

## Chapter 1069 A Frank Conversation

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Marco picked up on Loraine's mood and grew anxious. He had hurried to her side as soon as Qbot alerted him.

He was clueless about what Loraine had just been through or why she seemed so upset.

However, it was clear to him that she was unhappy, prompting him to choose his words carefully.

Thus, Marco decided to be completely open and thought hard about any details regarding Harold. He cautiously said, "I'm familiar with Harold and Integrity Materials. The Solar Company might have had some dealings with them in the past, which you could call a cooperation."

Loraine's gaze on Marco was filled with mixed feelings. If Harold's claims were true, was Marco deceiving her again?

But Marco was quite the actor. He had misled her several times before, only coming clean when he could no longer keep things hidden.

His concern seemed so heartfelt, and his distressed look was so convincing that she struggled to tell if it was genuine or just for show.

She couldn't figure out if those people had falsely accused Marco, or if Marco's acting was so convincing that he had fooled her again.

The recent revelation of the contract and Harold's confident

claim to have proof of a transaction from the Solar Company deeply troubled her.

Even if Marco was typically oblivious, he could tell Loraine's distress was more than simple unhappiness. Despite not knowing the specifics, he earnestly took her hand and promised, saying, "I've told you I won't keep secrets anymore. Ask me anything, and I'll tell you everything."

Loraine hesitated, then looked at him and asked, "How did you know I was in trouble?"

He showed up right on time, almost like he had planned the whole thing, just waiting to be the hero and help her out.

Marco pulled out his phone and sincerely showed it to her.

"Qbot might have set up a listening device on your phone without my instruction. It let me know you were in trouble, so I hurried here."

Qbot displayed a pitiful emoji on the screen, adding, "Mommy, I was just concerned for your safety, not trying to invade your privacy!"

Taken aback by the revelation and noticing the sweat on Marco's brow, Loraine felt a wave of guilt and opened up about everything Harold had told her earlier.

As Marco listened, his expression darkened, his grip on Loraine's hand tightening unconsciously until she winced, prompting him to let go. Then he looked at her sorrowfully and asked, "So you believe him?"

Feeling guilty, Loraine muttered, "He claims he has proof of a transaction from the Solar Company..."

Marco scoffed, his eyes narrowing as he said, "First, someone messed with the contract, then there were bribes flying around."

It looks like my patience has grown a lot in the past two years, leaving some people with the wrong idea."

He gave Loraine's hand a reassuring pat, then promptly got in touch with Carl right in front of her, telling him to look into the matter thoroughly.

After issuing these orders, he adopted a pitiful look and lamented, "If I had wanted to keep you at home, I wouldn't have wasted those three years."

Then he laughed and said, "And why would I accept such a minor profit at the expense of a major loss? Ignoring the major projects like the amusement park project to chase after smaller ventures? Even a hundred smaller projects wouldn't amount to the value of one of those larger projects."

Loraine's shame deepened as she realized her emotions had clouded her judgment, almost leading her to react impulsively to a simple bait.

Seeing her discomfort, Marco couldn't stand to see her upset any longer. He gently kissed her, murmuring, "It's alright. Trust builds over time. You've been patient with me. Now I need to be patient with you."

As they shared this intimate moment, Carl called with an update, saying, "Mr. Bryant, I spoke with the project team blocking the Universe Group's project. They claimed they were acting on orders from above. But neither you nor the secretary's office gave such orders."

Upon hearing this, Marco's face hardened, and he instructed, "Keep digging, find a way to fix this, and determine who is pulling strings from the shadows!"

Carl nodded right away, and Marco didn't avoid talking to Loraine about these things.

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After hearing the entire conversation, Loraine frowned and speculated. "Someone who can tamper with the contract and do it unnoticed must be in a high position at the Solar Company, right?"

A sense of dread washed over Marco, and he gestured for her to go on. She looked at him with uncertainty and said, "Could there be a traitor among the executives at the Solar Company?"



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## Chapter 1070 Doris ' Wrongdoing

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Marco fell silent at the words, thinking about the comments the Bryant family members had once made about him.

They were a foolish bunch, but their words were right on the mark. However ruthless and untouchable he appeared on the outside, he was as emotional within. All of it was true.

At this moment, Qbot was on his phone, and although there were no cameras in his office, Marco knew that Qbot had eyes on other electronic devices.

He could ask Qbot to release the surveillance footage to find out who had done it.

But he hesitated.

The Solar Company had a simple organizational hierarchy. The executives with access to this level were all people like Doris and Sullivan, who had helped him since he was young and fought with him to build the company.

These people were more like partners to him than subordinates. It would be inconceivable for anyone among them to betray him.

He remained silent for a long time before saying, "The Solar Company is different. I hold majority of the shares, which fundamentally eliminates the possibility of turbulence among other shareholders like what happened with the Bryant Group in the past. Besides, there are only a handful of executives— all of whom are people I trust. I can't believe someone from them would be capable of doing such a thing."

Lorraine sighed, thinking that it was precisely because she knew this that Harold's words had shaken her.

But now that she was sure it wasn't Marco, there was only one remaining possibility.

She whispered, "You know, if I hadn't experienced it myself, I never would have believed that Cayson could harm me."

Circumstances sometimes change people in ways they never imagine, and the same choice could hold a different weight for different people.

Marco understood what had remained unsaid and nodded. The voice that came from him was cold as he said, "I'll take care of it."

Betrayal tasted like acid on his tongue. Lorraine had been in Marco's place once, and she understood how it felt. She said nothing more, knowing nothing she said could assuage his anguish.

That evening, Marco stared at the surveillance records sent by Qbot for a long time without opening them. After a while, he exited the page and opened his contacts, proceeding to dial an overseas number.

The call connected quickly, and a man's exhausted voice came through. "Boss, are you not sleeping at this hour? I'm still at work. What can I do for you?"

Marco said icily, "The Solar Company has been a bit of a mess recently, and I'm investigating."

On the other end of the line was one of his early partners, Phil. Upon hearing what Marco said, Phil said dramatically, "Come on, I've been as busy as a bee every day since Doris was transferred back. You're not suspecting me, are you?"

Marco inwardly sneered. At the mention of Doris, he felt coldness creep into his chest. "Has Doris been in touch with you recently?"

"Yes, actually. She was complaining about how you can live a carefree life enjoying your romance. Marco, if you have that much free time, why not just go here and help me?"

At that, Marcus hung up.

He scrolled through his contacts and stopped at Doris's number.

After some contemplation, all clues pointed to her. She had the biggest motive among everyone.

Marcus was aware of Doris's feelings for him, and he knew that she had been long dissatisfied with his concessions to the Universe Group.

But a part of him didn't want to believe that Doris would cross the line like that and tamper with the contract. Once the contract was involved, there was no way he could look past it even for the sake of their friendship.

He had meant to call her next, but his finger slipped and he dialed Sullivan's number instead. Marco got straight to the point. "I remember leaving you alone in the CEO's office that day. Did you see Doris after I left?"

Sullivan sounded surprised. "How did you know I met her?"

He continued in a confused voice, "That day, I was in a hurry to have dinner with my team members and bumped into her. She said she had something to discuss with you but couldn't find you. Why? What's going on?"

"Nothing," Marco answered flatly.

He hung up, then finally opened the video sent by Qbot.

The footage showed Sullivan hurriedly leaving the office and carelessly forgetting to close the door.

Shortly after, Doris walked inside, pulling out the contract from his desk. Taking out another file, she took the office seal and stamped it, then placed it back on his desk.

Beneath Marcos' icy expression, a storm of emotions was brewing—disappointment and rage swirling into a tempest.

He had repeatedly reminded Doris to keep appropriate boundaries, but his lenience only seemed to embolden her. Now, she had even gone as far as using his official seal without his approval.

Qbot popped up again, proudly declaring, "Dad, I also saw this bad woman modifying the company's surveillance records. She deleted the part where she went to the CEO's office!"

Marco muttered an acknowledgment, his eyes gradually turning cold.

