

Go After 431

Chapter 431

“Miss Yates, what do you mean? What she said was exactly what he had been worrying about for the past few days. Alarmed, he couldn’t help but to press further for details.”

“Alas, Mr. Harvey, you are smart and sharp. Don’t tell me that you have no idea what I’m talking about. Zoella flashed him a smile, which sent a chill down his spine.”

Where did you get this information from? Calvin frowned and asked with a deeper voice.

“A slow smile worked its way across her face and into her eyes. “”Mr. Harvey, it’s up to you whether you want to believe me or not. I have done my part. There must be a reason why I’m aware of this. Mr. Harvey, it’s best if you don’t probe any further. ”

“Once she was done, her gaze fleeted across his face and a wry smile briefly touched her lips. She gave him a meaningful look and was about to leave. ”

“Mr. Harvey, I’ll take my leave for now. Her lips held a faint smile and her eyes twinkled. She spun around, ready to leave. ”

“Miss Yates, wait a moment. Calvin recovered from the shock and called out to her. ”

“Miss Yates, could you please tell me the identity of the person who wishes to harm me? His expression was grave and he studied her with sharp scrutiny.”

“To his annoyance, Zoella glanced at him with a mischievous smile, looking very dazzling and captivating.”

“I’m sorry, Mr. Harvey. I’m afraid I have to keep it a secret. She flashed him a quick smile and left. ”

“Calvin remained rooted to the spot. The scent of her perfume enveloped him. It was an exquisite scent, yet something seemed fishy. His brows knitted in a frown. ”

Did someone wish to harm him?

Who?

Could he believe her?

Who was he? He was the Young Master of the Harvey Family. Would he be afraid of something as silly as this?

There was a fierce determination in his eyes and a sneer spread across his face. There was no way he was going to believe something told by a random woman.

He took a step forward and headed towards the underground parking lot.

He did not notice Zoella who was standing silently in the shadows. A dark figure approached her.

How was it? Did you get his fingerprints? Zoella asked in a low voice.

“Miss Yates, I have retrieved it from the doorknob, Octavia replied softly.”

Good job. Zoella chuckled. "Have you retrieved Belle's fingerprints as well?"

"Of course, Liya has already given it to me, Octavia answered in a soft voice."

Wonderful. She looked up. A large grin split across her face. There was a gleam in her eyes and her smile was smug.

"Destiny did not bring her happiness or love. Her father died a miserable death. She must get her revenge, no matter what. "

Calvin was in a hurry as he walked towards his car. He couldn't help thinking about Belle. The thought of her made his face light up with joy.

"It was getting late. He should give her a call. He recalled the night when she waited patiently for his return under the lemon tree and his heart was filled with warmth. Without further ado, he took out his phone and called her."

"Calvin, where are you? Belle's soft and sweet voice rang. His gaze softened and a smile touched the corners of his mouth when he heard her voice."

"Belle, I... Before he could speak, a glaring light blinded him and he caught a glimpse of a SUV coming at him at full speed. There was no license number on the vehicle. "

"Sh*t. Calvin's blood ran cold but he came to his senses quickly and put away his phone. He had once trained among the special forces. In the nick of time, he acted swiftly and jumped onto a car parked by the side and landed on the hood. The SUV roared past and pulled away. It was a near miss! "

Darn it! Stop! Calvin bellowed in fury. How dare someone try to hit him! It was ridiculous! He broke out in a cold sweat as fear gripped his heart.

"If he had reacted one second later, he would have already been dead, in a pool of blood. "

He no longer cared about his safety and chased after the SUV after jumping down from the car.

"However, once he had run out of the parking lot, the SUV was no longer in sight. "

"D*mn it. Anger welled up in his chest as he stood there, clenching his fists. "

"Zoella had just warned him to be cautious. Whoever it was, the other party had already made their move. "

Great. It Looked like it was time for a battle of wits.

"Wait, it had started long ago. "

"Hey, Calvin... Calvin, what happened? Belle was talking to Calvin just a moment ago on the phone. She had barely finished her sentence when she heard the sound of a car roaring past. She then heard Calvin roaring in fury and fear gripped at her throat. "

What was wrong? What happened to him?

"Cold fear spiraled through her mind when he did not answer her, even though she cried out his name. "

She couldn't help thinking about the bizarre events that had occurred in the past few days and her heart pounded rapidly.

She had no choice but to end the call. She then dialed his number again and he answered the call immediately. "Belle..." His gentle voice rang. He seemed to be pretty calm.

"Before he could finish his sentence, Belle interrupted him and demanded, ""Calvin, what happened just now?""

"Nothing, Calvin replied as he assumed an air of nonchalance."

"But, I... What he said failed to calm her down. She was sure that she had heard a car roaming past a moment ago. She was about to ask further when Calvin said, ""Belle, I will be home soon. Get ready for dinner. I'm anticipating the meal you have prepared for me."" "

"Okay, I'll wait for you, she answered gingerly. Still feeling uneasy, she ended the call."

"She walked out of the living room and came to the garden as she waited absent-mindedly for Calvin to return. Anxious, she paced back and forth until she heard the sound of an approaching car. She raised her head. "

Calvin's slender figure appeared before her.

Belle heaved a sigh of relief.

"Calvin. She walked forward and examined him from head to toe, looking very anxious. "

"Calvin glanced at her. For a moment, he forgot where he was. He had almost died just a few minutes ago. He was grateful beyond belief to be able to stand there before her as she looked at him anxiously. It was a blessing to be able to see her worrying about him. "

"Fear clutched at his heart with cold fingers. If he wasn't able to dodge the car just a few minutes ago, what would be the outcome? "

He didn't dare to even think about it.

He dashed towards her and locked her in an embrace as he buried his head in her hair without uttering a single word.

Belle finally calmed down when he hugged her. Her heart fluttered and it went out to him.

She returned his affection and hugged him tightly as she stroked his back gently.

"Calvin, tell me, what's wrong? Her voice was soft and warm. There was a hint of concern in her tone. "

"Calvin closed his eyes and breathed in her scent. She was the best thing in his life. He was so afraid of losing her. Back then, when the car dashed towards him, thoughts of her and Jerry raced in his mind. If he died, what would happen to them? He couldn't help wondering."

"It's okay, honey, I just miss you. After a long silence, he raised his head and caressed her silky hair as he spoke affectionately. "

Are you really okay? Belle's eyes widened in disbelief.

“Yes, I am. Calvin smiled and nodded. He held her hand and said gently, ““Honey, let’s go. I’m ravenous.”” ”

“Alright. Belle felt that something was amiss but Calvin seemed to be alright. He was not willing to spill the beans. Hence, Belle did not probe further and followed him inside. They arrived at the door.”

“Then, both of them spoke at the same time. ”

Calvin. “Belle.”

“Both of them were stunned for a moment, and then they chuckled.”

What do you want to say? They asked simultaneously.

It was so comical that they burst out laughing.

What perfect timing!

Go ahead. Belle stopped laughing and said quickly.

“Calvin looked at her. After a while, he shook his head. ““Forget it. Let’s talk about it later.”””

He then held her hand and was about to lead her into the living room.

“What do you mean? My curiosity had been piqued. Belle was indignant. How dare he leave the conversation hanging. It made her very uncomfortable. She had lots of questions for him about what happened back there. Hence, she stood there and refused to budge.”

“Belle. Calvin was exasperated. He thought for a while before he pulled her into his arms and said softly, ““My silly girl, don’t wait outside for me in the future. Spend more time with Jerry. How can I be at ease if you wait for me every time?”” ”

“His voice faltered and he sighed as he stared blankly ahead. ““If you go on behaving in this manner, how can I be at ease if anything happens to me in the future. How will you live on?”” ”

He was actually just being emotional and trying to advise her. It was meant to be words of comfort but Belle interpreted it differently. What he said made her blood run cold.

Her face grew pale. She pushed him away and stared at him.

“Calvin, what do you mean by this?”

She was on tenterhooks and her hairs stood on end.

How could he say something like that? He might not mean it but it still sent a chill down her spine. Tears streamed down her cheeks and she began sobbing.

“Calvin was shocked. To be exact, Belle’s expression made his heart ache. He regretted saying that and stretched out his arms to hug her, attempting to give her some form of comfort. However, Belle pushed him away and broke free from the embrace. She steadied herself and bellowed. ”

“Calvin, I won’t allow you to say such words. Don’t even think about it. I want you to stay by my side forever and pamper me with your love. I want you to bear all the responsibilities, so that my only job

will be to raise the kids and I no longer have to worry about anything. Tell me, do you want to leave the burden of handling the family's business to me? Don't even think about it. I'm incapable of that. So, please, protect yourself. In short, I don't wish to hear anything like that in the future. Don't you dare say that again. You are a man. You must be responsible for me as well as Jerry. It's your duty to ensure that we live happily forever. Did you hear what I've said? I won't allow what you've said to happen. "

She cried as tears streamed down her cheeks. She was almost choked with sobs.

Calvin stared at her. His heart ached terribly and he was suddenly filled with agony.

Seeing her cry filled him with anguish. His heart went out to her.

He was filled with regret for saying what he did.

"He hugged her tightly and stroked her back gently in an attempt to comfort her. In a gentle voice, he reassured her that he was just kidding."

"For the first time in his life, he felt that his life was filled with responsibilities and it was indeed significant. Belle and Jerry had become part of his life. "

He must live an exciting and wonderful life.

His expression darkened when he thought of the SUV that attempted to hit him that night.

Who was it that wanted him dead?

Who asked him to go to the Sky Blue Restaurant that night?

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"Belle, he murmured. ""I was just kidding. Don't worry, you and Jerry are very important to me. No matter what happens, I will be by your side. I will ensure that both of you live a happy and comfortable life. Trust me."" He held her tightly."

Alright. Belle broke into a smile and hugged him tightly.

What about you? What did you want to tell me? He locked her in an embrace and whispered into her ears.

"Looking abashed, Belle smiled and said, ""To be frank, it's exactly what I've said just now. Harvey Group is such a successful business. You must protect it well. Don't you think about handing it over to me. I won't allow it."" "

"Is that all you want to say? It looks like you can read my mind. You do understand me well. Calvin grinned. ""Don't worry, I promise you. You must promise me as well to be strong in the future no matter what happens. Is that okay for you?"" "

"Sure. Belle agreed instantly. As long as he was by her side, she would be strong, no matter what happened. She was sure of this. "

"That's great. Let's have dinner, honey. Calvin held her hand and they walked into the dining hall. "

“Have some mushroom soup. The rest are almost done. Belle filled his bowl with his favorite mushroom soup and said gently, ““Come home earlier in the future. It’s not good for your digestive system to have dinner so late.”” ”

“Yes, honey. Calvin gulped down the mushroom soup and agreed. However, Belle knew that he was not being serious. He was mostly busy at work. There was no way he could return Tristany to have dinner. She sighed. To achieve glory, there will always be sacrifices. In order to succeed, a person must bear the responsibilities. ”

“To everyone’s dismay, a disaster occurred. ”

Nobody had foreseen it.

“Belle was carefully reviewing the documents submitted by the respective departments in her office. Judging from the records, the company was developing well and it met her expectations. ”

“When it was almost ten o’clock, she stood up, poured a glass of water for herself and slowly paced back and forth in the room.”

“Calvin had gone out to meet a potential client this morning. The other party was a shareholder of a big company. Hence, he had left Tristany. ”

“Ever since Belle came to work, she was in charge of the company’s internal affairs. This really saved Calvin a lot of trouble.”

“After gulping down a few glasses of water, Belle looked out of the window as she absorbed the scenery. ”

“Two years ago, she returned, intending to get revenge on Harvey Group. However, things had changed. She was now Calvin’s wife and they were madly in love. It truly surprised her how things turned out. ”

“Back then, she loathed Calvin. Now, she could not take her mind off him. She was always concerned about his well-being, and her heart ached whenever he was exhausted or ravenous. It was peculiar indeed. ”

“She learnt that even if a couple got into a misunderstanding the day before, it could always be resolved by the next day. This was true love and there was no logic behind it. ”

Thinking of Calvin put a smile on her face and she shook her head.

“Ms. Morris, I have some bad news. Yuri dashed into the office. Belle had never seen her in such a state of panic.”

What’s the matter? Calm down. Belle’s heart sank. She frowned and asked in a low voice.

“Ms. Morris, a group of people have gathered at the front desk and they demanded to see Calvin, Yuri said in a panic. ““They took out their identity cards and showed the security guards when they enquired about their identities. It scared the wits out of the guards.”” ”

What?

“Belle’s heart raced and she had a bad feeling about this. She asked right away, ““Who are they?”””

“Just as Yuri was about to reply, the sound of hurried footsteps approached them. A cold and overbearing voice rang. ““Where’s Mr. Harvey? Ask him to see us.”” ”

“Yuri panicked when she heard what they said. Flustered, she cried, ““This is bad. Ms. Morris, it’s them. They are here.”” ”

Let’s not jump to conclusions. Go and greet them. I’ll be there in a second. Belle forced herself to calm down as she instructed Yuri.

Yuri nodded and left the office right away.

It’s nice to meet you. Mr. Harvey has gone out for a business meeting this morning and is currently not in his office. May I know why you wish to meet him? Yuri came out of the office and asked politely.

“Who else can we talk to? Ask him or her to see us immediately. Someone interrupted and his demeanour was cold and overbearing, as if he was issuing a command. ”

“Oh, okay, sure, please wait a moment. I’ll go and enquire about this. Yuri’s voice trembled as she forced a smile. ”

Belle stood by the door and heard every word of the conversation.

“After pondering for a while, she checked her attire in the mirror before she strode out of her office.”

“A few men, dressed casually with piercings stares, were standing at the front desk. Their expressions were solemn. ”

Standing in the middle was a tall and handsome man. It was Sergio. Belle recognized him at once.

“It was Sergio, the head of Capital City’s security force. Why did he bring his men over to Harvey Group? ”

The thought crossed her mind and fear clutched at her throat.

“Sergio, it’s you. Welcome. It’s my pleasure to see you. She steadied herself and approached them. She then greeted them politely. ““What a group of VIPs! Come in and have a seat.”” ”

Sergio raised his head and saw Belle. It was as he expected. She was in the office.

“She was dressed in professional attire, looking very stunning and professional. He couldn’t help but to stare at her as a faint smile touched the corners of his mouth.”

He glanced towards her direction but he did not say anything. He then led his men to her office.

“Yuri, please fetch some tea. Sergio’s expression was far more solemn compared to the last time he came over. Belle knew immediately that something was amiss and she quickly ordered Yuri to get some tea ready. ”

“Seeing that Belle knew the leader of the group, Yuri heaved a sigh of relief and agreed immediately.”

“Sergio, there’s nothing fancy about the office. Please bear with it and have a seat, Belle said politely and invited them to sit on the couch. ”

Yuri quickly served them some tea.

“Belle examined the visitors as she took a sip of the tea. There were three of them. Aside from Sergio, there were two other middle-aged men. Although they were dressed casually in T-shirts and jeans, the aura of being in command surrounded them. They looked dignified and formidable.”

“I’m really sorry, Sergio. Calvin has something to do this morning and is currently not in his office. We didn’t know that you were coming. Hence, we did not prepare anything. Belle could not figure out why they came. Therefore, she was being very cautious.”

“Sergio sat calmly and his piercing gaze fleeted across the room. However, there was a hint of concern when his gaze fell upon Belle’s face, especially when he noticed that she was anxious.”

“She must have guessed that something was wrong. Although she had put on a brave front, he could still see that she was confused and anxious. He sighed. She should have led a comfortable life, spending time at home with her child. Now, it seemed that she had to bear the agony of losing everything again.”

“Sergio, are you here to see Calvin? She was feeling very uneasy but still kept her voice steady.”

“Sergio took a sip of the tea and cleared his throat as he tried his best to break the news as gently as he could. “”Belle, we have known each other for a long time. Let me be frank. Your company has been suspected to be involved in leaking out the nation’s top secrets and we have found evidence to prove that this is true. Since this has involved the nation’s top secrets, it is a matter of high importance. From today onwards, my team and I will intervene in the company’s affairs and investigate this matter until we get to the bottom of the mystery.”” ”

“As soon as Sergio finished his sentence, Belle almost passed out from the shock. She was so flustered that she could barely breathe and almost fainted.”

They were suspected of leaking the nation’s top secrets.

It was a heavy offence. They were a multinational company. The charge would come as a blow to the company’s development. It could ruin the company forever without any hope of regaining its reputation in the future.

Any company charged with this offence was as good as done for.

This offence would cost them everything. Someone really wanted to destroy the Harvey Group.

How was it possible?

“No way. It’s impossible. Belle took a deep breath and forced herself to calm down. She said confidently with a solemn expression, “”Sergio, there must be a mistake. We have always abided by the law and we had never done anything that went against our principles and integrity. We were never involved in the black market, let alone leaking out the nation’s top secrets. What absolute nonsense. I can guarantee that this is a false accusation. Please return and investigate the matter again. You must understand how serious this is and this charge should not be meted out to a company so frivolously.”” ”

Her eyes were bright and as clear as day. She was very confident about it.

“Sergio looked at her and sighed. Exasperated, he said, ““Belle, I don’t believe it as well. However, we do not have a choice. This is the fact. We have already taken measures to prove your innocence, which is why Capital City has set up this investigation team to probe the matter further, so that we can get to the bottom of the mystery as soon as possible to avoid any unnecessary losses. Harvey Group is a big company. Everyone knows that. However, this is a matter of importance. I hope that you guys can understand that it ain’t easy for us as well.”” ”

It was a reasonable explanation but Belle still could not believe her ears. She found it impossible to believe.

There’s really no need to investigate the matter. I can guarantee that the Harvey Group has never done anything that will harm the nation or its people. You don’t need to be worried about this.

“She was probably out of her mind. She stood up abruptly and spoke with confidence. However, in reality, she knew that the offence was not charged recklessly and she couldn’t prove their innocence with just a few sentences. If that was the case, many people would not have failed to prove their innocence in the past. It looked like the Harvey Group was ruined for good this time around. ”

“Ms. Morris, we are all adults. Please don’t be so childish. Even if you have every reason to prove your innocence and we trust you from the bottom of our hearts, this involves the nation. Evidence is everything. We did not come here on our own accord. Since we are here, there must have been some form of evidence. Please think carefully and cooperate with us. Another man warned. His tone was serious. ”

“Devastated, Belle felt light-headed and collapsed onto the couch. “

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“Belle, calm down. Seeing that her face had turned pale, Sergio’s heart ached for her and he couldn’t bear to see her in anguish anymore. Hence, he attempted to comfort her. ““Don’t worry, we will do our best to get to the bottom of the mystery. To be honest, I don’t believe that the Harvey Group will do something like this as well. However, since we have the evidence, we must carry out an investigation. This is a serious offence. Please inform Calvin to return immediately.”” ”

It was a disaster. Bizarre events had occurred in the past few days but she did not expect that it would lead to this. She closed her eyes in despair.

It did not occur by chance. Someone had been plotting this for a long time. Their goal was to ruin the Harvey Group completely.

“The Harvey Group had many connections. For the time being, no one could sever those connections. However, with this offence, the Harvey Group was as good as dead. ”

“As long as it was an offence that affects politics and the country’s profits, a company would be ruined instantly regardless of its power and connections. ”

Who could have been so ruthless to have come up with a scheme like this? Belle broke out in a cold sweat.

“As the vice president of the Harvey Group, she had always worked hard for the company’s economic growth. She would never believe that Calvin or any of the employees in the company would be so foolish as to be involved in such a matter. It was impossible. ”

“However, the impossible had occurred. What could she do?”

“Quivering, she dialed Calvin’s number. Calvin answered immediately and his warm and gentle voice rang. ”

“His voice was deep, gentle, and filled with confidence. Her stomach was in knots as she debated whether she should tell him the news. ”

How could someone so proud and haughty like him take such a blow?

“Tears were about to stream down her cheeks but she blinked them away. She kept her voice steady as she said gently, ““Calvin, something happened in the company. Can you return as soon as possible?””

“Calvin replied immediately, ““Alright, honey. I’ll be right back.”” ”

“Okay, I’ll wait for you, Belle said gently as she forced a smile. ”

“She knew that Calvin was driving. He wasn’t used to being driven around by a chauffeur. Besides, the Hummer was his prized possession and he won’t let anyone touch it. ”

“She feared that he would lose his cool upon receiving the news and start driving recklessly. After all, she had once seen him went go of his mind and ignore his safety completely when he drove. It almost scared her out of her wits. ”

“She wasn’t by his side at the moment. Hence, she did not wish to reveal the news to him out of fear that he would go nuts. She put on a brave front and pretended as if nothing had happened.”

“However, she knew without a doubt that he would return immediately. Whenever he left the company to meet potential clients, she seldom asked him to come back midway. Now that she had requested for him to return, he would definitely make his way back right away. ”

“While waiting for his arrival, Belle remained in a daze as she sat on the couch. She stared blankly ahead, cracking her head as she wondered how in the world something like this could happen. Most of the cars designed by the Harvey Group were approved by her. How could it possibly be associated with the disclosure of the nation’s top secrets? ”

How could such a thing happen? It was unnerving!

Calvin hurried back to the company.

“As soon as she caught a glimpse of his slender figure approaching the office, Belle felt a lump in her throat. ”

“Mr. Xanthe, it’s a pleasure to meet you. As soon as he stepped into the office, he noticed that blood had drained from Belle’s face and it made his heart ache terribly. Looking around, he saw the men sitting on the couch and his heart sank. He could sense the overbearing aura that they emitted but he

did not lose his cool. With a calm expression, he entered. He put on a smile as he sat down beside Belle and greeted Sergio politely. ”

“At first, the two other men sitting on the couch were being pretty arrogant until Calvin strode into the office and sat down on the couch. They could sense the commanding aura around him. He was not someone to be underestimated. ”

“They were overwhelmed by the compelling aura around him. It was apparent that he had been born into a noble family just by looking at him. He was calm, cool and exuded a powerful aura, and they were forced to look at him. ”

“Calvin, I didn’t expect that we would meet in such a predicament. Sergio raised his eyebrows as his mouth twisted into a wry smile. He looked haughtily at Calvin, regarding him as an inferior opponent.”

“Judging from the atmosphere in the office as well as Sergio’s hostile attitude, Calvin sensed that something was amiss. He couldn’t help but to narrow his eyes.”

These people wouldn’t appear at their doorsteps without a valid reason.

They had come to the Harvey Group with a purpose. Calvin wasn’t going to regard them lightly.

He reached out his hand to hold Belle’s hand and gave her a nod to calm her down. He was asking her to trust him.

Belle must have been scared out of her wits. Her face was pale and it made his heart feel worried about her.

“As a member of Harvey Group, he knew that they had always abided by the law and had never gone against their principles. Hence, he was not afraid. He sighed. After all, Belle was just a woman. It was natural for her to be frightened.”

“He gave a confident smile and asked casually, “”Mr. Xanthe, what brings you here?”” ”

“Sergio glanced at Calvin, who was holding Belle’s hand, and his expression darkened. He sat up straight and announced with a solemn expression, “”Mr. Harvey, I order you to recall all the cars designed by Harvey Group in the market currently. It must be done immediately.”” ”

What? Recall all the cars in the market?

What nonsense!

“Calvin furrowed his brows and his jaws thrust forward with indignation. Sergio didn’t seem to be kidding when he mentioned it. After a while, his gaze fled among them as he demanded, “”Mr. Xanthe, give me a reason.”” ”

A reason? Sergio raised his eyebrows and he sniggered. What he said next was harsh and cold. “The cars produced by your company are involved in the leaking of the nation’s top secrets. It has brought immense losses to the country. This is a matter of high importance. Capital City had already issued an order to recall all the cars produced by the Harvey Group. No delays are allowed and the order needs to be carried out immediately.”

“At this point, Sergio took out his ID and the letter issued by his superiors and handed it over to Calvin. ”

“It wasn’t until he saw the ID and the letter did Calvin accept that what he said was true. Fuming mad, he clenched his fists. ”

“The sales of the cars produced by Harvey Group was soaring high and it was highly associated with the other industries under Harvey Group. If they were to recall the cars in the market, what would it mean?”

“It meant that they were no longer allowed to produce the cars. To put it bluntly, it meant that their car industry was ruined. ”

“The car industry was Harvey Group’s main business. If it was ruined, it would serve a great blow to the company. ”

He finally understood why Belle’s face had turned so pale.

“Burning anger rushed through him and he clenched his fists tightly, forgetting that he was holding Belle’s hands. He was holding her hand so tightly that her skin turned pale.”

“A feeling of triumph filled him as Sergio noticed Calvin’s distress. He was enjoying himself. Sneering, he thought to himself.”

“Calvin, it looks like the tables have been turned. I didn’t expect that you would be in such a miserable state one day. You only have to recall the cars for now but if you were found to be guilty, the Harvey Group would be blacklisted by the nation and it would go out of business immediately. ”

“If that happens, it will be the end of your glory days. ”

The thought crossed his mind and he sniggered.

“Calvin remained motionless as a statue. Belle could sense that he was breaking out in cold sweat. His palms were sweaty. For a moment, she could not tell who was more nervous. ”

“Mr. Xanthe, we have always complied with the laws and have never gone against our principles. It’s impossible that we will be involved in leaking out the nation’s top secrets or anything of that sort. I hope that you guys can distinguish between the good and the bad and avoid showing any bias when you investigate the matter. You must understand how heavy the loss would be by recalling all the cars in the market. The loss is unprecedented. If we were found to be innocent, who would bear the consequences? Calvin said coldly as he overcame his anger and stopped himself from blowing a fuse.”

“He was a man of the highest integrity and had never done anything illegal, let alone be involved in the divulging of the nation’s top secrets. What utter bullsh*t! Hence, he had the right to object.”

“Mr. Harvey, it’s not up to you to decide whether you are innocent or not. Since we are here, we must have some form of evidence. What it is and whether any of you are involved, we will proceed to investigate it. However, the GPS in the cars produced by Harvey Group has shown signs of leaking out the nation’s top secrets. To prevent the situation from getting out of hand and affecting the nation’s safety, Capital City would like you to recall the cars immediately. No delays are allowed. Otherwise, you will be charged for the illegal disclosure of the nation’s top secrets and committing acts against the nation’s interests right away. We will have the right to take you into custody. Sergio drove his point across without beating around the bush. ”

“Calvin and Belle were in a daze, unable to utter a word.”

Who would dare to disobey the law?

“Belle’s face turned pale. She was concerned that Calvin would not be able to take the blow. She was also worried that Calvin would object and act recklessly, giving Sergio an excuse to take him into custody.”

“She could still think clearly and she understood the consequences of acting recklessly. Hence, she said at once, ““Mr. Xanthe, since the cars have shown signs of leaking out the nation’s top secrets, it is definitely a serious breach of the law. I’m sorry. We will recall the cars at once. Please give us some time.”” ”

“She then turned around to face Calvin. ““Mr. Harvey, since I’m in charge of the car industry, let me announce the recalls,”” she said solemnly. ”

She was quivering and her hands were trembling nervously but she kept her voice steady. Her eyes were filled with a fierce determination.

Calvin held her hand even tighter and their eyes met. He was filled with anguish but he had come to his senses. He understood at once what Belle meant and nodded his head in agreement.

“Belle pulled away from him and spun around. She walked to her desk, turned on her computer, and sent an email to recall all the cars in the market. ”

“Although she was putting on a brave front and her expression was pretty calm, she could not control herself from shuddering. “

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“She typed furiously on her keyboard. Her gaze remained riveted upon the screen but her eyes were filled to the brim with tears. She had put in a lot of effort into the development of these cars. When she first heard from the press conference that these cars were entering the international market, she was over the moon. Now that she was forced to recall them, it was no wonder that she was filled with anguish. Besides, the news came out of a sudden, ruining everything.”

Only a few minutes had passed but it felt like an eternity before she sent out the email to the company’s branches all over the world. It was a simple email written concisely but it marked the end of the Harvey Group.

“In less than an hour, the world had received the news that the Harvey Group was doomed. ”

“All the cars were recalled from the market within a few hours. The market was forced to look for other sources. Hence, companies such as the Atkinson Corp, as well as other smaller companies gained the opportunity to benefit from the incident.”

What immense profit!

“This was how the market worked. If one failed to satisfy its needs, others would eventually fill in the gap in the market.”

“In the end, the company that benefited the most was Jones Group. ”

“It was as if they had expected that this would occur. The Jones Group had produced lots of cars that year. Although the quality and the appearance were no match for the cars produced by Harvey Group, it met the requirements of the market. Besides, the market needed a new manufacturer currently. ”

“What’s more, they were able to set high prices. Hence, the profit gained was remarkable! ”

“As a result, the Jones Group, which had merged with the Sky Sword Group, managed to become part of the list of top-performing companies worldwide. The market guessed that Harvey Group was in great trouble, upon receiving news that they were recalling all their cars. It was highly likely that they had met their doom. Hence, many clients turned to new companies after receiving their compensation.”

“A powerful company such as Harvey Group was ruined completely overnight, especially in the car industry. ”

“Many of the small companies under Harvey Group, which were in the car industry were falling apart as well.”

“However, this was not the end. Many small companies seized the opportunity to snatch away the company’s shares and properties. As a result, Calvin, who was used to being in the limelight, was on the brink of collapse.”

“To make matters worse, he was too proud to accept the failure as well as the blackmail. It was not because he was incapable, nor was it due to a spontaneous disaster. Someone was trying to destroy the company. It was a scheme! Rage overcame Calvin but he was forced to suppress his anger. ”

This was the first time in his life that he had suffered such a fatal blow. It was a huge dent to his career.

He spun around to face Sergio. His gaze was ice-cold. The veins in his neck popped out in livid ridges.

“Sergio looked at him, with a wry smile twisting his lips. In fact, he was on cloud nine. ”

“I’m sorry, Mr. Harvey. I’m sorry to disappoint you, but there’s nothing I can do. I can only obey orders from my superiors. Isn’t that right? His smile was smug. ”

“At the moment, Calvin felt that it was a scheme set up by Sergio to ruin his company so that he could revel in his distress. This man was truly detestable. ”

Was it because he didn’t support his father? Or did he think that he was supporting Luqman?

“As a matter of fact, he didn’t want to offend any of them. ”

“Mr. Xanthe, you know that we have always followed our principles and we regard integrity as something of high importance. Do you really think we will commit something as foolish as this? Think carefully. He sneered. ”

“The corners of Sergio’s mouth twitched, and he smiled wryly. “”Mr Harvey, it doesn’t matter what I think. Evidence is everything. Nobody can say anything for the time being, which is why we need to investigate the matter. Let’s wait till the investigation is sorted.”” ”

Calvin was simmering with anger and shot daggers at him.

“Sergio, what a scoundrel. He would take note of what he said on this day and get his revenge in the future. Calvin thought angrily.”

“On the contrary, Sergio was thrilled. The pleasurable smile never left his face. Seeing Calvin in a bad mood pleased him.”

“Mr. Xanthe, I have arranged an office for you and your team. Besides, I have arranged a few rooms at a nearby hotel for you guys to reside in for the time being. What do you think? Belle stood up and approached them after she had calmed down. She then enquired politely.”

“Okay, thank you, Ms. Morris. Sergio flashed her a smile and said politely, ““Belle, you are wise and reasonable, as always.”” There was a twinkle in his eyes.”

“Belle sensed a hint of smugness in his voice. She turned around and sighed as she made a call. After a while, Yuri came in.”

“Yuri, bring Mr. Xanthe and his team to the 86th floor to visit their offices. See if it suits them. If they are not satisfied with anything, make the necessary arrangements immediately. Belle instructed Yuri resolutely.”

“Alright, Ms. Morris. Yuri nodded her head quickly before turning around and making a gesture, indicating Sergio and his team to follow her. ““Mr. Xanthe, please follow me,”” she said politely.”

“Sergio’s lips held a faint smile and his eyes twinkled. He looked around before he left and his gaze fell upon Belle’s face. He gave her a meaningful look before he left, apparently in high spirits.”

“D*mn it. As soon as Sergio and the rest left, Calvin slammed his fist against the couch. His eyes were blazing murderously.”

“Calvin, calm down. We must not lose our cool now. Belle knew that he was in distress and it made her heartache. However, they had been charged with an offence and there was nothing they could do. ““Don’t worry. Once the truth comes to light, we can start over. I have faith in our abilities. The cars produced by Harvey Group are far more advanced than any car on the market. We are a popular brand and we have a good reputation. Besides, we have the skills. As long as we introduce our cars to the market again, it would not take long for us to gain the upper hand.”” ”

“Belle tried to comfort him. As for the cars, needless to say, she was still filled with confidence about their quality. After all, ever since they had decided to introduce the cars to the world, she had a well-thought-out plan. The cars produced by the other companies were no match for Harvey Group, including the Atkinson Corp.”

“Although they were struggling currently, as someone had blackmailed them, it would not stop the Harvey Group from progressing further.”

“However, Calvin had a clearer picture of what was happening. He was not worried about the car industry and its future development. He was more concerned that the company would not be able to overcome this obstacle.”

It was obvious that Sergio had come with evil intentions. He could almost guess the purpose of his visit.

“Yadriel was about to run for president. If he was threatening the Harvey Group to vote for him, it would be an easy task. However, if they had any ulterior motives or if they wished to destroy the Harvey Group, this offence was enough to ruin the Harvey Group for good.”

“Belle. After a long silence, Calvin glanced up at her with red eyes and caressed her hair gently. He said earnestly, “Remember what I have said. No matter what happens in the future, you must be strong. Don’t worry, I’m here. I will try my best to protect you and Jerry, and ensure you a lifetime of happiness.””

“Despite the circumstances, he did not mention anything about protecting Harvey Group. His main priority was to protect her and Jerry. Belle was moved, but at the same time, she was choked with sorrow.”

“In her opinion, to protect her and Jerry, he would need to protect Harvey Group first. Protecting the Harvey Group was the most important thing for now.”

“Calvin, thank you, I will. Belle’s eyes were brimming with tears. She closed her eyes and buried her head in his arms. She leaned against his chest and listened to his steady heartbeat. However, she still couldn’t calm down.”

“She didn’t want to see him in distress and anguish. She wanted him to be confident, in high spirits, overbearing and powerful as usual. He was a man who could make any woman fall in love with him.”

He was the man she loved. How could he be defeated? She closed her eyes as her heart ached terribly.

“Someone coughed. Startled, Belle’s eyes widened in alarm and she pulled away from Calvin. To her surprise, she saw Sergio entering the office, looking very gloomy.”

“How can you barge into our office without our permission? Calvin was enraged when he saw him entering their office. Hence, he demanded an explanation.”

“Barge in? Looking very dejected, Sergio forced a smile and said sardonically, “Mr. Harvey, getting all lovey-dovey with your wife at work? It’s no wonder your company is going out of business.””

What do you mean? His temper sparked and he laughed. “It looks like Mr. Xanthe is here on purpose to reprimand me. Are you so lonely that you can’t even bear to see a couple being madly in love? Are you jealous?”

“Sergio was smoldered with resentment when he heard what he said. However, he calmed down immediately, assumed an air of nonchalance, as he sat on the couch, and crossed his legs. He said resolutely, “Calvin, let me be frank with you. I am here under Capital City’s orders to investigate the matter. As the head of the team, I have the right to enter wherever I wish for investigation purposes. If possible, I would also like to intervene in your private life. After all, information is normally leaked out after work. You better respect me and don’t you dare provoke me. Behave yourself. Otherwise, this offence is enough to ruin you forever.””

“Although he was being a jerk, it was indeed part of his responsibility as the team leader. Although they were itching to refute his words, they could not do so.”

Anger rose in Calvin like a tide and he shook with fury. He was breathless with anger and he clenched his fists.

Such humiliation! He had never been treated in this manner before.

Chapter 435

“Old Master Harvey had once advised him to stay away from politicians, as the relationship with them would eventually become complicated. After the incident, Calvin couldn’t agree more.”

“They were helpless, unable to do anything, and were forced to obey Sergio’s orders. Although they had done nothing wrong, they had been charged with a serious offence. How infuriating!”

“Back then, Old Master Harvey had been threatened by a politician as well. Hence, he went the extra mile and tried to groom Martin to be a politician, so that he could protect Harvey Group in the future. It was a pity that Martin did not appreciate what he had done and his efforts had been wasted.”

“The members of the Harvey family could only be associated with politicians who were part of the family. Staying away from politics was one of the rules that Old Master Harvey had emphasized to the younger generations. However, Calvin had been blackmailed, despite being cautious all this while. He was forced to deal with a politician, and there was no way he could get himself out of it.”

“Mr. Xanthe, you may be a public official. However, regardless of what authority you have, we are just citizens who have always obeyed the law. I don’t believe that you can distort the truth deliberately and ignore the law. I’ll like to warn you again that we have always followed our principles and regard integrity as something of high importance. Hence, we are not afraid to have you here. You better investigate the matter thoroughly or I will definitely sue you, Calvin said through gritted teeth.”

“He was not threatening him. Harvey Group was a big company. They would not be as foolish as to be involved in the leaking of the nation’s top secrets. All these years, the Harvey Group had contributed a lot to society. Everyone was aware of their contribution. Calvin believed that Sergio could not determine the Harvey Group’s fate as he wished.”

“The Xanthe family had lots of connections, but so did the Harvey family. Calvin refused to believe that Sergio would be able to keep them on a short leash.”

“Sergio was shocked when he heard what Calvin said. Calvin’s words rang true. Although he was a public official, he could not act as he wished. After all, the Harvey Group was pretty powerful as well.”

“At that moment, he decided to tone down his arrogance. However, he retorted with a sneer. ““Calvin, I don’t care what you say, nor do I care about the connections your family has. We have found evidence that you guys were involved in the leaking of the nation’s top secrets. What’s more, I’m not kidding around. Those pieces of evidence were found by my superiors. We have every right to believe that you guys are guilty. If you wish to prove your innocence, you must show us some evidence.”””

“Once he had finished his sentence, he furrowed his brows and sniggered. ““Well, we find the office on the 86th floor to be unsuitable. It’s too far from your office where orders are being given. Hence, it would not facilitate our investigation. We will like a room next to your office, so that we will be near. This will enable us to collect all the necessary evidence more efficiently.”” ”

Sergio snapped. His expression was unreadable and he no longer cared what they thought.

He even wanted an office beside theirs to keep an eye on them. It was infuriating!

A raw burst of rage rose in Calvin. This guy definitely had some ulterior motives for being here. He even wanted to keep an eye on them all the time. How disgusting!

“However, they had no choice but to obey. He was a public officer and he was here to investigate the matter. What could they do? Belle forced a smile and replied, ““Mr. Xanthe, that would not be an issue. We have not done anything wrong. Hence, we are not afraid. You may investigate as you wish.”” ”

“After saying that, she went out of the office and called for Yuri. ”

“Yuri, clear up the room opposite my office for Mr. Xanthe and his team. They won’t need the room on the 86th floor anymore. She instructed quickly. ““Besides, ask some cleaners to clean up the room. Be quick.”” ”

“I’ll get it done right away. Upon receiving the orders, Yuri left immediately.”

“Belle returned to her office. ““Mr. Xanthe, is the arrangement okay for you?”” ”

“Yes. Sergio spun around to look at her. Her eyes were brimming with tears and her smile was strained. Nevertheless, there was a fierce determination in her eyes. Sergio was moved. ”

“She and Calvin had already gotten a divorce. However, she still returned to his side. He was afraid that it would be difficult for them to overcome the challenge this time around. Hence, he sighed. ”

Zoella would not let the Harvey Group off the hook so easily. He was well aware of that.

“If that’s the case, you may do as you please. We will like to discuss something in the meantime. Belle was afraid that Calvin would blow a fuse. Hence, she wanted to bring him back to his office. To her dismay, she heard Sergio saying, ““From today onwards, we will record whatever you do. You must cooperate with us all the time. We have the right to know what you are doing.”” ”

What? Were they going to restrict their freedom?

Calvin’s cheeks burned with anger and he clenched his fists again.

“Sure, we will obey whatever you say. We need to work right now. Now that we have recalled the cars, there is a lot that we need to do. We will be in the office right beside yours and you may investigate as you wish, Belle responded as she led Calvin back to his office. ”

F*ck. Calvin slammed his fist against the table upon sitting down at his desk. His eyes were bulging from their sockets.

“To all the executives, gather in the conference room. We will be having a meeting. He turned on his laptop and sent an email.”

“Soon, Calvin, Belle, as well as the other executives gathered for a meeting. That night, the building remained brightly lit as everyone stayed behind, trying to find a solution to the matter. They had begun to accept their fate. What a cruel thing! ”

Everyone was under immense pressure due to the incident. It was a disaster that threatened to ruin everyone in Harvey Group.

“As the cars had been recalled, the production line was stopped. Around one hundred thousand employees all around the world were forced to stop what they were working on. If the matter could not be resolved, those people would lose their jobs. ”

“Calvin understood the consequences, so did Belle. In fact, everyone in the room was well aware of it. Hence, a heavy silence fell upon the room. ”

This was the greatest blow that the Harvey Group had ever suffered in history. It came as a shock to everyone.

“Meanwhile, in the Jones Group, Matteo was reading the headlines of the newspapers through his glasses. ”

“The Harvey Group was forced to recall all their cars. However, the newspaper did not state the reason. Everyone was guessing what had happened. They agreed that the Harvey Group was done for and their cars would never be introduced into the market again.”

An enigmatic smile crept across Matteo’s face.

There was a sound of approaching footsteps.

He raised his head and adjusted his gold-rimmed spectacles.

Zoella who was looking very stunning and was dressed elegantly appeared before him.

“Hello, Chairman. Zoella put on an elegant smile and bowed slightly as she greeted him. ”

“Zoella, you are here. Great! Matteo beamed from ear to ear. He stood up and pointed at the couch next to him, indicating Zoella to have a seat. “”Please have a seat.”” ”

Zoella flashed him a smile and sat down.

The secretary poured her some tea and handed it to her. She took a sip of the tea.

“Chairman, the company is doing great recently. Am I right? Zoella asked casually as she took another sip of the tea. ”

“Yeah, it’s all thanks to your suggestion. He looked at her, with a large grin splitting his face. “”It looks like you are indeed remarkable. You are a successful businesswoman. Not only are you smart, but you are also capable.”” ”

A faint smile touched the corners of her mouth.

“At the beginning of the year, she suggested to Matteo to invest in the production of cars. Back then, he hesitated when he heard the suggestion. At first, he wanted to withdraw from the car industry. After all, they were not good at producing cars. Besides, the market in the car industry was monopolized by the Harvey Group. It was not the right timing to produce new cars, as they would not be a match for the Harvey Group.”” ”

“However, he changed his mind after what happened that day. He finally realized that Zoella had a shrewd business acumen.”

The cars that the Harvey Group was so proud of had been recalled within a day. There was no longer a car manufactured by the Harvey Group available on the market.

“However, there was a huge demand for cars. Hence, everyone turned to the Jones Group.”

“The market needed a new source. Therefore, all the cars that they have produced were sold within a day. Everyone panicked when they received the news that the Harvey Group was doomed and placed their orders with the Jones Group. They had received many orders and were facing a shortage due to the excessive demand.”

“It was all thanks to Zoella and her suggestion. However, it was a pity that they had not produced more cars previously and were forced to cancel some orders. The Sky Sword Group was developing rapidly as well.”

Matteo was over the moon. He had chosen a capable daughter-in-law.

“Zoella smiled and replied, ““Chairman, you flatter me. I’m here to tell you that I plan to expand the Sky Sword Group. If I’m not mistaken, we will soon become one of the top-notch companies in the nation and shall eventually surpass the Harvey Group. We will soon be one of the largest companies in the world. Chairman, stay tuned for the good news.”” ”

“Are you sure? Matteo was jubilant and ecstatic. A look of joy and satisfaction lit up his eager face.

““Zoella, go for it. Don’t worry, I will support you no matter what.”” ”

“Thank you, Mr. Jones. Zoella smiled and bowed slightly. She checked the time and got up, preparing to leave.”

“Oh, by the way, Zoella, you must be busy. I have decided to ask Oscar to come over to A City and keep you company. He would be able to help you. After all, you are just a woman. It will be great to have a man by your side. Matteo pretended to be very kind and considerate as he revealed the news.”

“Zoella was stunned when she heard what he said. However, she soon came to her senses. She understood his intentions. He did not arrange this for Oscar to help her. Oscar would be there to keep an eye on her. How could that jerk help her? He was unworthy of her. It was already a blessing if he did not cause her any trouble. Help her? What absolute nonsense! His vulgar appearance would only affect her mood negatively.”

How could she work alongside a jerk such as him?!

Fury vibrated through her body. She masked the hatred in her eyes and forced a smile.

That’s great! I’m more than happy for him to come if he wishes to. She smiled and answered right away.

Chapter 436

“Okay, that’s great. Matteo was satisfied with Zoella’s answer. To be honest, he knew very well that his son was not good enough for Zoella. However, their family was prestigious and powerful. His son had a high social status. Zoella met the requirements of becoming his daughter-in-law. Not only was she

capable, she was also well-mannered and smart. She had an elegant demeanor and would not ruin the family's reputation. "

"Looks did not matter to men. As long as they were successful and well-off, it was a piece of cake to find a capable wife. Although his son was not worthy of Zoella, Matteo was confident that he could force Zoella to remain loyal and serve the family with his wealth and social status. "

"Back then, when Zoella approached him and suggested her plans, he not only admired her courage but also recognized her abilities. Hence, he agreed to help her, on one condition, which was to marry his son. Didn't she wish to start a company called Sky Sword Group? As long as she agreed to marry his son, he was willing to go along with her plans, including establishing the Sky Sword Group. It was not a big deal. She could do whatever she wanted. It would be a great experience for her. What's more, he thought highly of her. "

"Surely enough, she was indeed capable, and he was very satisfied with her performance."

"However, he was getting worried that his son would fail to keep her by his side. Although she had agreed to marry his son, their relationship was strained and they were rarely together. This made him uneasy. "

"Therefore, he put forward this request. To his surprise, Zoella agreed right away. This put him at ease."

"Mr. Jones, if you don't have anything else to discuss with me, I will take my leave, Zoella said. There was a grin plastered on her face."

"Alright, I supposed that you are busy. I'll ask Oscar to meet you later. Matteo beamed from ear to ear, pretending to be very considerate. "

"Okay, see you later. Zoella flashed him a smile before she left, looking very humble and polite. However, upon leaving the Jones Group, the smile on her face vanished in an instance. Her gaze was ice-cold and there was a glint of mockery in her eyes."

Did Oscar really wish to stay by her side? Such wishful thinking.

"Although she had agreed to Matteo's request a moment ago, in reality, she was coerced to do so. If she refused, Matteo might discover her true intentions. If he had kicked up a fuss because of that, her efforts would go down the drain. She still needed his help at the moment. Hence, she had no choice but to please him. "

The thought of Oscar's rotund face and plump figure made Zoella want to puke in disgust.

"The sunset lingers upon the horizon, as if a million scarlet blooms had been ignited."

"Footsteps could be heard. Belle walked into the factory. In only two days, all the cars produced by the Harvey Group were recalled from the market. They had been placed in the factory in rows. "

"The factory was deserted. Just a few days ago, it was filled with people hustling about, getting their work done. The noise, the people... Everything had changed overnight. "

The Harvey Group was doomed.

The Harvey Group was really doomed!

Harvey Group had encountered a crisis that had never occurred before. They might not be able to survive it.

How ironic! The Harvey Group had hit rock bottom.

.....

Rumors spread like wildfire. The newspapers published what transpired in the Harvey Group.

Belle was in anguish. Her heart ached terribly and it filled her with agony.

“It was a serious offence. No matter who had been charged with the offence, there would only be one outcome. Even a powerful company such as the Harvey Group could not escape the brutal fate. ”

“The setting sun revealed her shadow on the ground. Her face was aglow with the orange Rhyss. She remained motionless as a statue as the last of the sun’s Rhyss cosseted behind the soft grey cloud and dusk fell. Eventually, she was shrouded in darkness. Yet, she stood there, holding her head high and looking very tenacious and unyielding. ”

The street lamps illuminated the darkness and a chilly breeze touched the warmth of her cheeks.

“She couldn’t help but to tremble as she took a step forward, ignoring the numbness in her feet. She took another few steps forward and there was sorrow in her eyes. ”

Her phone rang.

It rang again. The other party was obviously in a hurry.

“Slowly, Belle answered the call as she held her phone to her ear.”

“Belle, what happened? I heard that something’s wrong with the cars produced by Harvey Group. Rosa’s anxious voice rang. She was apparently on tenterhooks as her voice was quivering. ”

“Rosa, Belle said in a low voice. There was nothing to hide. In fact, it was impossible to hide it. The media could publish anything, even if it was just a rumor, let alone something that was proven to be true. She licked her dry lips as she said hesitatingly, ““Yes, Rosa, what you have seen in the newspaper is true. All the cars produced by the Harvey Group have been recalled from the market. It is a crisis that has never occurred before.”” ”

Belle looked haggard. Exhaustion crept up on her and Rosa could sense that she was on the brink of collapse.

“How could this happen? Belle, how is this possible? Rosa was close to tears. ““It must be a scheme! It’s not your fault. Don’t panic. You must discover the truth. As long as you have done nothing wrong, nothing will happen to you.”” ”

She stammered as fear clutched at her throat. She tried to comfort Belle.

“Her heart sank when she heard Belle’s response. To her dismay, Belle seemed pretty downcast. Belle was normally calm and composed. No matter what happened, she always seemed optimistic. However,

Rosa could sense that she was crestfallen and dejected. She could imagine the damage the incident had caused to the Harvey Group. ”

“Belle, I’ll be back soon. Wait for me. Let me help you. Rosa stamped her feet in frustration and gritted her teeth. Before Belle could respond, she ended the call. ”

Belle wasn’t able to tell her what was on her mind. She sighed and shook her head. Rosa was still as straightforward and cute as she was usually. She could not bear to see those she held dear in distress. It was exasperating but nobody could reject her kindness.

She put down her phone. Time was scarce and she did not have the energy to think about her anymore.

“Just as she was about to leave, her phone rang again. ”

“Belle noticed that it was the phone number belonging to the Ink Garden, which was part of the Harvey Group. Shocked, her face grew pale as a thought crossed her mind. She answered the call in a hurry. ”

“Madam, Ruth said with a heavy heart.”

“Belle’s heart sank when she heard the anguish in her voice. She asked right away, “”Ruth, is everything alright with Grandma?”””

Ruth fell silent. She did not respond.

Fear gripped her and her heart pounded rapidly. She had been so busy in the past few days that she had neglected Sophia. If Sophia got wind of the news...

The thought crossed her mind and she spoke right away.

“Ruth, I’ve been pretty busy for the past few days. Don’t let Grandma know what has happened to the Harvey Group. You must keep it a secret. Considering her age, Grandma would not be able to take the blow. ”

“It was normal for her to be anxious. The situation would only become worse if Sophia received the news about what had happened to the Harvey Group. The media was easily accessible in the 21st century. However, Sophia was getting old and she depended on Ruth to learn about the current issues. Hence, Ruth played a critical role...”

“However, Ruth didn’t seem to be interested in further discussion. She only sighed and said in a low voice, “”Madam, this is not what I wanted to discuss with you.”” ”

“If she hadn’t called to talk to her about Harvey Group, then what was it that she wanted to talk about? ”

“Belle had a bad feeling about this. Anxious, she asked in a panic, “”Ruth, spill the beans. I’m not an outsider.”” ”

“Alright. Ruth’s eyes were brimming with tears as she said in a low voice, “”Madam, the Old Madam’s health had deteriorated.”” ”

What?!

“Belle was shocked by the sudden news and staggered backwards. She asked in a low voice right away, ““Ruth, how is she? If she is ill, then send her to the hospital immediately.””

“Alas. Ruth sighed and said, ““Madam, Old Madam’s health has been deteriorating for a long time. After all, she is getting older. Old Madam refuses to go to the hospital and I have no idea what to do.””

“Belle’s heart skipped a beat when she heard what she said and she asked in a hurry, ““Ruth, what happened? How is her current state?””

“Ruth shook her head and said in distress, ““Madam, Old Madam’s health had been deteriorating ever since you left that day. She barely had any appetite and she felt some discomfort around her heart. I wanted to bring her to the hospital but she refused. She said that it was normal for her organ function to deteriorate at her age and insisted that there was no point in bringing her to the hospital. She stopped us from calling you as she said that you guys are very busy and there’s no point for you guys to worry about an old hag who was on her deathbed. In a nutshell, no matter how I advised her, she refused to do anything, whether it’s going to the hospital or calling you. I really am at a loss at what to do. Hence, I decided to call you secretly today. To be frank, she has not eaten anything today and she seemed kind of drowsy.””

“At the moment, Belle was filled with sorrow after hearing what she had said.”

“As the Old Madam of the Harvey Group, Sophia refused to go to the hospital for fear that it would cause trouble to her grandchildren. How distressing! No matter how old she was and no matter what happened, a person had to go to the hospital if they had fallen ill. Was Grandma acting so stubborn because she did not wish to trouble them? Or did she know that nothing could be changed, and she did not want them to worry about her? Thoughts began racing in Belle’s mind.”

“It caused tears to well up in her eyes and she said firmly, ““Ruth, wait for me. I’ll be back right away.””

She quickly kept her phone.

“Ms. Morris, should we go and take a look at the factory over there? Marquis, the manager of Castle Peak Auto City hurried over and asked cautiously.”

“There is no need to do so. Marquis, I have something to do and I need to leave. Sort out what you have to do first and wait for our instructions in the meantime. Belle left after instructing him. Her car pulled away from Castle Peak Auto City and headed towards Harvey Group.”

She didn’t even enter the Fragrance Garden and went straight to the Ink Garden.

Ruth was on tenterhooks as she waited for Belle’s arrival at Ink Garden. She paced frantically back and forth. She approached her immediately when she caught sight of Belle entering.

“Ms. Morris, you’re here.”

“Ruth. Belle entered in a hurry. She held Ruth’s hand and asked anxiously, ““How’s Grandma?””

“Alas. Ruth sighed and said with a solemn expression, ““Old Madam has fallen into a slumber. For the past few days, she has had trouble falling asleep, especially at night. She complains of chest pain and discomfort. She barely has any appetite and she experiences drowsiness most of the time. Most of the time, she just lays down on her bed and she barely eats anything. To be frank, this isn’t the first time it

has occurred. It has been like this since the beginning of the year. This must be how it's like for the elderly. It's normal, especially since Old Madam is getting old. Don't worry too much about her." " "

Chapter 437

"Ruth noticed that Belle looked very haggard and distraught. It was apparent that she was very anxious. Hence, she spilled the beans and attempted to comfort her. " "To be frank, Madam, Old Madam may be right. After all, she is getting old. Everyone will eventually die one day. It's normal for a person to experience signs and symptoms such as these at her age. Don't worry too much about it." " "

"Belle was feeling very anxious and uneasy. Sophia had said a lot that day when she came over. This had never happened before. It was apparent that she was aware of her health condition, which was why she asked her to come over and instructed Ruth to hand her the accounts book and the records of the family history. Now that she thought about it, it was as if Sophia was prepared to leave any moment. Belle was filled with anguish and tears coursed down her cheeks. "

"Ruth, we don't have any control over life and death, but we must bring her to the hospital when she is unwell, whether she likes it or not. We are part of the Harvey Group. Grandma has contributed a lot to the development of the Harvey Group. Hence, no matter how busy we are, we cannot neglect her. There's nothing more important than that. Upon finishing her sentence, Belle demanded, " "Ruth, Grandma already knows what happened to Harvey Group, doesn't she?" " "

She asked in a low voice as she looked at Ruth.

"Ruth thought for a moment before she shook her head. " "Madam, it doesn't seem likely. I don't think she knows. After all, she is experiencing some hearing problems and her eyesight is getting worse. It's impossible for her to get wind of the news. I did not tell her as well, as she has been worrying about a lot of stuff for her entire lifetime. Now that you guys are here, even if something happens to the company, I feel that we should not let her worry." " "

"Good, well done. Thank you, Ruth. Belle heaved a sigh of relief upon hearing what she said. " "Ruth, you are right. Don't tell Grandma what happened to the company. It's our turn to deal with the issue. You must not let her hear the news, no matter what." " "

"Looking at Belle's gaunt face, Ruth nodded solemnly."

"After instructing her, Belle spun around and headed towards Sophia's bedroom. "

Ruth followed suit.

"Although she nodded her head in agreement when Belle insisted in bringing her to the hospital, she knew very well that bringing her to the hospital would not help much at her age. After all, Ruth was a doctor. For Sophia's heart condition, she had already been inserted with lots of catheters and it was impossible to insert any more. Besides, her organs were deteriorating pretty quickly. It was near impossible to save her. "

"She knew what Sophia wanted. To put it simply, Sophia wanted to die in the Ink Garden. This was the place that she had resided in for a lifetime. It was where she had contributed all her efforts. She would not leave, no matter what. "

“However, it was her responsibility to notify Belle who was in charge of the household. Only Belle and Calvin had the right to decide what to do.”

“When Belle entered, Sophia was lying on her bed. Her face was shallow and emaciated, and her eyes were closed. Only the clear, audible breathing indicated that she was still alive. She was so thin and weak. ”

Her face was pale and had a greenish-yellow tinge to it.

“The deathly pallor of her skin was frightening. Looking at it filled Belle with anguish. She sat down on the bed and held Sophia’s hand as she glanced at her silently, unable to utter a word. ”

“After a while, her pallor suddenly became a livid red and she experienced abnormally rapid breathing. ”

“Grandma, what’s wrong? Belle’s heart raced when she saw her in this state. Ruth, who was standing by their side, acted immediately and fed her some medicine, as she patted her back gently. After a while, Sophia seemed to become better.”

“Belle had her heart in her throat as she watched in dismay. Panic-stricken, she asked, ““Ruth, what’s wrong with Grandma?”””

“Alas, Old Madam’s heart is not what it used to be and it lacks oxygen. Whenever this happens, she must take her medication immediately, Ruth explained right away. ”

“Belle was filled with distress as she held Sophia’s hand tightly, so much so that she found it hard to breathe. The redness on her face faded to a greenish, sickly pallor. Belle’s heart ached when she saw it and she was choked with sobs. ““Grandma, I’ll bring you to the hospital.”” ”

“She stood up immediately and took out her phone. After making the necessary arrangements with the hospital, she called for a driver to come over and pick them up. ”

“Sophia rested for a while before she regained her senses. Upon seeing Belle at her bedside, she wanted to speak to her. To her surprise, two people emerged, carrying a stretcher with them. Alarmed, she asked what was going on. ”

“Belle said firmly, ““Grandma, I’m going to bring you to the hospital today.”””

“Sophia was startled. She objected immediately. ““Belle, I understand that you are worried about me, but I refuse to go to the hospital. I’m already so old. It will be so exhausting. Just let me stay in Ink Garden. I will probably live longer if I stay here. I’m not used to living in the hospital. It will only worsen my condition.”” ”

“Upon hearing what she said, Belle was anxious and said in a hurry, ““Grandma, you are not feeling well. You must go to the hospital for a check-up. It’s not good for you to stay here.”” ”

“After hearing what she said, Sophia sighed and did not appear to change her mind. ““Belle, it’s already a blessing for me to live until now. I know my condition very well. If doctors are really the cure to everything, nobody would fall ill in this world. No matter what you say, I refuse to go to the hospital. Belle, you have a lot to do. Focus on your work. Don’t worry about me. I bet Ruth had told you what happened to me. Alas, I have already instructed her not to let you know.”” ”

“It took her a lot of effort to say these words. She was panting heavily. Belle was in a dilemma, unsure about what to do.”

“However, she could not bear to see Sophia in this condition. She pondered for a while before she responded, “Grandma, I will respect your decision and you don’t need to go to the hospital, but I would like to discuss with Calvin and recruit a medical team to come over daily to check on your condition. You must accept my offer. Otherwise, I’ll bring you to the hospital right away.””

“Belle thought to herself. At her age, it was indeed inconvenient for her to go to the hospital. She would not be used to it. Inviting a medical team over did seem to be a better choice. Fortunately, the wellness center of Harvey Group was set up in Ink Garden. Hence, there would be a place for the medical team to stay when they come over. As for the laboratory test and examinations required, it would depend on what the experts say.”

That was all she could do for now.

“Sophia could not persuade Belle to give up on the plan. Reluctantly, she accepted the arrangement.”

“As a result, Belle had no choice but to give Calvin a call.”

“Calvin was very anxious when he received the news. Flustered, he accepted Belle’s suggestion right away. That night, the best medical team in A City was recruited to come over and reside in the Harvey Group Manor.”

“It was not until the experts had come over to check on Sophia’s condition, and confirm that there was nothing wrong with her that relief washed over her. She then returned to the Fragrance Garden.”

“Thanks to the recent crisis, neither she nor Calvin had returned to the Harvey Manor for the past few days.”

“The crisis happened abruptly. Not only were they busy, but they also had to cooperate with Sergio and his team all the time. In other words, their freedom was kind of restricted. Now that she was back, she wanted to see Jerry.”

“It wasn’t until she was near Fragrance Garden that she realized how much she missed Jerry. She was filled with longing to see him, that it was driving her crazy. To her dismay, she heard Jerry crying. It was heart-wrenching! Belle couldn’t help quivering with fear and she almost went mad.”

“Jerry, what was wrong with Jerry?”

She hastened along the path and dashed into the living room.

“Mom, Mom. Jerry was wailing. Tears had streamed down his cheeks. Aunt Ella and Larry were trying their best to comfort him.”

“Jerry, what’s wrong? Belle stepped forward and took Jerry away from Aunt Ella’s arms.”

“Mom, why haven’t you come back to see me for so long? I miss you and Dad so much. Belle wrapped his arms around her neck and cried as tears welled up in his eyes.”

“Belle’s heart ached and she was filled with anguish. She gritted her teeth, while holding Jerry in her arms, and said in a low voice, ““Jerry, I’m really sorry for neglecting you. Dad and I have been really busy these past few days.”” ”

“Mom, I don’t like it when you guys don’t return. I want to be with you. Jerry was relieved to be in his mother’s arms again. He hugged her tightly, refusing to let go and continued crying.”

Her eyes brimmed with tears as she hugged Jerry tightly. She felt as if her heart had been torn apart. She didn’t know how to comfort him.

“Without a doubt, she and Calvin would have their hands full, as long as the matter was not settled.”

“Jerry, be a good boy. Be strong. Recently, your Dad and I have been really busy at work. We will not be able to return and keep you company. Once we have settled the issue, we will take you on a vacation. Is that okay? Belle said softly, trying her best to give him some form of comfort. However, she had no idea when the matter would be resolved. She was only trying to reassure him. ”

“Jerry, who was exhausted from crying, soon fell asleep in Belle’s arms.”

“Glancing at his face, Belle’s heart ached. She forced herself to get up and enter the kitchen to make a meal. Once she was done, she kept it in a thermos flask and brought it out of the kitchen. ”

“A light, warm breeze brushed her cheek, as she walked out of Fragrance Garden. Night had fallen and the atmosphere was peaceful. Everyone else was enjoying themselves and having a good rest in Harvey Manor. Some even took a stroll in the garden. Nobody was aware of the danger ahead. ”

Belle was feeling very downcast.

“For the past few days, Calvin had not slept a wink. Now that something like this had occurred, it was his responsibility to solve it. It was not easy to be the head of the family. ”

“All the glory of Harvey Group was gained through hard work and wisdom. The heads of the family had always fulfilled their duty, from generation to generation. Not many people were aware of the pain and grief involved. ”

She started the car and headed for the Harvey Group.

“During difficult times like this, she must return to his side and be by his side. ”

“It had been a few days. He did not eat or sleep well for the past few days. Now that she had returned to Harvey Manor, she decided to cook a meal for him and bring it over to him.”

Chapter 438

The Harvey Group was still brightly lit even though it was late at night. All the executives were still busy at work.

“Calvin had not slept a wink in the past few days. He had been busy conducting meetings with the executives as they analyzed the current situation, trying to find out the cause.”

All the evidence pointed to the fact that the GPS of the cars manufactured by the Harvey Group had records of leaking out the nation's top secrets. It was an immutable fact. There was nothing else they could do except to recall the cars from the market.

"The point was, how was the document containing the nation's top secrets installed into the system? Was it an error or was someone framing them on purpose? "

"He had analyzed the situation very carefully. It was highly unlikely that it was a programming error. In fact, it was impossible. Only one possibility was left. Someone had deliberately inserted the document into the system to frame the company. "

"Such a malicious act had occurred right under his nose. To make matters worse, he could not find any evidence that someone had sabotaged the system. This put him in a very bad mood. "

"In general, the cars had gone through many stages of inspection during the production phase. It was astonishing that an error would occur. Besides, an outsider couldn't enter and sabotage the system. "

"Hence, there was only one plausible explanation. Someone among them had betrayed the company. "

All the employees involved were suspects. The thought crossed his mind and Calvin almost shook his head in disbelief.

"He had appointed each one of the executives himself. They could be trusted. Besides, the Harvey Group had always treated them well. It was pointless for them to engage in something illegal such as this. Once they discovered the truth, the person would only be imprisoned. They were smart people. Who would be so foolish as to do something like this? "

This was what puzzled him the most.

"Meanwhile, Sergio was acting pretty overbearing and aggressive. He kept an eye on them every single day and urged them to work faster. He wanted to settle the case quickly so that he could report to his superiors. "

"Before they knew it, dusk had arrived. "

Calvin sat in his office as he glanced at the scenery outside his window. The streets were brightly lit. He had no idea how much time had passed. All he felt was fatigue.

"What Luqman said rang in his head. ""Young man, you will return to see me."" "

Was the incident related to the competition between Luqman and Yadiel? Would he really be forced to return and see him?

Calvin was at a loss about what to do with the mess.

"The day after he met Luqman, someone published a photo of them together in the newspapers right away. It was apparent that someone wanted to destroy the Harvey Group. "

"Misfortunes came as expected. It happened so suddenly that they did not even have time to prepare for it. To their dismay, they had been charged with a severe offence for being involved in the disclosure of the country's top secrets via the cars manufactured by the company. "

Who could afford to be accused of such a terrible crime?

There was a soft knock on the door.

“Come in. Without raising his head, Calvin spoke in a deep voice.”

“After a while, the sound of footsteps drew closer. ”

“Calvin, Mr. Harvey. A sweet and soft voice could be heard. It was apparent that it belonged to a woman. ”

Calvin raised his head and his gaze grew cold.

What do you want? he asked briefly.

Calvin... Liya was being coy.

“Call me ‘Mr. Harvey’. Calvin furrowed his brows. This woman. How dare she call him by his name just because she had known him when they were kids. He was truly annoyed. Besides, were they even close? Even Belle rarely called him by his name in the office. Hence, he corrected her immediately with an icy stare. ”

“Liya flushed scarlet red but within a few seconds, she put on a smile again and said softly, ““Mr. Harvey, here is the program that you have requested.”””

Liya was very polite. She handed him the USB drive with both hands and batted her eyelashes as she looked at him with her dazzling eyes.

“Okay, Calvin answered without even glancing up at her, as he reached out his hand to take the USB drive. He put it in the drawer. When he raised his head again, he was surprised to see that Liya had no intention to leave. He exclaimed in surprise, ““Is there anything else you would like to say to me?”” ”

“No, Liya replied in a soft voice, shaking her head.”

Calvin narrowed his eyes in annoyance.

“Liya’s hands were fidgeting nervously, as she raised her head and spoke with concern. ““Calvin, I mean, Mr. Harvey, don’t be too upset about what has happened to the company. We just need to find the culprit and bring them into custody. Once the matter has been resolved, everything will be back to normal.”””

Her eyes were as clear as water. She looked at him earnestly and her eyes were dazzling and mesmerizing.

“Oh. Calvin looked at her in surprise, with a faint smile tugging up the corners of his mouth. ““Liya, thank you. However, how did you know that I’m looking for a culprit?”” ”

“Liya was stunned for a moment. There was a look of panic on her face. However, she calmed down quickly and said firmly, ““Mr. Harvey, I’m pretty sure someone has sabotaged the system. You are such a wise man. There’s no way that you would allow the Harvey Group to engage in something illegal.”” ”

“She said earnestly, as if she knew him very well.”

Calvin's phoenix-like eyes narrowed. He raised his head and there was a gleam in his eyes.

"Thank you, Liya. You're such a considerate woman. He flashed her a charming smile and complimented her. "

"Liya's eyes shone as she was over the moon upon receiving Calvin's praise. She raised her head and said with confidence, ""Calvin, don't worry. No matter what, I will always put the company's interests first. If you need me, just call me. I will do my best."" "

"She spoke with a very solemn and sincere expression. Her chest heaved as she spoke, showing off her sexy figure in front of Calvin. "

Calvin's smile broadened into a grin upon hearing what she said.

"Liya, thank you so much for being loyal to the company. Alright, if the company needs your help, I will definitely come and see you. Calvin leaned against his chair as he put one arm on the armrest. He leaned against one side and flashed her a charming smile, looking very elegant and appealing. "

"Glancing at the handsome man who had been born into a prestigious family right before her, Liya couldn't bear to shift her gaze. She was willing to do anything for him. "

She had a foolish smile on her face as she blushed.

"Is there anything else? If that's all you have to say, you may leave now. Noticing that she was still standing there with no intention to leave, Calvin raised his head and looked at her, as he reminded her in a gentle voice. "

The smile never left his face.

"Oh, okay, okay. Liya was infatuated with him. Upon hearing what Calvin said, she replied in a hurry, ""Mr. Harvey, I will take my leave now. Remember to call me if you need anything."" "

Calvin smiled and nodded his head.

"It was not until her figure had disappeared from his sight that his smile vanished in an instant, and was replaced with an ice-cold glare. "

He slowly took out his phone and placed a call.

How's it going? he asked in a deep voice.

"Aron's voice rang. After a while, Calvin's expression darkened and his eyes glowed with a fiery ferocity. "

"Aron did not usually work in the company. Hence, Calvin decided on the spot to let him leave the company. This way, he would not be involved, no matter what happened. This would facilitate the investigation. "

"Calvin, have you eaten yet? Belle walked in and asked softly."

Calvin raised his head and looked at Belle. His eyes shone brightly with deep affection.

“Belle, you’re here. He seemed to have just remembered that he was supposed to have dinner. Startled, he shook his head in exasperation.”

“I knew it. If I don’t remind you, you will forget entirely about your mealtimes. Belle was distressed and chided him.”

“As she spoke, she took out the thermos flask and laid out the mushroom soup and pasta.”

“You must finish them, she said firmly. She was very serious.”

“Alright. Calvin glanced at the meal before him and agreed. He placed one hand on her waist and pulled her into his arms, so that she was now sitting on his lap.”

Belle. He wrapped his arms around her and placed his head on her shoulders. He breathed in her scent with pleasure and whispered in her ears.

“Belle could sense that he was feeling lonely and lost, like a child who had been abandoned, from the tone of his voice. This made her heart ache terribly.”

“Seven years ago, when she escaped to another country, the company was also in a life and death scenario. Back then, Lexie had kept him company, while she did nothing. Now, she only wanted to stay by his side and aid him on this journey.”

“She reached out her hand to stroke his hair. While caressing his hair, she pulled him into an embrace.”

“At first, she wanted to inquire why Liya had come over to the office, to see if he was interested in her. However, she changed her mind. She was no longer interested in that matter. Besides, she chose to believe him and there was no need to ask him anymore.”

He was indeed outstanding and remarkable. Many women were infatuated with him. So what? She was his wife. Everyone had witnessed their wedding ceremony. Who could snatch him away?

“There was no reason for her to be afraid, right?”

“Calvin, enjoy your meal. Don’t worry, times like this will pass. In the worst-case scenario, we can always start over, she said softly. It was just a crisis that they had to face. So what if they lost a large sum of money from recalling the cars from the market? They were involved in other industries as well. The Harvey Group had many properties. Besides, she was an expert in designing cars. Hence, she was not afraid at all.”

“Leaning against her chest, Calvin felt a sense of satisfaction and he was reluctant to let her go. Out of a sudden, fear gripped his heart. He was afraid of losing her. The thought filled him with agony. He hugged her tightly and did not say anything for a long time.”

It was not until Belle’s delicate fingers touched his face and gently rubbed it that he raised his head.

“Belle, don’t worry. No matter what happens in the future, I will protect you and Jerry. I will never let the two of you suffer.”

Calvin made a silent promise to himself. He glanced at her with his charming eyes and smiled. His gaze was gentle and it was filled with affection.

“Be good and finish your meal. Belle also looked at him, her eyes shining with joy.”

Her eyes were filled with concern and Calvin was moved. He nodded his head.

Delicious. He smiled as he gobbled down the pasta and praised her for her culinary skills. “You are indeed a great chef! I love it.”

“Glancing at his satisfied smile, Belle beamed as her heart was filled with warmth and childlike joy. ”

“Here, have a bite of the bacon. I made it specifically for you. Belle fed him a piece of bacon. He opened his mouth, took a bite and chewed it. “”Not bad, it’s very delicious.”””

“He continued praising her. It was indeed a scrumptious meal and he suddenly had a good appetite. He enjoyed the meal very much, as if he had never eaten anything more delicious than it. ”

You must be ravenous. You haven’t eaten a proper meal for days. Belle took a piece of tissue paper and wiped his mouth gently. She was filled with concern.

“Yes. Calvin nodded. “”Thank you, honey.”””

Both of them chatted as they burst into laughter. They only had eyes for each other and they had completely forgotten about their current predicament.

Chapter 439

Their laughter and chatter could be heard from time to time. Sergio was in the office next to theirs. He was smoldered with resentment as they were apparently enjoying each other’s company.

“Despite their predicament, they were laughing very happily. It was as if they were on cloud nine. ”

Great. Laugh while you can. You guys would not feel like laughing anymore soon. He thought angrily.

The muscles along his jaw clenched and his eyes glowed with savagery.

“Although they were under immense pressure, he did not catch sight of them being in distress or agony. They were as affectionate as ever to each other and disregarded everyone else. ”

“At this moment, he was suddenly filled with a sense of emptiness and loneliness. Nothing could make him feel better. For the first time in his life, he realized that life wasn’t just about politics, power, and profits. There was something much more precious. Something which he never had before.”

“After lunch, Belle packed up the stuff. Calvin followed her, wanting to help her wash the dishes. ”

“There’s no need to help me. This is my duty as your wife. You don’t have to help me. Belle pushed him away, but Calvin hugged her from behind, as he placed his head on her shoulders. ”

“Belle, if something happens to me in the future, remember what I have said. Raise Jerry well and live on, Calvin said softly as he tightened his embrace around her.”

“Belle’s body became stiff, and her arms trembled violently. She stood up abruptly. ”

“Calvin, what do you mean by this? Let me tell you. This will not happen. I won’t allow it to happen. Besides, I have already said it before. I can’t support the family and lead the company alone. Don’t spout

nonsense in the future. I don't want to hear it again. Belle pushed him away and looked straight into his eyes. Her face had turned pale with fear. "

"Calvin looked at her and felt a pang in his heart. However, he assumed an air of nonchalance and chuckled as he caressed her smooth hair. ""Foolish girl. I'm just joking around. Look at you. You look like I have just bullied you. Why are you so cute?"" "

"However, Belle did not believe him anymore and stared at him with tears brimming in her eyes. "

"Do you know something that I don't? Or is your sixth sense hinting at something? She stepped forward and pointed at his chest. ""Let me tell you. You better not hide anything from me. I want to know everything. We are now husband and wife. I have the right to know the truth. We will face the challenges ahead together. Don't you dare keep it a secret from me, do you understand? I won't allow it."" "

"As she spoke, tears coursed down her cheeks and she was choked by the sobs. "

"Glancing at the tears streaming down her cheeks, Calvin's heart only felt pain for her. He was filled with anguish. With a heavy heart, he stretched out his hands to pull her into his arms. "

"Belle, this is life. It will not always be perfect and smooth. I will try my best to give you and Jenny a comfortable and happy life. However, life is unpredictable. Anything can happen in the future. The reason I'm telling you this is just to remind you that anything can happen anytime, and we must always be prepared for the worst. Do you understand? he whispered in her ears and explained everything in detail."

"However, his words had only filled Belle with distress. She recalled Jerry wailing in anguish at home and her heart ached terribly. She clung onto his suit with all her might, until her knuckles turned green, as if she was afraid that she would lose him. "

"Calvin couldn't help but to lower his head to kiss her, from her lips to her cheeks. He kissed away her tears and in the end, it seemed as if both of them were crying at the same time. The tears tasted salty and bitter. "

"That night, both of them hugged each other to sleep in Calvin's suite. They were locked in an embrace as they revealed what was on their mind, until the two of them were exhausted, before finally falling into a slumber. "

"That night, Belle had a selfish thought. She would rather give up her life of luxury and her social status as part of a rich and prestigious family, for a poor yet normal life, just like all the other average families in the world. A normal life where the husband and wife loved each other and cared for one another. A normal life where there weren't so many responsibilities and pressure. She just wanted to raise Jerry well and live a happy life, with the two of them. "

"Alas, it was impossible. How could it be possible? "

Their fates had been determined long ago.

The Harvey Group had been in the industry's spotlight and many considered them as a threat. There would always be people who wished to destroy them.

Belle's eyes were red and swollen when she woke up the next day.

"The moment she opened her eyes, she realized that the space next to her was empty. Calvin had already awakened and she was not aware of it. "

"Once she was done cleaning up, the other staff arrived at the company, one after another."

"Upon returning to her office, Yuri, the secretary, brought her some breakfast. She nibbled on the sandwich but she barely had any appetite. She sat there in a daze as she stared blankly ahead. "

"Calvin was nowhere to be seen. She had no idea where he was. He had not left his office for days. Hence, he had probably gone out."

"Ever since Sergio arrived at the company with his team, all the cars produced by the company had been recalled from the market. As a result, some employees in the other industries had begun to lose confidence in the company. Calvin had been busy gaining their trust, while cooperating with Sergio's investigation. "

Belle sat in her office as she dealt with the company's internal affairs. She also took up some tasks regarding the other industries to reduce the burden on Calvin.

"After signing a few documents and looking through a few reports, she caught a glimpse of Sergio's tall figure entering her office."

Belle nodded to him politely and continued with her tasks.

"Belle, where did Calvin go? Sergio walked in and asked with a serious expression. "

"Belle raised her eyebrows and made an expression indicating that she had no idea where he was. She said indifferently, ""Mr. Xanthe, Mr. Harvey had been cooperating with you for the past few days. I don't think he has to report to you whenever he goes to the toilet or changes his clothes."" "

She put on an air of indifference. She did not smile at all and she seemed very cold and distant.

"Sergio glanced at her. Her face was pale, and her eyes were red and swollen. However, she remained focused as she looked through the reports meticulously. She had been in this state for the past few days. As Calvin was busy cooperating with them for the investigation, she had taken up the responsibility of overseeing the internal affairs in the company, and had done a splendid job. Hence, the company was still running smoothly despite the circumstances. "

"Perhaps he was moved by the fierce determination on her face, Sergio sat on the couch and asked gently, ""Belle, you must loathe me. Am I right? But please understand, this is my job. I have no choice. I have received orders from my superiors. Hence, I have to conduct this investigation. Please understand."" "

"Upon finishing his sentence, he sighed. ""Back then, you insisted on returning to Calvin's side. Hence, there's no other way around. Back then, you could have chosen not to return and you would not be forced to bear these responsibilities now if you had done so. However, you were insistent and chose to return, despite the risks. What a shame."" "

“Upon hearing what he had said, Belle furrowed her brows and raised her head, looking very puzzled and serious.”

“Sergio, you’re wrong. I chose Calvin because I love him. Hence, it’s my responsibility to face these challenges as well. I followed him back to Harvey Group and accepted his love. Therefore, I will be strong and stay by his side during these difficult times. I don’t regret it. I believe that we will overcome the crisis. After all, justice will prevail. The Harvey Group has never done anything against the interests of the nation. I believe that soon, the truth will come to light.”

She spoke frankly in a righteous manner. Sergio was flushed with embarrassment and felt pretty awkward. He could only smile feebly as he nodded in agreement.

“Belle looked very solemn as she said earnestly, ““Mr. Xanthe, I have never blamed you. It’s your job and you have no choice but to carry it out. We do understand. However, we hope that you can remain fair and square when you investigate the matter and prove our innocence.”””

Sergio smiled and nodded. “Don’t worry. I’ve been working hard for the past few days so that I can prove your innocence. I don’t believe as well that your company would be involved in something like this.”

“Belle was grateful and said in a low voice, ““Thank you.”””

Belle! Belle! They heard the sound of approaching footsteps. A bright and clear voice rang. There was a hint of concern in the voice.

Belle was startled.

Why was the voice so familiar?

She didn’t have time to react.

A young and pretty woman dashed into the office.

“Belle, how’s the company right now? Rosa rushed into the office. Upon seeing Belle sitting at her desk, looking very distraught and serious, she was instantly filled with concern. Belle was normally optimistic and carefree. Judging from her expression, the company had faced an immense crisis.”

“Rosa, why are you here? It wasn’t until Rosa held her hand that Belle came to her senses and exclaimed in surprise.”

“Belle, I told you yesterday that I will come over. Rosa sulked. ““Belle, the Harvey Group is in trouble, yet you did not even bother to tell me. How cruel! If I hadn’t seen the news in the newspaper, I would probably be in the dark till goodness knows when.”” ”

Rosa complained. There was a look of concern on her face.

“Belle was moved at that instant. Rosa was such a sweet, young lady. She returned to the country right away, upon hearing that something had happened to the Harvey Group. She thought that she was just joking when she mentioned it the day before. However, to her surprise, Rosa came right away. She was so touched that she did not know what to say. ”

Rosa didn't care what she was thinking. She was about to fling her bag onto the couch when she noticed a handsome man sitting on the couch as she turned around. He had an elegant demeanor and he was looking at her with his amber eyes. Rosa was dumbfounded.

"Who is he? Rosa had not returned to the country for a long time. She was used to being straightforward and always spoke what was on her mind. Hence, she inquired right away when she was uncertain about the man's identity."

"Oh, Rosa, this is Sergio. You can call him Mr. Xanthe. Belle stood up immediately and introduced him. "

Chapter 440

So you are Sergio? Rosa was extremely shocked. She looked at Sergio in disbelief.

"Her father, General Perry had called her numerous times, saying that the Xanthe family would love to have her as their daughter-in-law. He asked about her opinion regarding the matter. Rosa was in no mood to think about marriage. Hence, she grew evasive and tried to avoid his calls as much as possible."

"To be honest, although she lived in Capital City, she had never seen him before, as Sergio was mostly in the army. However, she had heard that he was very good-looking and talented, which was why her father agreed to the marriage. However, she was not interested in him. "

"She was surprised to see him over here even though she had no feelings for him. Hence, she widened her eyes in disbelief as she examined him from top to bottom. "

Are you Miss Rosa? Sergio stood up and smiled at her politely.

"Yes. Rosa sized him up for a while. Once she confirmed her first impression of him, she gave him a nod and answered his question. "

"Both of them were well aware of the arranged marriage proposal. Rosa disregarded him and spun around as she flashed Belle a smile. ""I haven't gotten the chance to see Jerry. You must bring me over to Fragrance Garden to meet him. By the way, how's Grandma?"" "

"Grandma? Belle's smile was strained. However, she did not say anything and just gave her a nod. "

"Belle, how's the situation right now with the cars? Have you guys found out the cause? The cars are popular in the market and the future is full of potential. Why would something like this occur? There's definitely a misunderstanding, Rosa asked in puzzlement. ""It must be a scheme. Someone wishes to destroy you. They must be jealous of your sales. You must investigate the matter thoroughly. We cannot let the matter slide so easily."" "

Yes. Belle nodded in agreement.

"Don't worry, Belle. If anyone dares to ruin the Harvey Group, they must do so over my dead body. I will investigate the matter as well and find the culprit. so that they will be brought into custody. Belle, rest assured, as long as I'm here, I will not allow anything to happen to the Harvey Group. From what Rosa recalled, the Harvey Group had always been very powerful. A crisis as severe as this had never occurred before. She couldn't accept it and she trusted them completely. All she wanted to do was to try her best to protect the people whom she considered to be her family. "

“What she said prompted Sergio, who was standing by, to furrow his brows. ”

“Rosa was acting so childish. Besides, what did the crisis faced by the Harvey Group have to do with her? Why was she so agitated?”

His expression darkened and he examined her.

“Belle noticed his expression and understood immediately what he was thinking. She took Rosa’s hand in hers and said with a smile, ““Rosa, I’m so delighted that you could come over. We can talk about it later. Let me take you to Harvey Manor.””

“Belle, there’s no need to rush. I’m worried about the Harvey Group. The cars designed by the company are so attractive and practical. It’s a shame that they have been recalled from the market. I believe that the Harvey Group is not foolish enough to leak the nation’s top secrets. We must investigate the matter thoroughly. Before getting to the bottom of the mystery, I don’t wish to return to Harvey Manor, Rosa said through clenched teeth. Seeing Belle and her swollen eyes made her very anxious. She was in no mood to return to the Harvey Manor. All she wished was to find the culprit. ”

“Belle’s heart sank and she glanced at Sergio, who was standing at the side. ”

“At this moment, Sergio had already turned around as he slowly sat on the couch. He leaned against the couch and frowned. He did not seem to be in a good mood. ”

“Belle was worried that Rosa would provoke Sergio further with her words. Hence, she wanted to pull her out of the office. ”

“Ms. Morris, you and your company are under my team’s supervision currently. We have the right to know everything that you are doing and you are not supposed to leave our sight. I hope that you can cooperate with us as well. Upon seeing that Belle was about to leave with Rosa, Sergio reminded her. ”

“Upon hearing what he said, Rosa understood at once that Sergio was here because of the crisis that had occurred to the Harvey Group. His tone was far from friendly. Fuming mad, Rosa spun around and sneered as she said sardonically, ““Oh, it looks like Mr. Xanthe is here to investigate the matter. I was wondering why you suddenly appeared. It looks like you are actively taking part in ruining the Harvey Group’s car business.”” ”

What Rosa said triggered Sergio and his anger spiked. His mouth formed into an unpleasant twist as his jaw clenched.

What did she mean when she said that he had ruined the Harvey Group? It would ruin his reputation if anyone were to hear it.

“However, he remembered that Yadriel had gone to meet General Perry to arrange for their marriage. Hence, he could not afford to offend her right then. The thought crossed his mind and he slowly calmed down. ”

“Rosa, the incident that the Harvey Group has been involved in is too complicated. You are just an outsider. You don’t understand what’s going on. You shouldn’t intervene in this matter. What about this? We knew each other when we were kids. Although we were busy with our respective careers ever since we have grown up and have not met each other for a long time, fate had brought us together,

which was why we met today. Why don't I take you on a stroll around A City. What do you think? He stood up and said earnestly. He really wished that Rosa would not intervene in the matter, as it had nothing to do with her and she would only make it more complicated. After all, he wished to gain General Perry's approval and offending him was the last thing on his mind."

"To his dismay, Rosa's expression darkened upon hearing what he had said and she said firmly, "I don't care. I'm going to intervene in this incident. The Perry family and the Harvey family have known each other for generations. We are well aware of their backgrounds. Now that they are in trouble, we will not just sit back and watch. As for you, how can you be gloating over the misfortunes of the Harvey Group? You even demanded that Belle ask for your approval before going out. You are just here to make their lives difficult."" "

"Rosa, you're a lady from a prestigious family. How can you be so rude? We are just public officials carrying out our superiors' orders. I hope that you can understand our predicament. Sergio furrowed his brows and there was a look of displeasure on his face. However, he forced himself to calm down as he explained to her patiently. "

"I don't care who you are, whether you are a public official or a superior. I only believe what I see. There are not many large-scale companies such as Harvey Group in the country. Their contribution to the country is not any less than politicians like you. How can you come over here and blame them without a shred of solid evidence and restrict their freedoms? I don't understand at all. The truth has not been unearthed, yet you already want to imprison them. Rosa had always been fTristaness. Hence, she did not give a d*mn about who Sergio was and snapped. Her aura was overbearing. "

"Sergio's head throbbed. It seemed that Rosa was determined to intervene in this matter. It was bad news for him. After all, General Perry was someone of high importance. He might accidentally offend General Perry and that would be a huge mess. Hence, he could only reply, "Since Miss Rosa has requested for it, I will do you a favor and pretend that I'm not aware of this. However, if anything happens, don't blame me if I act accordingly."" "

"Rosa snorted. Ignoring him, she led Belle out of the office. "

"Upon leaving the company, they headed straight for Harvey Manor. "

"Belle, how could things become so serious? Rosa pondered the matter in the car. However, she could not wrap her head around it. Hence, she asked her dejectedly. "

"Belle was also feeling pretty upset as she drove on. She sighed in exasperation and responded, "I have no idea as well. But now that we are in the wrong, there's nothing we can do."" "

"Sigh, there are so many wicked people in the world. I bet someone is scheming this to ruin the two of you. Don't worry, I will keep you company. With me over here, I believe that you guys will not suffer as much, she said sternly, patting her chest. "

"Belle's heart was filled with warmth. She smiled and said, "Thank you, Rosa. My heart is much more at ease after hearing what you have said."" "

"She never expected Rosa to be so kind-hearted. In all honesty, what happened to the Harvey Group had nothing to do with her. However, she called her right away upon receiving the news and gave her

some form of comfort. Besides, she even came over herself. Her genuine concern and kindness had really touched Belle.”

“Alas, I don’t know how much help I will be, as I feel that the company is in a pretty serious predicament. I really hope that the Harvey Group can survive it. Rosa was extremely worried.”

Belle was in distress as well.

I heard that Grandma’s health has deteriorated. Is this true? Rosa asked right away.

“Belle’s hand, which was maneuvering the steering wheel, quivered slightly. Her face grew pale and her eyelids drooped.”

“Yes, Rosa. Grandma hasn’t been well lately. Besides, at her age...”

She did not explain further. There was a hint of anguish in her tone and she stared blankly ahead.

Rosa understood at once what she meant and her heart sank.

Both of them did not speak any further throughout the journey. The atmosphere in the car was heavy.

“Upon returning to the Harvey Group, Rosa recalled what happened back then, during the New Year’s Eve banquet. She was filled with mixed feelings as she reminisced about the past. For reasons unknown, she did not hesitate at all to return when she heard that the Harvey Group was in trouble. She just wished to help them.”

“When she stepped into Harvey Manor, she realized immediately why she was so eager to return. She missed this place. When she was just a kid, she would come over for summer vacation every year. She had created wonderful memories with Sophia. In addition to that, she feared that such a beautiful place would be destroyed or damaged. If the Harvey Group was to fall, would they be able to maintain Harvey Manor?”

She had no idea.

“Meanwhile, in the Ink Garden, upon receiving treatment by the team of experts, Sophia’s condition had improved slightly. However, it was not obvious. When Rosa entered the room with Belle, she saw Sophia lying on the bed with her eyes closed, looking very emaciated and her face was ashen grey. She looked so different, nothing like before.”

“At the first glance, Rosa’s eyes turned red and tears flowed down her cheeks.”

“Grandma, I’m here to see you. She bent down and shouted into Sophia’s ears. Sophia was not asleep as her eyelashes were quivering slightly.”

“Upon hearing her voice, Sophia snapped her eyes open as she looked at Rosa in confusion. After a while, her face lit up with joy.”