## Chapter 46 Being Difficult

Loraine could sense that Barr had a problem with her, but since they were in a meeting, she kept quiet about it.

When the meeting began, Loraine presented her concept for the urban construction and explained the intended outcomes of the design.

While she spoke, the others nodded periodically. They were enthralled.

Barr, however, spent the entire meeting with an attitude of adversarial arrogance.

Regardless of what Loraine said, he would shake his head impatiently and protest.

"With all due respect, your design is far too idealistic and impractical!"

Loraine was a patient and good-tempered person, but even she struggled to tolerate Barr's heckling.

In an icy voice, Loraine said, "This plan was approved by Mr. Moore. If you have any complaints, please report them to him."

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Barr sniffed and looked at Loraine with an air of pompous superiority.

"I won't deny that your plan is very good, but you are just some designer, sitting in an office. You've never done any of the follow-up work involved in a construction project. You lack practical experience, so once we implement the plan, you're going to have to listen to me."

Loraine frowned at Barr's presumptuous speech. Something was off. The government had already approved their plan.

Why was the government engineer treating her like this?

Loraine felt certain that Barr was making things difficult for her.

She would need to investigate him.

Loraine still had topics to discuss, but Barr was overt in his opposition. He slammed his hands down on the table in front of Loraine.

"That's enough. I've been working in this industry for five years. Just listen to me!"

By this point, the other meeting attendants noticed that something strange was afoot. Their eyes darted between Loraine and Barr.

Loraine had zero tolerance for someone like Barr. She slapped the meeting materials down on the table.

"Since you have a problem with my plan, there is no need for us to continue our conversation.

Goodbye."

Standing up, Loraine left the meeting room. Her team followed.

The meeting room was suddenly empty.

Barr watched, sneering disdainfully, as Loraine faded into the distance.

"What an impatient and impulsive woman," he muttered to himself. "As I expected, she is utterly incompetent!"

Loraine hadn't been gone long when Barr's phone started ringing.

He answered the call and a sweet female voice began to speak.

"Barr, how is the project going? Did you follow my instructions?"

"Don't worry, Keely," Barr replied smugly.

"Dealing with a newbie like Loraine is a cakewalk for someone of my experience. It's a shame you couldn't see how I lectured her just now. People say she's the most successful young female architect. Bullshit! She can't hold a candle to me!"

Keely was overjoyed and began to flatter Barr, her cousin.

"Barr, you're the best. I'm so lucky you're there.

If it weren't for you, Loraine would be ruining this project. You must keep an eye on her!"

Barr beamed. "I'll teach that stupid female designer how to behave."

"Then I'll leave it all to you." The excitement in Keely's voice was apparent even over the phone. Barr changed the subject suddenly. "Keely, are you sure that Loraine has no solid background?"

"Don't worry, Barr. Loraine is just a poor country girl. What possible background could she have? At most, she's aligned herself with Cayson, the CEO of Universe Group. But she's just a director of the architectural design department; she hasn't given Cayson any reason to take her seriously." Keely's words were reassuring.

"But she's still Marco's ex-wife," Barr pointed out, his heart still troubled by doubt. "Do you think he would help her?"

"How is that possible?" Keely denied. "Marco divorced her, and now I'm the only one he loves. What's more, Loraine sued Marco's mother! He would never protect her."

Keely successfully assuaged Barr's fears.

"Okay. You just need to wait and see. She'll be suffering a lot over the coming days."

On one hand, this pleased Keely. She looked forward to seeing Loraine suffer. On the other hand, it made her a little uneasy.

"Barr, Loraine is working with the government on this project, and now Marco is, too. You

