyes noticed something hanging from the edge of Gatherine's canvas bag

Zyler stepped forward and pulled it forcefully. The canvas bag fell, revealing a sparkling diamond bracelet—the same one he had given Giselle!

"You" Catherine glanced at the bracelet on the ground, then at Giselle. .

she couldn't believe it. Despite her young age, Giselle's ability to twist the truth was impressive, leaving Catherine feeling conflicted.

"The evidence is right here. Do you have anything else to say?" Zyler picked up the bracelet, glaring at Hera

Given Hera's previous boldness, he wanted to see her response now that the evidence was clear.

Hera chuckled and asked, "Are you sure there are our fingerprints on the bracelet? Are you sure Giselle didn't lie? Are you sure there aren't lies in your relationship?"

The thither questions made Giselle's scalp tingle with anxiety. Not just her, but even the onlookers began to doubt Giselle because of Hera's calm demeanor.

Zyler also began to feel suspicious, but he remained steadfast. "Turusta@""

"Then let's review the surveillance footage publicly," Hera suggested, glancing at the surveillance cameras

At her words, her face turned pale. She had forgotten about the surveillance cameras

"Alright (Luminoth

inde!" Ayder valleng for the butler. "Mr Willums, retrieve the surveillance footage!"

Act Fast Time Bonus Timers Running

Chapter 75

Chapter75

"Zee, maybe we should drop it. We found the bracelet, so there's no need to make a scene," Giselle urged Zyler.

If they saw the surveillance footage, it would ruin her reputation, and she'd be done for

"Gigi, you're too kind. Don't worry, I won't let her bully you again," Zyler assured her.

The butler quickly retrieved the surveillance footage and played it publicly with a projector. The surveillance footage not only captured video but also recorded audio

The footage showed Giselle dragging Catherine to the backyard aggressively and revealing the Everett family's hidden secrets.

Was Hera actually the Everett family's biological kin? But they had announced her to be their adopted daughter!

The diamond bracelet was accidentally dropped during the fuss, and it hung on Catherine's canvas bag! Seeing this, there was a commotion in the crowd.

"Giselle Everett! James trembled in anger.

He thought Hera had caused trouble again when Zylar wanted to play the surveillance footage. He never expected Giselle, whom he was always so proud of, to expose the family's lies!

And it all happened in public! The reputation of their family and their company was ruined!

Integrity was crucial in the business world. Regardless of the reasons for publicly announcing Hera's adoption, it was dishonesty.

"Dad" Giselle saw James's threatening gaze and broke out into a cold sweat.

She then glanced at Queenie, whose eyes were sharp, like she was looking at an enemy. Just because of her irrational actions, she had offended both the Gaskell and Everett

Giselle didn't know what to do. She could only place her last hope on Zylar. But all she faced was his shocked and disappointed gaze.

"Is everything you said true? Zylar asked incredulously. He could have overlooked Giselle's identity, but she had never told him.

She made him publicly humiliate Hera based on her identity, and now he realized he was the fool!

"Zee, ..." Giselle's face turned red, then pale, then red again like a spinning wheel of colors. She didn't know how to face the situation, so she pretended to faint

Because of the commotion, the guests thought the banquet was about to end. But Little did they know it was just the beginning

Suddenly, the projected screen went black, and another video started playing.

"Mrs. Gaskell, please spare us. We really didn't say anything" in the video, a tied-up mother and daughter were begging Queenie for mercy.

The background was the same as in the previous video, in the backyard. It indicated it was from the same surveillance angle, just at an earlier time.

Chaos erupted once more in the banquet hall. Queenie's expression shined, and forsaking her image, she rushed over to unplug the projector. "Who authorized access to the surveillance?!" she demanded, her teeth clenched.

"Lasked Larry to do it," the butler confessed, looking flustered Wasn't this footage deleted before? How did it suddenly reappear?

Just then, a swarm of media reporters barged into the banquet hall.

“Mrs Gaskell, can you clarify what the mother and daughter did wrong in the video? Why were they treated like that?”

“Mrs. Gaskell, are you aware that restricting personal freedom is against the law?”

“Where are the mother and daughter now?”

The scene turned into a chaotic mess.

The guests didn't want to get involved in the trouble, so they left one by one

Chapter 76

Chapter 76

The celebration banquet Queenie had meticulously organized for her son had turned into a disaster, making headlines the next day. Following right after was the embarrassing scandal of the Everett family.

But what hurt James more than becoming the city's laughingstock was that the Gaskell family had cut ties with Everett Group, leading to its bankruptcy.

When he inherited the family business, he vowed to run it well and secure a place for the Everetts in Norburgh. Yet, they went bankrupt under his watch!

Upon hearing the news, Gideon rushed back from overseas and saved the Everett residence from foreclosure with his personal funds.

“Gideon, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to. I was just angry with Hera at the time, and I spoke without thinking, Gideon, I'm so sorry. Please don't kick me out of the family,” Giselle tearfully pleaded, kneeling on the ground

She couldn't feign fainting forever, so she immediately apologized pitifully when Gideon returned. Since Gideon has returned, he wouldn't just stand by and watch the Everett family fall apart.

No matter what was ahead, staying here was better than being isolated in the mountains. She didn't want to go back with Catherine! If she did, there was no hope left.

Gideon didn't look at her. Instead, his gaze fell on Hera, who was beside him.

She had changed into a slim-fit beige dress. Her demeanor was cold, as if she was indifferent to the situation. She was even casually sipping her tea. Her manners exuded elegance and glamor, unlike a country bumpkin.

Was Hera really his own sister? She was so different from what he imagined!

To compare with, Giselle was crying on her knees, looking disheveled. She lacked the demeanor of a heiress from a prestigious family.

“Dad, do you know what went wrong in this matter?” Gideon asked James.

For the head of the family to be publicly questioned by his son was undignified. Normally, James would have exploded with rage. Even if Gideon was the pride of the Everett family, he would have sternly disciplined him to earn respect

But now, James slouched on the couch as quietly as a mouse, as if he hadn't yet processed the fact that the Everett family had gone bankrupt under his watch.

“Your biggest mistake was being a smartass and publicly revealing that my sister was adopted!” Gideon said sternly.

Hera paused as she glanced up at Gideon. He referred to her as “my sister,” and not by her name. It seemed not everyone in this family was dumb.

“Gideon, please. For the sake of our 17 years of sibling bond, don't kick me out of the family, okay? I really don't want to part with you guys,” Giselle pleaded, embracing

She wasn't foolish enough not to understand Gideon's words. They were seemingly directed at James, but they were meant for her.

“Do you really need us as a family, or are you just afraid of losing our money?” Gideon said with disdain.

“Why did I never realize before that you're such a hypocrite?” Previously, he even went to trouble Hera because of Giselle's words.

Giselle was taken aback. Seeing that appealing to Gideon was vain, she turned to James

*Dad, please help me persuade Gideon, I'll do whatever you say. Please help me persuade him not to drive me away,”

“Get lost! I don't have a daughter like you!” James kicked her away.

His frustration grew every time he saw Giselle. Would he be in such a situation today if it weren't for her causing trouble at the Gaskell residence?

“Mom, please say something. Didn't you always say that a family that sticks together, stays together? Please help me persuade Gideon not to lock me out,” Giselle crawled toward Lilith, who was always the most sympathetic.

Lilith couldn't bear to see the child she had raised for 17 years pleading like this. But to be lenient to her meant cruelty to

in

Chapter 77

Chapter 77

"You're right. A family that sticks together, stays together. But you're not one of us," Lilith said.

"I'm not one of you guys?" Giselle chuckled bitterly as she slugged wearily on the ground. She then despairingly stared into the blank.

She had spent 17 years in this family, only to discover in the end that she wasn't considered their family after all!

Why was she taken in, then? And if a mistake was made, why couldn't it have just been overlooked?

It was all Hera's fault! If Hera hadn't come back, everything would still belong to her!

Giselle's eyes were filled with resentment as she glared at Hera. Seeing a fruit knife on the coffee table, she suddenly felt a surge of homicidal rage.

"Mrs. Youngworth, please bring Giselle away," Gideon said to Catherine,

"Alright. Thank you for caring for Giselle all these years. And please, I trust you to look after Herle," Catherine said, rising to help Giselle. "Let's go, dear."

"Get lost! I'm not going back with you!" Giselle forcefully pushed Catherine aside, then grabbed the fruit knife and lunged at Hera

Everyone was shocked by her sudden action. Even Tiramisu, who was sleeping on Hera's legs, woke up and snarled at Giselle upon sensing danger.

At that critical moment, a gunshot rang out.

Hera sat calmly on the couch, unharmed. She continued sipping her tea as if nothing happened.

Giselle fell to her knees in a disheveled manner in front of Hera while the fruit knife clattered to the floor beside Hera's feet. Giselle felt a sharp, bearing pain in her back legs. She tried to get up but found her legs immobilized by pain.

She turned and saw a glaring pool of blood staining her skirt. She let out a scream

Hera calmly set down her teacup and soothed the frightened Tiramisu, "Tiramisu, calm down. Your dad is here to pick you up." She finished her words while looking up at two tall figures standing at the living room door.

The man at the forefront exuded a stern air. He was none other than Bernard. Beside him was Aaron, who was busy wiping his gun.

A gun! Gideon was shocked as guns were banned in the country. But here they were, openly displaying them!

Wait, why would the head of the tour influential families; Bernard Hun, and Aaron of the Ludden family, be here?

"Sorry, I forgot to put on the silencer," Aaron apologized after noticing everyone's gaze. However, there was no sincerity in his tone.

Hera remained composed while Gideon stood in stunned silence to process the unexpected turn of events.

Upon hearing Aaron's voice, Giselle turned her head and saw Bernard. Her eyes lit up instantly as if she had seen her savior.

Ignoring the pain in her legs, she joyfully crawled toward him

Catherine, as a doctor, couldn't bear seeing her hurt. She immediately took out bandages from her bag and said, "Giselle, don't move. Let me stop the bleeding for you"

"You old hag, don't touch me!" Giselle shouted. She then eagerly crawled toward Bernard, leaving a trail of blood on the floor

"Bernard, I knew you'd come, Hurry and save me! I saved your life once, and now you should save mine. I don't want to leave Norburgh.."

Bernard's expression remained cold as he effortlessly avoided Giselle's outstretched hand and walked toward the couch.

Seeing Giselle's pitiful state, Aaron initially felt guilty and regretted firing the gun. However, when he heard her words, his guilt disappeared instantly.

she had caused her own misfortune.

Mct Fast: Free Bonus Time is Running Out!

Chapter 78

Chapter 78 .

Was Giselle dumb? Despite her situation, she still held onto the belief that she had once saved Bernard's life.

As Bernard passed Catherine, he paused briefly, saying, "I'll spare her life for Ms. Daphne's sake."

Daphne...

"You ___" Catherine looked at Bernard in astonishment. How did he know her daughter's name?

Upon closer inspection, Catherine realized that the man before her bore a striking resemblance to the young man from her memories.

He was the illegitimate son of Spencer Killian, Bernard! She failed to recognize him before and even told him about Hera's return to Norburgh.

Bernard's presence here couldn't be a coincidence. Catherine's anxiety grew as she turned to Hera for reassurance.

Hera handed the Tiramisu over to Bernard and approached Catherine to link arms with her. "I'll accompany you out."

The two exited the courtyard. A black Jeep was already waiting to send Catherine and Giselle back to the countryside.

Hera briefly explained the arrangement with Bernard. "Don't worry, I've got it handled"

Knowing Hera's determination, Catherine couldn't persuade her and simply offered a few words of advice before leaving

At Aaron's command, the maids placed Giselle, who was covered in blood, onto the jeep.

Catherine approached Giselle and saw that she had passed out due to blood loss. After administering treatment to stop the bleeding, Catherine quickly boarded the vehicle. Before parting ways, Hera handed Catherine a bank card. "If you need money, just ask me. Don't travel all this way for work again."

Catherine accepted the card. "Okay, I won't."

Once known as Dr. Maracle, Catherine had been living in seclusion with Hera since Daphne's incident in the Killian family. She hadn't expected the Gaskell family to find her and invite her to treat Lennon Gaskell.

She accepted their request mainly because she wanted to visit Hera. Yet now, after witnessing the true colors of the Gaskell family through Giselle's actions, she changed her mind about continuing her medical practice.

"Will Giselle be alright without going to the hospital, considering the amount of blood she's lost? Lilith voiced her concern as she watched the feep depart. "She'll be fine," Hera assured confidently with Catherine's medical expertise, a gunshot wound was nothing to be overly concerned about.

In the living room, the bloodstains on the floor had been cleaned up. Bernard and Aaron were sitting on the couch while Gideon and James served them water. "Thank you both for saving Hera Excuse me for asking, Mr. Killian and Mr. Ludden, how did you guys get to know Hera?" Gideon inquired, his curiosity piqued.

He wasn't alone in his curiosity. James was also perplexed by Hera's connection to them, especially considering her rural upbringing. If he had known earlier, he would have never publicly declared Hera as an adopted daughter!

"It doesn't matter. You just have to know that she belongs to me," Bernard said, setting down his glass.

James choked on his water, his face turning red. While Gideon managed to hold it in better, he said sternly, "Mr. Killian, Hera is still underage!"

"We know, don't worry. Bernard knows what he's doing." Aaron patted Bernard's shoulder, causing James' heart to race.

Only Aaron, from one of the four influential families, dared to pat Bernard's shoulder like that.

But Gideon remained unconvinced by Aaron's assurances.

Chapter 79

Chapter 79

Hera and Lilith reentered the living room with dino trailing behind.

"Hey, country bumplin, are you stupid? Why did you give them money?" Gino asked, his voice tinged with assertiveness.

He had sharp eyes and noticed Hera handing Catherine a card! With the Everett family bankrupt and caught up in their own drama, it seemed foolish to him for Hera to be giving money to someone else, especially to the grandmother of her assailant.

Observing Hera's attire, which lacked any branded names, Gino realized how dire their situation was.

Hera hadn't worn anything other than a school uniform or unbranded clothes since her return. It was a stark contrast to the days of favoritism when Giselle wore different branded clothes daily.

Now that the family was bankrupt, Gino didn't even have new clothes for himself, let alone Hera. Hera was truly in a worse situation than him!

Unaware of Gino's thoughts, Hera shot him a glance before retorting. "None of your business."

"Pin—" Gino scoffed. "Who cares about you? Didn't I already give you all my pocket money before? Here, consider this my goodwill!"

Gino handed Hera a bank card, containing the refund for the latest gaming console he had ordered. There was about a thousand dollars in it.

She was his sister, after all, despite being so foolish. With this money, she could buy a couple of sets of clothes. Worst-case scenario, he could also sell the other two limited-edition gaming

consoles he had.

Hera was bewildered. Did she look like she needed pocket money?

"Gino, take the card back. Your pocket money came from me! Hera's expenses shouldn't rely on you. Even if I have to work as a laborer, I'll still support you both!" James interjected, standing up.

Shouldn't he start showing Hera some affection now? Maybe there was still time?

"You'd better sort out Mom's medical expenses first. We can't rely on Gideon forever," Lilith said. She then turned to Hera and took out the black card she hadn't given away last

"Hera, this is what I've been keeping for you." It Hera, her daughter, needed money, she believed it should be from her own resources.

James hadn't anticipated being criticized by his wife.

Hera stayed silent, observing the exchange.

“Mom, your card is a supplementary card with a limit of 500 thousand dollars. Take it back,” Gideon said while approaching Hera and handing her a gold-bordered black card

“This one is the primary card with a limit of one million dollars. Heca, use this instead.”

Girls in the family should be well provided for. Despite the Everett family’s bankruptcy, Gideon was still here to make up for what they owed her.

Hera observed the scene with disbelief. This wasn’t how the Everett family was supposed to appear after bankruptcy.

“Stop arguing.” Bernard took out a golden card from his suit pocket and placed it on the coffee table. “No limit,” he declared.

Gideon and the others gasped at the sight of the card

Aaron’s confusion only grew as he witnessed Bernard’s extravagant gesture. “What’s happening? Am I supposed to put out a card as well?” he thought, puzzled.

But with Bernard unveiling the global supreme unlimited card, was there a point in him bringing out his regular one?

Hera’s silence hung heavy in the air.

Gino was stunned at the realization of his miscalculation. The joke, it seemed, was on him

At the Gaskell residence, a conversation was taking place.

“It’s been two days, and there’s still no outcome? What have you all been doing?” queenie stormed into the control room.

The control room was spacious, with over a dozen people inside, both male and female. They were all busy typing away on their computers.

Chapter 80

Chapter 80

They were all hackers hired by the Gaskell family.

“Mrs. Gaskell, we can only find traces of hacking in the system. After the breach, only the previously deleted surveillance footages were recourted.

“Nothing else was tampered with, and the target seemed to be just that footage,” Kelly Hart explained. She was sitting in the front row with her purple hair tied in double ponytails

“Stop talkhig nonsense. What need to know now is who did it” Queenie demanded

Since the footage played at the banquet went public, it caught the police’s attention. Quernie became a suspect in the incident where Isabella and her mother went missing. She was even taken in for questioning.

This led to a two–day consecutive drop in Gaskell Corporation’s stock.

Furthermore, this incident indirectly indicated that the Gaskell family’s security system could be easily breached it attracted many malicious hacker attacks, and though unsuccessful, it had caused considerable trouble and necessitated around–the–clock monitoring

“The hacker’s skill level is much higher than ours, and there are no discernible traces left behind. However, we strongly suspect this individual,” said Kelly, turning the laptop screen toward Queenie.

It displayed surveillance footage from the backyard during the banquet, Hera didn’t love the Gaskell residence but remained in the woods for a while after following a ple

And it was when Giselle caused trouble that Hera returned.

Queenie squinted, focusing on Hera’s figure in the footage. “I’m here to spoil your fun.” Hera’s words suddenly echoed in her mind.

Was it a coincidence? Or did she know about the incident from years ago?

But how could a country bumpkin like her breach the Gaskell family’s security system? After all, it was safeguarded with multiple layers of protection!

“Oh no, Mom! Grandpa fainted Where’s the Dr. Miracle that you hired? We need to save Grandpa quickly.” Zylar rushed over

Lennon’s health had always been poor, and he had been recovering in the nursing home. The family intentionally hid the news from him to prevent him from saw it online, got angry, and fainted.

The doctors barely saved his life, but his recovery was uncertain. They couldn’t be guaranteed when he would wake up

Queenie was troubled by the surveillance footage and had completely forgotten about this matter.

worrying, but he

The doctor she had hired was recommended by a wealthy acquaintance. She was told that the doctor was highly skilled but had been living in seclusion in the mountains for many years. So, it took Queenie two years to contact her.

Two days ago, she invited Dr. Miracle to treat Lennon, hoping that things would work out. Yet, things turned out unexpectedly.

“Madam, Mr. Gaskell, Ms. Youngworth’s grandmother is the doctor you hired. She’s Dr. Miracle,” said the maid who welcomed Catherine that day.

“What!” Queenie and Zylar were shocked.

Dr. Miracle’s identity was always mysterious, becoming even more so after she disappeared into the mountains. .

“Take her from the Everett residence now to treat Grandpa!” Zylar grabbed the car keys.

“Stop!” Queenie intervened. “Find another doctor.”

“Mom, Grandpa’s life is at stake!” Zylar misunderstood Queenie’s concern about their reputation.

The Gaskell family had severed ties with the Everett family after the banquet. Seeking their help now would undermine their authority. But it was a matter of life and death now and reputation mattered less.

“Read this,” Cecnie said and showed him a message.

It was a refusal message from Catherine “Mrs Gaskell, your family has upset my granddaughter. I refuse to treat the patient.”

It wasn’t a refusal, it was a revamp if they approached her again, it would be humiliating!