## Chapter 26 Damning Evidence

Keely shivered in Marco's arms and her face turned paler.

"I'm not pulling another stunt. I know that I wronged you, Loraine. But please don't accuse falsely."

Marco soon got over the shock. He looked up at Loraine and warned her. "Don't go too far, Loraine."

Loraine couldn't help but chuckle when she saw that history was repeating itself.

For what seemed like the thousandth time, she regretted falling in love with this man who made her suffer for three long years.

However, she was thankful that she finally got out of that bondage.

Loraine was disgusted by the sight of Marco's face. She glared at Keely instead.

"I have to hand it to you, Keely. You are very smart. Any time you want to set me up, you always find a blind spot so surveillance footage can't be used against you. But I won't walk into your trap this time!"

With these words, Loraine flipped her hair back.
A microphone that was pinned to her gown was revealed.

She took it off and held it up for all to see.

"This little thing right here has a good recording function. Would you like to hear what it has recorded?"

Horror was written all over Keely's face. A trace of panic flashed through her eyes.

Not to give herself away, she tried to calm down.

Perhaps Loraine was trying to play a fast one on her. She decided not to panic just yet.

Keely continued putting on an act. "I don't know what you are talking about..."

She refused to accept that the game was up. In her opinion, Loraine was only trying to trick her into coming clean.

With a smile, Loraine said, "Not to worry, you will soon know what I'm talking about. I brought this microphone for my speech on stage. But it came in handy by recording a good show. I will liven up the atmosphere now. Prepare to be entertained, everyone!"

Loraine handed the microphone over to Cayson.

Without being told, Cayson knew exactly what to do.

Keely's eyelid twitched at this moment. Panic set in all over again.

She muttered guiltily, "Well, I... I'm not seriously injured. Marco, don't blame Loraine. Just let her go, okay?"

Marco knitted his eyebrows. Something smelled fishy.

"It doesn't matter if you don't want me to be held accountable. As for me, I won't let this slide!"

Loraine was ready to go all out.

She wanted to have her revenge tonight.

As Keely was shaking like a leaf, Cayson ordered one of the media staff to connect the microphone to the speaker.

The next moment, Keely's sharp voice was heard by everyone in the banquet hall.

"Loraine, you bitch! It's all because of you! My life will be just perfect if you disappear from this world!"

Those vicious words completely tore apart the hypocritical mask that Keely had worn for many years, revealing how rotten she truly was.

The mouths of all the guests were agape for a handful of seconds. They soon began to speak about how cunning Keely was.

"Wow! She's such a big liar! She almost fooled me just now."

"I guess you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. Although Keely looks so innocent, she's actually vicious. My goodness!"

"You are right. She must have fallen down the stairs just to set Loraine up. She's so despicable. Loraine is a strong woman. If I were in her shoes, I wouldn't be able to defeat my husband's mistress."

The new revelation made Marco livid. "Keely, is this your so-called apology?"

"No, it's not like that, Marco. Please let me explain..."

Before Keely could finish speaking, Marco threw her to the floor.

"Ouch! It hurts!"

Keely screamed in pain when her body crashed to the floor. The crash hurt her wound again.

She was indeed in pain this time around.

However, no one believed her.

Marco also thought she was putting up an act. He looked down at her with sheer disdain.

"I have had it up to here with you, Keely. This is the second time you lied to me!" 6

Keely's heart pounded against her chest at this time.

Despite the pain she was in, she hurriedly stood up and held Marco's sleeve. "I didn't lie to you, Marco. I never said Loraine pushed me. All this is just one big misunderstanding."

As Keely spoke, she coughed uncontrollably. Her face turned scarlet.

"Honestly, I went to apologize to Loraine. But my pleas fell on deaf ears. I was anxious for her to forgive me. You know that I'm not in good health. I slipped and fell down the stairs by accident. I'm not lying, nor trying to frame Loraine. You have to believe me, Marco!"

Loraine rolled her eyes. What a shameless liar Keely was!

She was still defending herself despite the damning evidence against her.

Loraine felt that Marco would probably turn a blind eye to the evidence.

After all, he always did that in the past.

Loraine was fed up with watching the two. She was in no mood to give her speech anymore. After whispering a few words to Cayson, she turned around and left elegantly.

Marco's heart sank when he saw this. He moved forward, intending to run after her.

"Marco! Please don't leave me here!" Keely held on to him. "Remember your promise to Jorge."

Marco stopped dead in his tracks abruptly.

Keely's eyes lit up with hope.

To her greatest dismay, Marco grabbed her hand and pulled away from her. He then ordered his bodyguards, "Take her to the hospital."

The next second, he hurriedly went after Loraine.

## Chapter 27 Competition

"Loraine, wait!"

Marco followed Loraine out of the manor.

He quickly caught up with her.

However, just as Marco was about to grab her hand, Cayson stood in front of him, blocking his way.

"Get away from her!" Marco said through gritted teeth. "I need to talk to Loraine."

"Lorrie isn't interested in talking with you now." Cayson didn't budge.

Marco turned to look at Loraine, but she walked away, not bothering to look back as if she had nothing to do with him.

A weight settled in Marco's heart.

But part of him reminded him that he had no right to be angry.

It was his fault this time. He had suspected Loraine again before knowing the truth.

Marco wanted to apologize but couldn't utter a word when Cayson was with her.

"I will make it up to you, Loraine."

Loraine seemed to walk faster with every word he uttered as if she couldn't wait to get rid of him.

After what happened today, Marco realized Loraine didn't want his money.

Just as he thought about it, Loraine walked away.

"Loraine, join Bryant Group," Marco shouted after her. "It will be a better opportunity for you and your career development."

Loraine stopped in her tracks when she heard that.

Marco's eyes lit up. "Don't stay in Universe Group and waste your talent. I can give you the most important project of Bryant Group. The value of the project is at least one thousand times the total value of the resort and the amusement park projects you've been working on. You will be a part of the national architectural circle if you work on this project."

Cayson was a good-tempered man. However, his face darkened with rage when he heard that.

Loraine slowly turned around.

She always liked challenges.

Marco was desperate to get Loraine to forgive her. He was willing to offer her a tempting opportunity.

However, Loraine wouldn't give him what he wanted.

"Look, Marco. I don't need your charity. I will get what I want with my potential."

Loraine's face glowed in stark contrast to the dark night.

Marco looked at her and took a deep breath. His eyes gleamed with astonishment.

The woman in front of him was beautiful and feisty, unlike his once-silent wife. She was dashing, and Marco couldn't take his eyes off her.

However, he remembered Loraine was no longer his wife.

Marco had no right to stop her. Therefore, he watched her leave with Cayson in his car.

He stood there with a heavy heart as the car disappeared out of his sight.

Loraine looked out of the window without uttering a word.

Cayson knew she was interested in the project Marco had mentioned earlier. "Lorrie, the project Marco had mentioned is a smart city construction plan for Vagow. It is the biggest and most crucial project in the architectural industry this year. Vagow's government desires to build a smart technology city complex. They want to build a school, a hospital, a police station, a fire station, a cultural center, etc..."

"It sounds like a good project, but Bryant Group has acquired it." Loraine pouted.

Cayson shook his head. "They haven't signed the project yet. Vagow's government is holding public bidding for the design plan. Universe Group is also striving to acquire it."

Loraine's face lit up.

She was glad to hear Marco hadn't acquired such a profitable project yet.

"Do we still have a chance to win this big project from Bryant Group?"

"It's not that easy." Cayson shook his head, smiling bitterly. "Bryant Group has always been diligent about research and is backed by high-tech equipment. They have ample experience in building design and intelligent AI systems. Besides, they have already collaborated with Vagow's government on smart construction

projects. They have the upper hand in this project."

"Wow! It sounds more challenging than I imagined." Loraine's excitement reached its peak. "I have never been afraid of anyone in the architectural industry."

Cayson's face softened. His eyes gleamed with admiration when he saw Loraine's confidence.

"All right, Lorrie. Do what you like. Universe Group and I will always support you."

But things were not that simple.

Bryant Group's progress had surpassed that of Universe Group.

At Bryant Group building's conference room, Marco sat in the main seat with a grumpy look. "How is the construction plan of the smart city going?"

"We have submitted our plan to the government," replied Nichol Shaw, the project manager. "Well, they have suggested some improvisation, and we're revising it accordingly. They'll soon sign the contract."

Marco nodded with satisfaction. "Good. Keep going."

He wanted to prove to Loraine that Universe

Group was no match for Bryant Group.

He wanted to make her regret choosing Universe Group and Cayson.