

Chapter 443 Pests

What did Marco imply?

Loraine gazed at him, perplexed.

Marco remained silent, holding her hand in his larger one and massaging it gently. As her cheeks flushed, she was about to retract her hand, but Marco had already released his grip.

His warmth lingered in her palm, making Loraine purse her lips. Had he already devised a solution?

Davy was unaware of their secretive hand-holding. Marco appeared quite tranquil. He turned to Davy and asked with a smile, "Are you ready to concede so effortlessly?"

Davy picked up his glass of water, skillfully evading Marco's question with a sip.

Marco, unfazed, continued in a hushed tone, "To be candid with you, Davy, I commissioned an investigation into the Telan Technology Company the moment trouble arose. It appears there were significant stock fluctuations and numerous concealed financial issues before they severed ties with the Cheap and Fine Group."

Davy ceased his drinking mid-gulp, his eyes dimming with surprise at Marco's acute insight.

He wasn't oblivious to the issue, but initiating an investigation after recognizing the pivotal point would consume some time.

Little did he expect that Marco, an external party to the Cheap and Fine Group, would be able to identify the core issue so swiftly!

The following moment, Marco relayed a suggestive remark to Davy, "If there's an infestation, it's imperative to apply pesticide timely. Do not let the pests proliferate simply because there are too many."

Davy was taken aback. Those shareholders had brazenly threatened him using the Telan Technology Company. If he succumbed to them now, wouldn't this become a routine strategy for the board of directors in the future?

Marco's words offered Davy an epiphany. Feeling fortunate, he raised his glass to toast Marco and Loraine.

"Marco is correct! I'm privileged to have you both as partners. Hahaha! "

Loraine glanced at Marco. As their eyes met, she exhaled a sigh of relief.

No wonder Marco assured her not to worry. He had already figured it out.

Davy added, "Rest assured. I'll return soon to handle the project and exterminate those pests! Humph, those old fellows have been living comfortably for too long. They've lost sight of who they are. They're not going to have an easy time taking advantage of me! "

Loraine nodded in agreement and replied with a smile, "Then we anticipate your triumphant return."

In fact, resolving such a matter wasn't that simple. As the newly appointed CEO of the Universe Group, it was usual



for Loraine to face opposition. Davy, who had been in charge for so long, still encountered challenges. It wouldn't be an easy task for him to deal with those dissenting shareholders.

Loraine remained somewhat concerned. She paused momentarily before adding, "If you need the Universe Group, just let me know. We'll assist in any way we can."

Hearing this, Marco too nodded and suggested, "If you're still interested in pursuing the overseas technology project, consider ditching the Telan Technology Company and reaching out to Solar Company instead."

Davy was taken aback, his mind a whirlwind, before he shook his head, a rueful smile playing on his lips.

"Had I not known that you were a man of serious nature, I might have thought you were pulling my leg," Davy sighed, "That's the famed Solar Company. Sure, the Cheap and Fine Group ranks among the global top five hundred companies, but it's hardly in the same league as the Solar Company. We'd jump at the chance to team up with them, but it's not as simple as that."

Marco kept his poker face, retorting, "How will you know unless you give it a shot? The Solar Company might just offer you an opportunity."

Davy, swayed by Marco's confidence, found his skepticism melting away. He nodded gravely. "Really? I appreciate it."

As their conversation wound down, night had already fallen. Davy made the first move to exit. Loraine, keen to avoid the discomfort of a solo encounter with Marco, swiftly got up and left the private room. Marco immediately followed her.

Their vehicles were stationed in the subterranean parking.



The ride to the garage in the elevator was filled with silence; neither Loraine nor Marco exchanged words.

Loraine cast a covert, questioning glance at Marco, assessing him from head to toe.

Upon reaching the parking area, Marco chuckled softly, "What's on your mind?"

Loraine shrugged off any embarrassment, "I'm curious, how did you figure out that Davy might have a chance with Solar Company? Are you privy to insider information about the Solar Company?"

Marco barely lifted his gaze, his demeanor unruffled. "I wouldn't say I'm an expert. I just have a few acquaintances there who might offer him an alternative path."

Loraine, her eyes narrowing in a smirk, teased, "So, you've even networked with influential people in the Solar Company. You've had your sights set on the international market for quite some time, haven't you?"

Marco's tense features eased into a relaxed nod.

With an air of confidence, Loraine declared, "Just you wait. The Universe Group will soon catch up to the Bryant Group!"

As Loraine was envisioning an ambitious market expansion plan, Marco's voice drifted into her thoughts.

"I'll be right here waiting." He flashed a smile at her, "I've always had faith that we'll achieve greatness together."

Loraine was taken aback by his words.

Suddenly, a car came hurtling directly towards Loraine!

Chapter 444 Guide Me

A car was on the verge of hitting Loraine.

From his peripheral vision, Marco spotted the imminent danger. His expression underwent a drastic change, and he exclaimed, "Watch out!"

Reacting swiftly, he pulled Loraine into his arms and stepped back.

In an instant, the car abruptly applied the brakes, causing the tires to screech against the ground, emitting a jarring sound of friction.

With Loraine held tightly in his arms, Marco stood just a step away from the car. They narrowly escaped being hit by the car!

His muscular arms tensed, and his jaw tightened. He clutched her firmly, gasping for breath.

Oddly enough, he seemed more frightened than Loraine, as if he were the one who had nearly been hit.

Loraine, in fact, wasn't overly terrified. Before she could react, Marco whisked her away.

Observing Marco's distress, she hesitated before she patted him on the shoulder.

"Marco, are you all right? Are you injured?"

Slowly loosening his grip, Marco lowered his head and

placed his hands on her shoulders. He glanced at her several times to ensure she wasn't hurt. Then he breathed a sigh of relief, and his tense muscles gradually relaxed.

Witnessing this, Loraine couldn't help but chuckle.

Marco looked puzzled.

Her smile deepened. Who would have expected such a decisive businessman to display such a panicked expression?

Realizing what she found amusing, Marco coughed and released her.

As he prepared to confront the driver, the car door opened.

A man wearing a peaked cap, holding a camera, rushed towards them. He aimed the camera at Loraine's face and asked, "Miss Torres, is it true that the Cheap and Fine Group is pulling out of the collaboration? Are you meeting Mr. Bryant here today to discuss resolving this matter?"

Marco's expression darkened. He positioned himself in front of Loraine and pushed the camera aside. He then asked coldly, "Which media outlet do you represent? How dare you! You nearly hit her just now! I haven't even held you accountable for that yet, but you're asking questions?"

The reporter, driven by the desire to seize a major scoop, had arrived promptly upon discovering their whereabouts. However, he was intimidated by Marco's imposing demeanor and involuntarily shrank back. He stammered, "I'm sorry..."

Loraine, with a serious expression, pulled at Marco's sleeve.

Marco scanned the growing crowd of reporters surrounding

them.

It seemed that they had been targeted.

"We need to leave quickly and avoid getting entangled with them," Loraine said, expressing her worry.

Marco nodded in agreement, taking her hand and guiding her to his car.

That day, after attending the Cruz family exhibition, Loraine drove Marco's car to drop him off and arranged for her car to be towed back.

Surprisingly, her car ended up parked next to Marco's, making it unclear whether it was a coincidence or deliberate.

Without much time to contemplate, Loraine urged Marco, "Let's separate to divert their attention."

A frown formed on Marco's face as he tightly grasped her hand, his determination evident. "No," he asserted stubbornly, "it's too dangerous. I can't allow you to leave my sight!"

Aware of the reporters' willingness to do anything for money, Marco couldn't find peace of mind when he imagined Loraine facing them alone. How could he trust that she would be safe in such a situation?

The reporters closed in, leaving Loraine with no choice but to abandon the argument. She sat in the passenger seat, buckled her seat belt, and urged Marco, "Drive quickly!"

She was determined not to be caught by the reporters.

Without further discussion, Marco nodded and stepped on

the gas, swiftly maneuvering out of the parking lot.

The reporters surrounded them like bothersome flies, attempting to stop their getaway.

Calmly, Marco accelerated methodically, breaking through the crowd and intimidating the reporters into retreating.

After two red lights, they finally managed to elude the persistent reporters.

Relieved after confirming they were no longer being followed, Loraine exhaled deeply. "They can't catch up now. Park the car on the side, and I'll get out."

However, Marco clutched the steering wheel tightly, ignoring her request, and continued driving.

Baffled, Loraine glanced at him suspiciously and repeated her request, "Marco, stop the car. I want to get off!"

Marco turned his head, gazed at her without uttering a word, and accelerated.

Shortly after, the car came to a halt in front of Loraine's upscale apartment where she resided alone.

Loraine fell silent for a moment, shook her head helplessly, and opened the car door.

"Wait a minute." Marco suddenly stopped her. As Loraine turned around, he didn't continue speaking and only stared at her intently without blinking.

He simply didn't want to part ways with Loraine. However, he couldn't find a reason to hold her back.

Loraine sighed, dangling one foot outside the car. She asked,

"What do you want to say? If you don't want to talk, I'll leave."

Marco hesitated, his lips trembling before he said, "Loraine, don't worry. I'll handle the public opinion this time."

This time, Loraine didn't refuse.

Following these incidents, she discovered Marco's efficiency and competence. Despite her previous bias against him, she had to acknowledge his abilities.

With a wry smile, Loraine admitted, "Mr. Bryant, you excel in your work. But as for other matters..."

Marco stared at her intently.

"Loraine, I admit that I'm not infallible. There are things I struggle with and mistakes I've made," he said softly. "For me, earning your forgiveness is the most challenging thing in the world. Loraine, can you guide me on what I should do?"

A wave of sensation surged through Loraine's body, her heart racing, and her limbs somewhat unsteady. Unable to formulate a response, she hastily exited the car and fled.



Chapter 445 The Hot Topic

In the car, Marco observed Loraine's fleeing figure and smirked subtly.

A thought crossed his mind, causing his expression to turn cold. He took his phone and sent a message.

Shortly after, a video surfaced online, capturing the moment when both Marco and Loraine were surrounded by reporters in an underground basement and managed to evade the interview.

The news quickly spread across the internet like wildfire.

"Why are they avoiding the reporter's questions? Could it be because they feel guilty?"

"Most likely. The news has been circulating for a while now, but they haven't provided an official explanation. They must be feeling quite anxious. Perhaps they met to discuss the matter and find a solution!"

The online comments were a mix of opinions, with people urging the Bryant Group, the Universe Group, and the Cheap and Fine Group to issue an official response.

Under the mounting pressure of public opinion, the three companies released statements. However, they seemed rather ambiguous.

"The three companies are currently engaged in negotiations regarding CBD cooperation. Please be patient. We have the right to pursue justice against those who spread false



information and engage in slander!"

The netizens were not easily convinced, as the statement was vague and only heightened their suspicions.

"Why didn't the three companies provide a clear answer? Does this mean they won't continue their cooperation?"

"The Bryant Group and the Universe Group have always been straightforward, but their statements this time lack any useful information. Isn't this a sign that something went wrong in their collaboration?"

After engaging in discussions, people became even more skeptical, and the general consensus was that the three companies would not proceed with their collaboration.

This project had significant potential for generating profits effortlessly. So why did they abruptly terminate the cooperation?

Netizens started speculating whether the issue stemmed from the Bryant Group or the Universe Group.

People tended to blame the Universe Group. After all, Loraine had recently assumed her position, and there might have been aspects of the collaboration that she didn't fully grasp, leading to its failure.

Some comments carried ulterior motives, suggesting that Loraine lacked respect for her senior colleagues and made unilateral decisions in the company, which disappointed them.

Although such comments were not overly abundant when combined with the questioning remarks about Loraine, the public sentiment turned against her.



At the same time, in the presidential suite of a five-star hotel in Vagow, Cassidy lay on the bed, engrossed in reading news articles on her mobile phone. A wide grin adorned her face as she read.

The situation had turned out better than she had anticipated!

Furthermore, Loraine had become the talk of the town. There was no need for Cassidy to guide the narrative. Countless people on the internet were viciously speculating about Loraine.

After leaving comments on posts criticizing Loraine, Cassidy rose from the bed with excitement. She settled herself in front of the dressing table and applied a facial mask, all the while dialing a particular number.

As the call connected, Cassidy's voice was filled with smiles and flattery. "Ella, I must thank you and Onyx for assisting me in this endeavor. Please convey my gratitude to him!"

A haughty female voice emanated from the other end of the line. "That woman named Loraine is so arrogant. How dare she bully you? Teaching her a lesson will be a piece of cake."

Kassidy promptly flattered and pretended to express concern. "Ella, in order to help me, Onyx canceled the collaboration with the Cheap and Fine Group. Will there be any repercussions?"

Ella paused momentarily and replied vaguely, "It doesn't matter. Your brother-in-law has his own discretion."

Without a hint of doubt, Cassidy exclaimed happily, "This time, Loraine lost the collaboration with the Cheap and Fine Group. She's bound to face significant trouble. The Cruz



family must despise her now. It's only a matter of time before I marry into the Cruz family!"

After being ousted from the Cruz family that night, Cassidy promptly reached out to her sister, Ella Webster, and exaggerated the incidents involving her and Loraine.

She conveniently omitted the fact that she had provoked Loraine first. Instead, she painted a picture of Loraine as a merciless bully, emphasizing her arrogance.

Ella had married early, and her husband was Onyx, the president of the Telan Technology Company.

Since Cassidy stood a good chance of marrying into the Cruz family, both Ella and Onyx were eager to help her and teach Loraine a lesson.

Coincidentally, the shareholders of the Cheap and Fine Group were also interested in acquiring Onyx's support to sabotage the collaboration.

Initially hesitant, Onyx eventually succumbed to Ella's persuasion and agreed wholeheartedly.

Things progressed more smoothly than Cassidy could have imagined. Overwhelmed with surprise, she hesitated for a moment before voicing her concern. "Ella, will Onyx collaborate with the Cheap and Fine Group again? If Davy approaches him to rekindle the cooperation, he won't agree, will he? Otherwise, all his previous efforts will be in vain!"

Ella replied with utmost confidence, "Cassidy, don't worry. Onyx will never agree. He won't give the Cheap and Fine Group or the Universe Group a chance to revive the collaboration!"

