

## Chapter 725 Cayson's Intervention

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Rico wore a forlorn expression throughout, as if he'd suffered a devastating setback and was now seeking compromise.

His words, however, stirred intrigue among the remaining shareholders, sparking a newfound interest in the proceedings.

The Universe Group stood at a crossroads, with Aldo stepping down and Cayson, an outsider, maintaining the status quo to avoid any major disruptions.

This incarnation of Universe Group had become an inviting target for all, especially the veteran shareholders who relied on past merits, focused solely on amassing more wealth.

On the surface, Universe Group appeared prosperous, but beneath the façade lurked hidden dangers, the remnants of past missteps.

Loraine's swift and decisive actions upon taking charge had prevented any embezzlement schemes.

The problems surfacing now were the result of previous hazards that had been quietly festering. A mere nudge from Loraine had triggered a cascade of issues.

Many shareholders had missed out on opportunities to profit, and while they masked their dissatisfaction, it festered beneath the surface. Rico's words now presented them with an alternative.

Selling their shares outright for cash!

Divesting Universe Group's stocks could yield substantial wealth, enough to secure the financial well-being of future generations. The allure of such riches was irresistible.

Yet, as they gazed upon the investment report displayed by Loraine on the screen, their initial enthusiasm wavered, giving way to uncertainty. No one was eager to be the first to act.

While cashing out stocks could yield a substantial sum, who would complain about having more money?

The Universe Group's prowess in generating profits was widely acknowledged, and Loraine's reputation for wealth-building was equally renowned. No one was willing to forfeit the opportunity to turn money into more money.

On one hand, there was the unpredictable timeline for recovering their investments, and on the other hand, there were stocks that would cease to generate revenue once cashed in. The shareholders found themselves caught in a dilemma.

Yet, if making things difficult for others could make things easier for themselves, they were more than willing to take that route.

Many shareholders began to play the role of mediators, offering Loraine advice. "Miss Torres, given your youth, perhaps a less forceful approach would be wiser. Rico does have a point. It's ultimately for the company's benefit. How about contributing some of your own capital to cover the current losses? That way, everyone can find peace of mind and profit together!"

Cayson had worn a sour expression from the moment Rico began speaking, and upon hearing these suggestions, he could no longer remain silent. Rising from his seat, he posed a

weighty question to them. "If Lorrie indeed injects capital to cover these losses, please clarify whether that money is public or private funds. Furthermore, should the company eventually turn a profit, will you shareholders be obligated to reimburse her?"

The bustling office suddenly fell silent. Those shareholders who had been vocal moments ago now found themselves blushing and speechless. It appeared that some of them were ill-prepared for this level of scrutiny.

In the hush, a mumbled voice broke the silence. "Well... We only suggested it because we thought it wasn't a significant sum for Miss Torres. We never intended to take advantage of her."

Cayson couldn't help but sneer. He was on the verge of adding more when Rico, his expression strained, interjected, "Mr. Benton, we all know of your close relationship with Miss Torres. We don't mean to create difficulties for her, but what are we to do? The profits from these investment projects are trickling in too slowly. How long must we endure these losses?"

Recalling Reynolds's earlier disrespectful remarks, many felt a surge of disdain. Cayson was well-off and had the leisure to fawn on Loraine; for them, however, it was a different story.

Cayson pursed his lips and walked forward, presenting a business proposal to the assembly. He held it up for everyone to see.

"Miss Torres and I certainly don't wish for you to incur losses. This is a collaboration proposal with a major company in Zodiac. Universe Group's Zodiac branch will lead the project, and the terms have already been negotiated and agreed upon. The other party will provide an upfront payment of 60% of the total amount. Shouldn't this put your minds at ease?"

Loraine, hearing this unexpected development, glanced at

Cayson with a mixture of surprise and curiosity. When had he orchestrated this deal?

The Zodiac branch had typically been overseen by Cayson's parents. Could this project have been orchestrated by his father's team?

She was about to speak when Rico, sporting an expression of gratitude, leaped in, his praise unbridled. "Mr. Benton, you've truly thought this through! Of course, we can't rely on a project with no results to cover such substantial losses."

He continued to shower Cayson with praise, his tone taking an odd turn. "All thanks to your foresight, Mr. Benton. Unearthing a significant contract like this, with such an arrangement in place, what more is there to worry about? We could never afford to hinge on a project that hasn't even taken off!"

His words were virtually a direct affront to Loraine's considerations and actions, insinuating that she was naive, incapable, and lacked foresight.

Loraine regarded Cayson and Rico, remaining silent as she kept her thoughts to herself.

Unexpectedly, the situation seemed to evolve beyond Cayson's intentions. His aim had been to aid Loraine, not to seize the limelight. Frowning, he attempted to clarify, "I did this for Lorrie's benefit!"

However, the crowd persisted in showering Cayson with praise, almost deliberately ignoring Loraine.

She wasn't particularly perturbed by the adulation. She simply observed the spectacle unfolding before her.

In that moment, her pocketed phone vibrated. Retrieving it, she saw that Sullivan was calling.

## Chapter 726 Collaboration With Solar Company

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Loraine was caught off guard by Sullivan's unexpected call. Her eyes widened briefly before she realized the significance of this moment.

While all eyes seemed to be on Cayson, she sensed that the shareholders were also curious about the interruption.

Initially, Loraine didn't want to take the call during the meeting, but upon second thought, she decided to take it, recognizing that it might be related to Ariadna's cure.

She rose from her chair, a hush falling over the room. "I apologize, but this call is important. Please excuse me," she said, excusing herself from the meeting.

Stepping out into the corridor, Loraine answered the call. Sullivan's voice greeted her with a chuckle. "Loraine, I have two pieces of good news for you. Firstly, the surgical robot's research staff is returning to the country. There's more hope for your friend's recovery!"

Loraine's face lit up with surprise and gratitude. "Really? Thank you so much!"

The fact that Solar Company was loaning her the robot was already a tremendous favor. This added news filled her with deep appreciation toward the decision-makers at Solar Company.

Sullivan continued, his tone buoyant, "Also, the ninth-

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generation robot project initially involved a collaboration with Bryant Group. However, after Marco's departure from Bryant Group, our CEO believes that collaborating with them no longer holds much value. On the other hand, he has a high opinion of you. So, he's asked me to inquire whether you're interested in a collaboration."

Loraine's hand rested on the doorknob, her mind reeling from the astonishing proposal. "Are you serious?"

Back in the meeting room, the shareholders exchanged puzzled glances. Loraine was known for her elegance, dignity, and composure. They had rarely seen her so emotional before.

Cayson, with a clenched fist, sensed a connection between this phone call and Marco. He controlled his emotions and approached Loraine, asking casually, "Lorrie, is everything alright?"

Rico, standing beside Cayson, couldn't resist a sarcastic jab. "Could it be a romantic matter, Miss Torres? Please consider the occasion. We're in the middle of a shareholders' meeting. Is it really necessary to take a call now?"

Loraine shot Rico a cold, dismissive glance.

On the other end of the call, Sullivan overheard the commotion and inquired, puzzled, "Loraine, is this a bad time? Did I interrupt something important?"

Loraine hesitated momentarily before making a request. "Dr. Palmer, would it be acceptable if I put this call on speaker?"

"Hmm?" Sullivan paused briefly but then agreed with a smile. "Of course, that's fine!"

Loraine then put the call on speaker and returned to her seat, adopting a composed demeanor as she inquired, "Dr. Palmer, to

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clarify, did you just mention that Solar Company wishes to collaborate with Universe Group on the development of the ninth-generation surgical robot?"

The mention of "Solar Company" drew gasps of astonishment from the shareholders. When they heard "ninth-generation surgical robot," their shock only intensified.

That project was the coveted gem of the international community!

And Solar Company was expressing interest in partnering with Universe Group?

The entire meeting room fell into a stunned silence, no one daring to utter a word.


With a smile, Sullivan continued, "Yes, Solar Company is looking to expand its domestic presence and is actively seeking a local partner. The previous candidate no longer meets our collaboration criteria..."

Sullivan, mindful of Loraine's ongoing shareholders' meeting, cleared his throat and maintained a more engaging and rhythmic tone.

"Coincidentally, Solar Company took note of the recent government list of advanced enterprises, with Universe Group topping the list. Combined with your previous initiatives, Miss Torres, it aligns perfectly with Solar Company's development philosophy. Therefore, Solar Company is inquiring whether Universe Group would be interested in exploring a collaboration."

The Universe Group shareholders sat in stunned silence, unable to comprehend what they were hearing.

Was this truly Solar Company, a major global enterprise ranked among the Fortune 500? Were they really considering a

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partnership with Universe Group?

Sullivan's voice sounded even more enthusiastic. "Miss Torres, Solar Company has already transferred the collaboration deposit to Universe Group's account. If you're interested in collaborating, we are willing to prepay 100% of the collaboration funds. We hope that Universe Group can assist Solar Company in establishing a domestic production line."

A collective shiver ran through the shareholders. They found it difficult to believe what they were hearing. Did Sullivan just say 100%?

Sullivan added, "Of course, even if the collaboration doesn't materialize in the end, Solar Company won't request the funds 'return. We can afford this."

As these words hung in the air, the shareholders were utterly astonished. Sullivan continued, "Miss Torres, our CEO has taken note of your initiatives in rural road construction and sees you as a potential ally. Therefore, we hope that you can confirm whether Universe Group has received the collaboration deposit."

Loraine fell silent. She suspected that Sullivan was solely trying to help her out of her predicament, perhaps exaggerating a bit.

However, these extravagant statements proved difficult to digest, even for Loraine. The others in the room shared her skepticism. Rico's face twisted into an expression of disbelief as he taunted, "Sounds wonderful. I mean, Solar Company isn't exactly known for charity work. Why would they suddenly stoop to collaborate with Universe Group?"

Just then, a knock echoed through the meeting room's door. Loraine motioned for the person to enter, and it was the head of the finance department who stepped inside, wearing an expression of pleasant surprise. "Miss Torres, the group's bank account has just received a substantial sum of money. The



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transfer is from an overseas account, and it's marked as  
coming from Solar Company!"

Rico's expression froze, and the entire room was left in stunned  
silence.



## Chapter 727 Adversity And Prosperity

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With the head of the finance department himself confirming the substantial deposit, the shareholders had no choice but to lend credence to the revelation. This utterly reshaped their initial perception of Sullivan, shifting it from verbose to articulate and humble.

Lorraine, too, found herself in a state of pleasant astonishment.

The Solar Company had extended its help to her on multiple occasions, yet her interactions had largely been with Sullivan. What motivation could Solar Company possibly have to be so accommodating towards Universe Group?

Even Rico was openly expressing doubt, which only added to Lorraine's sense of wonder.

After all, Solar Company was a global giant, and the prospect of them extending an olive branch to Universe Group seemed quite improbable.

However, since this incredible offer was on the table, Lorraine wasn't about to let skepticism cast a shadow. She responded with grace, "Dr. Palmer, please convey my profound gratitude to Solar Company. Universe Group is wholeheartedly interested in forging a partnership with Solar Company."

Sullivan returned her smile and, after some more cordial exchanges, they virtually sealed the deal.

After concluding their talks, Lorraine hung up the call and

returned her attention to Rico.

Rico, now visibly flustered, attempted a strained smile. "Miss Torres, you've indeed succeeded in securing a collaboration with Solar Company. The prospects ahead of you are limitless!"

Loraine's lips curled into a faint, knowing smile. "Rico, from what you've said earlier, it seems you don't have complete faith in Universe Group at the moment, do you?"

Beads of sweat dotted Rico's forehead, as he struggled to form a response. However, Loraine didn't afford him the opportunity.

"Nonetheless," Loraine continued, her tone unyielding. "I have unwavering faith in Universe Group. Temporary setbacks do not trouble me. Your earlier remarks did make me ponder, though. If you're genuinely inclined to sell your shares and divest, I won't stand in your way. You can sell them to me, and I promise you won't suffer any losses."

Loraine's words, delivered with unwavering conviction, released the tension that had hung in the air. Many shareholders, privately relieved by their choice to remain spectators, now silently celebrated their decision.

"Miss Torres, I was just joking!" Rico, on the other hand, was caught off guard. He managed a strained smile, a poor facsimile of genuine amusement. Inside, he was wrestling with regret.

Loraine had bested him, artfully navigating the situation. She had orchestrated a connection with Solar Company without even letting on, making him look foolish, and now she was applying pressure.

Who didn't know the position of Solar Company? The Solar Company was an international giant in cutting-edge technology. Their ninth-generation surgical robot alone was enough to

bring about a paradigm shift!

Although Solar Company hadn't been operating domestically before, the earlier phone call clearly indicated their intention to expand the domestic market.

Given that everyone was aware of Universe Group's collaboration with Solar Company now, how could Rico possibly sell his shares? Unless he had lost his mind!

As the room filled with hushed chuckles and discreet glances of mockery, Rico couldn't contain himself. Muttering to himself, he conceded, "Miss Torres, I was merely jesting! You knew of the Solar Company collaboration all along. Why did you keep it a secret? Were you savoring our discomfort?"

Lorraine met Rico's accusation with a frigid, impassive gaze, refusing to dignify it with a response. Instead, she shifted her attention to the other shareholders. "Our partnership with Solar Company presents an additional opportunity," she declared, her voice unwavering. "As the CEO of Universe Group, my belief in the company's potential remains steadfast. Current challenges are mere stepping stones, and once surmounted, Universe Group will undoubtedly reach new heights."

She paused, the weight of her words settling in the room. "Of course," she continued, "for those who shy away from adversity, Universe Group won't share in its prosperity either."

Her words, brimming with determination, sent ripples through the room. Rico, his face flushed with embarrassment, dared not meet anyone's gaze, while other shareholders, grappling with guilt, echoed her sentiments with fervent nods and affirmations.

Amidst the crowd, Cayson's commanding presence seemed somewhat forlorn.

He stole a glance at the contract clutched in his hand, a wistful smile playing upon his lips.

Perhaps he had been overly cautious, preparing the contract with undue pessimism, doubting Loraine's ability to handle the situation.

Now, he realized his misjudgment, for it mirrored the skepticism of those who had underestimated her.

All his meticulous planning had come to naught. Silently, he stowed away the contract, joining the applause with a clouded gaze.

Meanwhile, in his hospital room, Marco received a call from Sullivan.

Sullivan grumbled, "I'm a scientist, not an actor, and yet here you are, casting me in this dramatic play of yours!"

His complaint, however, was short-lived, dissolving into palpable excitement. "Marco, everything is in place. Once the scientific research teams from both sides meet, we can officially ink the contract with Universe Group."

The prospect of partnering with Universe Group had Sullivan positively exhilarated. He had heard whispers about an extraordinary genius within Loraine's team.

Sullivan spoke in riddles, shifting topics without rhyme or reason. After sharing some tidbits from the meeting earlier, Sullivan veered into a discussion about Bryant Group.

"I've conveyed the news of our collaboration's dissolution to Bryant Group," he explained. "Curiously, they've remained unresponsive, showing no interest in salvaging the partnership. It's as if they're oblivious to the whole affair."

Marco nodded, acknowledging Sullivan's efforts.

Hearing of Bryant Group's apathy toward the end of their collaboration, Marco couldn't help but snort. It appeared that the members of the Bryant family were still in the dark about the situation.

Otherwise, given their character, they wouldn't have let go of a golden opportunity to align themselves with Solar Company.

After a moment's reflection, Marco issued further directives, his tone deliberate. "It seems the Bryant Group is operating with incomplete information. Find a few enthusiastic individuals who can bring the situation to the attention of the Bryant family."



## Chapter 728 The Mess Within The Bryant Group

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Within the grand confines of the Bryant family's villa, Liza sat perched behind Marina, her visage etched with gloom, an imposing presence resembling a stone sentinel, exuding an aura of unwavering determination.

Since the turbulence had struck the Bryant Group, Liza found herself worn out, both physically and mentally, teetering on the brink of a serious illness.

She attributed all of this chaos to Marina's and Laura's incompetence. Thanks to their shortcomings, Liza hadn't had the luxury of savoring her twilight years; instead, she was compelled to confront this dire situation head-on.

Through these trials, Liza had come to a profound realization – relying on outsiders was a perilous gamble. Sooner or later, the Bryant Group would fall into Marina's hands, and if Marina continued down this path of ineptitude, the empire Liza had worked so hard to build might crumble even before her own time was up.

To avert this impending disaster, Liza had taken it upon herself to personally tutor Marina, subjecting her to the rigorous demands of business management.

Yet, merely days into this endeavor, Liza was already drained.

The chasm between Marina and Marco was vast and insurmountable.

Liza's rigorous educational approach, which had yielded stellar results with Marco, seemed futile with Marina. Marina struggled to grasp even the most rudimentary concepts, displaying a disconcerting sluggishness that frustrated Liza. She regretted entrusting Marina's education to Laura, inadvertently shaping her into a lackluster individual.

A resounding slap pierced the air as Liza's palm connected with Marina's arm. Fury surged within her, and she was on the verge of unleashing a tirade when a servant arrived, bearing a telephone.

"Madam, it's Mrs. Wordsworth on the line."

Liza's countenance faltered momentarily; she hadn't recognized the caller's identity right away. It took a moment for her to recollect that Mrs. Karen Wordsworth was an old friend she hadn't spoken to in years.

Setting aside her intention to reprimand Marina, Liza wielded her cane to make her way toward the phone.

Following a brief exchange of pleasantries, Liza's demeanor began to brighten. Karen continued to engage in heartfelt conversation, touching upon their personal lives.

"Liza, you're the luckiest among us, marrying into the illustrious Bryant family and achieving the collaboration with Solar Company. It's truly remarkable!"

Liza was taken aback. Collaboration with Solar Company? She had absolutely no knowledge of any such collaboration involving the Bryant Group and the Solar Company.

Karen proceeded, her conviction unwavering, even detailing the project specifics. Liza was initially taken aback but soon found herself elated. If the Bryant Group could leverage the Solar



Company to stage a comeback, what did it matter if Marco was no longer in the picture?

Yet, just as her newfound optimism began to blossom, Karen's words cast a shadow over her excitement. "However," Karen continued, her tone taking a somber turn, "I heard that the collaboration has been terminated. Liza, do you hold such disdain for the Solar Company? If only you had a means to reach out to them..."

In an instant, Liza's elation gave way to bewilderment. She felt as if she had plummeted from the heavens into the abyss. Karen's words became a blur, incomprehensible. Her face, once radiant, now displayed a mask of inscrutable emotion as she hastily ended the call, struggling to contain her fury.

"That scoundrel Marco, how many secrets has he kept from me? I was completely unaware of such a pivotal collaboration being terminated!"

Yet, Marco had long been exiled from the Bryant family, and while he might have facilitated the collaboration, he was hardly responsible for its termination.

Fury coursed through Liza as she stormed into the Bryant Group, intent on demanding answers.

However, before she could confront anyone, a furious Jefferson confronted her first.

As it turned out, news of this development had circulated quite some time ago. The terminated collaboration with the Solar Company was irrevocable.

Liza seethed upon learning this and promptly demanded an explanation. "For something of such magnitude, why was it not disclosed sooner?"

Jefferson, incensed, cast blame right back at her and berated, "Is it not all because of your granddaughter? She is completely inept! The Bryant Group is in shambles now due to Carl Dixon's dismissal by her. Those who dared to report important matters proactively have almost all resigned. Those who remain are cowed by Marina's authority, afraid of losing their jobs, so they remain silent!"

With the truth now unveiled, Liza felt as if she might faint from anger.

Through gritted teeth, Jefferson continued his tirade, placing blame squarely on the shoulders of the Bryant family members and assigning them responsibility for the dire state of the Bryant Group.

"Would the Bryant Group be in this state if you hadn't driven Marco away? He was the one who orchestrated the collaboration with the Solar Company. Now that he's gone, of course the Solar Company would withdraw! What good is left with Marina, that insipid fool? Her head is filled with nothing but air!"

Liza's countenance darkened, her tone resolute as she fired back, "You may be capable, but you failed to unearth this information yourself. Despite your significant stake in the company, you've proven utterly useless!"

Jefferson, as if stung, recoiled as if his feet had been scorched, raising his voice as he said, "Madam, there's no need for such cruelty. I've been tirelessly working externally to secure collaborative opportunities for the company! What, may I ask, have your family members been doing? Don't presume that the Bryant Group is your family's personal domain. I, too, hold a 36% stake in this company! Even if Marco were present, he wouldn't dare address me in such a manner!"

Chapter 728 The Mess Within The Bryant Group 🎁 +120 Points at most

Liza, despite her advanced age, had never endured a berating of this magnitude. Yet, she also understood that, at this point, Jefferson was the only reliable figure within the company. Escalating this confrontation would only be detrimental.

Suppressing her wounded pride, she reluctantly admitted, "That's enough. I will find a solution to salvage the company as soon as possible."

Jefferson, bearing a smug smirk, couldn't be bothered with her any longer and simply departed.

He had lost all hope in this assemblage of imbeciles and harbored no expectations of the Bryant family members. At this juncture, he could only rely on himself.

Returning to his office, he turned to his assistant, inquiring, "How is the collaboration project with the Universe Group progressing?"



## Chapter 729 Jefferson's Despicable Plan

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The assistant looked distressed and said hesitatingly, "After the Solar Company declined the partnership, the Universe Group has been acting strange. It seems they might also be considering declining."

Jefferson nearly collapsed from shock. His face turned ashen, and he tightly gripped the arms of his chair. "What a cunning move by Marco and Loraine!" he grumbled through gritted teeth.

But however angry he might be, he still had to find a solution to the problem even if it meant swallowing his pride.

With Marco gone, several of Bryant Group's profit-generating projects had come to a halt. The research and development team for Qbot had disbanded, leaving nothing behind.

Now, the only project keeping Bryant Group afloat was the partnership with Universe Group.

If Bryant Group lost this partnership, it would essentially mean bankruptcy for them.

Jefferson had invested all his family's wealth into the stocks of Bryant Group and he did not want to see it go down in flames!

He clenched his teeth, his eyes already reddening in frustration. He really had to find a way to maintain the partnership with Universe Group.

But that Loraine of a woman, how tough she was!

With these thoughts in his mind, his expression turned gloomy. If Bryant Group was still the Bryant Group of old, he was sure that Loraine wouldn't terminate the contract over personal grievances, even without Marco's presence.

But unfortunately, the current Bryant Group was far inferior, even when compared to regular small enterprises.

Even though he blamed Loraine for what was going on, he also knew that if he was in her shoes, he would probably take the same action she was about to take.

Right now, it seemed like he had no choice but to take a risky approach in solving this problem.

With a solemn expression on his face, Jefferson began to ponder on how to execute his risky plan. He couldn't afford to lose the partnership; otherwise, he would suffer very huge losses.

As he walked past the break room, he could hear his employees gossiping inside.

Given the current condition of Bryant Group, he wanted to eliminate workplace slackness, but the issue was that he lacked the energy to do so. He decided to just ignore it and continue walking, but just as he was about to move away, he suddenly heard someone mention Loraine's name.

Luckily, there was a pot plant nearby, so he stood behind it to hide himself.

His roving eyes flickered as they stopped in their tracks, as if guided by some unseen force.

The employees were indeed gossiping about Loraine. Since Loraine and Universe Group had become a hot topic lately due

to the fact that the Group had been recognized as an advanced enterprise, it was inevitable that everyone who knew the Group or its CEO would discuss about it.

Jefferson was well aware of this. He had initially planned to fuel the gossip and tarnish Loraine's reputation. The mere thought that anyone would say something good about Loraine annoyed him to no end.

Just then, he overheard a female employee speaking about Loraine with admiration. "Working at Universe Group must be wonderful, with such a great female boss. Our company used to be on par with Universe Group, but now, there's a huge world of difference between both of them."

"Who can deny that? Loraine is beautiful and wealthy. I'm always jealous whenever I see her with Mr. Bryant. If I were a man, I'd definitely chase her!" another employee concurred.

The employees continued their banter, but suddenly, one of the male employees said in a lewd tone, indulging in his fantasies, "It would be wonderful if I were Loraine's man! Having the CEO of Universe Group as a wife means unlimited wealth, not to mention the fact that Loraine is so beautiful. I would never be at a loss on what to do with her!"

The others burst into laughter and one of them said teasingly, "Your daydreams are quite something! Are you delusional or just outrageously shameless?"

But the male employee shrugged it off. "I'm just imagining!" he said, undaunted by their laughter.

As the employees seemed to wrap up their conversation and were about to disperse, they still had no idea that someone was hiding behind the pot plant outside.

Meanwhile, Jefferson's hand was shaking uncontrollably,



causing his cup of coffee to spill onto his plump hand that was adorned with age spots.

After listening to those words, he was left shaken and unable to regain his composure anymore. His eyes held an eerie gleam in them.

Finally, he had figured out a solution! If he could win over Loraine, wouldn't securing the partnership with Universe Group finally become a reality? With Loraine's assistance, he might even be able to fully control Bryant Group and lead it back to glory.

Still trembling in excitement, Jefferson's cloudy eyes flickered with a sinister light.

The male employee's remarks weren't entirely crazy. If he achieved his goal, he certainly wouldn't be at a loss on what to do with Loraine!

The thought of having a woman as stunning as Loraine lying beneath him, yielding and compliant, filled Jefferson with bone-deep excitement.

Without wasting any time, he decided to take action immediately. While arranging the venue for a banquet, he sent out an invitation to Universe Group.

In the invitation, Jefferson put his pride aside and adopted a humble tone, excessively praising Universe Group, hoping that Loraine would grace him with her presence.

He wrote, "Bryant Group and Universe Group have always been friendly towards each other. Bryant Group has recently come across a promising project and wishes to discuss a potential partnership with Universe Group. We sincerely hope that Miss Torres will honor us with her presence at the banquet for a detailed conversation."

The invitation paper was filled with elaborate sincerity, but in reality, Jefferson's face was dark as he filled it. "Loraine, that wretched woman," he murmured with a wicked smile. "She blackmailed me for so much money to buy that 1% stake. It's about time she pays me back with some interest!"

