

Chapter 2121

Rhett hastily said, "Sir, how did you find out about that? Are you concerned about the Mitxel Group? It is our absolute honor to be at the receiving end of your concern."

"To be frank with you, I'm the person in charge of this project," Zeke interrupted. "Which companies have been trying to collaborate with you for Project Mitxel?"

Rhett quickly replied, "There are over twenty companies-"

"I want to know which two companies are most likely to get the job."

Rhett replied, "The two main companies would be Eurasia's Linton Group and Intercontinental Group."

"Who do you think will be more likely to get the opportunity to work on Project Mitxel?"

"For now, my family prefers Intercontinental Group over Linton Group."

Zeke hummed in contemplation. "I'd like Linton Group to get the opportunity instead. Will you be able to make that happen?"

Rhett quickly answered, "Sir, may I know what your relationship with the Linton Group is?"

Zeke then said, "The owner of Linton Group is my wife, Lacey Hinton."

"Does that mean that Linton Group is technically your business as well?"

"You could say that."

At that, Rhett began sounding excited. His voice trembled as he said, "Sir, it is Mitxel Group's honor to be working with you. All right, Mitxel Group will choose Linton Group over the others."

"Okay," came Zeke's emotionless reply before he moved to end the call.

To him, making Mitxel Group choose to work with Linton Group was akin to the simple act of a father asking his son to get him a glass of water.

Right as Zeke was about to end the call, Rhett hastily said, "Sir, may I ask you a question? Have you reconsidered the matter on me learning from you?"

"Oh? Are you trying to negotiate with me?"

Are you planning not to work with Linton Group if I don't take you in as a disciple? Then, forget it. Linton Group won't work with you. Goodbye."

"Wait, no!" Rhett panicked. "Mr. Williams, I've made a mistake. I shouldn't have said that. It really is Mitxel Group's honor to be working with Linton Group. We're the ones who should be pleased to work for Linton Group. How could I have possibly tried to negotiate with you?"

"Don't worry, Mr. Williams. I'll be in charge of this project, and I'll personally liaise with the person in charge of Linton Group. Sir, if you're still not at ease, I hope you'll be able to work with me on the project instead."

However, Zeke icily said, "That'll depend on my schedule. If I'm free, I'll meet with you." With that, the call ended.

Nevertheless, Rhett was still thrilled.

What does it feel like to be working with my idol? At that moment, Rhett had the answer to that question.

Overjoyed, he downed the glass of red wine in front of him.

"If my memory serves me right, the one in charge of looking for our collaboration partner is Lucy. I should call her now and get her to contact Linton Group. No, wait. Will the Great Marshal think that I'm insincere if I sent my subordinate for the business meeting instead? Hmm, I'll fly to Eurasia and talk to the Linton Group myself. Where's my assistant? Hey, buy a ticket to Eurasia for me. No, wait, I should borrow my father's private jet to get there instead. That'll be quicker."

Without daring to waste any more time, Rhett left.

Meanwhile, after Zeke went back into the car, he saw Emma frowning and looking down.

Thus, Zeke asked, "Emma, what's the matter?"

Emma sighed. "Mitxel Group's manager Lucy called me just now. She wanted to have a chat with me."

"That's a good thing, isn't it?" Zeke asked. "She might want to chat with you about the details of the collaboration."

Emma shook her head. "That's not it. Sheldon Guerrero of Intercontinental Group will be there as well. Lucy sounds like she's not that interested in the Linton Group but more interested in the Intercontinental Group. I have to admit that Linton Group's development overseas isn't as good as Intercontinental Group's."

Zeke tilted his head to the side and mulled over her words. "Indeed. It's only been a few years since Linton Group started developing, so it still has a lot to do before taking on the other competitors. Well, just go since Mitxel Group has invited you. Maybe she might change her mind in the afternoon."

It looks like Rhett has not informed Lucy about choosing Linton Group for the collaboration yet. That's why Lucy still prefers Intercontinental Group over Linton Group. Once Rhett informs Lucy about it, Lucy will surely pick Linton Group instead.

Emma nodded. "Regardless of what the results are, I have to take a trip there."

Zeke drove home.

On their way there, Emma suddenly said, "Mr. Williams, please let me off at the junction in front. You should go home alone."

"Why?" Zeke asked, puzzled. Emma replied, "Linton Group's office has been burned down, so I've temporarily rented my friend's building as the office. I now need to talk to them about the rent."

Zeke fell silent in rumination. "Since I have nothing to do now, let's go together."

Naturally, Emma would say yes to that. "Sure! I'm friends with the other party, so it won't be too convenient for me to haggle the rent with them. Mr. Williams, it'll be good if you can negotiate the rent with them instead."

Of course, Emma was happy because she could spend time with Zeke. In fact, she didn't care much about the negotiation.

At this point, she just wanted to spend more time with Zeke.

Emma then took over the wheel, and she intentionally picked a longer route just so she could spend more time with Zeke.

Soon, the two arrived at their destination.

It was a sixteen-floor building located on the outskirts. Although the exterior seemed old and shabby, the structure still stood steadily. It would be more than enough to be Linton Group's temporary office.

Emma and Zeke then came down from the car.

She reminded him, "Mr. Williams, my friend has asked for a million. You should bring the price down to seven hundred thousand."

Zeke nodded. "Don't worry. I know what I'm doing."

Right as the car came to a stop, a man with a beer belly jogged over.

The man had a plump face, and when he smiled, his teeth were on full display. It looked a little terrifying. "Ms. Jones, you're here that early? Please come in! Take a look at the building and see if you're satisfied with it."

Emma gave him a slight smile. "Greetings, Mr. Turner. Let me introduce you to my assistant, Zeke."

Zeke did not want Emma to reveal that he was the owner of Linton Group, so Emma had to pretend that he was her assistant.

The plump man glanced at Zeke before the look in his eyes turned into contempt. "Hello there."

"Come in, Emma. I just boiled some water, so have a hot tea to warm up."

Emma answered, "Let's skip that. We're in a rush. Mr. Turner, why don't you bring us on a tour of the building instead?"

"Sure!"

He then led the two into the building.

It was originally an office building, so the interior structure was perfect as an office. Emma liked it right away.

Hence, she said, "Yes, Mr. Turner, I quite like this building."

The plump man grinned. "I'm glad you like it. If there aren't any issues with it, let's sign the contract now." He then took out a piece of contract and handed it to Emma.

After a glance at it, Emma furrowed her brows.

"Mr. Turner, we've agreed earlier to have a rent of one million. Why does this contract state that it's one and a half million now?"

The man responded, "That's right. That was an earlier agreement. However, the final rent is one and a half million. There's nothing wrong with that."

Emma quickly said, "But this raise is a little too much for such a short period of time!"

With a smile, the plump man said, "Ms. Jones, don't worry. I'll definitely let you have your cut too."

Emma questioned, "Mr. Turner, what do you mean?"

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The plump man said, "Ms. Jones, I've heard that you're just a manager of the branch office. In other words, you're working for the main office, right?"

Emma nodded. "Of course."

The plump man asked, "Then, let me ask you this: who will be the one to pay for the rent?"

"The main office."

"Mmm, so if the main office is the one to pay for the rent, why would you care how much the rent is? What about this? One million would be mine, and we'll split the extra five hundred thousand between us. You'll earn two hundred and fifty thousand without needing to do anything. Isn't this a great deal?"

Instantly, Emma's expression turned solemn. "No. One should always be honest. I can't go against my conscience and do something like this."

"That's enough, Ms. Jones. There isn't anyone else here. Hm... What about this? I'll take fifty thousand lesser so that this young man will get a cut too. We'll buy his silence with fifty thousand."

Zeke laughed. "I'm fine with it."

The plump man gleefully smacked his thigh. "Young man, you're a decisive one. That'll be it, then."

Emma did not know whether to laugh or huff in exasperation.

Mr. Williams, why are you making this mess worse? This is your company! How can you let something terrible like this happen?

Emma shook her head. "No, no, I can't do it."

Instantly, the plump man's face fell. "Ms. Jones, why are you so inflexible?"

"All right, we'll have it as a million and two hundred thousand. Is that okay with you?"

"We have agreed for the rent to be less than one million," Emma protested.

By then, the plump man was getting impatient. "Ms. Jones, I've already decreased the rent by three hundred thousand. Are you still not satisfied with it? I'd say you don't actually want to rent this building. Why don't we call this off?"

Emma was ready to give up.

Even if she did not manage to rent the building, she was not going to let the other person take advantage of her.

All of a sudden, the silent Zeke said, "In my opinion, the yearly rent of this place is at most six hundred thousand."

What?

The plump man barked out an angry laugh at Zeke's words.

"Six hundred thousand? Why don't I just gift the building to you? Six hundred thousand. Do you think of me as a beggar?"

Zeke replied, "Six hundred thousand is already quite an amount."

Even Emma felt that Zeke's offer was too unreasonable.

The plump man snapped, "Quite an amount? Ha! Come on, tell me why I should rent this place to you for six hundred thousand?"

"First of all, this place is located in a remote area. It's not convenient to come to this place. Secondly, this is an old building, and it's shabby. Thirdly, I heard that someone died in this building. You couldn't rent it out at all, even when your rent was five hundred thousand."

His words made the plump man flush in embarrassment, for the latter never thought that he would do so much research on the building.

Nevertheless, the plump man put on a false bravado and huffed, "Hmph! This is absolute nonsense. I have no idea where you heard that from! Someone tried to rent it for a million last year, but I didn't agree to it."

At that, Zeke said, "All right, then you can look for the person who'll rent this place for a million. We're not going to agree to that."

With that said, he led Emma out of the building.

Immediately, the plump man flew into a panic.

His building had been empty for a long time, and he was only losing money by keeping it. It had been a year since he last managed to rent it out, so he had lost at least hundreds of thousands.

Finally, he found someone to rent it to. If he still failed at getting them to rent it from him, this building would be nothing but a hole in his wallet.

Hence, the plump man blurted out, "Okay, okay. Ms. Jones, we're friends. It'll make me look like a bad friend if we end up fighting over money today. What about this? A price just for you: One million. Come, let's sign the contract."

The plump man then brought the contract over.

It seemed like the man had been prepared for both scenarios.

Emma turned to Zeke to silently seek his opinion.

Zeke shook his head. "A million? Sorry, we're not interested. At most, we'll rent this place for six hundred thousand."

Upon hearing that, rage started filling the plump man's veins. "Dude, you're crossing the line. What can six hundred thousand do? It won't even be enough for my monthly living expenses. Nine hundred thousand is the best offer. I'll let you have this good deal because Ms. Jones is a friend. "

Chapter 2124

Zeke said, "Six hundred and fifty thousand. If you can agree to that, we'll rent the place. If you can't, we'll leave. Don't waste our time anymore.

Truthfully, Zeke did not care about the few hundred thousand; he just could not stand the plump man's act, and that was why he was trying to put him in a tight spot.

By then, the plump man was on the verge of a mental breakdown. "Dude, you aren't here to rent the place, are you? You're just here to make me angry! Eight hundred thousand. Eight hundred thousand it is! Do you hear me? Eight hundred thousand! That's the lowest I can go. If you're okay with it, let's sign the contract. If you can't, there's nothing else I can do about it."

Zeke shrugged. "All right. Since there's nothing you can do about it, we'll leave."

D*mn it!

If murder was legal, the plump man would have killed Zeke there and then. The original rent was one and a half million, but Zeke had forced it to less than half of its original price.

Godd*mnit! This b*stard is too sly!

Nevertheless, there was nothing the plump man could do.

He was either going to lose a big deal or a small sum of money. Frankly, he would rather rent the place to Zeke for six hundred and fifty thousand than to have no one rent the place at all.

The negotiation process was wearing him down, so the plump man muttered, "Six hundred and seventy thousand. It's just twenty more thousand. Please, can't you just think of it as sparing me some change?"

However, what came out of Zeke's mouth was, "Six hundred and forty thousand."

"Six hundred and fifty thousand! Okay, I'm fine with six hundred and fifty thousand!"

"Six hundred and thirty thousand."

"Why are you still lowering the price after I've agreed with six hundred and fifty thousand?" the plump man questioned. "Six hundred and fifty thousand it is. Let's sign the contract..."

Fearing that Zeke would go back on his

words, the plump man hastily printed out the contract with the rent of six hundred and fifty thousand.

Emma felt the urge to burst out laughing when she saw the helpless look on the plump man's face.

Why didn't I notice in the past that Zeke's so good at making someone mad?

Emma had long realized that the few hundred thousand meant nothing to Zeke. Zeke was clearly lowering the offer just to piss the plump man off.

While Zeke and Emma were checking through the contract, the plump man's phone rang. The man then ran to the side to take the call.

After Zeke and Emma made sure that there was nothing wrong with the contract, they signed their names.

However, just as the two of them signed their names, the plump man suddenly ran over and shredded the contract into pieces.

Emma froze immediately. "Mr. Turner, what are you doing?"

The plump man gleefully replied, "Sorry, I won't be renting out the building anymore. You should look for another building instead."

Emma's irritation flared. "Mr. Turner, how can you change your mind so quickly? We've already signed the contract."

"Oh, the contract. Where's the contract? Why don't I see it at all? Haha!"

Staring at the shredded pieces on the floor, Emma quivered with anger. Yet, there was nothing she could do about the situation.

On the other hand, Zeke sensed something amiss.

He changed his mind after picking up the call. Who called him? What did the other person say? Emma and I are definitely their targets.

Zeke then gave the plump man an icy look as he asked, "Come on, tell me who made you change your mind so suddenly."

The plump man replied, "No one. I just felt like changing my mind. Your offer was too unreasonable, and I'd be a fool to rent the building to you."

Tentatively, Zeke asked, "What if I give you a million?"

"I won't rent the place even if you give me a million. In fact, even if you give me ten million, I still won't rent it to you."

Zeke hummed. "It seems like some big shot called you earlier."

As a matter of fact, Zeke could guess that it was none other than Sheldon who had called the plump man.

Nevertheless, he had no idea what Sheldon had said to the plump man. Getting impatient, the plump man urged, "Just leave now. I've got to welcome my esteemed guest later. I don't have much time to waste with you."

Zeke raised a brow. "What? We've officially rented this place, so we have the right to use this building for a year. You should be the one to leave."

"Ha!" The plump man was amused. "Brat, why don't you tell me which law states that you've rented this place?"

Chapter 2125

Zeke told him, "From the moment we signed the contract, the contract has become official. Naturally, we'll be the ones with the right to use this place."

The plump man then questioned, "Contract? What contract? Take it out and show me!"

Pointing at the camera, Zeke said, "The camera has recorded everything that happened earlier. Furthermore, the camera is the kind with a high resolution. I'm sure the words on the contract would be clear in the footage. If you still refuse to admit that the building is ours, we'll have to sue you for unlawful termination of the contract."

After a glance at the camera, the plump man paled.

How could I have forgotten about the camera?

Almost instinctively, the plump man moved to delete the recording.

Zeke quickly cried out, "All right. Just tell us whether or not Sheldon is the one who told you to do this, and we won't hold you accountable for unlawful termination of the contract."

Pausing in his tracks, the plump man turned to Emma. "Okay. Ms. Jones, since we're friends, I'll tell you this. It'll serve as a warning for you. Indeed, Sheldon has rented the building. Moreover, he said that he'll pay twice the offer you've made. Think about it, Ms. Jones. If you were in my shoes, would you have made the same choice as I had? Therefore, please understand the situation I am in."

Emma snarled, "Sheldon is too much! He has so many empty office buildings under his company. He doesn't need to rent another one at all. He's clearly trying to go against us by renting this building!"

The plump man then divulged, "Ms. Jones, Mr. Guerrero has said that he's renting this building for Project Mitxel. I heard that you're competing against Intercontinental Group for the collaboration rights of Project Mitxel. I'd advise you to give up on that plan. Mr. Guerrero has already found out from Project Mitxel's person in charge, Ms. Lucy, that they have a preference for Intercontinental Group. It's almost official that they will be collaborating with each other."

Zeke jeered, "Renting this place for Project Mitxel? Ha. He shouldn't be counting his chickens before they hatch. He has no right to be Project Mitxel's collaboration partner. By then, he won't be renting this place. Mr. Turner, you'll be losing your money in no time."

Hearing that, the plump man shot daggers. at Zeke. "Shut up and don't you jinx me. If Mr. Guerrero's Intercontinental Group can't get the rights to work on Project Mitxel, then I have no idea which other companies in this world have the rights to work on that project."

Zeke answered, "Linton Group, of course."

Promptly, a look of disdain appeared on the plump man's face. "While Linton Group might be on par with Intercontinental Group in the country, Intercontinental Group is still a much more reputable company overseas. If I were the person in charge of Mitxel Group, I'd choose Intercontinental Group too."

Zeke chuckled. "We'll see about that."

"Fine. We'll see about that."

With that, Zeke and Emma left.

Emma was still simmering with rage. She
She gritted out, "Sheldon Guerrero is a tyrant! He has burned down our office building, and now he's stopping us from renting one! He's really trying to drive us into a corner!"

Zeke consoled, "Don't worry, Emma. All these troubles are only temporary. Furthermore, Linton Group has been through all kinds of crises. This is nothing major."

Emma nodded in response. "Don't worry, Mr. Williams. No matter what kinds of trouble we meet, I'll persevere and won't give up. I won't let the branch office fail in my hands."

Right then, Emma's phone rang. When she lifted her phone to look at the screen, she realized it was from Sheldon.

Zeke sneered. "Without a doubt, Sheldon must have called to laugh at us. Answer it."

After accepting the call, Emma uttered, "Sheldon, why have you called me?"

Chapter 2126

Sheldon cackled like a witch. "Nothing. I just heard that you went to the plump man to rent an office building. How was it? Did it go well?"

Emma chided, "Sheldon Guerrero, I know you were behind this. You were the one who stopped him from renting the building to us. Don't you think that you're shameless and childish? Well, this doesn't affect us at all!"

"Oh my, I wasn't trying to be in your way. I genuinely like that office building. I called you because I wanted to ask if you needed me to introduce you to an office building, but alas, my kindness has gone down the drain. So, forget it."

Emma hissed, "Listen up, Sheldon. You won't be the one with the last laugh. I'll let you enjoy the triumph for a while. One day, you'll be bawling like a baby."

"Haha! I'm afraid you won't be able to see that. Nevertheless, you'll be the one bawling tomorrow. I've gotten Ms. Lucy's confirmation; she has told me that Intercontinental Group will be the one who will collaborate with Mitxel Group. When you meet her tomorrow, she'll tell you that."

Smack!

The call ended.

Once the call was over, Emma cast a worried look at Zeke. "Mr. Williams, I'm afraid we won't be able to get Project Mitxel. I think Ms. Lucy has really decided to work with Intercontinental Group."

"Don't give up until the very last second. Focus on driving and don't dwell on it too much," Zeke consoled her.

"Okay."

Soon, Emma and Zeke reached home.

Just as they entered the house, Amelia lunged toward them. "Mommy, Daddy, you're back!"

Without context, anyone who stumbled upon the scene would assume that it was a sight of a happy family of three.

Emma began thinking, if only this were the case.

Amelia did not jump into Emma's arms. Instead, she threw herself into Zeke's arms. Clearly, she adored her godfather.

With a smile, Zeke lifted Amelia. "Amelia, have you been a good girl?"

Amelia nodded. "I've been good today. I helped Grandma with the dishes and sweep the floor!"

Zeke gently kissed Amelia on the forehead. "I always knew you're a good girl."

Right then, Madeline came over and said, "Amelia, get down. Your godfather has been working all day. Let him get some rest. Come on, I'll take you back to your bed."

Amelia quickly said, "No, I want to sleep with Daddy and Mommy tonight! My friends all sleep with their mommies and daddies."

Instantly, the atmosphere in the room turned awkward.

Blushing all the way to her neck, Emma mumbled, "Silly girl, what are you talking about? Hurry and go to sleep with Grandma."

Amelia insisted, "No! I want to sleep with Mommy and Daddy! Zee is my daddy, you're my mommy, and I'm your daughter. The three of us should be sleeping together!"

Amelia did not know that there was a difference between a godfather and a father. She just thought that her godfather should be sleeping with her mother.

Right as Emma was about to fly into a rage, Zeke crouched to look Amelia in the eyes. Patiently, he cooed, "Amelia, you're a big kid now. You should be sleeping alone instead of sharing a bed with Daddy and Mommy, okay?"

Amelia hesitated. "But..."

"Why don't I come to your room to tell you stories later?"

"Okay!" Amelia beamed. "Pinky promise."

"Sure,"

Zeke and Amelia then made a pinky promise before Amelia hopped back to her room.

Sole Wolf laughed. "Zeke, I didn't know you are good with kids."

On the other hand, Desmond had a bitter smile on his face, it was not that Zeke was good with kids, but Amelia just clung to Zeke.

It was not a good sign, for the girl wouldn't listen to her mother but she would listen to her godfather instead. It was making things difficult for Emma.

Hence, Zeke decided to have a talk with Emma later.

He then said to Emma, "I'll tuck Amelia in bed first. You've been working the whole day, so go and rest now."

Chapter 2127

Emma nodded. "Mr. Williams, she's just a child. She doesn't know what she's saying. Please don't take Amelia's words to heart."

Zeke nodded, then reached for a book from the shelf beside him. With that book in hand, he went into Amelia's room.

Sole Wolf stretched his body and said, "All right. You guys talk. We'll be heading back. to the hotel for some rest."

Emma's house was too small for all of them. Amelia had a room to herself while Emma and Madeline shared one, and Zeke and David were sleeping in the living room. Even Brantley had to stay at the hotel with the rest.

Once they had left, Emma was about to turn to her room when David stopped her.

"Emma, wait. I have to talk to you about something."

Emma looked over her shoulder and whirled around. "Sure, Dad. What is it?" David started, "Can you tell me what your thoughts about Mr. Williams are?"

Emma was confused. "What do you mean about my thoughts about him? Did he get into some trouble?"

"No. What I mean is how are you planning to deal with your relationship with him?"

Her face blushed. "Dad, what are you saying? Mr. Williams and I are just superior and subordinate. We're friends at most. What makes you think that way?"

David nodded. "Emma, I don't care if you're telling the truth or just giving me the runaround, but there's something I have to point out.

"Mr. Williams is already married and is living a happy life. Moreover, he's the Dragon Master-"

Emma sighed, "All right, Dad. Stop worrying so much. Your daughter is much smarter than you think. I can see the difference between him and me.

"I'm much more aware of that gap than you think. I know anything between us is impossible, so such a thought has never occurred to me."

"That's great. You're still young, Emma. You still have a long road ahead of you. Amelia needs a father too. Have you ever thought of finding one for her?"

"Do you have someone in mind? If there is, then tell me. I'll have a look at him. If there isn't, I can introduce a few to you. I have a few veteran friends with sons the same age as you-"

Emma abruptly cut him off. "Stop, Dad. You're nagging about this right after you're back. Aren't you tired of it?"

"It's been a full day for me. I'll get into bed now. You should get some sleep too, Dad."

Emma dashed to the room as though a monster was chasing her.

A bitter smile curled on David's lips. I know she's not looking for a man because she still can't forget about Zeke. Well, I don't blame her. How can she fall in love with anyone else after meeting a man as perfect as Zeke?

Emma got up early the next morning to get ready and leave the house.

Zeke, who was sleeping in the living room, was startled awake by her movements. He asked groggily, "Emma? Why are you off so early?"

She replied, "I promised to meet with Ms. Lucy today, so I'm off to meet her to discuss Project Mitxel.

"Even though I know it's highly likely Ms. Lucy won't choose us as her business partners, I'm hoping she might change her mind if I show her my keen intention."

Zeke conceded, "All right, I get your point. Well, give me a second. I'll go with you."

Delight blossomed within Emma.

It looks like rejection from Ms. Lucy will not affect my mood with Zeke by my side.

On the way there, Emma got a phone call.

The minute she clicked off her call, her expression turned dour. The glee on her face had disappeared.

Zeke noticed the change in her mood and asked, "What's the matter, Emma? Who was that on the phone earlier?"

Emma answered gloomily, "It was from Ms. Lucy. She asked us to head straight to the Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort."

The Intercontinental Group?

With a frown, Zeke questioned, "Lucy stayed the night at the Intercontinental Group's resort?"

"It's very likely. I suspected Sheldon was the one who made the arrangements."

"Based on my understanding of Sheldon, he's willing to do anything to make Ms. Lucy happy. We have officially lost all hope now,"

Chapter 2128

The frown in between Zeke's brows deepened. Something felt wrong. Did Rhett not inform Lucy of his decision? If Rhett had informed Lucy earlier, then she wouldn't be so friendly with Sheldon. Or did Rhett ignore my advice to collaborate with the Linton Group? The latter was entirely impossible.

Zeke didn't plan on giving Rhett another call again. He's not worth another call from me.

Not long after, Zeke and Emma arrived at the Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort.

When they couldn't spot Anson in the lobby, they assumed he had been fired.

The security guard, who Zeke had beaten up yesterday, was watching the latter with animosity.

Even the receptionist's enthusiasm was gone and replaced with a cold expression.

"Mr. Guerrero is waiting for you at the usual place."

Zeke merely glared at the receptionist without saying a word.
I don't need to get mad at a menial receptionist.

The two took the elevator and arrived at the third floor.

Once the elevator's door slid shut in the lobby, Anson sneaked out from the fire escape.

He inquired softly, "Has the two gone up?"

The receptionist nodded. "Yep, they just got in the elevator."

Perfect!

A malicious gleam flashed across his eyes. "How dare that bast*rd hit me? I'll show him who's the boss here.

"I want all of you to follow the plan. We can't let these bast*rds take a step out of the resort unharmed today."

"Understood!" the security guards replied in unison.

The restaurant on the third floor was as empty as yesterday. There was not a single guest around.

They saw only Sheldon seated at his seat with his eyes shut, listening to music with an enjoyable expression.

Without a doubt, Sheldon had once again booked the entire restaurant to welcome Lucy.

Hearing light footsteps headed his way, Sheldon slowly opened his eyes. "Look who do we have here? May I know why are both of you here? Please excuse me for my rudeness of not welcoming you," he taunted.

Emma returned coldly, "Sheldon, where is Ms. Lucy?"

Sheldon shifted his gaze upward at the presidential suite located above the restaurant. "Ms. Lucy is currently enjoying an excellent bottle of wine in the arms of some handsome men over a beautiful view."

"You're shameless!" Emma barked. Sheldon's words implied that he had arranged an escort service for Lucy.

Sheldon retorted, "You got it right. I am shameless.

"Dignity means nothing in the modern world. It doesn't fill your belly."

"Oh right, Emma. Don't think I've given up on the Linton Group after seizing Project Mitxel. I'll eventually engulf it bit by bit.

"You still have time to switch sides and work for me. This is the last chance I'll be offering you. There won't be another offer like this in the future."

"Keep dreaming!" Emma grunted through gritted teeth.

A handsome young man and a muscular man came down the stairs from the presidential suite above. They stopped in front of Sheldon and bowed slightly. "Good Morning, Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon questioned, "Did Ms. Lucy have a good night's sleep? Is she satisfied with the both of you?"

The young man said, "She was very excited and energetic last night. So I'll take that as a yes. She's having trouble getting up this morning, so she's still in bed."

Sheldon let out a victorious laugh. "Head over to the finance department and request an extra hundred thousand as a tip for your hard work."

Both the men were delighted. "Thank you for the generous tip, Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon arched his brow and challenged Emma and Zeke. "Oh right. Please serve that lady over there as well. She's a friend of mine, so I want her to have a taste of your excellent service."

Both men glanced at Emma and felt a surge of excitement.

This kind of mature and experienced lady is hard to come by. She is exactly our type. We'll serve her well even if we lose some money.

They walked toward Emma and flashed her a wide smile. "Let's go to a room, babe. Let us serve you-"

"F**k off! You shameless a**holes!" Emma shouted.

Chapter 2129

Both men were shocked. "Dear, you might not know how capable we are. We promise to satisfy your every desire-"

"Get out of my way!" Zeke hissed.

His domineering presence caused both Leonard and Rodney to do a double-take.

Right that moment, it felt as if they were watched by the grim reaper. They felt a chill trickle down their spine and trembled in fear.

"Who is it? Why are you upset early in the morning?" A deep voice speaking stilted Eurasian was heard upstairs.

Everyone turned to look upward subconsciously.

It was a female foreigner with wrinkles all over her face. She might be an elderly lady, but her outfit was revealing and seductive. The sight was both strange and disgusting.

Hmm, this must be Ms. Lucy. When both Leonard and Rodney spotted Lucy, they dashed toward her and pouted coquettishly.

"Dear, we've been bullied," Leonard wailed.

"Dear, you have to get back at him!" Rodney whined.

Chuckling, Lucy patted their butts and announced, "Don't worry, my darlings. No one can bully you, for I'm the only one who can bully you. I'll avenge you both today!"

Leonard and Rodney seemed touched by her gesture. "Thank you, Dear. You're the best."

Lucy said, "You should get something to eat. I need to talk to them about work."

"All right," Leonard and Rodney answered in unison. "Dear, after you're done with work, we shall serve you well. There are over thirty positions that we have yet to unlock."

Lucy let out a bout of raucous laughter. "Sure!"

She took a seat beside Sheldon. "Thank you, Mr. Guerrero. I love this arrangement of yours."

Sheldon replied hastily, "You flatter me, Ms. Lucy. It's part of my duty."

Lucy gave an indifferent nod. She glanced at Emma and said, "Ms. Jones, take a seat so we can talk."

"All right!"

Both Emma and Zeke took their seats across from Lucy.

As it seemed that Lucy had decided to choose Sheldon, Emma had lost all hope.

Lucy opened her briefcase and pulled out two proposals.

The proposals were each from Linton Group and Intercontinental Group.

As it was a crucial moment, Emma couldn't help but tense up.

Just like what she said last night, she wasn't going to give up until the last moment.

In a deep voice, Lucy uttered, "For the past few days, I've analyzed both proposals thoroughly. In the end, Intercontinental Group's proposal seems to show more sincerity."

Despite having expected that, Emma was disappointed to hear Lucy's decision.

Sheldon could barely hide his delight. "Thank you, Ms. Lucy, Intercontinental Group will work hard to cooperate with Mitxel Group!"

Lucy flashed a smile. "Mr. Guerrero, do you have a pen? I shall sign the letter of intent now."

"Of course!" Sheldon immediately pulled out a pen from his pocket.

The pen was made of pure gold and embellished with a few diamonds. Clearly, it was an expensive pen.

In a respectful manner, he handed the pen to Lucy and said, "Dear Ms. Lucy, as a businessperson, you'll need a pen. This is a gift for you. There's a saying in Eurasia, 'it's the thought that counts.' I hope you'll accept this gift."

Lucy took one look at the pen and realized it was valuable. Her grin widened as she replied, "Of course. It's always a delight to work with you, Mr. Guerrero!"

With that, Lucy raised her hand to sign on the letter.

Meanwhile, Zeke was furrowing his brows.

If Lucy were to sign the letter of intent, it will cause trouble even if Rhett were to come.

"Wait!" He stopped Lucy.

Lucy cast him an arctic stare. "What's the matter?"

She had a bad impression of Zeke, for he had reprimanded her darlings and scared them out of their wits.

Chapter 2130

Zeke explained, "From what I know, you're just a manager who has to listen to your superior. The person in charge of the project is Rhett Mitxel. Shouldn't you inform the person in charge of your decision and gain his approval before deciding on the partner?"

Lucy snickered. "I'm the manager, so I have the right to decide on the partner. Besides, even if he's here, he will definitely choose Intercontinental Group. You will never get to collaborate with Mitxel Group, ever!" she declared.

She then signed on the letter of intent without any hesitation.

Zeke didn't press on. He decided to wait for Rhett to show up and deal with her.

A text from Rhett had just arrived. Rhett was currently in Eurasia and would discuss their collaboration with him personally.

As it was a done deal, Emma sighed. "Mr. Williams, let's go."

To her surprise, Zeke shook his head. "Go? Calm down. Let's wait."

Emma was confused. "Wait? Wait for what?"

Zeke shot her a mysterious smile. "You'll find out a bit later."

Lucy mocked, "Ha! Even if your ancestor shows up, nothing will change."

She turned to Sheldon and ordered, "Arrange for someone to deliver breakfast to my room. Also, remind my darlings to come to my room after finishing their breakfast."

"Sure, no problem!" Sheldon agreed with a smirk.

"Wait up!" Zeke called out.

Lucy gave him a displeased look. "What else do you want? Spill!"

Zeke said, "You need to apologize to me for saying that."

"Apologize?" Lucy scoffed. "Why would I do that?"

Zeke responded, "You claimed that even if my ancestor shows up, nothing will change. If an outsider insults me, it's a grave crime that warrants the death of his or her

Lucy snorted. "The death of my family? Do you think you're a big shot? Well, even if I were to die today, I won't apologize to you. You don't deserve my apology."

Slap!

Zeke slapped her across her face without the slightest hesitation.

"Everyone must take responsibility for what they say," he stated.

Lucy, Emma, and Sheldon were stunned.

He's mad! Is he nuts? How dare he slap Ms. Lucy? His actions will merely make Linton Group and Mitxel Group enemies!

Linton Group was about to expand its business internationally. If it were to lock horns with Mitxel Group, it would face difficulty trying to expand its business.

If Lucy insisted on pursuing the matter, it might create an international dispute.

They shared the same opinion-Zeke had acted rashly.

Cradling her cheek with her hands, Lucy stared at Zeke in disbelief. "Did you just slap me? You foolish Eurasian. How dare you hit me?"

Slap!

In response, Zeke gave her another slap. "Apologize now!"

Never mind if Lucy had only insulted him. Now, she had insulted all Eurasians. Zeke couldn't take it anymore.

"F*ck you!" Lucy spat as fury roared through her mind.

Slap!

Yet another slap landed on her face. Lucy's cheek was red and swollen.

Sheldon felt a chill go down his spine at the scene.

Actually, he was secretly delighted that Zeke had slapped Lucy. The more Zeke made Lucy angry, the more the situation would be in his favor.

But you shouldn't have slapped Lucy in my territory! I'll have to bear responsibility if she gets hurt here. If Lucy terminates the contract...

Instinctively, Sheldon dashed forward and stood before Lucy in a protective manner. "B*stard! How dare you slap our VIP? You have a death wish-"

Slap!

Zeke sent him flying with a slap. "This is my last warning. Apologize to me now!"

He raised his hand in warning.

Lucy felt dread streak through her at the sight of Zeke's huge palm.

Most importantly, she was no match for him.

Chapter 2131

She turned on her heels and fled.

Alas, Zeke had expected her action and tripped her effortlessly.

As a result, Lucy crashed to the ground, and one of her teeth was knocked out.

At once, she said, "I'm sorry. I really am. I didn't mean to offend you. Please accept my apology!"

That managed to calm Zeke down.

However, Emma was dumbfounded.

Oh, dear. The situation is getting out of hand. Never in my wildest dream did I expect Zeke to attack Lucy in a vicious manner! This will definitely cause an international dispute. Zeke's in deep trouble. He might even implicate Linton Group!

At once, Emma took Zeke's hand and urged, "Mr. Williams, we need to leave now before it's too late."

Zeke merely shook his head. "Don't worry. They are no match for me."

Emma got so anxious that a flush crept up her cheeks. "Mr. Williams, they might be no match for you, but this might cause an international dispute."

Zeke scoffed. "Her? She isn't important enough to cause one. Besides, she was the one who insulted me first. I was kind enough to spare her family. What else does she want?"

As Zeke was talking to Emma, Lucy took the chance to crawl away.

After confirming that it was safe, she then scrambled to her feet.

Both Leonard and Rodney ran over to her. "Dear, this is horrible. I feel bad for you!"

"Dear, d-don't worry. I'll take revenge for you!"

However, they didn't do anything after uttering words of comfort.

After all, they were no match for Zeke. There was no way they'd risk their lives just for an elderly lady.

Lucy gritted her teeth. "Sheldon, is this how you treat a guest? If you don't take revenge for me today, don't blame me for breaching the contract."

Hearing that, Sheldon felt his heart sink to his stomach.

As expected, Zeke had implicated him.

Getting to his feet, Sheldon said hastily, "Ms. Lucy, don't you worry. It's part of my duty to avenge you by making sure this man gets punished for his evil deeds!"

He shot Zeke with an evil look. "Zeke, you forced me to do this. I wanted to spare your life, but alas, you have a death wish. I shall grant your wish!"

After patting the dust on his hands away, Zeke returned to his seat. "I'm curious how capable the young CEO of Intercontinental Group can be," he remarked.

In response, Sheldon whipped his phone out and made a call. "Take action now. Yes, right now. No delays!"

After cutting the line, Sheldon scurried over to Lucy. "Ms. Lucy, please take a seat. Time for a good show!"

Lucy sat down as requested. "Hmph! If I'm not satisfied with your solution, I shall call our collaboration off!"

Sheldon promised, "Don't worry. I shall live up to your trust by making sure this b*stard gets the punishment he deserves!"

Soon, a bunch of men dashed downstairs.

The leader was none other than Anson.

The rest were security guards working here, but there were a few dozens more of them today.

Upon arrival, they surrounded Zeke in an instant.

Zeke mocked, "Sheldon, is this the trap you set up? This is disappointing. They are nothing but a bunch of useless fools who lost to me yesterday. Do you think they can defeat me today even though I defeated them yesterday?"

Sheldon retorted, "Zeke, watch closely. You'll see what my plan is."

He turned to the bunch of men and announced, "Show yourselves!"

At once, ten security guards stepped out and removed their jackets.

Underneath their uniforms were martial artists' outfits!

They were all martial artists!

Sheldon wore a menacing grin. "Zeke, I know you're capable enough of defeating over ten security guards. But what if your opponent is a martial artist? Ten of them will come at you all at once. Are you sure you can defeat them all?"

Chapter 2132

Zeke nodded. "Of course I'm sure. There's no need to hesitate."

Sheldon froze at his answer and didn't know how to respond.

"What a boastful man!" Sheldon cursed. "I've selected these martial artists personally from the Martial Arts Association. You can't defeat them easily."

He turned to the martial artists and announced, "Men, hear that? Clearly, he has no respect for you. Can you stomach his insult?"

The martial artists were already seething with fury. They were exuding a murderous vibe.

"Mr. Guerro, stop trying to reason with him. Since he has no respect for us, let's find out how capable he is."

Sheldon agreed. "Do whatever you want. If he ends up dead, I'll bear the responsibility. You won't go to jail for taking his life." The ten martial artists bowed before Zeke in a polite manner. Zeke didn't bother responding with a bow, for they didn't deserve his courtesy

He told Emma gently, "Emma, step back. I don't want to hurt you"

"All right" Emma nodded obediently and retreated as told.

She knew Zeke was capable enough of defeating the ten martial artists easily.

As Zeke neither return their bows nor pay any heed to them, the martial artists were immobilized by fury. How dare he ignore us!

One martial artist roared, "Charge!"

"Yes!"

Ten of them charged at Zeke at once.

This time, Zeke wasn't about to use his energy to attack them.

After learning how to produce the energy, Zeke had been relying on it in fights. Thus, his fighting skills were a bit rusty by now.

He decided to fight physically this time.

Once the martial artists arrived before him, he leaped into the air and rushed toward them.

Thump! Thump! Thump! Thump!

A few loud thumps later, the ten martial artists collapsed to the ground with bruises all over their bodies.

Zeke, on the other hand, had returned to his seat to sip on his tea nonchalantly.

What the hell just happened?

Everyone present was flabbergasted.

Zeke's too strong! We only saw a shadow flitting across the crowd before they collapsed to the ground. We didn't even see how Zeke attacked them. How could he move that swiftly?

Unlike the rest, who could only see what was on the surface, the ten martial artists knew how capable Zeke was. They were close to having a nervous breakdown, for Zeke's speed was beyond their expectations.

He is in the Archduke Class, or beyond that. An Archduke Class warrior could either be a higherup in the Martial Arts Association or a general in the military. We can't afford to offend either of them.

They realized that they had encountered a tough nut this time.

Oh, no. We're done for. If he decides to pursue this matter, there's no way out for us.

Zeke patted the dust off his hands and shot Sheldon a mocking glance. "That's all? As the CEO of Intercontinental Group, is that all you got?"

Sheldon swallowed hard.

Is he too strong? Or are the martial artists too weak? Zeke defeated them as swiftly as the day he defeated my security guards.

He had no idea that Zeke was a force to reckoned with. To Zeke, martial artists were no different from ordinary humans.

For example, a spider was stronger than a fly, but they were both inferior before an elephant.

Staring at Zeke fearfully, the martial artists asked, "May we know who you are? Do you hold an important position in the Martial Arts Association?"

Zeke sneered, "The Martial Arts Association isn't even worthy of licking my boots!"
Hearing that, the martial artists' hearts sank.

As he is bold enough to claim that the Martial Arts Association isn't even worthy to lick his boots, he clearly has no fear for the association. He must be even more powerful than we can imagine.

Zeke exclaimed, "A martial artist should protect the country and punish the evil instead of being someone else's hatchet man. You're a disgrace to all martial artists! I now order you to leave the Martial Arts Association and head to battle to make up for your mistake. You'll regain freedom after killing ten enemies of your rank."

Chapter 2133

"Yes, of course. We'll do that right away," the martial artists responded with bated breath before leaving the scene slowly.

Fortunately, he didn't take our lives. It's a miracle we're still alive.

None of them dared to question Zeke's decision.

A warrior as strong as Zeke had thousands of subordinates. He could ask anyone to find out their whereabouts easily.

If they refused to do as told, Zeke would definitely take their lives.

"Oh, how weak, Zeke remarked after taking another sip of tea. "Sheldon, do you have other tricks up your sleeve? Show them now. If you're done, it's time for me to show my wrath."

At a loss for words, Sheldon turned to look at his security guards carefully.

In response, they fled the scene without looking back.
Is he kidding us? The man managed to defeat ten martial artists easily. We won't be his match. We'd rather resign than fight against him! It's more important to stay alive!

Seeing that, Sheldon turned purple with rage.

Bunch of useless fools! How could they screw me up at such a critical moment? How heartless of them!

Meanwhile, Lucy was trying to sneak away.

Sheldon couldn't protect her, so she had no choice but to protect herself.

The only way for her to stay alive was to sneak away before anyone could realize it.

Unfortunately for her, Zeke wasn't about to let her off the hook that easily.

As his gaze landed on her, Lucy trembled in fear and halted in her tracks.

Zeke wanted Lucy to stay and wait for Rhett's arrival.

However, Lucy instinctively thought he wanted to take her life.

In a shaking voice, she warned, "Zeke, yyou can't harm me! Otherwise, I shall lodge a formal complaint with the embassy..."

With a smile that did not reach his eyes, Zeke announced, "Sure, you can do that. Let's see if the embassy dares to sanction me."

Lucy couldn't hide her delight. "Are you sure I can call the embassy?"

"Of course," came Zeke's calm reply.

"All right!"

Lucy hurriedly dug her phone out to call Yartran's embassy in Eurasia.

Sheldon was also secretly pleased.

Zeke must've lost his mind to agree to let Lucy inform the embassy about this. This will escalate into an international dispute. No matter how capable Zeke is, he can't violate international law. He's doomed. I'm sure of it.

The call connected within a few rings.

Lucy wailed, "Help! I need help! An Eurasian is beating me to a pulp! Yes, I'm a Yatranian. My name is Lucy, and I'm a manager at Mitxel Group from Yartran. Please, save me now! I'm going to die soon. I'm at Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort right now. Hurry!"

After hanging up, Lucy regained her composure and provoked Zeke.

"Ha! Someone from the embassy is going to come soon. I shall ask them to sue you in the international court. Even Eurasia won't be able to save you! If you want me to spare your life, apologize to me now. I might consider forgiving you," she said smugly.

Emma panicked instantly.

Zeke was an influential figure locally, but his powers were of no use beyond the country.

She couldn't imagine what the consequences would be if Lucy were to bring the matter to the international court.

At once, she said carefully, "Mr. Williams, things are getting out of control. Why don't. we-"

Zeke cut her off. "Says who?"

Emma was surprised. "Do you mean it's still under your control?"

Zeke gave a curt nod. "Yep."

Taken aback, Emma didn't know if she should trust Zeke.

In the end, she chose to trust Zeke, for he had never let her down.

In fact, the ambassador of Yartran's embassy, Jacques, was an old acquaintance of Zeke.

Chapter 2134

Once upon a time, when Zeke was working on a secret mission in Yartran, he encountered Jacques, who was bitten by a venomous snake.

Just as Jacques was about to die, Zeke had used his Ammo Needle to save the former's life.

From then on, Jacques worshipped Zeke like he was a god.

Even the doctors in Yartran's top hospital might not be able to save him from his grievous injury, but Zeke had easily saved his life with just a few silver needles.

What else could he be but a god?

As a matter of fact, Jacques even volunteered to become Yartran's ambassador in Eurasia just to be closer to Zeke.

Of course, he was also there for another reason he was there to learn Ammo Needle from Zeke.

He shared the same thoughts as Rhett.
It was just that Jacques was not as obvious as Rhett.

Lucy laughed. "Things are still under your control? Only a kid will be fooled by your words. Once the people from the embassy come, I'll be witnessing your moment of desperation."

Around half an hour later, the sirens went off by the hotel entrance.

When they turned to look in the direction of the sound, they saw dozens of police cars surrounding the hotel.

In fact, there were a few luxury cars with black car plates.

Black car plates were international licenses. Only the ambassadors had the right to have them.

Lucy beamed. "The people from the embassy are here! I can't wait to see you bawl your eyes out."

After the car doors opened, countless people came down from the car and swarmed in.

The people from the Yartran embassy were not the only ones there. Various members of various Eurasian departments were there as well.

When Lucy saw them, she ran over and sobbed, "You're finally here! I-I was nearly beaten up by these people! You have to give me my justice!"

The head of Yartran's embassy, Jacques, hurriedly consoled Lucy, "Don't worry. Although Yartran won't stir up any trouble, we won't be afraid to confront troubles. If you've been bullied, I will definitely bring you justice on behalf of Yartran."

Lucy nodded fervently. "Thank you, Mister. I'm sure you and Yartran will deal with this well."

Jacques then turned to the Eurasian officers and said, "Mr. Patel, look at this lady's face. Look at how swollen it is. The culprit has committed such an atrocious crime! If you can't give us a good answer for this, then please don't blame Yartran for pressuring Eurasia about this matter."

Gabriel Patel hastily said, "Mr. Jacques, Ms. Lucy, please calm down. My sincerest apologies for your terrible encounter in Eurasia. Please be at ease. We'll definitely not let you suffer in silence in Eurasia. Could you please tell me who was the one who did this to you?"

Lucy then pointed at Zeke. "It's him."

Gabriel shot a glare at Zeke before turning to console Lucy again, "Miss, please give me a moment. I'll have him apologize to you right now."

Lucy shrieked, "Apologize to me? Do you think everything will be fine after he apologizes to me? He has already hit my face to this point. Will his apology make my face recover right away? Why don't I give you a slap and apologize to you instead?"

Gabriel replied, "Ms. Lucy, you've misunderstood me. It won't just be a verbal apology. I'll have him compensate you with a large amount of money. Please feel free to name any amount. If he can't afford it, Eurasia's government will pay on his behalf."

It was then Lucy relaxed.

Gabriel then stormed toward Zeke.

"You b*stard, did you think that Ms. Lucy is someone you can cross? She's an executive member of Mitxel Group, and she's an esteemed guest of Eurasia! You- You've gotten Eurasia in big trouble! Hmph! I don't care who you are. Scram over and apologize to her. Then, heed everything she says and get her forgiveness regardless of what she asks you to do. You have to agree to any amount she says. If you can't afford the compensation in full, Eurasia will pay the balance."

Zeke's expression darkened.

Chapter 2135

I can't believe someone who looks like a henchman has been assigned to one of Eurasia's public relations matters. He's embarrassed the entire country!

At that very moment, Zeke was overwhelmed by the urge to punch the man to death.

"Hey! I'm talking to you," Gabriel snapped. "Apologize to Ms. Lucy right away!"

Zeke truly wanted to beat him up, but he could not.

As of that moment, Gabriel represented Eurasia. If Zeke hit the former, he would be embarrassing Eurasia.

Therefore, he held himself back and gritted out, "What if I say no?"

"You b*stard!" Gabriel cursed again. "Why are you so stubborn at a time like this? I'm ordering you to apologize to Ms. Lucy right away!"

Zeke hissed, "What right do you have to order me around?"

"Fine!" Gabriel snarled, furious. "You're not going to heed my order, are you? Well then, I'll have to resort to violence. Men!"

The men he brought hurried over. "Yes, Mr. Patel?"

Gabriel glared at Zeke and said, "Brat, last chance. If you still refuse to apologize, don't blame me for resorting to force."

At that, Zeke snapped. "F*ck you! You're an embarrassment to Eurasia!"

Unable to stand it any longer, Gabriel yelled, "Take him down!"

Gabriel's men swarmed forward at his order.

At that very last moment, Zeke let out a wave of energy that instantly covered Gabriel's men.

Gabriel's men instantly found themselves unable to move.

Gabriel scowled. "Darn it! Stop standing there and start working on it!"

He had no idea Zeke had stopped his men from moving with his energy.

Smack!

Zeke was sick of his actions, so he finally slapped Gabriel.,

In the next second, the entire place fell silent. Everyone then began staring at Zeke in shock.

To them, Gabriel was the one who could decide whether Zeke lived or die.

Not only had Zeke not tried to butter up Gabriel and speak with his brain-to-mouth filter on, but he even hit the latter. He must have a death wish!

After their initial shock, adrenaline began rushing through Sheldon and Lucy's veins.

Keep it up! Make it worse! The worse this gets, the better! In fact, kill Gabriel! Once that happens, we won't even need international entities to deal with him. Eurasia itself will end him!

Rage flowed through Gabriel like lava as he covered his cheek and stared at Zeke in disbelief.

"You... hit me. You actually hit me! YouYou're obstructing enforcement of the law!"

You're disrupting public order! You've committed yet another crime!"

Upon hearing that, Zeke retorted, "Enforcement of the law? What kind of law are you enforcing?"

"What nonsense are you spewing. Obviously, I'm enforcing Eurasia's law!"

"I've never heard of any Eurasian law stating that we have to lick the boots of foreigners."

"Bullsh*t! You're slandering us. Who's licking the boots of the foreigners? I'm just protecting the legal rights of foreigners on Eurasian soil; I'm only protecting Eurasia's reputation! Just you wait. I'm going to make sure you won't end well!"

Gabriel stormed toward Lucy and Jacques.

"Most esteemed Ms. Lucy," Gabriel apologetically started. "We were not good enough. Be at ease. Eurasia will surely make sure that justice is served. It is just a matter of time. This culprit is violently resisting the law, and he is now a threat to my own safety. There's nothing I can do about him. Still, don't worry, I'll be contacting the armed police so that they can come and deal with this man. "Please be rest assured."

Lucy huffed in dissatisfaction. "Hmph! I have limited time, and you're wasting it! If I knew that Eurasia's environment was this bad, I wouldn't have come in the first place."

Gabriel was ashamed of the chiding to the point he could not raise his head.

Once Lucy was done with her cursing, Gabriel finally muttered, "Once again, let me apologize for what you've encountered in Eurasia. I've informed the armed police, and they'll be here right away. By then, not only will this man compensate you for your loss, but Eurasia will as well. What do you think of that?"

Chapter 2136

Lucy mulled over his words. "Mr. Jacques, what do you think of this?"

However, Lucy did not receive an answer to her question.

When she turned to look at Jacques, she belatedly realized that Jacques was staring at Zeke in a daze.

He looks so familiar, but I can't be sure if that's him or not.

The man in Jacques' heart was a powerful man above all. He could not believe that that man would be in a place like this, in conflict with trivial characters like Lucy.

Of course, the one Jacques was thinking about was the Great Marshal.

He had only come across the Great Marshal a few times in his life as he did not have many opportunities to meet the man.

Every time he saw the Great Marshal, the Great Marshal was in full military gear, looking intimidating.

However, the man in front of him was in casual clothes. He looked like the most ordinary person.

Is he really the Great Marshal? If he's not, then why do the two of them look so similar?

Unable to come to a conclusion by himself, he finally decided to ask the man himself.

Hence, he walked over to Zeke.

Gabriel quickly stopped him. "Mr. Jacques, please stop. This man is dangerous, and I suspect that he's part of a terrorist organization. It's best for you to keep a distance from him.

"If there's anything you want to ask him, it's better if you wait until the armed police are here. Once he's arrested, we can then interrogate him."

However, Jacques did not heed his words as he continued his way over to Zeke. Soon, he came to a stop three meters away from Zeke,

No one could be within a meter of the Great Marshal.

That was why Jacques had respectfully stopped three meters away. He then carefully asked, "Mister, may I know what your family name is?"

"Williams," Zeke replied.

Jacques's heart lurched, and he promptly continued asking, "May I know what your name is?"

"Zeke Williams," Zeke answered.

Buzz!

Jacques' mind went blank.

Zeke Williams! He really is the Great Marshal, Zeke Williams! D*mn Lucy. Of everyone to cross, she had to cross the Great Marshal. Now we're in deep trouble. If the Great Marshal is truly furious, he might really wipe out the entire Yartran.

Jacques had no doubt that Zeke was capable of doing that, for Zeke had done it before.

After recomposing himself, Jacques instantly went on his knees to apologize to Zeke.

It did not matter what country he was from; as long as the Great Marshal was before him, he had to get on his knees.

However, Zeke cleared his throat and gave Jacques a look.

Jacques instantly returned a small nod.

The Great Marshal was in plain clothes, so he clearly was not in a situation where he wanted to reveal his identity.

Thus, Jacques did not kneel. Instead, he tentatively asked. "Mr. Williams, may I know if you've really hit Ms. Lucy?"

Zeke nodded. "That's correct. I've hit her."

Jacques asked, "Then, may I know why you wanted to hit her?"

"That's because she insulted me and the rest of my people."

Oh no!

Once again, Jacques' mind imploded.

The godd*mn Lucy insulted the Great Marshal? Even I have to kneel before him, and yet Lucy insulted him? It's a crime punishable by death, and her whole family will go down with her! If the Great Marshal doesn't calm down today, then Yartran will surely encounter great trouble. Hence, Jacques growled, "Lucy, come here!"

Lucy ran up to him, "Mr. Jacques, you're heard him too. He admitted that he hit me! I strongly suggest letting the international court deal with him."

Smack!

Without bothering with a reply, Jacques gave Lucy a slap.

Let the international court deal with him? F*ck you. Not even the international court would dare to interrogate Zeke!

Not only had Jacques' harsh slap dumbfounded Lucy, but it had also astounded the rest of the people there.

What's going on? What's happening? Why is Jacques hitting his own people?

With a hand on her aching cheek, Lucy stared at Jacques in shock. "You... What? Why did you hit me?"

Jacques then asked, "Let me ask you a question. Did you insult Mr. Williams?"

"I did, and that's because he deserves it. Furthermore, even if I've insulted him, he shouldn't slap me!"

Smack!

Once again, Jacques slapped her without hesitation.

"It was just a slap. You've insulted him, so he had the right to end you and your entire family! Apologize to Mr. Williams right now!"

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Lucy gritted her teeth and hissed, "There's no way I'm apologizing to him."

Gabriel then jogged over and said, "Mr. Jacques, Ms. Lucy, please calm down."

We're at fault for this incident, so the one who should apologize is us. Let me apologize to you on behalf of Eurasia for the unhappy experiences you've been through here."

At that moment, Zeke was about to fly into a fit of rage.

The other party was about to apologize to Eurasia, but that idiot kept insisting on apologizing to them and making Eurasia the one at fault. You're even saying that you'll apologize on behalf of Eurasia. What f*cking right do you have to represent Eurasia?

If not for the fact that they were around guests from other countries, Zeke would have ended Gabriel's life by then.

Jacques then glared at Lucy and snapped, "I'll ask you the question one last time. Will you apologize?"

"I won't!" Lucy said in determination.

"Very well. I hope you'll remain in your stance until the very end. I'll call Yartran right now and have Yartran remove your citizenship. From now on, you're no longer a Yartranian. Don't doubt my capability to do it because I've done this many times in the past."

With that said, Jacques took out his phone to call Yartran.

Immediately, Lucy panicked.

If she did not have her citizenship, she would lose everything-her work, her assets, and her family.

That was a risk she could not take.

Since she was at the end of her road, she could only bow to Zeke and apologize to him.

Thus, she hastily said, "Stop! Stop! I... I'll apologize now. I'll apologize right now!"

She then glanced at Zeke and mumbled half-heartedly, "Sorry."

"You're not sincere enough!" Jacquesuttered.

Steeling herself, Lucy then bowed and repeated, "I'm sorry, Mr. Williams."

Zeke shook his head. "Forget it. Don't apologize anymore. You don't look like you meant it anyway."

His words made Lucy panic, and she bowed even lower. "Mr. Williams, I've made a mistake earlier. Please forgive me for what I've done. I know you're a kind man, so please ignore the foolish deeds done by a petty character like me."

In an indifferent tone, Zeke told her, "Listen up. You're living on Eurasian soil, eating our food, drinking our water, and earning our money. By insulting us, you're biting the hand that feeds you. That's something Eurasia will not tolerate in silence. You have three days to leave Eurasia, or you'll have to suffer the consequences.

Jacques nodded vigorously. "Don't worry, Mr. Williams. I'll be making the arrangements myself. If there isn't anything else, we'll be taking our leaves now."

Zeke ignored Jacques, and the latter turned to leave despondently.

However, Gabriel snarled, "Brat, you better be doing the right things for the next few days. I'll be watching what Yartran does next. If Yartran takes out his anger on Eurasia because of you, I'll make sure your life will be tough from then on."

At that, Zeke's expression darkened even more.

How did a spineless man like him end up in this position? He's ruining Eurasia's reputation!

Zeke then reprimanded, "I hope you'll be resigning from your position. You'll definitely regret it if I were to take this matter into my own hands.

"Are you threatening me?" Gabriel shot a glare at Zeke. "I reserve the right to sue you for this."

After yet another glare at Zeke, he turned and left.

Zeke heaved a heavy sigh.

How unlucky the country is to have someone as spineless as Gabriel.

Zeke had decided to make Sole Wolf temporarily in charge of public relations.

After all, Sole Wolf was someone who would be able to repair Eurasia's ruined reputation in a short amount of time.

While Jacques and Gabriel were leaving the hot spring hotel, Jacques asked, "Mr. Patel, what do you think about how Mr. Williams has asked you to resign from your position?"

Gabriel bitterly smiled at that. "My apologies to have let you witness that absurd moment, Mr. Jacques. I strongly suspect that he's not Eurasian. Eurasians have always been friendly to foreigners. Don't worry. I'll deal with him and have his citizenship revoked."

Chapter 2138

Jacques replied, "I'm afraid you don't have the right to do that. On the other hand, he actually has the right to remove your citizenship."

Gabriel chuckled. "Mr. Jacques, please don't pull my legs. Other than the Colonel, there isn't anyone in Eurasia who has a higher position than me."

"Do you know who he is?" asked Jacques.

Gabriel froze for a second. "Isn't he just a businessman in Eurasia? From what you've said, it sounds like he has some connections. However, the little connection he has is nothing to me. It won't pose a threat to me at all."

"All right. His name is Zeke Williams. Mr. Patel, it's best that you look into his records,"

With that said, Jacques turned and left.

His words made Gabriel feel uneasy.

Could it be that Zeke really has a powerful background? So Jacques sided with him because he was scared of his power?

The new knowledge was giving Gabriel a headache.

He quickly went into his car, turned on his laptop, and begin reading Zeke's file.

Meanwhile, Sole Wolf called Zeke.

"Zeke, there's someone looking into your file. That person is currently near - Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort."

Zeke knew almost immediately that it must be Gabriel who was looking at his file.

Hence, he said, "Give him permission to look into the entire file."

Sole Wolf curiously asked, "But why? Is he your friend? Is that why you're giving him permission?"

Zeke sighed. "I guess he's technically my enemy. Just do as I say."

"Okay, Zeke. I've given him permission."

"Sole Wolf, I have another mission for you. For now, you'll be in charge of public relations. Certain people have ruined our country's reputation, so everyone thinks that Eurasia is a harmless kitten that anyone can be mean now. Therefore, I want you to prove to the world that Eurasia is not a kitten but a ferocious tiger."

At that, Sole Wolf exclaimed, "Zeke, I've told you a long time ago to leave the public relations to me, but you refused to listen to me. In fact, you even told me not to overstep my boundaries! I've told you many times that the one in charge of public relations-Gabriel Patel-is a coward who only knows how to embarrass us, but you didn't believe in me. Why did you suddenly change your mind?"

Zeke sighed. "I just never thought that he would be such an idiot. I overestimated him."

Sole Wolf hummed. "Zeke, be at ease. I'll make sure that our reputation will change for the better. Random nobodies used to go amok on our land, but today, I'm going to wring them by their necks and let them know who's the boss. All right, Zeke, let's end the call here. There was a country that boycotted our products yesterday. I'm going to talk to their leader now."

The call ended, and Zeke frowned.

Have I done the right decision in having Sole Wolf be in charge of public relations?

In the meantime, on the other side, Gabriel opened Zeke's file.

At the same time, a smirk grew on his face.

"Ha. If I have permission to open his file, that means he must be in a lower position than me. You're still too young to fight with me."

He then continued reading the file.

The more he read, the more he realized things did not seem right.

The file stated that Zeke had achieved countless Special Class Merits, as well as First Class Merits and Second Class Merits.

As a matter of fact, he had come across even more unbelievable statements. Years ago, to save one of his comrades, he had entered a dangerous place alone and wiped out the entire country by himself.

That statement stunned Gabriel as he wondered, Are you sure this is his file and not a fantasy story? If he has these many achievements, why would he still be of a lower status than me?

Then, when he finally saw the words "Great Marshal" at the end of the file, his mind went blank.

The Great Marshal! Zeke Williams is the Great Marshal! I-I've insulted the Great Marshal! Oh my god!

Gabriel grabbed his head and screamed internally. At that very moment, he only had one thought in his mind, which was to end his own life.

There was a common saying in the country that went, "One would rather face the devil than go against the Great Marshal. If they crossed the devil, death was what awaited them. On the other hand, if they crossed the Great Marshal, their lives would be a living hell.

Chapter 2139

It was then he realized why Jacques was so terrified of Zeke.

So that's why!

Gabriel took a long time before finally regaining his composure.

Then, he steeled himself and decided to sneak out of Eurasia.

As long as he was on Eurasian soil, he would never dare to let his guard down.

On the other side, Lucy was glaring at Zeke. "Hmph! Zeke, it's too early for you to be smug! I heard that your Linton Group is about to expand into international markets. I'll be talking to my business partners in Mitxel Group and informing them not to work with Linton Group. As a matter of fact, I'll have them go against you. Mitxel Group has business partners all over the world, and they're powerful companies. If you're blacklisted by them, it would be mighty tough for you to grow overseas!"

With that, Lucy spun around and went up the stairs.

Sheldon hurried after her. "Ms. Lucy, I'll be on your side. From now on, Intercontinental Group will be enemies of Linton Group forever. My business partners will have to cease working with Linton Group, or else they'll be Intercontinental Group's enemies as well!"

Hearing that, Emma drew her brows together.

If Linton Group was blacklisted within the country and overseas, they would be trapped in an endless cycle of hell.

In fact, they might not be able to last for long.

There was one thing she could be sure of they would not be able to establish Linton Group's branch office there anymore, for the place was Intercontinental Group's territory. Blacklisted by Intercontinental Group, it would be foolish for them to even think of getting businesses in the former's territory.

Right then, the elevator doors slid open, and a foreigner stepped out of it.

"What's going on outside? Why are the people from the embassy here?" the person asked the moment they came out of the elevator.

That person was none other than Rhett Mitxel from Mitxel Group.

When Lucy, who was about to return to her room, saw him, she ran up to him and said, "Mr. Rhett, why are you here?"

She was baffled by his appearance. She did not know why Rhett would suddenly come to this place, without telling her about his trip here.

Rhett said, "Well, I'm here to check on Project Mitxel's progress."

Sheldon then quickly stretched out his arm for a handshake. "Greetings, Mr. Rhett. I'm Intercontinental Group's person in charge, Sheldon Guerrero. It's an honor to meet you."

Rhett half-heartedly answered, "Mm, nice to meet you too. By the way, Lucy, what's going on with the people from the embassy?"

Lucy explained, "Oh, it's nothing. Just a dumb Eurasian who was mean to me. The people from the embassy have come to look into the matter."

Rhett nodded and did not dwell on it. "Right. How goes Project Mitxel?"

"Mr. Rhett, we've found our business partner! This man here will be working with us from now on."

Rhett quickly nodded. "Mr. Rhett, I'll be in your care from now on. I look forward to working with you."

did company "Which from?" asked Rhett. you say you were

"I'm from Intercontinental Group."

Rhett frowned a little. "Intercontinental Group? I've never heard of it. What relationship do you have with Linton Group?"

Maybe Intercontinental Group is one of the companies under Linton Group!

Sheldon hesitated, wondering why Rhett mentioned Linton Group.

He was trying to figure out whether Rhett was on good terms with Linton Group or not.

They must be enemies. After all, Linton Group and Mitxel Group are rivals in the industry.

Hence, Sheldon replied, "We're enemies with Linton Group."

Enemies!

Instantly, rage boiled in Rhett's veins.

It's an honor that the Great Marshal's Linton Group is interested in this project, but Lucy gave this project to another company? She's dumb. How foolish of her to have done this!

Chapter 2140

"Lucy, How could you act on your own accord and decide to choose Intercontinental Group as our partner? Did you care to ask for my opinion at all?" Rhett snapped, glowering menacingly at her.

Lucy's heart skipped a beat at the sight of the scowl on the former's face. Oh my! It seems he's dissatisfied with the Intercontinental Group!

She explained to him hastily, "Mr. Rhett, after a few rounds of in-depth inspection for Intercontinental Group, I notice it's the most suitable company to collaborate with us in this project. Thus, I feel there's no harm signing an agreement with them."

Exuding an imposing aura, Rhett snarled, "Didn't you hear me? I didn't ask you if Intercontinental Group is qualified to collaborate with Mitxel Group! I only asked why you didn't ask for my opinion when finalizing the options!"

As Lucy tensed up further, she stammered, "I-I thought I had the right to do so." That's bullsh*t! Rhett lambasted, "Who on earth authorized you to do so?"

Lucy was caught off guard and rendered speechless. She could not fathom why Rhett was in a sudden frenzy.

Before that, he had never blown his gasket when she bypassed him in finalizing some decisions related to Mitxel Group. Thus, she dared to act on her own accord by signing up an agreement with Intercontinental Group. What's the matter with him this round?

Sheldon explained apprehensively, "Mr. Rhett, you might not know well about our company. Allow me to make a thorough introduction regarding our group. I bet you'll be satisfied after having a clearer insight."

The next moment, he whipped out a pile of documents and was about to convince Rhett of that.

Nonetheless, the latter fumed, "Keep your mouth shut! Lucy, arrange for me to meet up with the person in charge of Linton Group now. I need to talk things through with them,"

Lucy replied sheepishly, "The persons in charge of Linton Group are already here."

Where? Rhett looked around hastily. Shortly

after, he found Zeke, too, was on the spot.

Pointing at Emma and Zeka, Lucy stated, "They are the ones..."

Before she could finish her words, Rhett had already made his way toward Zeke.

Initially, he intended to shake hands with the latter. However, he held himself back when something came to his mind: Ha! Who am I to shake hands with him?

Subsequently, he bowed to Zeke instead.

"Mr. Williams, I'm sorry I wasn't aware you're around. Please don't take it to heart. As for my staff's negligence this round, please accept my sincerest apology," Rhett apologized to him earnestly with another bow.

Everyone was stupefied. It never came across their minds that Rhett had ever crossed paths with Zeke before. Their curiosity was piqued as he seemed to be in awe of the latter.

D*mn it! Where on earth did this Zeke Williams come? The ambassador of Yartran's embassy in Eurasia is respectful of him. Meanwhile, the third shareholder of Mitxel Group, too, is intimidated by him! The fear on Lucy's face intensified gradually.

Zeke mocked, "Mr. Rhett, I'm impressed by your staff!"

Rhett almost buried his head in his hands as he wailed, "My goodness! Lucy is oblivious and naive for not choosing Linton Group! Mr. Williams, don't worry. I'll teach her a lesson and punish her severely."

Zeke put on a show to grumble indignantly, "There's nothing much I can say if Ms. Lucy never considers Linton Group because we are incomparable to Intercontinental Group. But she didn't even have an inspection on my company. In fact, she chose Intercontinental Group right away after being sexually bribed by someone assigned by them. That's indeed unfair to us!"

What nonsense! Wearing a look of sheer grimness, Rhett glared at her ferociously. "Lucy, you're sexually bribed by anyone from the Intercontinental Group?"

Lucy tried to reason with him. "Mr. Rhett, he's bluffing. How could you take his word for it? After all, I'm not young anymore. How's it possible that I was bribed in such a way? Apparently, he's slandering me!"

Fastening his gazes on Leonard and Rodney alongside him, Rhett questioned, "Cut the crap. What's your relationship with her?"

The duo replied anxiously, "Ah! We've nothing to do with her, W-We're the common employees of Intercontinental Group."

Zeke snorted. "Pfft! You're good at telling cock-and-bull stories!"

Next, he whipped out his phone and clicked to play a voice recording. Surprisingly, it turned out to be the recording made when Leanard and Rodney were flirting with Lucy,

In the face of the overwhelming evidence, Lucy was on the brink of an emotional breakdown. Oh my! I'll be charged with committing a commercial crime! I'll be doomed!

Clenching his fists, Rhett growled, "Fine,

Lucy, It never occurs to me that you would have the cheek to do so, I've underestimated you! From now onwards, you're sacked by Mitxel Group! On top of that, I'll get someone to investigate you. If we find out you're involved in fraud and embezzlement, you could be charged with that as well!"

"I..." Lucy blushed crimson with embarrassment and could not utter any words.

Rhett asked Zeke warily, "Mr. Williams, are you satisfied with my way of getting the matter resolved?"

Zeke shook his head. "No, I'm not."

Perplexed, Rhett stuttered, "M-Mr. Williams, what do you want then? Could you please enlighten me?"

Zeke raised his voice and retorted, "She not only humiliated me but also rebuked all the Eurasians. If you were me, what would you do then?"

What? Rhett got all fired up in an instant. Good gracious! Does the foolish woman know who Zeke Williams is? He's the respectable Dragon Master representing Eurasia and the nation's pride! By getting on Mr. Williams' nerves, she's actually stepping on the toes of the whole of Eurasia! It's not as simple as a commercial crime. She could be sentenced to execution because of that!

Rhett realized he must give it his all to get the matter resolved. If not, Mitxel Group might be in a precarious state. In the worst

scenario, they would even spell trouble for the whole of Yartran.

Temper flaring, he unleashed his wrath on Lucy. "Lucy, get your ass over here!"

Lucy dragged herself toward him, trembling with fear. "Mr. Rhett, I..."

Even so, the latter slapped her without a second thought.

The impact of the slap was so strong that she slumped on the ground with burning pain in her cheek.

Covering her cheek, tears welled up in her eyes as she yowled, "Mr. Rhett, didn't you feel that it's too much? No doubt, I shouldn't have humiliated him. But he had slapped me earlier too. If you feel that's not enough, I can apologize to him again. But you shouldn't treat me violently!"

Undeniably, she had been slapped a few times within a short span.

First, she was slapped by Zeke and next by Jacques, ambassador of Yartran's embassy in Eurasia. And now, it's Mr. Rhett's turn to vent his anger on me! Pfft! Do you think I'm a worthless small fry that deserves all these?

Rhett bellowed, "Since you have the gut to humiliate Mr. Williams, I should've finished you off, let alone slapped you! What're you waiting for? Get on your knees and beg for Mr. Williams' mercy!"

Lucy was nonplussed.

She recalled how Jacques burst a blood vessel after she humiliated Zeke. Meanwhile, Rhett also hit the roof because of the same reason. Could it be this Zeke Williams is no ordinary man, so I've shot myself in the feet for humiliating him?

She could not resist feeling a prickle of fear. Her gut instinct told her that she had dug her own grave by provoking Zeke!

At the sight of Lucy as motionless as a statue, Rhett slapped her again. "What's the matter with you? Apologize to Mr. Williams now!"

Thud!

Prevailed by intense fear, Lucy eventually dropped to her knees in front of Zeke. "Mr. Williams, please accept my apology. I shouldn't have gotten on your nerves. If I'm not mistaken, there's an old saying in Eurasia that sounds like this... a wise person tends to be magnanimous..."

Her voice trailed off when something came to her. Wait a minute! Why does it sound familiar to me? Oh yeah! I've already apologized to him just now, haven't I? Why should I apologize to him again? If others turn up later, does it mean I'll still need to apologize to him and be prepared to be slapped again? My goodness! I'll be beaten up to a pulp for sure then!

Rhett growled at her, "Get lost, and don't be an eyesore here! Don't stir up any trouble while waiting for the group to investigate you!"

Without hesitation, Lucy struggled to her feet and ran for her life despite the pain in her body. She could not take it any longer.

Shortly after, Rhett stated respectfully, "Mr. Williams, please take a seat. Let's talk Project Mitxel out."

"Hmm," Zeke hummed nonchalantly and took a seat.

Rhett whipped out a copy of the document. and handed it to Zeke. "Mr. Williams, this is the agreement drafted exclusively for Linton Group. Please take a look."

Chapter 2142

Zeke stretched out his hand and was about to take it from him, but Sheldon dashed toward them and yelled out, "Mr. Rhett, please hang on. You mustn't sign this agreement."

Rhett rolled his eyes at Sheldon and scoffed, "Huh! Why can't I have the right to sign the agreement for my group?"

Sheldon explained hastily, "Mr. Rhett, to be frank with you, I've already signed an agreement with Mitxel Group. It's stated clearly in black and white that it will be a breach of agreement if you sign another agreement with another company."

Rhett arched his brows and asked, "Where's the so-called agreement you have signed? Let me have a look."

Sheldon took out the agreement and handed it to Rhett at once.

Nonetheless, the latter tore it into pieces right away without sparing any glance at it.

Sheldon stood rooted to the spot.

Meanwhile, Emma was at a loss for words.

"Good gracious! This Rhett Mitxel is indeed a senseless and despicable man. How could he tear the agreement into pieces without batting an eyelid!"

Rhett uttered indifferently, "Now that the agreement is gone, you have nothing to do with Mitxel Group anymore. Get lost and don't ever show up again."

Right that instant, Sheldon almost went berserk!

Tampering down his simmering fury, he refuted, "Rhett Mitxel, how could you give no hoots to the spirit of the agreement? Aren't you afraid of being condemned by everyone once it's known to them that you've broken your promise?"

"If you have the audacity to leak it out, I won't let you off!" Rhett hissed with a smirk.

Rhett's ferocious smirk sent an instant chill down Sheldon's spine.

Needless to say, he never doubted it was a piece of cake for the former to finish him off at any time.

After all, it was no secret to everyone that Mitxel Group was also involved in the business with the underworld. Thus, he

moment. staggered backward instinctively, fearing that Rhett would strike at him at any

On the other hand, Rhett handed the agreement to Zeke again earnestly. "Mr. Williams, please take a look."

Zeke only handed it to Emma casually. "Emma, help me to take a look then."

"Huh? Oh! Okay!" Emma regained her composure and took the agreement from him immediately.

After going through it thoroughly, Emma was dumbstruck.

The so-called agreement on the collaborations between both groups tended to sound more like one that benefited Linton Group solely.

It was stated in the agreement that Mitxel Group would be accountable for almost all the responsibilities for a relatively small percentage of the profit gained. Hence, Emma could not help but doubt if they would gain enough profit even to cover the sum invested in the project.

Surprisingly, Linton Group would be gaining most of the profit, although there was nothing much the group needed to do.

In other words, Linton Group would swallow up the profit gained from the project. Is Mitxel Group having something up its sleeves? How's it possible that the group is doing all this just for the sake of Linton Group?

Rhett asked Emma tactfully, "Ms. Jones, what do you think about this agreement?"

Taking a deep breath, Emma pointed out, "Mr. Rhett, allow me to ask a question. Does it mean that Mitxel Group will comply with the segregation of the tasks and profit accordingly as stated in this agreement?"

Rhett nodded at once and reassured her, "Of course, Ms. Jones."

Zeke asked in bafflement, "Emma, did you sense anything awry from the agreement? Just say it out loud if you spot any."

Rhett emphasized preemptively, "I swear there's nothing fishy in this agreement!"

Emma tried to appease him. "Mr. Rhett, take it easy. There's nothing amiss about this agreement. But I wish to check with you on your main intention of drafting this agreement. According to the terms and conditions stated, it seems Mitxel Group won't be gaining any profit."

Rhett replied solemnly, "It's my greatest honor to be able to collaborate with Linton Group. Why bother about how much profit we can gain through this collaboration? As long as Mr. Williams is happy, I can even let Linton Group fully obtain the profit gained."

Emma's jaw dropped instantaneously. Ah! I don't think he's bluffing! But what makes him willingly let Linton Group gain every single cent of the profit instead? Undoubtedly, he treats Mr. Williams with his utmost reverence!

Zeke broke the silence by urging her, "If there's nothing awry, just sign the agreement."

Astounded, Emma questioned quizzically, "Mr. Williams, how could I sign this agreement for the group since you're here?"

Chapter 2143

Nevertheless, Zeke heaved a sigh resignedly. "My signature won't mean anything. After all, I'm only a low-ranked salesperson for Linton Group."

Only then did it remind Emma that even though Zeke was the founder of Linton Group, he was still a salesperson in the group. It had even turned into everyone's laughing stock in the group.

Eventually, Emma signed the agreement as requested.

Rhett kept the signed agreement instantly, as though he feared that Zeke would break out of it.

He buttered Zeke up by asking, "Mr. Williams, how about I buy you a meal today to celebrate the collaboration between the groups?"

Zeke turned him down right away. "It's all right. I have a tight schedule."

Rhett did not give up pestering him. "Mr. Williams, how about you give me a call when you're free any day? Let's meet up for dinner then."

Right that instant, Rhett was on pins and needles; his palms felt cold and clammy. He was worried sick that Zeke would reject him again.

Even when his wife was giving birth, he was never as anxious as how he was at that moment.

Zeke finally nodded. "Okay! Let's find another day."

Phew! Rhett could not resist heaving a deep sigh of relief.

Soon, Zeke and Emma left.

In the elevator, Emma gazed admiringly at Zeke, awestruck. "Mr. Williams, I've long known about your prominence in Eurasia. But I've never expected that you're influential as well internationally. Even the ambassador of Yartran's embassy and the third shareholder of Mitxel Group have to bow to you. I'm impressed!" Zeke chuckled. "Ha! That's just the tip of the iceberg. My actual capability is beyond your imagination."

Emma gasped, "It's just the tip of the iceberg? Would you mind telling me more about that?" Zeke only shook his head. "It won't do you any good if you happen to know more. Thus, forget about it. Don't ask further."

Wearing a look of sheer disappointment, Emma had no choice but to reply, "All right."

Somehow, she could not resist having the wishful thinking that she would gradually steal Zeke's heart one day. As time elapsed, she tended to yearn for more and was in low spirits with their current relationship. Deep down, she vowed to win his heart regardless of anything.

Within seconds, the elevator reached the first floor.

When they were about to step out of the elevator, a figure rushed toward them and collided with Emma. As a result, she staggered and almost fell to the ground.

She got all worked up and fumed, "What's wrong with you? Can't you be more careful while walking?"

Dumbfounded, the man called out, "Ah! Emma Jones?"

Emma and Zeke fastened their eyes on him right away. It never crossed their minds that they would bump into Brodie Turner, the hefty man who was supposed to rent the building to them.

Needless to say, he was there to sign a tenancy agreement with Sheldon. Since the latter did not succeed in collaborating with Mitxel Group, they foresaw his plan would go bust.

Emma only rolled her eyes at him before turning to leave, paying no heed to him.

Nevertheless, Brodie called out to her deliberately, "Ms. Jones, please wait. I've greeted your courteously, but you only turn a blind eye to me. Don't you think that you're ill-mannered?"

Emma snorted. "I won't waste time greeting anyone who does not comply with the spirit of the agreement."

Earlier on, Brodie had agreed to rent the building to Emma. They had even signed a tenancy agreement. Unexpectedly, he tore the agreement into pieces later. Unequivocally, he was not a man of his words.

Brodie let out a sigh. "I have a hunch you're here to look for Ms. Lucy regarding the collaboration of Project Mitxel. So how's it? Did you manage to sign the agreement with her?"

Emma retorted annoyingly, "That's none of your business!"

Laughing triumphantly, Brodie mocked, "Haha! Apparently, you didn't make it. Don't you know why? Ms. Lucy stayed over at Mr. Guerrero's place last night and even asked you to go over to talk about the agreement, didn't she? It implies that they're now closely acquainted; yet, you still have the gut to talk her into collaborating with you. I bet you must have either lost your mind or your sense of shame!"

Zeke snapped back, "Then why are you here?"

Brodie grinned gleefully. "Of course, I'm here to sign a tenancy agreement with Mr. Guerrero!"

Chapter 2144

Zeke said, "I'm telling you now that Sheldon won't sign the tenancy agreement with you."

Brodie rebuked, "Bullsh**! Mr. Guerrero and I have already reached an agreement. All that was left was signing the physical contract. Are you saying Mr. Guerrero has changed his mind? Shut your d*mn mouth!"

"Don't believe me? We'll see then," Zeke challenged with an arched brow.

"Why don't you call Sheldon here, and we'll talk it out."

"Sure, I'll call him now," Brodie huffed.

"If Mr. Guerrero signs the agreement today, I'll be punching you in the face."

Zeke didn't feel threatened at all. "What if he doesn't sign it?"

"I'll slap my own face. How about that?" Brodie suggested.

"I'm not interested in inflicting harm and violence. Let's do this instead. If Sheldon doesn't sign the tenancy agreement with you, you'll have to lease the building to us for free."

"Fine, deal. If that's the case, I'll change the bet. If Mr. Guerrero decides to lease my building, you'll have to pay one year's worth of rent."

"Deal!" Zeke agreed.

Brodie pulled out his phone and dialed. Sheldon's number.

"Hi, Mr. Guerrero. Are you free for a quick chat?"

"I'm right downstairs at your hotel lobby at the moment. Can I meet with you here for a while?"

"To tell you the truth. It's kind of inconvenient for me to head upstairs, so I'll need a favor from you to come down instead. I apologize for the trouble."

"Okay, great. I'll wait for you here." Hanging up the phone, Brodie shot Zeke with an arrogant look. "Mr. Guerrero is on his way. You'd better prepare 1.2 million."

"It's still early to say who's the winner," Zeke retorted. retorted.

"You just don't know when to give up, do you? Fine! You'll regret it later."

Before long, the elevator's doors at the lobby slid open, revealing Sheldon.

An ominous feeling tightened his gut the moment he saw Zeke. "Why are you still here?"

Brodie explained hurriedly, "Ignore him, Mr. Guerrero. He had probably never seen such a luxurious hotel before, so he was here to enjoy the lavish decorations."

"Let's sign the tenancy contract now that you're here, Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon replied, "Sure. I'll request my secretary to draw up a contract immediately."

Brodie stopped him. "There's no need, Mr. Guerrero. I've already drawn one up myself. Please have a look."

Sheldon muttered an indifferent acknowledgment as he reached for the contract. His mind was trying to conjure a suitable excuse to reject Brodie.

He had initially planned to lease Brodie's building as a command center for Project Mitxel.

Yet, he didn't have Project Mitxel in his hands at that point. Thus it would be difficult to come up with an explanation for his father if he leased the building.

Even though Sheldon was the legal representative of the company, he was just a puppet on strings. The one who made all the calls was still his father.

If there were one million and two hundred thousand missing from the books, he would have to use his own money to cover the loss.

That figure was equivalent to two months' worth of his expenses.

If I don't sign the contract, I'll look like a joke to Zeke.

His mind continued to churn, and he soon came up with a plan.

"Mr. Turner, are you telling me that the run-down building of yours costs more than one million per year?"

"Even though the Mitxel Group can afford it, that doesn't mean you can raise the cost at your will."

Brodie began to panic at his words, so he quickly explained, "Mr. Guerrero, we discussed this before and decided to call it at one million and two hundred thousand. If my memory serves me right, you were the one who suggested the amount, not me.

"You can't go back on your word now."

Sheldon was cussing Brodie in his mind.

This idiot has no common sense. Can't he see what I'm trying to do? I'm trying to send Zeke away for a private discussion. I intentionally phrased it that way so that he could suggest renegotiating the cost. How can he blurt it out in the open? Aren't negotiations usually done in a private setting?

However, Brodie's words had destroyed his plan.

With an impassive expression, Sheldon said, "Right, it seemed my memory failed me. "I was in a hurry to come down, so I didn't bring a pen. Let's sign the contract in my office."

Chapter 2145

"No need for trouble." Brodie immediately whipped out a pen from his pocket and offered it to Sheldon. "I brought one with me. Please use mine, Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon's expression darkened.

This f**king idiot! Is he planning to force me to sign the contract?

Faced with such a situation, Sheldon had no choice but to sign it.

"Here you go. I'll be taking my leave now as I still have work to settle."

He spun around and called for the elevator.

"Wait, Mr. Guerrero." Brodie stopped him. "You haven't paid me the rent yet."

Sheldon cursed Brodie in his mind again. "I'll have to go through the finance department to authorize and transfer that payment. Unfortunately, the manager in charge is not around today, and anyone else has the authority to approve such a large payment."

"How about this? I'll write you a check."

After a brief hesitation, Brodie nodded. "That'll work."

Sheldon reached for the checkbook tucked in his pocket, flipped it open, and began to fill it. "There should be no problems after this, I presume. I'll be returning to my work then." He handed the check to Brodie.

"No problem." Brodie nodded fervently with a wide smile. "It was a pleasure doing business with you, Mr. Guerrero."

"The pleasure is mine," Sheldon returned, then entered the waiting elevator.

Brodie walked toward Zeke, waving the check in front of the latter with a triumphant look. "Anything more you want to say, Williams?"

"Prepare the money, or I'll break your leg."

Zeke challenged, "Are you so sure that you've won?"

"He signed the contract. Are you saying that was fake? Don't tell me you're planning to go back on your words." Brodie cussed.

Zeke asked, "The contract, where is it?"

Brodie's entire body stiffened when he realized Sheldon had taken both copies of the contract with him.

Brodie rebuked, "Mr. Guerrero must have accidentally taken both copies of the contract. I'll ask for it back later."

Zeke wasn't buying his explanation. "Sheldon accidentally took it away? I'm afraid it was intentional."

"Hey Williams, I'm speculating that you don't have a brain," Brodie mocked.

"Why does Mr. Guerrero need so many copies of the contract? He already paid me. It's pointless for him to take away the extra copy.

"So he must have taken it by accident." Zeke continued to question, "Have you checked if the check is valid?"

"What bull are you trying to pull? Of course, it's valid. I watched Mr. Guerrero sign it myself. Are you saying my eyes are playing tricks on me?"

Zeke said casually, "The check is only valid with a stamp. I see that this check doesn't have one, other than a signature. Without stamp, it's nothing more than a paper"

"Huh?"

Brodie instantly examined the check carefully. His hands began to sweat and tremble when he was done.

There's no stamp on the check. This check isn't valid.

A sheen of sweat had covered his forehead. Yet, he still tried to assure himself. "I'm sure Mr. Guerrero has just forgotten to stamp it. I'll bring it to him immediately."

Zeke stopped him. "I advise you not to do that. It's pointless." "Shut up!"

Brodie barked, "Do you take everyone to be as foul as you? Mr. Guerrero wouldn't have gone back on his words for a mere one point two million."

Zeke said casually, "I see you're not going to believe me until you see it for yourself. I'll tell you the truth then, Mr. Turner,

"It was us who had gotten Project Mitxel and not Sheldon.

"Without Project Mitxel, why would he lease a building? It was obvious that he was going back on his verbal agreement with you."

"No! Shut your mouth!"

Brodie's face was red from the anger. "I believe in Mr. Guerrero. He's not that kind of person. I'll ask him to stamp the check now."

He didn't wait for the elevator and took the stairs instead, dashing for Sheldon's office urgently.

He prayed hard on his way, hoping Zeke was lying.

When he arrived at his destination, Sheldon wasn't surprised to see him, as though the former was expecting him. "Mr. Turner, what a rare guest. May I ask the reason for your visit?"

Chapter 2146

Brodie eked out a smidgen of a smile. "Uh, Mr. Guerrero... I think you might have forgotten about your signature, so could I ask for you to stamp it on? Thank you. It was an oversight on my part that I've missed out on that just now, so I feel really bad about having to trouble you about it once again. Do allow me to make it up to you with a meal next time."

"Stamp? On what?" Sheldon asked in return.

Brodie's heart skipped a beat for he had the most ominous premonition inside.

"The check. You forgot to endorse it. Without your stamped signature, this check is about as valuable as a piece of waste paper."

Back and forth, the check inside his hand was waved several times before Sheldon.

"What are you trying to prove by forging my family's check, Mr. Turner? To think you'd come here seeking my signature, as well. Haha. Do you think I'm daft?" Sheldon laughed.

Huh?

Brodie's heart almost stalled. This blasted Sheldon Guerrero is really intent on weaseling out of payment.

Thus, he quickly followed up. "You can't do this, Mr. Guerrero. Being the young proprietor of Intercontinental Group with a net worth of several billion, you can't possibly risk tarnishing your credibility over this paltry one million."

"You'd best watch your tongue, Mr. Turner. Accusing me of fraud? Would you believe that I'd sue you for defamation?" Sheldon snorted.

Mr. Turner dug his heels in. "I'm merely stating the facts here. Doesn't renting my property but cutting me a bad check amount to fraud?"

"Haha. What a joke. I own more houses than I care to live in, so why should I rent one from you? Do you figure that I've too much money to burn through?" Sheldon retorted.

Brodie felt his head throbbing. "We have signed a contractual agreement, Mr. Guerrero. Aren't you worried about the legal repercussions?"

Sheldon regarded Brodie with detachment. "A contract? Where's that? Bring it out and let's have a look at it."

I...

Brodie was quite exasperated.

From where am I going to produce the contract that you've friggin taken from me? Damn you, Sheldon, you cunning bastard.

Though completely played out, Mr. Turner was not about to roll over just like that.

That office building was the last piece of family property to his name so there was no way he was going to allow Sheldon to burn it off him, especially not when Zeke and Emma were downstairs waiting to have a laugh at his expense.

Squatting down, Brodie was seemingly ready to throw a fit.

"This is simply too much, Mr. Guerrero! I'm not going to leave your house until you put your stamp on that check!"

"Well, suit yourself," Sheldon replied. "You'd insisted that I've sent someone over with the tenancy agreement to take over your office building, so do you think the authorities are going to come looking for trouble with me? Seeing that I have got a tenancy agreement in place, my guess is probably not. Besides, wouldn't I be able to deal with that, considering my standing and all?"

"Damn you...Unable to stomach any more of this, Mr. Turner outright cussed aloud.

Sheldon Guerrero was beyond vicious.

If it was not bad enough he refused to rent the building, he was now occupying it by force.

Brodie was being forced up against the wall this time, for should he refuse to leave, he might risk losing the office building itself.

With teeth gnashed and eyes bloodshot, he glared at Sheldon "Very good. Well played, Mr. Guerrero. I'll be leaving, but bear in mind that I, Brodie Turner, is not one to be trifled with. Push me too far, and I'd swear that I'd burn your Intercontinental Group to the ground."

With his fingers gripped tightly around themselves, Brodie stormed out.

That put a frown upon Sheldon's brow, as he found Brodie's last seen expression a little discomfiting.

Does that lunatic really have the guts to set fire to the Intercontinental Group? I... don't suppose that he has that in him. Forget it. He's just a businessman on the down and outs, so what threat could he possibly pose? There's no reason for me to bother myself with him.

Sheldon then got back to work.

Downstairs, Zeke and Emma were fast losing patience, and it was around this moment that Brodie came walking out of the elevator.

The gnashed teeth and severe look on his face made it obvious that it was Sheldon who got the better of him.

Chapter 2147

Without meeting Zeke's gaze, Brodie headed right for the outside.

Undeterred, Zeke called out to him. "Don't be in such a hurry to leave, Mr. Turner, for you have yet to fulfill the terms of your wager."

Stopping in his tracks, Brodie's eyes fixated upon Zeke. "A word of warning, Zeke Williams. Live and let live, so that we may continue to be civil the next time we meet. You really don't want to rile me up..."

Zeke responded with a nonchalant look about him. "I'm quite intent on pushing you to the point of desperation. What are you going to do about that?"

I...

Brodie's fists were wound up so tight that they started crackling audibly. "Listen here, Zeke Williams. Would you dare to move in even if I were to lease the office building to you for free? In the event of a fire, none of you may be able to escape."

His tone dripped with malice. That's to say to if you moved in, I may opt to burn down the entire building.

"Of course, I'd dare to. Even if I don't stay inside, it wouldn't be a bad idea to raise some livestock inside either."

I...

Brodie was hopping mad.

I thought I was mean, but this Zeke's even worse!

Emma was conversely startled by Brodie's expression.

"Perhaps, we should call this off, Mr. Williams," she said cautiously.

The adage goes, that it's better to offend Hades than to mess with the imp, because Hades is more measured in his approach, whereas the imp, without obligations, was capable of the atrocious, or worse.

Zeke shook his head in disapproval. "Had he been more polite and apologetic, and pleaded with us, I might have considered. cutting him some slack. But in being so hostile, he's given us no reason to be merciful."

Brodie gnashed his teeth. "Fine. Knock yourselves out. I hope that you'd not regret your decision."

He then turned and departed.

Regarding Emma, Zeke said, "Notify the staff to resume work at the office."

"Do you think Mr. Turner could mess with the building?" Emma asked in some concern.

"Relax. I'll have people keeping watch over it twenty-four seven. It's going to take more than a mere down and out businessman to trouble me."

Emma nodded. "All right. I'll tell them now." go inform

The more Brodie ruminated over it when he got home, the more upset he became.

Ever since his business failed and his company became insolvent, that office building had been his sole source of income, and the way things stood, that might have gone up in smoke as well.

Perplexed, Brodie was clueless as to how to move forward from there.

"Lily, what's for lunch? Lily?" He sat slumped on the couch as he shouted for his wife. However, that yielded no response.

"Hmph. I bet she must have gone shopping," Brodie sighed. "Don't know if she'd stick around if I'm unable to continue facilitating her spending habits in the future."

He pulled out his cigarettes and was about to take a load off when he realized that he had misplaced his lighter.

"Damn it!" Brodie was so irked that he left a dent on the table with his foot. "Nothing goes right when one is down on one's luck."

He immediately went about hunting high and low throughout the house for his lighter, but the more he searched, the more things seem amiss.

The jewelry, diamond rings, and jade-ware, amongst all the other valuables in the house, were gone.

Sh*t. Don't tell me that the house has been robbed.

He then hurried over to the safe.

Phew. It's still intact.

Carefully, he dialed in the combinations but had himself quite a shock when he peered inside; The safe had been emptied out, and the two-hundred thousand inside was nowhere to be found.

What the hell!

Brodie jumped.

The safe is undamaged, so where did the money go? Does the thief know my combination? How is that possible?

Increasingly perturbed, Brodie had his phone out and was all ready to bring in the police.

Boom!

A car engine suddenly roared to life in the parking lot outside, and when his eyes followed in the direction of the sound, he realized that someone had started up his Benz.

Chapter 2148

Screw you!

"If it isn't enough that you've stolen my money, you're going to take my Benz in broad daylight as well?" Brodie cussed. "If I don't get you good today, I'd not call myself a Turner!"

Brodie reflexively assumed that the car thief outside his doors and the one that cleaned out his house must be the same person.

Leaping out of the window, he made a dash for the Benz. Then, he pulled open the door on the driver's side, hauled the man at the wheel out, and started stomping on him.

"F*ck you for daring to steal from me. You must be tired of living!"

The man at his feet howled, "Stop. Stop it right this instant! Who's friggin stealing your things? This Benz is mine so I'd drive it however I wish!"

"Yours?" Brodie cackled. "Driving a Benz? A miserable pauper like you? Take a good hard look here to see who this car really belongs to!"

With that, Brodie produced his vehicular registration for the man to see.

After inspecting it, the man was stunned. "What's going on here? This can't be right. The owner of the car is already dead."

"How dare you curse me?" Brodie roared.

"Stop! It's not what you think, man!" the man pleaded profusely. "Look. Here's my driver's license. The ownership of this car has really been transferred to me."

When Brodie took the papers from his counterpart, he was astounded as well. "What the... How could one car have two owners?"

"No way. How could the ownership be transferred without my consent? Your copy must obviously be a fake."

With that, Brodie rolled up his sleeves once more just as a van pulled over close to where they were. From it, seven to eight individuals alighted.

At their fore was a man in a sharp suit who called out genially to his fellow passengers. "Come along now, everyone, and let me show you around. Watch your step and don't trip up."

With that, he led the group toward the inside of Brodie's house, and once more, Brodie was left stymied.

A group of strangers waltzing into my house for a tour in broad daylight and in the owner's face, at that. What manner of travesty is this?

Brodie gave up on wrangling the car thief and ran up to engage that group instead. "Hold it right there. Who the heck allowed you to go in? What are you people supposed to be, strolling in like that without permission?"

That set the suited man in a deep furrow. "I should be asking this of you, amigo. Who are you, and why are you trying to get in our way?"

"This is ridiculous. I'm the owner of this house, that's who," replied Brodie.

The owner?

"Please don't kid around with the deceased, good sir," the suited man said with a chuckle.

That got Brodie confused. "What the heck
Do you mean by that? Explain yourself clearly"

"All right then. I'll put it to you clearly. The owner of this house has passed on and this house is now under the charge of us, the agents," the man replied. "I'm bringing clients here to view the property as a representative of my agency so you'd best not create problems for us. Otherwise, I may be forced to call the cops on you."

I'd screw your mom.

Brodie took a swing at the man and socked him in the jaw, and the floored latter bared his mouth to the tandem of a spit of blood.

"Standing right before you is the owner of the house himself, alive and kicking, so how dare you curse me... For that, I'm going to kill you!"

Similarly incensed, the male agent shoved the property ownership certificate at his counterpart.

"I'm going to call the police, and by the gods, I'm going to see them slap the cuffs on your wrists! What rotten luck to run into a madman that came out of nowhere."

Brodie snatched the paperwork from his opposite number and when he did, he started to quiver all over, for the certificate did state the name of the real estate agency in question.

"Obviously fake, this one. One hundred percent guaranteed. Brodie pulled out his phone and proceeded to ring up the Housing Authority to ascertain if the property ownership certificate was genuine.

Upon verification, he was stupefied to learn that it was.

"Impossible. Impossible!" Brodie howled. "I'm the owner of the house and this property is registered in my name. I've never even met you people before so how could I have transferred ownership of my property over to you?"

Chapter 2149

"You're the original owner? What's your name?" the agent promptly asked.

"Turner. Brodie Turner."

"...Don't scare me like that, man. Aren't you supposed to be dead?" the agent stuttered.

"Screw you!" cursed Brodie once more. It was the second time this day that he had been at the receiving end of such a curse. "How could I be dead, being as alive as I am?"

"You can't be serious. I've seen your death certificate for myself," the agent said.

"Why don't you try cursing me like that one more time? Who's the damned deadbeat who went and got me certified dead?"

"It's your wife, Lily Hinton. She's the one who handled the paperwork."

Brodie's heart stopped. "Stuff and nonsense. We sat down and had breakfast at the same table just this morning. Chatted and had a jolly good time together, we did. How could she have gone and had me registered as dead? Besides, what would she do that for?"

"Theoretically speaking, if you were dead, that would make your wife the legal executor of your estate. Everything you own, including your car, house, and everything inside, would come into your wife Lily's possession. Lily Hinton had already sold everything here!"

Impossible. Impossible!

Brodie was overcome by shortness of breath and was left overwhelmed by an ominous feeling that came over him.

Could my wife Lily's disappearance mean that she's betrayed me? The agent must be lying. Yes! He must be the one lying to me!

Brodie rummaged for his phone and called Lily's number.

"We're sorry. The number that you've just dialed is currently not in service. Please try again later."

Thump! Thump!

Brodie could distinctively feel his own heart pounding against his chest.

He made another attempt but as before, the phone was shown to be off.

What day and date is this that anyone's phone would be switched off on a flat battery? It's entirely possible that Lily might have blacklisted me.

"No. No way." Brodie's voice was close to breaking up. "Lily made breakfast for me this morning and told me jokes. She'd never betray me. Her phone must be spoiled... Yes. That must be it. She told me that the phone she has been using is spoiled and has been badgering me to get her a new one these past couple of days."

Framing it that way raised a sliver of hope within him, even though he understood as well as anyone that he might, in all probability, be deceiving himself.

After further deliberation, he made a call out to the Civil Affairs Bureau. "Hello, I would like to check on the status of Brodie Turner... Yes. His address is... What? He's already dead? I'd mourn for your uncle instead. I'm Brodie Turner, and I'm alive and well!"

As a result of being overly forceful and emotionally aggravated, something went off inside of Brodie's head.

His vision blacked out and he fell slump upon the floor.

It's over. It's all over.

With his company insolvent, conned of his office building, and now, even deserted by his own wife, he felt that he had no more reason to carry on living.

All that occupied his mind were thoughts about death, but even on the cusp, he still longed for his wife, Lily.

Brodie could not allow himself to be convinced unless he heard Lily admit to her betrayal herself and so, he mustered up the remainder of his strength to send Lily a message.

Messages should still be able to get through even when I've been blocked.

"Why has your phone run out of juice, Dear? I was unable to reach you. Come home earlier today. I've prepared your favorite dishes. Love you."

It did not take long after the message was sent before Lily replied, and that instantly helped to reinvigorate Brodie.

His hands shook in anticipation when he opened up the message.

"We have a twenty year gap in our age, Brodie, so you should know why I chose to be with you back then. It's my misfortune that you've gone bankrupt not long after we just got married, and I ended up having to endure two years of hardship alongside you. I'm leaving because I'm still young and don't want to continue living out the rest of my life that way. Having been by your side for so long, surely a car, a house, and a few bits of trinkets from you wouldn't be too much to ask. Don't bother trying to find me as I've already given my heart to another. We'll be relocating overseas soon so do not come and bother me anymore."

Chapter 2150

Thump!

Brodie felt a stab at his heart and opened up his mouth to barf up a mouthful of crimson.

How cruel you are, Lily. Even your leaving is so blunt and callous.

In this moment, Brodie's heart was torn to pieces.

In accompaniment to a police siren, several policemen cruised in. "Which one of you made the report?"

The agent quickly responded, "I did, officers. I was the one who called you in. This b*stard did not even say anything before he started beating me up and he was really stubborn and refuses to apologize."

The officer walked toward Brodie. "Hey, what's your name? Get back up on your feet quickly and come along to assist with the investigations."

The reflectiveness of the handcuffs in the policeman's hand roused a shimmer of indignity within Brodie.

Is my life going to end on such a disappointing note? No, I cannot accept this! All my life, I, Brodie Turner, have only been blessed with great wealth. How could I allow myself to die in such abject misery? Everything that had befallen me is the doing of Sheldon Guerrero and Emma Jones. Even if I should die, I'm going to take them down with me!

In the depths of his despair, he had lost all sense of reason and blamed everything on Zeke.

Brodie flipped himself upright onto his feet. In the same motion, he grabbed a fruit knife from the car and pointed it at his own neck.

"Stay where you are, all of you. Come any closer, and I'd kill myself right where I stand!"

The policemen immediately paused in their tracks to counsel him, "Calm down, buddy. You may have hurt someone but his injuries aren't so serious that they'll lead to criminal charges. We only need you to come with us to have your statement taken, and nothing more. But should you keep this up, you're only going to make things worse for yourself."

"Haha!" Brodie guffawed maniacally. "That is exactly what I have in mind. The worse the better. Just you wait, those who let me down and pushed me around. I'd make all of you pay with your lives!"

Brodie jumped into his own car and scuttled off like a bat out of hell.

The officers' expressions were grim, for they realized that Brodie might be out to harm someone. Hence, they hastened to get into their own car and gave chase.

However, the fugitive Brodie drove with such reckless abandon that it did not take too long before the patrol car lost sight of him.

At the same time, Sheldon, too, was in a fiery mood inside the Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort. In spite of all the meticulous planning he did and expenses made out to get on Lucy's good side, he was not able to clinch Project Mitxel in the end. On top of that, they had lost the favor of Rhett Mitxel, the project's overseer, no thanks to Lucy's indiscretion.

The Intercontinental Group's losses were substantial this time and Sheldon was that close to wanting to tear Lucy to pieces for it.

"I refuse to take this lying down! I won't have it!" Sheldon muttered to himself.

"We must clinch Project Mitxel, we must! However, Rhett seems to be on very good terms with Zeke, so it's difficult to see how we'll be able to pry it from him. It looks like I'd have to call on the King."

With that in mind, Sheldon hurried out of the office in preparation to call on the "King".

Just about when he stepped outside, he ran into Lucy.

Shooting a look of disgust her way before he looked elsewhere, he had no intentions of paying any further attention to her. Such a stark difference in treatment was hard for Lucy to digest, but she nonetheless called out to him, unabashedly, "Please wait, my dear Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon paused. "What are you still doing here?"

"First of all, I'd like to extend to you my most sincere apologies, Mr. Guerrero, for not being of much help with the Project Mitxel bid. However, I hope for your understanding as I didn't have much of a choice in this either."

"Enough of this. Hurry up and buzz off, and don't let me see you again," replied Sheldon.

Lucy promptly replied, "Please listen to me, Mr. Guerrero. I've already been fired by Mitxel Group, and Mr. Jacques is going to withdraw my citizenship in the next couple of days. I've literally nowhere to go. The only reason why I've ended up like this is because of my efforts to help you secure Project Mitxel, Mr. Guerrero, so I'll have to ask for you to assume responsibility for my present predicament."

Chapter 2151

Hehe!

Sheldon cracked a devious smile. "What did you say? I dare you to say it again!"

Lucy replied, "You are the reason I have fallen into such dire circumstances. Therefore, you have to take responsibility on that."

F*ck you!

Sheldon scowled, "Not only did you not f*cking help me, but you also spoiled my relationship with the Mitxel Group. And now, you want me to take responsibility? You should count your blessings that I didn't kill you instead. Quick, get out of my sight before I teach you a painful lesson!"

Lucy sighed. "F-Fine, Mr. Guerrero. Since you're such a heartless man, don't blame me for what I am going to do next."

Lucy turned around and headed for the exit.

Wait!

Realizing that something was wrong. Sheldon's heart sank. "What are you trying to say?"

Lucy responded, "I know that the two kids whom you sent to wait on me have served you before. To be precise, they are your 'partners,' aren't they? Haha, I didn't expect such masculine kids to be homosexual. It truly is a shame. If this gets out... Tsk, tsk, I wonder if your reputation will be ruined?"

"F*ck!"

Sheldon eyes widened in rage as he felt the blood rush into his brain.

Those two b*stards must be the ones who leaked my sexual preferences out. They will die for that. But now, what am I going to do? The public cannot know about this secret!

Given that he was reluctant to take care of Lucy, he decided that killing her was the only solution.

Coincidentally, King is in need of someone now. Sheldon asked, "Lucy, do you really want to continue working in my company and not return to your country?"

She shook her head. "I don't want to go

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back there. Besides, I can't do so either, for Mr. Jacques is a man of his word. When he declared that he will rescind my citizenship, he will definitely follow through with it."

Sheldon asked, "Are you then willing to give up everything you have and work for Intercontinental Group?"

Lucy nodded. "Of course."

Sheldon answered, "Mmm-hmm, I'll give you a chance. Follow me!"

Lucy was delighted to hear his words.

Subsequently, Sheldon drove her to his own estate.

Sheldon's estate was a sprawling piece of land that consisted of almost a thousand acres. There, more than ten mansions of varying architecture dotted the estate grounds.

They were a testament to the economic power of Intercontinental Group.

At that moment, Sheldon led Lucy to the mansion right at the center.

The luxurious-looking mansion was where the former head of the Guerrero family lived.

Upon entering the mansion, Lucy was shocked at how opulent the furnishings were.

Even Mitxel Group's interior design paled in comparison..

Sheldon instructed, "Ms. Lucy, please wait here for a moment, while I see my father and recommend you to him. I believe he will definitely have a good use for you."

Lucy nodded at once. "Thank you, Mr. Guerrero."

Sheldon then took the elevator to the top floor of the mansion.

The room there was equipped with a fingerprint lock. Thus, only a specific set of people were granted access to it.

The expansive living hall was covered in darkness, for the windows had long been boarded shut. Consequently, no light could enter the room at all.

Given the creepy atmosphere, anyone who entered would feel their hair stand on end. It wasn't until Sheldon turned on a dim night light that he managed to see the path ahead.

After that, he crept silently toward a bedroom door.

That door was also equipped with a fingerprint lock.

After knocking on the door gently, Sheldon called out, "Your Majesty, it's me, Sheldon."

A gruff voice rang out from the room. "Come in!"

After unlocking the door with his fingerprints, Sheldon entered the room. Inside, the windows were also boarded up, causing the room to be so dark that one couldn't see one's finger at all.

On top of that, there was a musty smell that would make anyone feel uncomfortable.

Sheldon knelt on the ground carefully, "Your Majesty!"

A hoarse voice rang out.

"What is the matter?"

Sheldon explained, "I have failed you by not obtaining the partnership rights for Project Mitxel. Therefore, I submit myself for your punishment."

Chapter 2152

"Da*n it!" the voice scowled.

Suddenly, Sheldon's body flew through the air before crashing hard onto the ground.

The impact was so devastating that he coughed out two mouthfuls of blood.

Ignoring the excruciating pain, he groveled. on the ground. "Your Majesty, I bow to you as my apology. Please spare me, I beg of you. Please spare me."

"King" thundered, "You are nothing but a failure! What use do I have of you? If you are unable to acquire the partnership rights for Project Mitxel, you deserve to lose your head. Get lost now and don't get in the way of my training!"

Sighing, Sheldon explained, "Your Majesty, I'm afraid... I won't be able to complete the task by myself. Initially, I had everything under control until someone unexpected appeared. He was so strong that I-I wasn't his match at all."

King sneered, "Strong? Hmph, no one in this world dares to utter that word in front of me. Tell me, what exactly happened? I won't blame you if the enemy was indeed too powerful for you."

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King sneered, "Strong? Hmph, no one in this world dares to utter that word in front of me. Tell me, what exactly happened? I won't blame you if the enemy was indeed too powerful for you."

Sheldon quickly related everything that happened to King.

Having heard everything, King sneered, "In a nutshell, Rhett's close relationship with Linton Group is the reason for your failure?"

Sheldon nodded. "You can put it that way."

King asserted, "In that case, I'll kill Rhett for you and the problem will naturally be solved."

Sheldon added quickly, "Ideally, killing the head of Linton Group will dramatically increase our chances."

He proceeded to share his plan in detail with King who responded with a smirk.

"All right then, we'll go along with your plan." Sheldon continued, "Your Majesty, I have brought a gift for you and wonder if you're interested in it?"

The "gift" that Sheldon mentioned was naturally Lucy, who was waiting downstairs.

King nodded. "Mmm-hmm, I can already sense her. Not bad. Send her up."

Sheldon acknowledged immediately, "Yes, Your Majesty. I'll get her right away."

With that, Sheldon exited the room fearfully.

It wasn't until he walked out of the room that he realized his entire back was covered in sweat.

Every time he visited King, he would feel as if it was a trip to purgatory, for King was just too strong, mysterious, and terrifying.

In truth, Sheldon barely knew King.

The entire matter started just a few days ago.

Just when Sheldon was having coffee with his feeble father, the latter, who was paralyzed from the waist down, sprang to his feet and stared intently at him, giving Sheldon a shock.

Sheldon wasn't just stunned by the fact that his father could stand, it was the look in his father's eyes that unsettled him.

The piercing cold gaze seemed to be filled with murderous intent.

At that moment, Sheldon suddenly felt as if a stranger had possessed his father's body.

It turned out that his gut feeling was right.

His "father" told him to address him as "King", for a spirit had taken control of his father's body.

Subsequently, "King" threatened to kill Sheldon's father if Sheldon didn't do as he was told.

In the beginning, when Sheldon didn't believe King, the latter took control of Sheldon's body telepathically. It wasn't until Sheldon felt his consciousness separated from his physical body that he believed in King's words.

King even promised Sheldon that if he did his bidding willingly, he would teach the latter the path to immortality.

At that moment, Sheldon experienced a paradigm shift.

For the sake of becoming an immortal, Sheldon decided to submit to King and disregard his father's survival.

Soon, he returned to the first floor where Lucy hurried up to him.

"Mr. Guerrero, what did your father say?"

Chapter 2153

Sheldon smiled slightly, "Don't worry. My father knows who you are and recognizes your capabilities. In fact, he wants me to bring you to see him now."

A sense of relief washed over Lucy. "Thank you, Mr. Guerrero, for your kind recommendation."

"In that case, don't just stand there. Hurry up and see Old Mr. Guerrero. Don't let him wait too long."

Sheldon led Lucy into the elevator.

Inside, he instructed her, "Ms. Lucy, there

are a few things you should know beforehand. My father has just completed his cataract surgery. Hence, his eyes cannot be exposed to light. As a result, please don't be surprised to see his room enveloped in darkness, all right?"

Lucy nodded, "I understand. By the way, I happen to know a few excellent eye

specialists whom I can recommend to Old Mr. Guerrero, Perhaps, they can be of help to him."

Sheldon replied, "Sure, you can suggest it to him when the opportunity arises."

That opportunity will come if you survive today. Or else, it would be nothing but wishful thinking.

When both of them reach the top floor, Sheldon opened the door carefully.

The moment Lucy stepped in, she felt a shiver down her spine.

Not only were they in total darkness, but the atmosphere was also exceptionally strange and eerie, causing a sense of dread to swell within her.

Before she could digest the situation, Sheldon opened the bedroom door. "Ms. Lucy, please come in. My father is waiting for you."

"All right, all right."

Desperately suppressing her fears, Lucy followed Sheldon into the bedroom. Inside the pitch-black room, Lucy couldn't see a thing at all, causing her fears to intensify.

Sheldon remarked, "Dad, I have brought Lucy. Please enjoy."

All right!

Sheldon added, "I'm taking my leave now. Please stay and accompany my dad."

Crack!

The bedroom door closed.

Overwhelmed with fear, Lucy felt the urge to leave. However, the moment she turned around, she ran right into a wall.

I can't see anything at all!

Lucy gathered her courage and suggested, "Old Mr. Guerrero, why don't we chat outside. It's just too dark in here."

"He he..."

The only response she heard was eerie laughter that caused her hair to stand on end.

Lucy continued, "Old Mr. Guerrero, coincidentally, I know a few eye specialists who are the best in the business, and they will be able to cure your eyesight. Why don't I get them to come over and treat you now?"

"Ha... Ha..."

The chilling laugh continued to echo.

Lucy had no sooner felt as if she was about to break down than a feeble voice was suddenly heard. "Help... Help..."

What's that sound? There's someone else here who's crying out for help! Can there be... danger?

Unable to keep her calm, Lucy took out her phone and turned on its light.

The scene that greeted her came as a shock.

In front of her stood a figure who was entirely transparent. He had a green face and razor-sharp teeth.

Floating in the air, he let out an insidious laugh and was the spitting image of a demon.

Sitting next to him was an old and haggard-looking old man, who stared at Lucy and cried out, "Save me... Save me..."

At first glance, Lucy recognized who he was.

Given that his features resembled Sheldon, she knew without a doubt that he was Sheldon's father.

In that case, who is the transparent figure? No, wait, to be precise, what in the world is it?

With no time to lose, Lucy turned around to flee.

Unfortunately, the transparent figure had seized her body in the blink of an eye.

As her mind went blank, she was no longer in physical control of herself.

Nevertheless, she could still feel the transparent figure chewing away on her consciousness. Or perhaps, it was her soul that was being eaten up.

Feasting on Lucy's soul, King licked his lips. "Delicious, this is simply delicious."

Chapter 2154

With King now in control of Lucy's body, he was vocalizing himself through her.

Horried by the ghoulish sight, Sheldon's father got up to flee.

Unfortunately, his weak condition didn't permit him to do so. He had barely stood up when he crashed back onto the ground, grimacing in pain.

King shot him a glare and sneered, "You are mine. There's no way you can escape unless my consciousness disappears. However, that just isn't going to happen."

Outside the door, Sheldon had heard everything including Lucy's terrified screams, King's insidious laugh, and his father's pleas.

In spite of that, he had no intention of saving his father.

Firstly, doing so would mean certain death, for he believed he was no match for King.

Secondly, he endeavored to become immortal, and only the King could grant him his wish.

He murmured to himself, "Dad, you have lived a long life, and it should already be enough. Hence, please go in peace. Nevertheless, I promise you that once I become an immortal, I will revive you no matter the cost." With that, he turned and left.

After all, accomplishing the tasks that King had given him was still paramount.

Zeke, Rhett, I will kill you for foiling my plans!

Meanwhile, Zeke felt an energy disturbance inside his body all of a sudden, signaling to him that Sheldon and the Kush Clan had made contact.

Given that Zeke had injected Sheldon with a burst of energy before, he was able to detect any interaction the latter had with other races.

Without a moment's hesitation, he left home in search of Sheldon.

Not long after he was gone, Sheldon arrived.

After checking the surroundings and making sure there was no one around, he took out a small bottle and opened its cap.

From within the bottle, a phantom floated out.

Obviously, the phantom wasn't King but the subordinate he sent to help Sheldon out on his mission.

Consequently, Sheldon named him Goran.

He whispered, "Goran, go and carry out the plan."

Understood!

Nodding in acknowledgment, he floated into the house through the main door.

Inside the expansive living hall, Amelia was engrossed in playing blocks by herself.

She didn't notice that Goran had floated right up to her face.

Cracking an insidious smile, Goran entered her body.

The very next second, Amelia's body was briefly jolted while her eyes lost their sparkle.

As her hands stopped fiddling with the blocks, she scanned her surroundings until Zeke's jacket on the sofa caught her attention.

Walking over, she tore the pocket from the jacket, causing a tearing sound to ring out.

When Madeline, who was cooking in the kitchen, heard the commotion, she asked immediately, "Amelia, what's that sound?"

Amelia answered in an emotionless tone, "It's nothing."

Madeline inquired, "What's wrong with your throat, Amelia?"

"It's really nothing." Her voice was just as frosty still.

Madeline questioned, "You silly gal, have you been eating something behind my back?"

Amelia didn't respond. Instead, she grabbed Zeke's torn pocket, walked up to the door, opened it, and handed it to Sheldon outside.

Ecstatic over his haul, Sheldon received the pocket and fled with Goran, who left. Amelia's body at once.

When Amelia finally regained her consciousness, she looked around while still in a daze.

Wh-What just happened?

She felt as if she had just woken up and couldn't recall how she got where she was.

Nevertheless, she didn't think much of it, for she was just a child. After returning to her blocks, she went back to playing with them.

Having left Emma's house, Sheldon hurried. back to Halleton Hotel where Rhett was staying.

Chapter 2155

Before entering, he wore a face mask to avoid having his face captured by the security cameras.

Subsequently, he took the elevator to Rhett's room after inquiring at the front. desk about it.

He knocked on the door.

"Who is it?" Rhett's languid voice rang out as if he was awoken from his sleep.

"Room service," answered Sheldon.

"Wait a moment." After some shuffling sounds were heard, Rhett opened the door.

The instant he saw the masked man at the door, he attempted to close the door by reflex as a sense of dread washed over him.

Unfortunately, Sheldon had barged into the room and locked the door behind him.

Rhett bellowed, "Who are you? How dare you barge in here like this?" A faint smile descended on Sheldon's "Mr. Rhett, looks like an important man like you have bad memories. How can you forget me in such a short time?"

Just as he spoke, Sheldon took off his mask.

At the sight of Sheldon, Rhett's fury burned with greater intensity. "It's you! Are you trying to get your hands on the partnership rights to Project Mitxel again?"

Sheldon nodded. "Indeed. So, how about it?"

Rhett scoffed, "I'm sorry, but Intercontinental Group no longer stands a chance. Over the last few days, I asked around about its reputation and learned that it doesn't really have an honorable one. Since your company and Mitxel Group have different principles when it comes to doing business, it would be difficult for us to form a collaboration."

Sheldon let out a sigh. "Fine. However, I can't leave now, as King wants me to deliver you a gift."

King? What King? What kind of gift?

Rhett was briefly stunned. "I don't know any King. Hence, I won't accept his gift. Please leave at once, and this is your final warning."

Before he finished, Rhett had picked up the phone and threatened to call the police.

Sheldon sighed. "It's not up to you whether you want to receive this present or not. Come out now!" Sheldon barked.

After appearing from the bottle, Goran floated in the air, causing Rhett's heart to skip a beat and his pupils to constrict in shock.

What the f*ck is that? It must be dangerous!

Without a moment's hesitation, Rhett dashed for the door.

However, Goran entered his body the very next second.

Frozen in action, Rhett stop moving as a listless look descended upon his face.

Sheldon admonished him, "Da*n it, how dare you refuse to work with King? Remember, Zeke was the one who did this to you. When you're dead, you can haunt him for revenge."

No sooner had Sheldon spoken than he stuffed Zeke's torn pocket into Rhett's hand.

Rhett, under Goran's control, began to smash everything in the room, making it look as if a fight had occurred inside.

After that, he walked to the window and leapt out of it...

Bam!

A thunderous boom was heard.

At that, Sheldon broke into a smirk.

From the sixth floor, Rhett would never survive given his age.

After putting his mask back on, Sheldon left in a huff.

Meanwhile, Zeke was leading Sole Wolf and his men to track down Sheldon when he suddenly felt another energy disturbance within him.

He stopped abruptly in his tracks. "Wait, something has happened."

What's wrong?

Everyone gave Zeke a curious look.

Zeke replied, "I just sensed another presence of the Kush Clan, and it is coming from the southeast. Home, we have to head home at once!"

Emma's house was located in the southeastern direction.

Oh sh*t!

Realizing that something terrible had happened, everyone turned around and hurried back home.

David was filled with anxiousness. "Mr. Williams, are you saying the Kush Clan might have gone to Emma's house?"

Zeke replied, "I can only sense the location of their presence but can't tell if it's actually Emma's house. Anyway, I'll go on ahead of you first."

"All right."

Suddenly, Zeke picked up his pace and rushed home as fast as he could.

Chapter 2156

Given that Zeke's true power was in the Celestial Class, he could travel at many times the speed of sound.

Consequently, he reached home in the blink of an eye.

The moment he barged in, he saw that everything was in place, and there were no signs of a struggle.

Amelia was playing with blocks, while Madeline was cooking in the kitchen.

Only then did Zeke heave a sigh of relief.

Luckily they were safe and sound. Or else, Zeke would tear the country apart just to track the Kush Clan down.

If he couldn't find them, he would first destroy Intercontinental Group.

When Amelia saw Zeke, she hurried over to him. "Daddy, I want a hug!"

Breaking into an affectionate smile, Zeke picked her up. "Amelia, did any strangers come here just now?"

Amelia pondered for a moment before replying. "No."

Zeke had scarcely let out a sigh of relief when his mind suddenly tensed up, for he had detected the scent of the Kush Clan on Amelia's body.

Even though the scent was faint, it didn't escape Zeke's notice.

B*stard!

Rage swelled within Zeke when he realized that the Kush Clan had made Amelia their target.

Amidst his anger, Madeline walked out of the kitchen and was delighted to see him. "Zeke, you're back. Where are the others? Today, I cooked your favorite dish for you."

Zeke answered at once, "They'll be here anytime. By the way, Ms. Lowe, did anything strange happen at home just now?"

Madeline shook her head. "No, not that I know off. Anyway, Amelia's voice was a little raspy.

Amelia, does your throat still feel uncomfortable? Can it be that you have a fever or the flu?"

Madeline felt Amelia's forehead while asking.

Upon hearing her words, Zeke clenched his fists instinctively.

Amelia's throaty voice must have been caused by the Kush Clan entering her body! To have even possessed a child, there are really no limits to how ruthless they are.

Nevertheless, Zeke was still curious as to what the Kush Clan was doing in his home, for nothing seemed to have been disturbed.

Soon, Sole Wolf, David, and the others arrived in a hurry.

When they saw that everyone was fine, they too were relieved.

Madeline asked, "It's great that all of you have returned. Come join us for some food."

However, Zeke replied, "Ms. Lowe, we'll be eating later. Sole Wolf, come over here, there's something I want to speak to you guys about."

"Right away!"

Sole Wolf and the others joined Zeke in a room.

Zeke informed them grimly, "Just now, the Kush Clan was here and even possessed Amelia's body."

"What?"

Everyone was infuriated, especially David who gritted his teeth tightly.

All this while, he had felt guilty whenever he faced Amelia. Hence, if anything had happened to her, he, as her grandfather, would be devastated and seek revenge upon the perpetrator.

"Da*n it! How can they even attack children? Kush Clan must be eliminated!" "Mr. Williams, do you have a way to lure them out? Even if it means giving everything I have, I must teach them a lesson!"

Zeke replied, "Calm down. Given that the enemy is still hiding in the shadows, acting recklessly will only be to our own detriment. Don't worry, I will track them down and capture all of them. Just like you, Amelia is my threshold. I will never let anyone do her harm."

When David fell into deep thought, Zeke continued, "But now, I still can't figure out what their objective is and what were they doing here? Other than possessing Amelia, I don't see anything out of the ordinary."

Sole Wolf and the others shook their heads in response.

Suddenly, David slapped his forehead. "Oh no, can Emma be their target? They left without doing anything because she wasn't home. Perhaps, they might have headed to her office to find her. Da*n it, there's a high possibility of that happening. We have to go and rescue her at once!"

Chapter 2157

Zeke hastily consoled, "Calm down. I've already assigned multiple lookouts around Emma's office. The moment any danger appears, they'll be able to inform me about it right away even if they can't give Emma full protection. For now, they haven't sent me any message, so that means Emma should be fine."

At that, David sighed in relief. Nevertheless, he took out his phone to call her as he was still worried about Emma.

It was only after the call went through and Emma reassured him that she was fine then did David finally became at ease.

Zeke then said, "Come in and have a meal first. From now on, we'll have to have at least one person staying behind to take care of Amelia."

The others nodded in agreement.

Right as Zeke was about to enter the house, his phone abruptly rang. When he fished it out of his pocket, he realized it was a call from Rhett.

"That's weird." Zeke frowned. "Why would Rhett call me all of a sudden? He knows that'll make me feel disgusted by him."

It was an unusual occurrence, and thus, Zeke picked up the call.

However, Rhett's voice was not the voice on the other end of the line. Instead, an unfamiliar middle-aged man's voice traveled into Zeke's ears.

"Hello, may I know if you're Rhett Mitxel's family or friend?"

Zeke furrowed his brows. "I'm Rhett's friend. Who are you? Why are you calling me with Rhett's phone?"

The other man promptly replied, "I'm from the police station. Something has happened to your friend Rhett Mitxel. He's a foreigner, and he only has one Eurasian in his contacts, which is you. I hope you'll be able to come here and help with his case for a little."

Thump!

Zeke's heart skipped a beat.

Oh, dan it! Kush Clan must have done

this. They've been wanting to get the right to work on Project Mitxel since the beginning. Rhett got in their way to getting a great fortune, so it's no surprise that Kush Clan has gotten rid of him! Bollocks, I should've sent someone to protect Rhett.

A hint of guilt flashed past his mind.

"Zeke, what's the matter?" Sole Wolf realized that Zeke fell silent and still after picking up a call, so he figured out something must have happened.

Zeke then quietly said, "David, stay here. The rest of you come with me."

Zeke was genuinely livid after Kush Clan's continuous provocation. He was going to take his revenge, and he was going to teach Kush Clan a lesson!

The moment Zeke turned solemn, the others turned grave as well. David stayed behind to protect Amelia and Madeline while the others went with Zeke.

Madeline did not insist that they stay for the meal.

By then, she could guess that Zeke and the others were no ordinary people. She was sure that they had something important to work on, so she was not going to make things even harder for them.

On their way there, Sole Wolf tentatively asked, "Zeke, what happened?"

Zeke replied, "Kush Clan has made a move against Rhett."

The few of them inhaled sharply.

Killer Wolf then whispered, "Zeke, say, is there any connection between Killer Wolf looking for Amelia before going after Rhett?"

Zeke drew his brows together. "I'm not very sure either. However, Kush Clan never does anything unnecessary. There must be a reason for them to look for Amelia before Rhett. Be careful. Kush Clan is much slyer than we think they are."

"Okay."

They nodded.

Soon, they came to Halleton Hotel.

The police had already barricaded the outside of Halleton Hotel. Many curious people were standing behind the tapes, speculating and discussing the matter.

Zeke then instructed Sole Wolf and the others, "Look around the place to see if you can find any traces of Kush Clan or any other evidence."

"Got it!"

Sole Wolf and the others then dispersed to scour through the surroundings.

Meanwhile, Zeke squeezed through the crowd, but he was stopped by an officer before he could enter the barricaded area.

Immediately, he informed the officer that he was the friend of the victim. With that, the officer let him in.

Chapter 2158

Even from a distance, Zeke could see the terrible state Rhett was in.

Rhett had fallen from the sixth floor. He had multiple fractures all over his body, and his blood had stained a large area on the ground.

Instantly, Zeke used his energy to check his vital signs, and to his surprise, Rhett was not dead yet.

Without a doubt, it had to be because the Mitxel family had given him some kind of trick or treasure that allowed him to stay alive despite the fall.

As expected of the Mitxel family.

Zeke immediately passed some energy to Rhett to keep him alive.

However, that was not all. It would be close to impossible for a normal hospital to revive him.

Hence, Zeke called Cygnus Room and instructed them to treat Rhett.

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Hence, Zeke called Cygnus Room and instructed them to treat Rhett.

There were two reasons for him to do that. First of all, Zeke was the reason Kush Clan had hurt Rhett. Secondly, he owed Rhett a favor, so he could not possibly just sit on his hands.

Beside the big Rhett was a man in police attire.

After a glance at Zeke, he asked, "Are you the victim's friend, Mr. Williams?"

"Mr. Williams" was the name Rhett had saved on his phone, and that was why the man in police attire could only address him like that.

Zeke nodded. "Yes."

The other man then said, "I'm the head of the police station, Bertram Mouritsen. My sincerest condolences about your friend's incident."

"Please tell me what happened first."

Bertram then said, "We've found obvious signs of a fight in the victim's room. For now, we're suspecting foul play. We think that someone pushed him off from the sixth floor."

Zeke silently agreed with that.

As far as he knew, Rhett had a good foundation in martial arts. He would not be so easily pushed off the building.

Furthermore, Zeke had sensed a trace of Kush Clan in Rhett's body.

Therefore, he was certain that Kush Clan had controlled Rhett's mind and made him jump off the building.

Nevertheless, Bertram would definitely not believe it if Zeke were to tell him that.

Zeke then asked nonchalantly. "Have you found any signs of the killers or any other clues?"

Bertram replied, "We've found a piece of fabric that the victim was holding onto in his hand. He must have pulled it off the murderer's clothes when he was pushed off the building. We'll be analyzing this piece of fabric, and hopefully, we'll be able to find some clues from it."

With that said, Bertram even showed Zeke the bagged fabric.

Zeke instantly recognized the fabric-it was
His clothes were made with a special kind of fabric that few had the right to wear.

At that moment, everything became clear to him. He finally knew what Kush Clan was trying to do.

Without a doubt, Kush Clan was trying to strike two birds with one stone.

They first went to Amelia's house to make her tear off the piece of fabric from his clothes Then, they went to kill Rhett.

On the verge of his death, they then shoved the piece of fabric in his hand. That way, the piece of fabric would be the evidence to accuse Zeke of murder.

It was a fantastic plan from Kush Clan.

Nevertheless, just a piece of fabric alone was not enough to prove that Zeke was the murderer. Hence, Zeke was sure that Kush Clan had another ace up their sleeve.

Zeke would like to see what else Kush Clan could do. I should go along with this to lure them out.

Therefore, Zeke said, "Honestly, this piece of fabric is mine."

Huh?

Almost immediately, Bertram turned wary. He took a step back before looking at Zeke from head to toe.

At the same time, his right hand instinctively went to his waist. It was clear that he was ready to pull out his gun at any time.

Bertram's subordinates noticed Bertram's actions, and they immediately turned to stare at Zeke, ready to take any necessary actions to subdue Zeke.

Bertram then asked, "Mr. Williams, could you please explain to us why this piece of fabric is in the hand of the victim?"

Chapter 2159

After a moment of rumination, Zeke answered, "I don't know why it's with him either. However, I have to say one thing! I'm not the one who killed him."

"Mr. Williams, I never said that you're the one who killed him. However, with the current evidence we have, you're a suspect in this case as well. According to the laws of Eurasia, you'll have to cooperate with the police for the investigation and come to the station for a statement. Don't worry. We won't let any evildoers off, but we won't accuse the innocent either. We can't prove that you're the murderer with just a piece of fabric, so, Mr. Williams, there's no need to be nervous."

Zeke nodded. "Okay. I can work with you on that."

Bertram sighed in relief. "Good. Come with me then."

Bertram then led Zeke away.

In the meantime, at the top of a nearby building, Sheldon was watching the scene unfold with a pair of binoculars.

He cackled creepily. "I'm not a match for you, but you're still too young to fight with King! The one with the last laugh is the one who wins!"

He then took out his phone and made a call. "Everything's going smoothly, Mr. Jeppesen. It's up to you now."

"Don't worry. I'll have my men send you the gift soon. All right, that's settled then."

After the call ended, Sheldon made another call.

"Mr. Saunders, everything has been put in place. Yes. Okay. I hope you won't let me down. Once everything is done, I'll send you all abroad. Yes. Let's make a move now."

After Zeke was brought to the station, Bertram interrogated him.

As the victim was a foreigner, it was a serious matter. Bertram had to put in all of his efforts and focus on the case. While he was interrogating him, another police officer came in with a few people.

"Sir," the other officer said to Bertram. "These few people, including Mr. Saunders, are the employees of Haleton Hotel. They said they might have seen the culprit. Will you be taking a statement from them, or shall I do it?"

Bertram then said, "I'll do it. Please give me a moment. I'm currently taking a statement from Mr. Williams."

Right then, Eric Saunders, a manager in Haleton Hotel, turned to Zeke and cried out, "It's you! It's you!"

The other hotel staff chimed in. "Quick! Stay away from him! He's the murderous devil!"

"Arrest him! Sir, arrest him! Don't let him run!"

Bertram promptly put on a solemn look and asked, "What's the matter? Be at ease and speak slower."

Eric said, "W-What's going on? He's the murderer. He's very scary! He's a coldblooded murderer!"

Hearing that, Bertram gave his subordinates a look, and they immediately took out their guns and batons.

Bertram then reassured the hotel staff,
"Don't be scared. It's safe here. You won't be in any danger here. Let's go through this slower. What did you see?"

After sparing a fearful glance at Zeke, Eric said, "Sir, can we not talk about this when he's here? I'm scared that he'll do something to me later."

Bertram nodded. "Come with me."

Bertram then led them into his office.

"Tell me what happened."

Eric quietly said, "Sir, all of us saw him entering a hotel room with the victim an hour before the victim's death. Furthermore, when one of our staff went past Rhett's room, they heard the sound of fighting inside."

Bertram's expression turned even more serious. "Did you hear what they were talking about?"

One of the hotel staff whispered, "I didn't hear much. I only heard something along the lines of 'dog-eat-dog, 'Ms. Lucy', 'body disposal', 'tomorrow at the office building'"

Dog-eat-dog? Ms. Lucy? Body disposal? Hope Tower?

Bertram soon linked the words together.

Zeke and Rhett ganged up, killed Lucy, and disposed of her body at Hope Tower? Who's Lucy? Where's Hope Tower?

Chapter 2160

Could it be that someone else had died in this case? There's someone else named Lucy who died as well? Is Lucy a foreigner as well? It's likely that Zeke and Rhett killed Lucy together. However, the two then fought with each other about Lucy's matter. Thus, Zeke killed Rhett. This is the most plausible reason.

Bertram could feel an oncoming headache at that thought. It never rains but it pours.

He then swiftly told his subordinates, "Find out who Ms. Lucy is. Also, where is Hope Tower? Look into the places nearby and find out if you can find any more clues."

His subordinates nodded. "Understood."

Turning back to Eric and the others, Bertram said, "Stay calm when you head out later. Try to keep a neutral mood. I'm afraid that you might agitate the killer into attacking you out of desperation."

"Got it!"

Eric and the others nodded fervently. Bertram then recomposed himself before walking out of his office and returning to statement. his seat opposite Zeke. Then, as if nothing had happened, he continued taking Zeke's

His priority at that moment was to make Zeke stay until his subordinates came back to report to him.

If they really found Lucy's body near Hope Tower, then it was highly likely that Zeke was the one who murdered two people.

Bertram was going to be in deep trouble, for two foreigners had died in his territory.

This da*n kid. I'll have to teach him a lesson once he's charged.

The taking of Zeke's statement lasted around half an hour. Once Bertram was done with asking him the important questions, he began asking the trivial ones.

In short, he was trying to make Zeke stay.

However, Zeke realized that he was trying to buy time, so he started feeling impatient. Still, he managed to hold himself back.

He wanted to see for himself what Bertram was trying to do.

A while later, Bertram's subordinate finally called.

Bertram let out a sigh of relief. If his subordinate did not call him soon, he would really have run out of questions to ask Zeke.

The moment his phone rang, Bertram gave Zeke an apologetic smile and said, "My apologies, Mr. Williams. I need to pick up this call. Please give me a second."

"Okay."

Zeke nodded.

After standing up, he accepted the call and said, "What's the matter? Speak."

As he spoke, he even "nonchalantly" paced in the room.

His subordinate answered, "Sir, we've done as you instructed. Indeed, we've found a body near Hope Tower. Our initial investigations have told us that the body should belong to Ms. Lucy of Yartran."

Despite the shock that overwhelmed. Bertram, to not alert Zeke to his findings, he made sure to keep a neutral look on his face.

"Okay, I got it. Anything else?" he said as he entered his office.

His subordinate continued, "Also, Hope Tower is rented by Linton Group, and Zeke Williams is someone from Linton Group! Furthermore, Mr. Sheldon Guerrero of Intercontinental Group has informed us about how Zeke and Rhett had some conflicts with Lucy."

D*mn it!

Bertram clenched his fists.

Everything was pointing toward how Zeke was the murderer.

Moreover, he had taken two lives!

Bertram then instructed, "Barricade the scene, and don't let anyone destroy the scene."

"Understood!"

After the call ended, Bertram took a deep breath to regain his composure.

Just as he was about to head out, he suddenly halted in his tracks. In the next second, he took out his gun and loaded it before opening the door.

At that moment, Zeke was glaring at Eric and the others.

Even a fool would be able to figure out that they were Sheldon's men.

Still, Zeke did not know what Sheldon had instructed them to say about him.

Meanwhile, Eric and the others were watching Zeke with taunting looks. They were not afraid of Zeke at all.

At that, Zeke sneered inwardly. "Once you find out how powerful I am, you'll realize how stupid you are."

Chapter 2161

Bertram continued to act composed as he sat before Zeke. "Mr. Williams, I'm done taking your statements. Thank you for cooperating."

"Can I leave now?" the latter asked.

"Of course."

At that, Zeke stood up to leave.

However, just as he turned around, Bertram pulled out a gun and pointed it at his head.

"Stop right there, Mr. Williams."

He stopped in his tracks and turned around. Even though he saw Bertram pointing a gun at him, he wasn't surprised at all.

Eric and the others had already reported him, so it would be a miracle if Bertram had let him off the hook just like that.

"What is the meaning of this?" Zeke asked.

"Do you really have to ask? You know exactly what you've done."

"Sorry. I really don't."

"All right, then. Let me remind you. Why did you kill Rhett?"

"Why are you so sure that I was the one who killed him? Is it all because of that piece of fabric?"

"That's not all, of course. Tell me, where were you an hour before he died?"

"I was obviously at home."

"Liar! You had clearly gone to a hotel with Rhett, and even had a fight with him in one of the rooms."

"Don't spew nonsense if you don't have any evidence. Otherwise, you'd have to bear the legal consequences for what you just said."

"Fine. You want evidence? I'll give you evidence. Do you know who Ms. Lucy is?"

"Ms. Lucy from Mitxel Group?"

"Of course."

"Yes, I know her."

"There was once a contradiction between you, Rhett, and Ms. Lucy, right?"

"Yes."

"Then, where is Ms. Lucy now?"

"How would I know?"

"Hmph! You're still trying to hide the truth! You've killed her and buried her somewhere near your company, didn't you?"

Lucy is dead?

Zeke wasn't expecting this.

If I'm not wrong, this must be Sheldon's doing. He must have blamed it on me. Both Sheldon and Kush Clan are really ruthless. It's only been a day, but they managed to get me involved in two murders.

"I didn't kill them."

"There are so many pieces of evidence to prove that you were the one who killed them. What's there to refute now? I advise you to just give up. Stop resisting and turn yourself in obediently."

Just as both sides were raring to fight, someone barged into the room.

Bertram couldn't stop his heart from racing at the sight of the person who had just come in.

It was Clement, his immediate superior.

Why is he here? It'd be troublesome if Zeke accidentally hurts him.

"Please stop right there, Mr. Bedzra! There's someone dangerous here. I'm worried that he would hurt you," he quickly warned.

"What happened? What's going on?"

"It's hard to explain in just a few sentences. I'll report to you in detail later. Long story short, this person right here is a murderer. He's extremely brutal, so please leave the room, Mr. Bedzra."

A murderer!

Clement's wicked gaze landed on Zeke.

"I'm here because of a murder case."

"Huh? Are you reporting a murder? Who's the victim?" Bertram asked curiously.

"My Yartranian friend, Lucy."

Lucy!

"I can't believe Lucy's your friend!"

"What? You know about Lucy too?"

A wry smile appeared on Bertram's face.

He didn't expect the murder victim to be his superior's friend. Even if he had caught the murderer, Clement would still blame everything on him.

Chapter 2162

After all, his friend had been murdered in his territory.

"To tell you the truth, Mr. Bedzra, this person right here was the one who murdered Ms. Lucy."

What?

Clement was instantly furious. "How dare you kill my friend? Do you have a death wish? Hold on, Bertram. Do you have evidence that he killed her?"

"There's no solid evidence just yet. However, he's the prime suspect from a legal perspective."

"Lucy sent me a picture before she died. I suspect that the person in the picture was the murderer."

As he spoke, Clement pulled out his phone and passed it to his subordinate. "Take a look at the picture and see if it's him."

Bertram quickly took the phone from him and studied the picture carefully, comparing the man in the picture with the one standing before him.

"It's him. There's no doubt of it. It's Zeke Williams."

Zeke was also studying the picture.

Even though the person in the picture was standing quite some distance away, and the size of the picture itself was small, he could still easily recognize himself.

The picture was also sent from Lucy's number.

At that, Zeke looked up and shot a cold look at Clement.

There's a huge possibility that Sheldon or Kush Clan had sent Clement here.

First of all, Zeke had previously run a background check on Lucy, and she didn't have Clement as a friend.

Besides, he was not the one who killed her, and she would never send his picture to anyone else.

Sheldon or Kush Clan must have sent Lucy's phone to Clement just to set Zeke up.

"What else do you have to say for yourself, Williams? There's another piece of evidence to prove that you were the murderer now," Bertram said.

"I'm being convicted because of a piece of evidence like this?"

"Although it's still not enough to convict you, it's enough for the arrest warrant to be granted. You're the prime suspect right now, so kindly cooperate with our investigations. And I'll say it again, we won't let any evildoers off, but we won't accuse the innocent either. As long as you're innocent, I'll be sure to prove your innocence no matter how many pieces of evidence are pointing toward you," the former said, his brows furrowing.

Zeke began to laugh in disdain.

Prove my innocence? You? What wishful thinking! After all, your superior, Clement, is on the same team as Sheldon, the real culprit. Are you really able to win against him?

If Zeke had wanted to prove his innocence right then and there, he could have easily done so with just one phone call, and he wouldn't have to be imprisoned.

However, doing so would alert Kush Clan and he would not be able to lure them out.

This was why after he gave it some thought, he decided to get sent to prison instead.

That way, there would be a huge possibility that Kush Clan would send someone out to assassinate him.

"All right, then. I'll cooperate with you."

Phew!

Bertram heaved a sigh of relief. He was worried that Zeke would continue to resist arrest.

"Follow me. I'll send you to prison myself."

"Sure."

Soon enough, he locked the latter in a cell and said, "Let me know if you think of anything that can prove your innocence. Of course, if you were the one who killed them, you better confess. Even though I've only just assumed my position, my investigating skills are still superb. So don't even think that you can get away with it."

Nonetheless, Zeke paid no heed to him.

Bertram wasn't all that helpful to his plan, and he was still pissed that the man had pointed a gun at him earlier.

But he didn't blame him for it.

After all, Bertram was just a blunt and righteous person doing his job.

It was good that he was blunt and righteous too since it was much better than being deceitful.

Bertram had just left when a figure appeared before the cell in a flash.

It was none other than Sole Wolf.

A small police station could never hold off an Ultimate Class warrior like him after all.

He glared at Bertram and said, "That bast*rd! How dare he lock you up, Zeke? Does he have a death wish?"

Chapter 2163

"It doesn't matter. He was just doing his job. Don't do anything to him, Sole Wolf."

Zeke was worried that the warrior would kill Bertram due to his anger.

Indeed, he was that ruthless.

"Should I help you out now, Zeke?"

"No need. If I really wanted to leave, would I need your help? This is all just part of my plan."

"What plan?"

"Kush Clan has been hiding too well, so it's really difficult to find them. My plan is to get locked up in here to draw them out."

"F*ck! Kush Clan is just full of cowards. They didn't dare to fight openly, and all they do is make sneaky moves like this."

"That's enough, Sole Wolf. You should leave first. I'll let you know if anything happens."

"How about I stay here with you, Zeke? If I beat Bertram up right now, he'll lock me up in here for sure."

"Just leave. I'm warning you once more, don't do anything without my orders, and do not attack anyone blindly."

"All right, then."

With that, Sole Wolf left with a rather dejected look on his face.

He wasn't worried for Zeke, since such a small police station would never be able to hold him.

Meanwhile, at Sheldon's mansion, the rooms have gotten darker, and a pungent stench permeated the air.

The man knew that the smell was left behind by Lucy.

He could also feel that the King had become more conscious and aware of his surroundings.

Even his thoughts were affected by his consciousness.

King smiled in satisfaction. "You did a great job. Bring me more strong women with different origins next time. Their consciousness is very useful to me."

"No problem. As long as Your Majesty is happy."

"How is the job I asked you to do?"

"Everything is going well. Rhett is dead, and Zeke has become the prime suspect and was locked up."

Oh?

King was a little surprised.

He knew that Zeke was the Great Marshal. How is it possible that the Great Marshal is being locked up so easily?

After pondering about it, he understood what was happening.

Zeke must be planning to draw me out by getting himself locked up.

King merely sneered at the thought of this. As if I'd head out so stupidly. I'll just kill you off secretly.

"What should we do next, Your Majesty?" Sheldon asked carefully.

"Since Rhett is dead, the Mitxel family will send someone else to handle Project Mitxel. You have to maintain good relations with them so that you can get the project into your hands. It doesn't matter if you don't earn any money, or if you have to pay them for it. Get the project no matter what."

Huh?

"Your Majesty, isn't the purpose of getting Project Mitxel to earn money?"

"Money? It's like dirt to someone with my stature. I have other plans for Project Mitxel after getting the collaboration rights for it."

"I understand. Then, about Zeke... Should I assassinate him?"

"No!" King answered determinedly. "You don't have to care about him anymore. Just let him rot in his cell."

Even if there were a million Sheldons, they wouldn't be a match for Zeke. The latter might end up killing him instead, and it would just be disastrous for King.

Sheldon didn't dare to say anything to fight back even though he was frustrated about the situation.

"All right. Just work according to the plan. Don't waste any time."

"Understood!" the former answered before turning to leave.

"Hmph! I heard you're looking for the third Fortuna, Zeke. You didn't know that it's hidden in Project Mitxel, did you? Just wait in your cell, then. When I swallow up the third Fortuna, I'm going to come for you," King sneered coldly.

As Sheldon left the mansion, he got angrier and more aggrieved the more he thought about it.

Zeke had snatched Project Mitxel away from him and made him feel so wronged and ashamed.

He was so frustrated that he had to let the man off the hook just like that.

Only Zeke's death could resolve the hatred in his heart.

Giving it some thought, a plan started to form in his mind.

Since King isn't letting me kill him, he can't blame me if Zeke dies due to an accident, right?

With the plan in mind, he got into his car and left, feeling smug.

However, right when he left, a figure emerged from a corner. A murderous aura surrounded them as the figure watched the man leave.

It was none other than Brodie.

He had been planning his revenge for the past few days.

However, before he could even commence his plan, Zeke had been locked up. So, all he could do was stalk Sheldon.

But he couldn't find the right time to get his revenge.

"F*cking bastard! Why do you have to use your car whenever you leave? Can't you go by foot?" Brodie cursed before getting into his own car to follow Sheldon.

He could not give up even though his plan to assassinate the latter was difficult.

He was the one who made me go bankrupt, and the reason my wife left me. He's the reason I'm broke now, so he must die!

Having lost his mind, Brodie blamed everything on Sheldon and Zeke.

He followed Sheldon all the way to Intercontinental Group's hot spring resort, Brodie wasn't able to do anything since the latter stayed in the hotel the whole time. He decided to stay outside and wait patiently for his chance to strike.

Yet, a day had passed, and his patience had been exhausted. He even thought of giving up.

Fortunately, Sheldon finally came out of the hotel in the middle of the night.

He got into his car and sped off, with Brodie tailing after him.

Halfway through, Sheldon stopped to refuel his car. Not only did he get a full tank, but he also bought two extra buckets of fuel.

Brodie could not wrap his head around it at the sight of this. Why does he need so much fuel?

After filling up his gas tank, the former began with his journey again, driving all the way to the police station Zeke was locked up.

Since Zeke hadn't been convicted yet, he was only locked up in the detention cell.

Teddy was the only one on duty since it was the midnight shift.

Sheldon had already let him know beforehand, so he made it in easily.

On the other hand, things were not as easy for Brodie. He could only sneak in over the wall fence to continue tailing after the former.

Sheldon drove all the way to Zeke's detention cell.

After he got out of his car, the latter gave him a cold look and asked, "It's you? What are you doing here?"

"Oh, don't be so cold. I'm here to send you off. You should be thanking me.

"Send me off? To where?"

"Hell, of course," Sheldon said, pointing at the ground.

"All the evidence point toward you. You were the one who killed Rhett and Lucy, so there's no way you can continue to live on. You going to end up dead sooner or later anyway. So you might as well just let me end your life right now. Hahaha!" he continued.

"This is the police station! It's not somewhere you can fool around! There are people on duty here. Aren't you afraid that I will call them over and shoot you dead?"

Great question!

Sheldon became even more puff-up at that. "Let me show you if I can fool around, then."

Then, he pulled out his phone and dialed a number. A moment later, he said, "Come down here, Teddy."

Soon, Teddy, who was on duty upstairs, ran down with a panicked look on his face.

He glanced at Sheldon and swallowed. "Are you sure this is okay, Sheldon?"

"Don't worry. I have someone who has my back. Even if the idiot Brodie manages to find anything about this, that person will be able to settle everything. You should stay away from here, Teddy. I don't want you to get caught up in this."

"Okay. I won't see anything that happens here. You better hurry up too. I have to call the fire brigade to put the fire out later."

"Okay."

Chapter 2165

With that, Teddy left the place hurriedly.

Zeke's eyes were filled with murderous intent as he watched the man leave.

How dare an officer collude with a criminal and show little regard for someone's life? Parasites like him have to be dealt with for the sake of the people!

Sheldon waited for Teddy to leave before getting the buckets of fuel out from the trunk of his car. Then, he poured everything into the surroundings of the detention center.

"Don't worry. I'll be sure to visit your grave on your death anniversaries. Enjoy your time in hell, then! Hahaha!"

As he spoke, he pulled a lighter out from his pocket and set a fire.

Fire roared to life instantly, following the traces of the fuel.

Nonetheless, Zeke didn't panic, nor did he budge from his place.

He could feel a third presence somewhere.

He wanted them to show themselves and see what they were up to.

Besides, a fire like this was not a threat to him at all.

Sheldon waited for the fire to burn stronger before turning to leave.

However, he had only taken a step when a figure rushed out and hit him across his head with a baseball bat.

His vision turned black and he fainted in an instant.

Zeke took a good look at the figure and saw that it was Brodie.

Despite the fact that Sheldon had fainted, Brodie was still angry. He then continued to kick the man a few more times.

He originally wanted to just kill the man who was now out cold. But he didn't do it when he saw Zeke in the cell.

A wicked laugh escaped his lips. "It's also your fault that I ended up like this, Zeke. You're going to have to die too. But I won't be killing you myself. Originally, I planned to kill both of you myself before fleeing. But it seems like I can just let someone else do the dirty work for me. Sheldon wanted to kill you by burning the place but ended up killing himself with the fire instead. Haha! This has nothing to do with me, and I can live the rest of my life happily. Don't worry. I'll come to pick up your corpses when the sun rises. I hope your bodies won't be burned completely by then."

Without saying anything else, he left.

"You better turn yourself in, Brodie. I might let you have a proper burial if you do so. If I give the order to have you arrested, you will only end up worse. You're going to regret ever being born," Zeke said coldly.

"You must still be dreaming. You're going to give an order to arrest me? Let's talk when you're not dead, all right?"

Brodie left while roaring with laughter.

But Zeke didn't go after him. All he did was wait patiently for Kush Clan to appear.

He hoped that they would come soon to save Sheldon.

The fire continued to burn strongly, and it soon reached where Zeke was.

He quickly made four walls surrounding him with his energy, so the fire had no effect on him at all.

The fire crept toward Sheldon who had been knocked unconscious, and he was soon woken up by the scorching heat around him.

The first thing he did was look around his surroundings.

Sh*t! Who the hell hit me earlier?

He only heaved a sigh when he saw that there was no one near him. Only then did he get up to leave.

However, Zeke managed to suppress him with his energy, and he was unable to move at all.

"Sh*t! What is happening? Why can't I move?" Sheldon shouted anxiously.

"Is that all you've got? How dare you come after me with capabilities like that? Didn't you say that someone powerful has your back? Why aren't they here to save you?"

"Is this your doing? How did you do it?"
Sheldon had no idea that energy like this existed.

"You have no right to know."

The fire soon reached the former's legs. His pants were burned, and he was getting more and more uncomfortable.

Sheldon felt like he was about to be turned into jerky at this rate.

I have no other choice but to ask for help from the King now.

With much difficulty, he pulled a piece of paper out from his pocket. It looked like some kind of talisman, and he quickly threw it into the fire.

Chapter 2166

The talisman was like an incendiary bomb, causing a raging flame to flare to life and stirring up a gust of strong wind.

It took one whole minute for the tornado to settle. Just then, a silhouette appeared right in the middle of it all.

It was a hologram, and the person must be from Kush Clan.

Seeing so, Sheldon yelled, "Your Majesty, :help me... Help me, please!"

Frowning, King stared at Sheldon.

"D*mn you! You've been trapped by a strong trace of energy. Where does this come from?"

"Finally, I've found you," Zeke announced assertively.

King's body involuntarily shuddered as he ' , looked in the direction of the voice, only to realize that it was Zeke.

"It's you! It's really you," exclaimed King.

Zeke grinned. "Yes, that's right. It's me. I've put in lots of effort to lure you out."

Darn it!

Cursing, King wriggled back into Sheldon's body to dispel Zeke's energy. Then, he scurried away.

Zeke leaped and broke the prison cell, forging ahead to catch up with Sheldon.

With King controlling Sheldon's body, the latter moved at lightning speed.,

However, no matter how fast he traveled, he was not Zeke's match.

The distance between them was getting shorter.

Subsequently, Zeke released another ball of energy and shielded Sheldon's body.

Although he was not able to restrict him fully, the move had successfully reduced his speed. !

*Sh*t

King kept cussing, knowing that things were not going in his favor.

Had this situation persisted, not only will I lose

Sheldon, I can't protect myself either!

In the end, King had no choice, but to give Sheldon up and sped off.

Zeke chased after him from behind.

Though King was merely a trace of consciousness, his speed was actually on par with those of the Celestial Class warriors.

Zeke maintained a consistent distance with the other party without dragging it further nor keeping it shorter.

Things were not looking good. He knew that this would only bring him adverse effects and deplete his energy.

On the other hand, King was merely a trace of consciousness without an actual figure. Hence, he had no stamina to begin with!

In the end, Zeke launched the Ammo Needle, which was capable of taking one's life.

Since his energy channeled did not harm King much, Zeke decided to mould it into Ammo Needles and send them flying toward all the acupoints that would make King suffer. Lo and behold, Zeke's plan succeeded. However, the disappointing thing was that the injury inflicted on King was not severe. As a result, the table had not been turned around.

Fuming, Zeke bellowed, "Kush Clan, are you as timid as a mouse? What a coward!".

King scoffed, "Hmph! Unlike you, a King Class warrior, I'm only a nameless soldier from Kush Clan. Who's acting like a bully by pitting someone small here? I reckon it's you, the respectable warrior, who's gladly - abusing his superiority."

Zeke was taken aback.

Sheldon's 'King' is only regarded as a pawn within Kush Clan? Then, who's the real warrior? How powerful can he be?

Zeke was totally baffled. What if Kush Clan attacks the human world? Will they be able to defend themselves? This outcome is unpredictable.

Zeke started fretting as both energy and Ammo Needle had failed to impact King physically.

He was left with only one other way he thought could harm King severelyFortuna, the only hope of entire Eurasia.

Without further ado, Zeke launched his utmost power via Fortuna. The awakened dragon roared across the skies and charged forward toward its opponent.

This time, King felt threatened by the dragon.

He turned his head around quickly only to get the shock of his life.

What a strong faith energy!

The energy had undoubtedly interrupted his logical sense, sending him into a state of bewilderment.

While he was still in a daze, the dragon had dashed across before his eyes.

With a thundering roar, it pierced through King.

Argh!

King yelped in pain.

Chapter 2167

Consequently, the King's body became even more translucent. His consciousness, too, had been significantly reduced by half.

He was seriously injured and on the verge of vanishing into thin air.

King was completely dejected, knowing very well that it would only take Fortuna one more strike to finish him off.

What should I do now?

Zeke scrutinized King and realized that his life force was not hurt at all despite having a more transparent figure and largely depleted energy level.

Immediately, Zeke instructed, "Fortuna, attack!"

However, Fortuna hid in Zeke's chest and refused to act as per his command. No matter how many times he called upon Fortuna, the latter did not respond accordingly.

What the h*ll!

Zeke's expression darkened,

Dang it, what's wrong with Fortuna? Why is he taking a break now after only one strike? Can he do something about his attitude?

Since Zeke had no way of convincing Fortuna to act once more, he had to take things into his own hands.

The feeling of anguish left King when he saw Fortuna become idle. Delighted and hopeful, a flame of hope rose from within.

In the absence of Fortuna, I can absolutely escape from Zeke's attack since my life force is preserved.

Thus, he went ahead and lit his life force in order to increase his speed and run away much faster.

Zeke was already feeling quite exhausted. Now that King was turbocharged, the former had lost him completely.

Zeke could have quickened his pace to catch up with King if he were to utilize his life force too.

However, he did not see the need to do so.

His main objective was not to destroy King, but to identify a way to tackle Kush Clan.

Kush Clan was merely a state of consciousness that could not be harmed by energy and physical assaults.

Fortuna was the only magic that could injure Kush Clan severely.

I'm the only one who possesses Fortuna. How else can others utilize Fortuna in their attacks?

Zeke had much to research further.

: When Zeke returned, Teddy, who was on duty, was struggling to drag Sheldon out of the fire.

He nearly jumped out of his skin when he saw Zeke.

"Oh gosh! How... how are you still alive?"

When Sheldon set the fire, Teddy was hiding far away. So, he did not know what happened and assumed that Zeke was burned to death.

Now that Zeke appeared unscathed right before him, he was in total shock.

Zeke answered coldly, "How can I die so fast before putting a judgment on you?"

"How brazen! A prisoner like you have no right to judge me!" bellowed Teddy.

"You abused your authority to collude with the underworld, accepted bribes, and neglected the needs of the people under your care. Only death can atone for your sins," declared Zeke.

"I..." Teddy was rendered speechless.

Within seconds, a thought surfaced in his mind. "Get... Get on your knees with your hands behind your head," Teddy yelled.

"You've landed yourself in deeper trouble by escaping prison!" he added.

"Haha! Diverting the blame to accuse me instead, huh?" Zeke snapped.

Teddy continued, "I've informed the head of the police station. Bertram and his men will be here real soon. There's no way you can break free this time. I advise you to surrender now and lie down on the floor. Don't move a muscle, or I will shoot you."

Teddy was dropping hints to urge Zeke to escape before the police arrived.

It was not his true intention to let Zeke go. He was trying to use that as bait to tempt Zeke, so that he could pull the trigger when Zeke ran.

Yet, Zeke had no plans of escaping.

Disappointed, Teddy grew anxious. He had turned the law enforcement recorder on, with the hope of capturing evidence of Zeke's prison break to justify his reason for shooting him.

Placidly, Zeke sat down. "Okay, I shall wait for Bertram. I might as well deal with all of you rotten apples once and for all."

"Shut up! Who are you referring to as bad apples? I'm commanding you to place your hands behind your head and get down on the floor. Otherwise, I'll shoot."

Teddy tried to anger Zeke with his words.

Chapter 2168

Zeke saw through his evil plan.

Instantly, he released his energy and sent Teddy flying.

still When he sprawled on the floor, he was confused about what happened. "What was that? What hit me? What's going on?"

Before he could figure it out, a troop rushed in.

It was Bertram and his police force.

They were all dumbfounded the moment they saw the fire.

"What on earth happened? Why is there a fire? Who's on duty? Teddy, is it you?"

"Yes... Yes, it's me." Teddy's body was aching all over.

Bertram strode across to help him up. "What's the matter, Teddy? Who attacked you? Also, who set the fire?"

Teddy replied, "It's Zeke. He tried to escape prison. That explains the fire. I did my best to stop him but to no avail. I'm badly wounded... Go ahead and subdue him, don't worry about me. He's a dangerous person. I... I suggest you leave the law enforcement recorded while you shoot him dead. It will save you a lot of trouble."

Zeke Williams!

Bertram annunciated the name through gritted teeth. Then, he lay Teddy down and whipped out his gun.

As he approached Zeke, his men followed suit. They took out their weapons and aimed them at Zeke.

Suddenly, Bertram stopped when he was about three feet away from Zeke. He asked like an eager predator glaring at its prey, "You killed Rhett and Lucy too, didn't you?"

Zeke shook his head. "No, I did not kill them."

Bertram shouted, "Rubbish! If you're innocent, why did you plan to break free from prison? You're obviously feeling guilty."

"How did you know that I want to prison break? Just based on what his one-sided accusations?" Zeke questioned him back.

Bertram was stunned. He's got a point.

"Teddy, do you have any evidence to prove that he's escaping prison? What about your recorder? Was the process captured on video?" Bertram queried.

Teddy's heart skipped a beat.

Oh no, I'll be in deep sh*t if Bertram checks the recording. There's evidence of my duel with Sheldon, I wanted to delete it earlier but was : interrupted by Zeke.

"Dang it! I can't believe I forgot to turn it on: The fire came like a bolt from the blue. So, I panicked and..." He quickly came up with an excuse.

Bertram looked disappointed, but chose to remain silent.

Then, he turned his gaze to Zeke.

, Teddy swiftly seized the opportunity and tossed his recorder into the fire.

Bertram announced, "Zeke, I can't conclude if you had the intention to break free from the prison; neither can I confirm if you're the culprit behind the fire. Additionally, I also have no idea if you're the one who assaulted Teddy. Nonetheless, you're our prime suspect. I request that you cooperate with us throughout the investigation."

"No problem. Anyway, don't you want to know why Sheldon was in this very place at an ungodly hour?"

Sheldon?

"Who's that?" Bertram was curious.

Teddy's face instantly turned red.

Sh*t, how should I explain Sheldon's unjustified presence? It's all his fault for ruining the perfect plan and creating so many loopholes.

Bertram pursued further. "Teddy, who's Sheldon? Why is he here at the lock-up at midnight?"

"He's most probably here for a visit. I'm not too sure about myself. Since he fainted due to the fuming smoke, I think it's best we rush him to the hospital right away. His safety comes first," Teddy suggested.

"Quick! Rush him to the hospital," Bertram agreed without putting much thought into it.

Suppressing the pain felt all over his body, Teddy carried Sheldon up and ran away.

Let's leave this place first. When Sheldon is conscious, we can discuss, come up with the same story and cover for each other.

Zeke would never allow Teddy to go off just like that before interrogating him.

He then gathered a ball of energy and went directed it at Teddy. It successfully pinned him down on the floor.

At that instant, Teddy felt as if tonnes of weight were on his body, suffocating him and he could not move an inch.

Whoa! What on earth is going on?

He felt that his mind had gone haywire.

Seconds ago, I was still perfectly fine. But now, I feel like all my bones are crushed to pieces. This weight on me is unbearable! Oh no, am I possessed by some evil spirits?

"Ah, what's up, Teddy? Are you okay? I see that you're badly injured," said Bertram.

"Jake, please send the casualty to the hospital," instructed Bertram.

Jake took note of the order received and tossed Sheldon into the car.

Zeke thought about the whole situation for a moment and let Sheldon go.

He can't die yet, for he's the remaining clue left to help me get to Kush Clan.

Bertram requested, "Zeke, we'll perform an investigation on this case. As the only suspect, please cooperate with us. Get down on the floor now and place your hands behind your head."

Zeke negotiated, "I can do as you say but on one condition."

"Go ahead," said Bertram.

"I want to see Clement Bedzra personally, your immediate superior."

"Why is that so?" Bertram was puzzled.

Zeke answered, "Because you're not in any position to engage in a conversation with me, Besides, I have some classified information for him."

"I..." Bertram was infuriated, but compromised in the end.

"Sure, I'll contact Mr. Bedzra."

This matter had a serious implication, and it had blown up beyond what Bertram could handle.

Since Zeke had some classified news to share with Clement, it must be something very important. Bertram could not afford to make any mistake by delaying it.

Hence, he fished out his phone and made a call.

Right then, Clement was having a jolly good . time with a masseuse at a hot spring resort under Intercontinental Group.

Needless to say, it was pre-arranged by Sheldon.

When he saw the caller ID, a nasty feeling started brewing in the pit of his stomach.

He answered the call cautiously, "Yes, Bertram. Anything?"

"Mr. Bedzra, something happened. I'm afraid I need you to make a trip here," Bertram uttered.

"What happened?" Clement asked.

"The suspect, Zeke Williams, set up a fire and tried to escape prison. We haven't had him subdued, and this matter is getting slightly out of hand. Apart from that, he claimed to have some top secrets for you. conjectured it's about the murder case. Therefore, we need you here, Mr. Bedzra," explained Bertram.

Oh boy!

"All right, I'm on my way."

He hung up, got dressed hastily, and left for the police station.

Enraged, Clement was cursing Sheldon in his mind.

D*mn you, Sheldon. The plan was to get Zeke entangled in the quagmire and then murder him once and for all. Now, he's still alive and even tried to prison break. If this escalates, I might get into trouble too. Stupid Sheldon, what an incompetent b*stard! Had I known this would happen, I would have refused to help him from the start.

He tried to reach for Sheldon when he was on the road, but no one picked up his calls.

Alternatively, he called Bertram.

The call went through really quickly.

Bertram asked, "Do you have any instructions for me, Mr. Bedzra?"

Clement replied with a question, "How's the situation there?"

Clement reminded, "It might all be an act. Perhaps, it's the calm before the storm. Anyhow, don't let your guard down. Continue to watch him vigilantly. If there are any suspicious acts, just shoot him. Rest assured that I'll bear the consequences. Your lives matter, so... it doesn't matter if he's mistakenly killed. It's better to be safe than sorry."

Chapter 2170

Clement hinted to Bertram to have Zeke killed.

However, Bertram could not read between the lines and actually thought that Clement was worried about the safety of his staff. *

In return, he expressed his gratitude,

"Thank you, Mr. Bedzra, for your care and concern. We will ensure our safety comes first before seizing the suspect. Don't worry."

How can I not be worried when you are such a fool?

Clement continued to drop a few more hints. Unfortunately, they were all misinterpreted by Bertram. In the end, Clement went ballistic and hung up.

I swear I'll dismiss you as soon as I'm done with this big problem at hand. I've got no reason to keep such an idiot by my side.

Shortly after, Clement arrived at the station

Upon seeing the chaos, he shouted furiously, "This is ludicrous and unbelievable! Zeke Williams, you didn't regret your impetuous behavior, but you have become worse! Prison break, setting up the fire... You've committed one crime after the other, to the extent that you should be executed on the spot!"

Zeke grinned hideously at Clement. "Mr. Bedzra, how did you know that I set the place on fire or that I tried to escape?" ►

Clement refuted, "Isn't it obvious? Hmph! What do you have to say now? Do you really think that we are all blind?"

Zeke replied, "Oh well, since you're here, then I'll spill the truth. Bertram, have you turned on the video recorder?"

Bertram nodded. "Yes, it's recording."

Zeke continued, "Everything I'm about to tell you and every single word I'm going to say is the truth. I guarantee that with my own reputation."

He paused before revealing, "The person who killed Rhett and Lucy is Sheldon. We are rivals. He accused me of murder in order to wash his hands off the case and win me once and for all. Mr. Saunders from Haleton Hotel along with the other two witnesses, including Clement who's present here now, have all been bribed to cover up for him."

Zeke continued, "Initially, Sheldon wanted to set this place ablaze tonight and killed me. So, that no one will ever discover the truth. Who would have expected that an accident turned out to be a blessing in disguise for me. After lighting the fire, he was knocked unconscious and nearly lost his life. I took the opportunity to escape. I'm not mistaken, Clement repeatedly hinted for you to get rid of me, right? If that happens, the case will be closed forever. With just a little trick up his sleeves, he could have put the blame on me and concluded that I'm the murderer. Thereafter, he's got nothing to fear anymore as the dead won't talk." .

Zeke's words sent the police who were present into a frenzy.

This fiasco is just like a TV drama. It's insanely entertaining.

Everyone cast a confusing look at Clement, anticipating his rebuttals, wondering if he . could further justify himself.

Bertram's gaze on Clement grew dubious as he recalled how the latter had prompted him to end Zeke's life several times over the phone.

Clement hit the ceiling and yelled, "B*stard, you're digging your own grave for alleging me for all the crimes I didn't commit. You will pay the price legally."

Zeke retorted, "I said I guarantee every word uttered with my reputation. Are you doubting my character and dignity?"

Clement replied contemptuously, "Hmph!

Honor? Dignity? What reputation does a : murderer have? Someone, come on over and seize him! If he dares to resist, shoot him dead."

Zeke mocked him, "Wow, Mr. Bedzra, I can sense that you really want me dead since you bring this up again."

I...

Clement was at a loss for words. His plan had backfired.

Bertram led his team and surrounded Zeke.

Clement shot one of his subordinates a look:

He was one of the spies that Clement had planted as Bertram's aide.

The gesture was Clement's way of telling the subordinate to take action immediately if Zeke showed signs of resisting.

The subordinate nodded lightly.

However, Zeke disappointed them again.

He stood rooted on the spot as firmly as a mountain.

Gazing ahead, there was no expression on his face. Unperturbed, no one could tell what he was thinking.

Chapter 2171

Boom!

Rumbling noise echoed in the air before Bertram and others went near Zeke.

Is that thunder? Since it's sunny now, how could there be thunder?

They looked up and saw some black dots moving swiftly toward them from the sky.

As the dots got closer, they realized that those were military helicopters.

After a while, the helicopters stayed steady in the air, and some soft ladders were lowered.

The next moment, many fully armored soldiers in camouflage uniforms clambered down those ladders. Then, they swiftly formed a circle to surround Bertram and the rest.

"Don't move! Drop your weapons!"

Bertram and others trembled in fear.

As the murderous aura emanated from the soldiers, Bertram believed they were true warriors who had vast experiences on battlefields.

In comparison, Bertram and the rest were nothing.

Feeling shocked, the police officers instinctively put down their weapons.

However, the stubborn Bertram still refused to drop his weapon.

: Since we're on official duty, why must we drop our weapons?

When Bertram wanted to argue with them, a few military trucks suddenly rushed into the area.

The moment the trucks pulled over, a group of Archdukes hopped out.

"We're on an official duty. Freeze!".

Clement's heart skipped a beat, for he had an ominous premonition inside and could sense that they were there for him.

Had Clement not done anything wrong, he would have nothing to fear. However, Clement always worried that he was targeted, for he was involved in too many evil deeds.

On the contrary, Bertram had nothing to be afraid of, for he knew that he did nothing wrong. "Who are you? We're here on official duty. How can you barge into the scene and disrupt us without your superior's approval?"

Meanwhile, a grin flitted across Zeke's face.

Bertram is indeed blunt. He dares to say no to others as long as he's right. The North lacks someone as headstrong as him.

Nonetheless, Clement was scared stiff.

Since the fully armored soldiers arrived in helicopters, Clement believed their ranks were higher than his.

How dare Bertram question them when I'm afraid to do so? Is he out of his mind?

Clement hastily walked to the front and shoved Bertram away. "I'm sorry, sir. He's my subordinate but doesn't understand the rules. I apologize on his behalf. May I know your purpose for coming to this place? How can we cooperate?"

However, the officer responded coldly, "Please don't obstruct us when we're on duty. Also, take three steps back and stand where you are. Otherwise, it isn't our responsibility if your men are accidentally shot."

Clement quickly took three steps backward upon hearing it.

Shit, they will really open fire!

"We are from Northern Wolf!" After a while, a deep voice sounded from one of the trucks.

Northern Wolf!

Everyone's heart raced upon hearing that the soldiers were from Northern Wolf: After all, Northern Wolf was ranked in the top three among Eurasia's special forces.

Rumor had it that Great Marshal trained Northern Wolf by himself and only sent them to battlefields. In other words, everyone in the special force had killed someone before.

Therefore, any ordinary members were at least on par with Clement in terms of rank. Clement couldn't fathom why such a powerful special force would choose to land here.

At that time, everyone turned their gazes to the truck, hoping to find out who was talking.

After a while, a sturdy man got down from the truck.

Even though the man was only dressed in casual wear, his domineering aura was unconcealable.

He was expressionless, yet everyone held their breaths as his presence was very imposing.

Although he wasn't dressed in military uniform, Clement knew right away that he was the leader of the special force.

That man was none other than Sole Wolf, General North.

Northern Wolf was trained by Sole Wolf and would only carry out dangerous missions on battlefields. Considering that Kush Clan was too powerful, Sole Wolf decided to summon Northern Wolf to help Zeke secretly.

Chapter 2172

Clement quickly rushed toward Sole Wolf and greeted him. "General, it's my honor to welcome you to this place today."

After gazing at Clement, Sole Wolf asked casually, "Who is Clement?"

A shiver ran down Clement's spine once he heard it. They're here for me! Alas, nothing good would come out of this.

Clement calmed himself down and replied, "I'm Clement. General, do you have any instructions for me?"

Sole Wolf didn't reply to Clement but continued to ask, "Are you Clement Bedzra, the boss of the provincial police department?"

Clement was hesitant to admit it, for he could see a glint flash across Sole Wolf's eyes just now.

After giving it some thought quickly, Clement said, "Well... I'm not the boss. You might have mistaken me for someone else." Clement was playing word games with Sole Wolf.

Well, I'm not a boss but merely a public servant.

Suddenly, Bertram corrected him and said, "Mr. Bedzra, you don't have to be that humble. After all, you're indeed the boss here in terms of your rank and experience. You're our leader, and thus we're determined to follow your instructions and footsteps..."

Screw you!

Clement's expression turned grim.

Meanwhile, Zeke almost burst out into laughter.

Bertram is the best among the best! Bang!

Sole Wolf slapped Clement in the face upon confirming that he was the person he was looking for.

As Sole Wolf's slap was powerful, Clement's face became swollen right away.

While Clement was stunned, others were rendered in confusion.

What is going on? Why did he slap Clement all of a sudden? Clement isn't an ordinary man. He can't be humiliated in such a way even if his rank is lower than that of Sole Wolf. Even so, Clement didn't get infuriated. To be exact, he dared not show his anger.

Clement pulled himself together and gazed at Sole Wolf. "Why did you hit me?"

Sole Wolf chuckled and replied, "Why? Let me tell you! You have colluded with lawbreakers, accepted bribes, violated human rights, and insulted Great Marshal. Shouldn't you be punished for all these crimes?"

Clement felt even more terrified upon hearing it.

Chapter 2173

If Sole Wolf intended to investigate, he could easily prove that Clement had committed the three crimes.

Nevertheless, Clement wouldn't admit that he committed the third crime, for a lowranking officer like him would never dare insult Great Marshal.

After coming to his senses, Clement responded, "Hmph! The first three allegations are fabricated. As for the fourth allegation, everyone knows that I always respect Great Marshal. Besides, I even worship him like a god. I'll never insult Great Marshal, even if everyone does it! I warn you now that I reserve the right to sue you!"

Slap!

Sole Wolf slapped Clement again and sent him rolling onto the ground. This time, the impact broke his teeth, and blood hung by the corner of his mouth.

Clement was infuriated even though he was initially timid. "D*am it. You have hit me many times. I swear that I'll let you pay the price."

Immediately, Bertram aimed his gun at Sole Wolf. "I don't care who you are. Get on your knees with your hands on your head! How dare you assault our chief! You've assaulted a police officer and obstructed us from carrying out our duty. We will press charges on you!"

Among dozens of police officers, only Bertram dared to aim his gun at Sole Wolf.

Is Bertram kidding? Sole Wolf is the leader of Northern Wolf. His rank is a lot higher than that of Clement, not to mention ours!

The other police officers weren't that foolish to point a gun at Sole Wolf.

Besides, their little guns were no match for Northern Wolf's automatic weapons, such as a bazooka that one of them was holding.

Meanwhile, Bertram felt irritated and scolded, "Hey, why are you guys standing there? Grab your weapons now. Since someone is bullying our comrade, how can you let this slide?"

However, none of Bertram's subordinates responded to his call to action.

At that time, Zeke was rendered speechless. He couldn't help but wonder if Bertram was blunt or brainless.

Sole Wolf was pissed off and wished to teach Bertram a lesson. Nonetheless, he stopped right after Zeke gave him a signal.

Therefore, Sole Wolf could only suppress his anger and let Bertram off the hook.

Staring at Bertram ferociously, Sole Wolf asked, "Do you wish to seek justice for Clement?"

Bertram responded, "I'm only doing my job following the law. How could you assault our chief without any reason?"

Sole Wolf interjected, "What did you say? I didn't do it without any reason!"

Chapter 2174

"Let not discuss Clement's human rights violation for now. Should I beat him for insulting Great Marshal?"

After giving it some thought, Bertram replied, "Great Marshal is the backbone of the nation in which the people believe. Those who insult Great Marshal shall be executed! However, we all know that Mr. Bedzra has always respected Great Marshal. How could he insult Great Marshal? Do you have any evidence to prove your claim?"

Sole Wolf said, "I have evidence, of course! All of you witnessed how Clement has insulted Great Marshal earlier on!"

Bertram interrupted, "Nonsense! I can swear that Mr. Bedzra didn't insult Great Marshal."

"Hehe!" Sole Wolf snickered but didn't elaborate on it.

Instead, he walked up to Zeke and got down on one knee. "Greetings, General North!"

The next moment, all soldiers of Northern Wolf kneeled in unison and shouted, "Greetings, Great Marshal!"

Their voices echoed loudly in the air.

Buzz!

The rest looked at each other in utter disbelief.

What? They call Zeke Great Marshal! My goodness! He... he is Great Marshal!

No matter how blunt Bertram was, he couldn't stand still anymore. As his hand shivered, the gun fell to the ground.

Moreover, others had a mental breakdown when they realized that the man whom they locked up in the cell was the Great Marshal.

If insulting the Great Marshal was a crime punishable by death, perhaps even their families had to be exterminated!

At that time, they had a look of despair on their faces. Oh no, we are doomed now. Clement wished he could crawl into a hole to hide his shame.

Why would I conspire with others to frame Great Marshal? I can't make up for my mistakes even if I die a hundred times!

After a while, Zeke said coldly, "Get up, everyone."

After standing up, Sole Wolf and the soldiers of Northern Wolf continued to surround Bertram, Clement, and the rest.

As Zeke came up to Bertram, the latter went weak at the knees. He gritted his teeth and tried his best to stand straight.

Nonetheless, Bertram's pale expression had exposed his fear.

Zeke teased, "Bertram, how dare you lock me up!"

Bertram replied in a shivering voice, "No one is above the law."

What the hell?

Sole Wolf was pissed off upon hearing Bertram's reply and wished to teach him a lesson.

However, Zeke waved his hands, gesturing for him not to come forward.

Sole Wolf returned to his position but felt slightly dispirited.

Zeke is Great Marshal, while I am the General North. Why do I feel that that prick doesn't show us any respect? Why would a lowly public servant act arrogantly like the Colonel?

The next moment, Zeke asked, "Will you still lock me up if I give you the chance to repeat the scenario?"

When Bertram swallowed nervously, Zeke added, "Just speak your mind."

Bertram said, "I... I will!"

"Why?" Zeke asked.

Bertram replied, "No one... is above the law."

"Haha!"

Zeke let out a hearty laugh and said, "Indeed, no one is above the law! I'll remember you! Now, I'll give you something."

The first thing that popped into everyone's head was that Zeke wanted to throw a punch at Bertram.

Surprisingly, the Great Marshal took out a purple badge and hung it around his neck. "Keep it as a present. I hope that you will remain true to yourself forever."

What is that?

Everyone gazed at the item around Bertram's neck in curiosity.

At the same time, Bertram also grabbed the badge and studied it.

Later, everyone was startled upon realizing that it was the legendary purple griffin badge.

It was said that the Great Marshal always carried the purple griffin badge with him.

Whoever owned the griffin badge could exercise the Great Marshal's authority.

In other words, the griffin badge represented the authority of the Great Marshal!

What is the Great Marshal doing? Why didn't he blame Bertram even after he locked him up? Furthermore, he even gifted Bertram the purple griffin badge! Why did Great Marshal show kindness to Bertram instead of punishing him?

Bertram was also confused. "Great Marshal, you..."

- Zeke patted his shoulder and said, "Bertram, not bad! I'm touched by how determined you are to stay true to yourself. I hope you can keep it that way as you progress. Also, don't bow and scrape before the rich and powerful. Remember what you've said no one is above the law. If any influential figure violates the law, you can show the griffin badge and execute him on the spot. I've given you the authority to do so!"

Bertram was emotional. "Thank you, Great Marshal. I will work harder and not disappoint you. Just for confirmation, am I allowed to punish anyone who violates the law regardless of their status?"

Chapter 2176

Zeke nodded and replied, "Of course."

Bertram looked at Zeke sternly and said, "Great Marshal, you're suspected of murdering Rhett and Lucy. Please cooperate with our investigation. Rest assured that I will ensure justice will be served if you're innocent."

Zeke and everyone else didn't know how to respond to that.

After a while, Sole Wolf shouted, "D*mn it! I feel like throttling you to death right now."

Nonetheless, Zeke said, "No worries. I will prove that I'm innocent."

Then, Zeke came up to Clement, who lay on the ground like a dead man.

Clement couldn't even muster his courage to face Zeke.

Zeke laughed in ridicule and announced, "Clement Bedzra has committed hideous crimes. Sole Wolf, execute him right now." Sole Wolf immediately replied, "Yes, Great Marshal!"

Clement couldn't believe his ears and begged Zeke, "Great Marshal, please don't do it. Please let me go. I was wrong. Please give me a chance to live."

Zeke asked, "Well, tell me why you were wrong."

With his face covered in tears and snot, Clement said, "I shouldn't have framed you. It was all Sheldon's fault. He threatened me with my family, saying that he would harm them if I didn't cooperate with him to frame you."

Clement paused for a while and added, "Sheldon has a lot of lackeys who are brainless and lunatic enough to do whatever they want. They might even try to harm Great Marshal once Sheldon gives them the instructions, not to mention a low-ranking officer like me. Hence, I had no choice but to submit to him to ensure my family's safety. I then conspired with Sheldon to frame you. In other words, you're innocent. Instead, Sheldon is the one who murdered Rhett and Lucy."

After Clement finished, Zeke shot Sole Wolf a meaningful glance.

Immediately, Sole Wolf loaded his gun, strode toward Clement, and aimed it at his head.

"You're still reluctant to tell us the truth. In that case, I might as well send you to hell!"

"Ah!"

Clement felt terrified and shrieked, "Sir, please let me live. I swear that everything that I've said is true."

Zeke snickered and said, "Are you fooling us? Why would the provincial police department's chief be afraid of an entrepreneur?"

Sole Wolf added, "Zeke, don't waste your time talking to this prick. Since he is guilty, we can execute him on the spot."

As Zeke's patience had waned off, he said, "Kill him."

Feeling terrified, Clement wailed and begged Zeke, "Please don't do it! I'll tell you."

Clement knew that if the soldiers were instructed to kill him, they would act without hesitation.

In other words, Zeke wasn't threatening him but would do it once he had made up his mind.

Clement thought he still had a chance to live after telling the truth, or else his death would be inevitable.

As Clement was deep in thought, Zeke said, "Say it. If you ever lie to me again, I'll end your life immediately."

After gulping nervously, Clement explained, "Sheldon gave me a lot of money. I'll never earn that much even if I work in the same position for 80 years. I was tempted by the bribery and chose the lowly path. I deserve punishment...."

While Clement was talking, Zeke interrupted, "You're still not being honest. Based on my information, your family members declare themselves entrepreneurs. Although the properties

are registered under the names of your family members, you're the one who controls everything. In that case, why would you care about bribery?"

Then, Zeke turned to Sole Wolf and instructed, "Sole Wolf, you may execute him right away if he still refuses to tell us the truth. Also, investigate his family members and severely punish those who have committed any wrongdoings."

"Yes, Great Marshal!"

Sole Wolf loaded the gun and pointed it at Clement's head.

As Clement closed his eyes, despair washed over his face.

It was almost impossible for anyone to hide anything from the intelligent Great Marshal.

After giving it some thought, Clement had no choice but to reveal the truth. "All right, Great Marshal. I'll come clean. However, I might be tortured and killed after telling the truth. I won't request your protection. but merely hope that you can keep my family safe!"

Chapter 2177

"You are in no position to negotiate with me, but you may go ahead and say what you have to say. I will consider it if your statement interests me," Zeke said coldly.

Clement nodded profusely. "Okay, sure! I'm sure you will take great interest in my statement, Great Marshal! You see, Sheldon gave me a huge sum of money and even promised me immortality!"

"Pfft! Zeke is as strong as a Celestial Class fighter, and even he can only live up to three or four hundred years! You, an ordinary man, expect to gain immortality? How could you believe such bullsh*t?" Sole Wolf asked with a snicker.

"Please, you guys have to believe me! Sheldon really is capable of granting me immortality! That's because...."

Clement then lowered his voice to a whisper as he continued, "Because Sheldon has an immortal by his side."

Immortal?

Zeke and Sole Wolf exchanged glances. when they realized Clement could be referring to Kush Clan.

"You believe in immortals? Have you ever seen one?" Zeke asked.

"Well, you could say that. I didn't believe

Sheldon at first when he told me he could grant me immortality. He said an immortal would visit me in my dream and give me something. Surely enough, I dreamt of that immortal that very night. He told me that I would achieve immortality if I help Sheldon and that I could even ascend to the world of immortals once I gained enough experience. Honestly, I was still unconvinced about the existence of that immortal when I first woke up. I figured I only dreamed of him because I kept thinking about the whole immortal thing during the day. However, something happened after I woke up and got me fully convinced that the immortal really does

exist!" Clement replied.

"Oh? And what's that?" Sole Wolf asked.

"I found a photograph in my room. In that photograph, I could be seen having a conversation with that immortal. He looked exactly like he did in my dream. His appearance, his physique, his clothing, and even some minor details... Either Sheldon is able to take a photo of my dream, or that immortal really did visit me in my dream," Clement explained.

Zeke and Sole Wolf went into deep thought after hearing that.

Visiting people in their dreams is a piece of cake for those from Kush Clan. They can easily affect a person's thoughts and emotions.

Infuriated, Bertram jabbed a finger at Clement and shouted, "You b*stard! You don't deserve to live! Not only are you ungrateful toward your taxpayers, but you even teamed up with businessmen to con them? You've betrayed the public's trust and the organization that brought you up! I'll dishonor my family name if I don't arrest you today!!"

Clement kept his head low in shame. "I'm sorry, I really am. I'm willing to give you my full cooperation in this investigation, Bertram. All I ask is that you give me a chance to make things right."

He knew full well that the griffin badge Bertram owned would grant him the same authority that Zeke had. As such, Bertram was the only other person with the power to give him a lighter sentence.

Bertram is an idiot! All I have to do is put up a little act and he'll believe me fully!

Zeke glanced at Bertram and asked, "Will you be able to give the public the justice they deserve if I hand Clement over to you?"

"Don't worry, Great Marshal! I will be sure to investigate all of his crimes thoroughly and punish him accordingly!" Bertram replied with a salute.

"All right. I'll leave him to you, then. Oh, and let's not forget Teddy..." Zeke said as he shifted his gaze toward Teddy, who was lying unconscious on the floor.

He had fainted from shock the moment Zeke revealed his identity to him earlier.

Chapter 2178

"Teddy was in cahoots with Sheldon and tried to burn me to death. He must be punished severely!" Zeke ordered.

What the hell?

Bertram jumped in shock. "Teddy was working with Sheldon and tried to burn you to death? My goodness... I knew Teddy was up to no good! Clement was the one who brought Teddy into the force, Great Marshal. I didn't want to accept Teddy because I knew he was up to no good, but Clement abused his authority and got him into the force anyway. Don't worry, Great Marshal. I promise I will thoroughly investigate Teddy! Hey, what are you guys waiting for? Hurry up and cuff him!"

With that, a few police officers quickly rushed forward and placed Teddy in handcuffs.

Teddy had actually regained consciousness. at the time, but he pretended to be unconscious as he didn't have the courage to face Zeke.

"Someone give Jake a call! He's sending Sheldon to the hospital right now. Have him arrest Sheldon immediately!" Bertram continued.

Zeke waved at him. "No need to trouble yourself with Sheldon. I'll deal with him myself. Also, don't tell Sheldon about my identity as Great Marshal."

Bertram nodded profusely. "Right, understood!"

Zeke then turned toward Sole Wolf and ordered, "Let's head back, Sole Wolf."

Sole Wolf turned around and yelled, "We're heading back, everyone!"

The Northern Wolf unit then left the area with Zeke and Sole Wolf.

Bertram stretched his back and breathed a sigh of relief as he glanced at the fire at the scene.

This fire isn't a disaster. It's a blessing in disguise! Now that I have gained Great Marshal's recognition, I'll be able to carry out my grand scheme without worry! Everyone thinks I'm a fool, but they don't know the burden I bear on my shoulders.

"Where are we going now, Zeke?" Sole Wolf inquired along the way.

"How are things with Rhett?" Zeke asked.

"Cygnus Room has taken him in. He's still in critical condition right now," Sole Wolf replied.

"Let's go pay Rhett a visit, then. He can still be of use to us as long as he's still alive," Zeke said.

"Understood!"

Sole Wolf then changed their course and sped toward Cygnus Room's direction.

"Have Northern Wolf return to base for now. We won't be needing them for the time being. We'll summon them when we need them again. It'll be too high-profile having them follow us around like this," Zeke added.

"Answer me this, Zeke. If you happen to run into members of Kush Clan, how high would you say your chances are of winning?" Sole Wolf asked worriedly.

Zeke let out a sigh and rubbed his forehead. "The Kush Clan's members aren't equal in strength. Some of them are strong, and some of them are weak. I don't know if they use the same classification system as ours. You know, with the Archduke Class, King Class, Ultimate Class, and Celestial Class. We know far too little about them, but there is one thing that I am sure of. King, the person that backs Sheldon up, is no match for me. I've injured him severely."

Sole Wolf got excited when he heard that. "Oh? How did you manage to injure him severely, Zeke? I thought you said you haven't found an effective way to hurt those from Kush Clan? Since ordinary energy attacks are useless against them, the only way is to materialize our energy physically and crush them to death!"

"Fortuna is capable of injuring them severely," Zeke replied.

Sole Wolf smacked himself on the forehead. "Oh, right! I can't believe I forgot about Fortuna! Fortuna is the manifestation of the faith energy from all of Eurasia, so it is capable of interfering with a person's consciousness! It's unfortunate that you're the only person capable of using Fortuna. We can't do anything against Kush Clan."

"I don't think Fortuna is the only way to hurt them. There must be plenty of other ways for us to cause damage to Kush Clan. We probably just haven't discovered those methods yet. Oh, by the way, I want you to contact Cygnus Room and have them assemble a team of researchers. Their job will be to conduct research on Kush Clan and find out the most effective attack against them," Zeke said.

Chapter 2179

D*mn it... Trouble never comes singly, huh...

"What happened, Yasmin? Why are you crying?" Sheldon asked.

Yasmin, his secretary, sobbed as she mumbled, "A bunch of foreigners came by and smashed up your office, Mr. Guerrero! They even yelled and cursed at us! They brought fighters of their own, and our security guards are no match for them at all! Please do something, Mr. Guerrero!"

What the f*ck? Foreigners smashing up my office? What the hell did I do to offend them?

"I'll head over right away!" Sheldon replied and ordered the cab driver to take him to Intercontinental Group instead.

Having been told to change courses a few times, the cab driver was losing his patience and grumbled, "What a pain in the a*s...."

What the... I have nothing to say about Zeke and King bullying me, but you're just a f*cking commoner! You must have a death wish if you dare insult me like this!

Infuriated, Sheldon vented all of his anger on the cab driver by slapping him across the face.

"F*ck you! Who the hell do you think you are, huh? How dare you insult me?"

Sheldon was so consumed by his anger that he forgot he wasn't in his office, and that the cab driver wasn't his employee either.

Naturally, the cab driver wasn't about to let Sheldon get away with slapping him. He immediately pulled over by the side of the road and got into a fight with Sheldon.

As Sheldon had been pampered and spoiled since he was a child, he was no match for the burly cab driver at all.

He was still weak after being discharged, so the beating he received from the cab driver nearly put him back into the hospital.

Having vented his anger, the cab driver kicked Sheldon out of the car and sped off.

"D*mn it! D*mn it all to hell! Just you wait, you b*stard! I remember you, and I will come for you!" Sheldon shouted angrily through clenched teeth.

He then called his driver and had him come pick him up instead.

Because the driver encountered a traffic jam on the way and arrived a little later, Sheldon took his anger out on his driver as well.

Still feeling unsatisfied after abusing his driver verbally, Sheldon started hitting his driver.

Little did he know, that was a big mistake. The driver got disoriented by his blows and ended up crashing the car into the curb.

Sheldon was flung out of the car from the impact and hit his head hard on the sidewalk.

Despite having his brain rattled and his vision going black, he was able to remain conscious through sheer willpower.

No, I can't afford to die in a crash like this! D*mn it! Why am I so unlucky today?

After what seemed like forever, Sheldon finally arrived outside Intercontinental Group's headquarters.

His secretary had been waiting for him at the entrance with a few scars on her pretty face. "You're finally here, Mr. Guerrero! Please, you have got to help us!" she sobbed while throwing herself into his arms.

Everyone knew about the scandal between Sheldon and his secretary, so no one batted an eye when they saw her seeking comfort in his embrace.

"Don't worry. I won't let anyone bully me on my territory. Come on, take me to them," Sheldon replied.

"Okay..."

Yasmin then led Sheldon to his office that was located on the top floor of the building.

His entire office was in a mess, and everything had been smashed to pieces.

A bunch of Yartrans could be seen standing inside his office.

They were all dressed in suits and stood in two rows, one on each side.

The one in the middle was dressed in a white suit and had on a pair of sunglasses.

He appeared to be the leader of the group and was so focused on cutting his cigar that he completely ignored Sheldon's presence.

"Who the hell are you people-"

Bam!

One of the Yartran bodyguards punched him in the face and yelled, "Shut up! You have no right to speak before our boss does!"

I...

The look on Sheldon's face turned gloomy instantly.

Chapter 2180

This is my territory! I'm the person currently in charge of Intercontinental Group! My status is recognized even in other countries, and yet you b*stards dare disrespect me like I'm some small fry?

Of course, Sheldon kept those thoughts to himself as he didn't want to get hit again.

All he could do was secretly signal at his secretary who was hiding far away to bring backup.

However, all she did was shake her head in despair.

Those foreigners were so powerful that they incapacitated all of his security guards, so there was no backup that he could call for at all.

Sheldon was so frustrated from the humiliation that he wished the ground would open up and swallow him whole on the spot.

Having no other choice, Sheldon could only wait until the leader of those men was done cutting his cigar.

About five minutes later, the man finally finished cutting it and lit it up.

"So, you're the person in charge of Intercontinental Group?" he asked while staring lazily at Sheldon.

Sheldon nodded. "Yes, I am. My name is Sheldon-"

The man cut him off with a sneer, "I'm not interested in your name. All I want to know is where my brother is!"

His brother?

"Who's your brother?" Sheldon flashed him a confused look.

"What, haven't you figured it out yet?" the man asked.

"You mean Mr. Rhett of Mitxel Group?" Sheldon exclaimed in shock.

"That's right. I'm Jared Mitxel," the Yartran man replied.

Sheldon was overjoyed when he heard that.

Haha! What a drastic turn of events for the better! I was wondering how I should get at

Zeke, and now this guy just delivers himself to my office! I bet these guys would tear Zeke a new one if I tell them he killed his brother! Zeke may be powerful, but so is Mitxel Group! I could let them kill each other and then swoop in to finish them off!

With that in mind, he said, "Pleasure to make your acquaintance, Mr. Jared. First of all, I would like to express my deepest condolences for what happened to your brother. You see, Zeke has killed your brother-"

Jared cut him off. "Heh, as if I'd believe that bullsh*t of yours! Did you really think I wouldn't do my research on you beforehand?" when

Sheldon tensed up upon hearing that.

Why does Jared have such a sinister smile on his face? What does he know? It's like he can see right through everything!

"W-What do you mean by that, Mr. Jared? Everything I'm telling you is true!" he asked.

"But my men have found out that you're the last person Rhett and Lucy came into contact with before they died! How do you explain that, huh?" Jared shouted.

Sheldon shuddered from his sudden outburst. "T-That's just a coincidence!"

Jared let out a cold chuckle. "A coincidence, huh? How funny of you to say that. Bring them in!"

Creak!

The door to the office was then opened, and Yartran bodyguards in suits dragged a few Eurasians into the room.

Sheldon's mind blank when he recognized them as Eric and some of his employees from Haleton Hotel.

I bribed these guys into test that Zeke killed Rhett! Jared must've found out about them if he brought them here! I'm doomed! I'm f*cking doomed!

Eric and his employees had swollen faces and bruises everywhere, which showed just how badly they were beaten up.

"W-We'll talk, Mr. Jared! We'll tell you everything! Please stop the beating! We're going to die if this continues! It was Sheldon! Sheldon wanted us to falsely testify against Zeke and accuse him of killing Rhett! Sheldon was the one who killed him!" they begged while crawling on their knees.

"How dare you make such baseless accusations, Mr. Saunders? I can sue you guys for this!" Sheldon shouted angrily.

Chapter 2181

"We're in deep water ourselves, so we can't lie for you any longer, Sheldon! Haven't you noticed that one of us is missing here?" Eric protested.

Huh, he's right... One of the witnesses isn't here right now... Where is that guy? Did Jared miss out on one of them? No, that doesn't seem possible... Given the Mitxel family's power, it should be a piece of cake for them to find out who that guy is.

Sheldon thought to himself with a frown as he stared at them.

"He refused to cooperate with Mr. Jared, so Mr. Jared had him shot... I... I don't want to die! I have parents and children waiting for me at home! I can't afford to die, so I gave Mr. Jared my full cooperation! I told him everything he wanted to know, and I did everything he asked me to!" Eric explained.

Sheldon shuddered in fear after hearing that.

What the f*ck? If what Mr. Saunders said is true, then that means Jared has killed our people here in Eurasia! Holy sh*t... The Mitxel family is way more powerful than I can imagine!

Having realized that he could be killed at any moment, Sheldon was utterly terrified.

Jared took a puff of his cigar and blew the smoke in Sheldon's face as he asked, "So, what more do you have to say for yourself?"

If I confess to killing Rhett, Jared is sure to take my life on the spot!

Sheldon was so consumed by fear that he had a mental breakdown and froze right then and there.

"Still won't admit to it, huh? Fine, bring up the rest of the evidence!" Jared continued.

His subordinates pulled out a projector and played a video in front of everyone.

The footage was recorded from the building opposite of the one where Rhett met his doom.

Sheldon could clearly be seen getting into an argument with Rhett, and the two of them even started fighting at one point.

However, Rhett stopped moving moments later and slowly walked toward the window like a robot. The next thing they knew, Rhett had jumped out of the window without any hesitation.

Something was obviously very wrong with Rhett at the time.

While the video couldn't prove that Sheldon killed him, it was enough to show that he had something to do with Rhett's death.

Sheldon went pale and simply stared blankly at the video being played.

W-What the hell is going on here? Who recorded this video? Wait... If they managed to record Rhett's death on camera, why didn't they hand it over to the police instead?

Sheldon's was not able to think straight at that point.

"Tell me, what on earth happened to Rhett? Why did he have such a blank look in his eyes? Why were his movements so stiff? Why did he kill himself by jumping out of the window?" Jared pressed on.

Sheldon flailed his arms anxiously as he stammered, "I... don't know! I really don't know! It's my fault! I wanted to stop him

from jumping, but it all happened too quickly! Besides, Rhett was too strong for me to stop him anyway!"

"Why did you stuff Zeke's pocket into Rhett's hand before he jumped? Were you trying to frame Zeke for his death?" Jared asked with a sneer.

There were simply too many strange things about this incident, so it made perfect sense for Jared to ask a lot about it.

Sheldon was so caught off guard by his question that he didn't even know what to say in response.

"Look, I don't care what you've done to Rhett. I don't care if you were the one who killed him either. You will do me a favor if you want to live," Jared continued.

Sheldon was overjoyed when he heard that Jared wasn't going to kill him.

"What is it, Mr. Jared? Just give me the word, and I will do my best to get it done!" he said.

"I want you to help me take out Linton Group," Jared replied.

Take out Linton Group? Well, this is quite the surprise! Rhett and Zeke are such close friends, so why would Jared want to go after Linton Group? He knows Zeke and Linton Group have nothing to do with Rhett's death!

Chapter 2182

As surprised as Sheldon was, he couldn't be bothered to question that at the moment.

For someone like him, taking out Linton Group was practically a walk in the park.

Besides, he was going to take Linton Group down even if Jared didn't ask him to.

"To tell you the truth, Linton Group and I have always been enemies," Sheldon said.

"No, you weren't fighting them hard enough. I want you to go all out in taking them down," Jared replied. www

What?

You want me and Linton Group to suffer heavy casualties?" Sheldon asked with a frown.

Jared shook his head. "No, I want you to take them down with you!"

Sheldon gasped in shock after hearing that.

Jared wants me and Linton Group to both go down?

"Mr. Jared, why do you want to destroy Linton Group?" he asked.

"I plan to acquire the company once it is on the verge of closing down. When that time comes, Intercontinental Group probably won't be any better either, so I'll acquire your company too," Jared replied.

Sheldon's eyelid twitched out of anger.

Isn't this guy thinking a little too highly of himself here? He wants Linton Group and I to destroy each other so that he can swoop in and reap the benefits? There's no way I'd be stupid enough to agree to this!

He was going to refuse Jared's request at first, but quickly changed his mind when he saw the sinister smile on Jared's face.

Sheldon realized he had no other choice in this matter as Jared could very well kill him on the spot if he said no.

Fortunately for him, Jared added, "You have one day to think this through, so you don't have to give me an answer right away. If I don't hear from you after that, or if you say no, then... Heh... You know what will happen."

He then waved at his men and said, "Come on, let's go."

Just like that, the men left Sheldon's office while he sat there staring at the cigar on the floor.

What do I do? What options do I have? Am I really going to submit to the Mitxel family? Without Intercontinental Group, I'll be no different from an average Joe! Hmm... Screw it, I'll go to King for help. I wonder how things are with King right now. Honestly, I hate King so much that I wish I could kill him. I willingly served him as his slave and did so much for him, but he left me for dead in the fire! Well, I'm not sure if he had some kind of unspeakable reason for doing that....

With an uneasy feeling in his heart, Sheldon made his way to the top floor of the mansion to pay King a visit.

He cautiously knelt down in the room that was dark as always and called out to King, "Your Majesty."

"You came to see me..." King's voice sounded really hoarse and weak.

Suddenly, his voice changed as he continued, "Save me, my son... Save me... I'm your

father..."

Huh?

Sheldon looked up in confusion.

What the f*ck is going on here? Didn't King take over my father's body? My father is supposed to be in a zombie-like state without a consciousness of his own! Why has he regained his consciousness? Could it be that King is hurt and no longer has full control over my father? Well, he did sound really weak earlier, so maybe that's the case.

"Your Majesty, are you injured? What happened?" he asked.

It didn't take long before King resumed control over his father's body and replied, "Huh... Zeke pulled a dirty trick on me and managed to injure me severely."

Sheldon nearly leapt to his feet in surprise when he heard that.

What? Zeke was the one who injured King? I didn't know he was capable of such a feat! Even if he used a dirty trick, it still shows how powerful he is! D*mn, I didn't know he was this powerful! Now I see why King left me for dead.... Had he not done that, we could both end up dead!

"So, why did you come see me?" King asked.

"Jared came to see me today. He asked me to take down Linton Group with a suicidal attack..." Sheldon replied.

Chapter 2183

"What, are you disobeying my orders now? I have my reasons for making such decisions, so just do as I say! I'm putting you in charge of this, Mr. Kimber. Remember, you are to do everything it takes to destroy Linton Group, even if it means Intercontinental Group has to go down with it!" Sheldon said coldly.

Meanwhile, Lacey was having a headache as she sat in the CEO's office in Linton Group.

Mitxel Group has been contacting me ever since

Zeke took over Project Mitxel.

Their representatives were rather enthusiastic about it at first, but they've been rather cold toward me lately for some unknown reason. There has been no progress with Project Mitxel because I can barely even reach them these days! Honestly, I couldn't care less about the profit it would bring Linton Group. I only wanted to take charge of Project Mitxel because it would affect the food quality for hundreds of millions of people here in Eurasia. I need to ensure the safety of our people!

"Sigh... There must be some kind of issue over at Mitxel Group. Maybe I'll have Zeke ask them what's going on..." she mumbled to herself as she pulled out her phone.

She was about to give Zeke a call when Dawn came bursting into her office.

She grabbed the glass of water on the table and downed it all in one go before saying, "We've got trouble, Lacey! Big trouble!"

"Huh? What happened?" Lacey asked.

"Do you know about Intercontinental Construction?" Dawn asked while panting heavily.

"Kind of. We competed over a few projects in the past, but they never won any of them," Lacey replied after giving it some thought.

"Yeah, that's the one I'm talking about. Apparently, their boss has gone crazy!" Dawn exclaimed.

Gone crazy?

Lacey's frown deepened as she asked, "What happened to him? How did you know he has gone crazy?"

"I don't mean he's mentally unsound. I mean he's gone mad!"

"Be more specific, Dawn. How has he gone mad?"

"They decreased the price for all of their products by two-thirds! I bet the selling price is lower than the cost price! They lowered the prices for all of the projects that they are competing with us over to unimaginable levels. Forget about making any profits. At this point, it'd be a miracle if they don't go bankrupt!" Dawn explained.

What?

Lacey felt goosebumps all over when she heard that. "This is insane! Why would they do such a thing? What are they planning to achieve out of this? At this rate, they'd probably go bankrupt before we even start losing money!"

Dawn let out a sigh. "Who knows?"

"All right, let's stay calm and go find out what's going on. Maybe they're cutting the prices because something went wrong with their products," Lacey said after taking a deep breath to regain her composure.

Dawn nodded. "Yeah, that has got to be it! They most likely cut the prices because their products are faulty or something! Let's go check it out! We need to take care of this crisis or Linton Group will... Oh...

Linton Group was formerly Lacey's steel mill, so Linton Group's main business was real estate development.

As such, Linton Group would not be able to survive if someone were to sabotage them in this field.

It wasn't long before the two of them arrived at a construction company that was responsible for providing Linton Group with the supplies and manpower needed for all of its construction projects.

Coincidentally, the boss of the company happened to be present when they got there. He was having his employees unload a bunch of goods from Intercontinental Construction at the time.

Chapter 2184

Lacey collected herself before walking over. "Mr. Larson What a coincidence. I didn't think you'd personally come down here."

Brent Larson instantly noticed the women walking toward him.

"It's you. Ms. Hinton" he responded with a grin. "Well, if even a renowned figure like you would make trips down to your sites. it's only natural that I do it too."

Lacey watched as the construction workers handled the goods. "Mr. Larson. I heard you're not buying from me anymore. You must have found yourself a more reliable source. Nothing personal, of course, but would you mind telling me if there's anything about my materials that could use improvement? I'd be keen to know what our rivals did to win you over."

Brent gazed at Lacey profoundly. "I hope you understand where I'm coming from, Ms. Hinton. Your company's materials are of exceptional quality, there's no question about that. But Intercontinental

Construction's prices are just way too enticing. If the prices of both companies weren't too far off, I would've chosen you without a doubt, even if it means spending a little more. But by buying from Intercontinental, I've managed to reduce my costs by more than fifty percent."

"Did you run a check on the quality of their materials, Mr. Larson? I'm not trying to slander them or anything, but you know the saying: you get what you pay for. Honestly, I don't think they're even selling at cost price. I'm a little concerned that they may be cutting corners."

"I sure did, Ms. Hinton. We went through everything thoroughly and even hired a third party to do the inspection. The results showed that quality-wise, the goods aren't as superior as Linton Group's, but they do meet national standards."

Lacey was a little doubtful.

Anything that meets Eurasia's national standards would surely cost more than what these goods are being sold at. Are they doing this just for publicity instead of actually making a profit?

Brent suddenly lowered his voice. "Ms. Hinton, there's something I'm not sure if I should ask."

"Please, ask away," Lacey replied.

"Is there any beef between you and Intercontinental Construction?"

Lacey pondered briefly. "We're business rivals. We've clashed in the past, but that's normal in the corporate world."

Brent shook his head. "No, I don't mean regular competition between businesses. I'm talking about an unshakable grudge of some sort."

Lacey immediately disagreed. "Not at all. Why would you ask that?"

"Well, I heard rumors that Intercontinental's doing this to drag Linton Group down. So I figured that they may have some kind of deep-seated hatred against you guys, which is why they're going so far as to incur losses for themselves as long as it hurts your business too."

"Deep-seated hatred? How is that possible? Do you know anything about this, Dawnie?"

Dawn shook her head. "No, I've been in charge of Linton Group's construction subsidiary, and I can guarantee that there's no such thing going on between us and Intercontinental Construction."

Brent scratched his head in puzzlement. "That's weird, then. Why are they doing this if they don't have a grudge against you guys?"

"Would you mind me taking a look at these materials, Mr. Larson?" asked Lacey.

"Not at all. Please help yourself and let me know right away if you spot anything unusual. My company's reputation is at stake if these goods turn out to be inferior. Honestly, I do have my doubts too. How could these materials be so cheap?"

With a nod, Lacey and Dawn began to inspect the materials. To their surprise, however, there was nothing wrong with the goods, and every item was in line with international standards.

Chapter 2185

That means they're definitely selling them to Mr. Larson at a loss.

"They won't survive much longer if they keep selling at these prices," Dawn remarked gloomily.

Lacey sighed. "You're right. Even our company would collapse. They're really trying to bring us down with them."

"This is clearly unfair competition. Let's sue them, Lacey!"

Lacey was at a loss. "Logically speaking, the prices they set shouldn't have anything to do with us. But from a legal point of view, they've violated the competition law. There are lots of gray areas in this regard, so it may be hard to determine if they're really guilty. Let's just hope suing them will work."

Suddenly, Lacey's phone rang.

The woman glanced at the screen. It was a call from Nancy.

As soon as Lacey pressed the answer button, her sister's voice boomed over the phone.

"Lacey! Where are you? Why aren't you in your office?"

"I'm outside running some errands. You sound frantic, Nancy. Did something happen?"

"You bet! This is an emergency! Where are you? I'm coming to see you."

"No, there's no need. I'll be heading back to the office. See you soon."

Right after hanging up, Lacey and Dawn hastily made their way back to Linton Group.

On the way there, they both received dozens of phone calls from different branches of Linton Group.

The calls were about how Intercontinental Construction sold their materials at such low prices that the entire Linton Group was being affected as a result.

Moreover, the oppression against Linton Group through unfair competition was taking place on a nationwide level and not just in Atheville.

Having been completely unprepared for

such a situation, Lacey could only stay put and have headquarters think of a solution.

The two soon arrived back at Linton Group.

Nancy could be seen pacing back and forth.

"Lacey! You're back. I'm about to lose my mind!" she exclaimed and walked over upon seeing Lacey return.

Lacey grew curious. "What's going on, Nancy? Tell me."

Nancy pointed toward her sister's desk. "Take a look for yourself."

It was now that Lacey noticed a huge pile of brand new clothes on her own office desk.

She began to go through the pile. "Why'd you bring all these clothes here?"

"Lacey, Dawnie, what do you think of the quality of these clothes?" asked Nancy.

"The quality? They're horrible in terms of both workmanship and fabric. They're all defective. You didn't buy them from some fishy website, did you?"

Nancy shook her head. "Look at the labels."

Lacey's expression turned grim as soon as she saw the tags.

"Second Bloom Apparel, Third Bloom Apparel, Fourth Bloom Apparel, and even First Bloom Apparel? These are all knockoffs of our own brand! Nancy, who did this?"

Nancy sighed. "We're still looking into it. All we know is that in just one night, all these knockoff stores of First Bloom Apparel began popping up everywhere in the country. What's worse, most of them are located near our own stores. Now, even First Bloom Apparel has counterfeits, too."

The nerve!

Dawn gritted her teeth in anger. "We spent nearly a million establishing First Bloom Apparel, and it wasn't easy getting it to take flight! We're screwed if the brand flops because of all these knockoffs!"

We have to look into this!

Lacey was just as furious. "Let's get to the bottom of this."

First, it was Intercontinental Constructions, and now it's all these First Bloom knockoffs. Someone's casting a huge net at us from the shadows, and it's clear that they're trying to bring us down in one swoop.

At that very moment, Nancy's phone began to ring.

Chapter 2186

She answered it.

Soon, her face turned red with fury.

"What's going on, Nancy?" Lacey asked, concerned.

"We've got a customer barging into one of First Bloom Apparel's branches demanding a refund. She says we're selling defective clothes with bad workmanship. She's caused a scene and attracted a large crowd. Our employees insisted that the clothes she brought over weren't even bought at our stores, but the more they tried to tell her that, the bigger the fuss she made. Now, she's saying we're providing terrible aftersales service."

"If my guess is correct, someone's behind this too. Let's go and take a look," Lacey suggested.

And so, they headed out.

"Lacey, you said someone's behind all this. What do you mean by that?" asked Nancy as they made their way over.

Dawn explained what Intercontinental Construction had done.

Upon hearing the news, Nancy floored the gas pedal in fury. "Intercontinental Construction and these First Bloom knockoffs causing us trouble all at the same time! It has to be the same person behind this. Just you wait, punk. I'm going to rip you into shreds and feed you to the dogs!"

It wasn't long until they arrived at First Bloom Apparel's main outlet.

There was now a large, bustling crowd at the entrance.

A woman's screams could be heard occasionally, stirring up the atmosphere.

It took Lacey, Nancy, and Dawn plenty of effort to squeeze their way through the crowd.

When they arrived in the middle of the circle, what met their eyes was a middle-aged woman seated on the floor, throwing a tantrum as she hugged a pile of clothes.

All the sales assistants were young ladies, and they found themselves unable to put up with this woman. Some had even been reduced to tears.

Nancy hurriedly walked toward the staff members. "What's going on, Lynn?"

The tears on Lynn's face flowed down even more rapidly the moment she saw Nancy. "Ms. Hinton, you're finally here! We don't know what to do."

"It's okay. I've got your back no matter what. Tell me what happened."

"Okay."

With a nod, Lynn explained everything in detail.

It turned out this middle-aged woman had come to the store to buy a few outfits in the morning. Everything she had bought was especially pricey.

The sales assistants initially found it a little strange, for this woman had rough skin and was dressed shabbily from head to toe. She looked like she worked in the fields.

The staff couldn't help but wonder how someone like her could afford such luxurious clothes.

But still, the woman was a customer and had come up with the money she needed, so they had nothing to say.

By afternoon, she had come back to return everything she had bought.

First Bloom Apparel's after-sales policy was that every clothing item could be returned within seven days of purchase as long as it remained in mint condition.

Yet, the clothes this woman had brought with her upon returning were not the ones she had bought previously. Instead, they were counterfeits.

These knockoffs were so poor-quality that even the ones sold on the streets looked better.

Naturally, the sales assistants-objected to the refund, and that was when the woman began to cause a scene and degrade them.

Gradually, onlookers started to crowd around the store.

The sales assistants also noticed that among the group, there were a few people who made the situation worse by insulting First Bloom Apparel, thus inviting more discussions on the brand.

It wasn't long until many began to shout nasty remarks about First Bloom Apparel.

Nancy instantly knew that those few people fanning the flames were working together with the middle-aged woman, who soon began to scream again.

"I'm a poor villager who came to the city to sell some eggs. Do you have any idea how hard it was to finally make enough cash just so I could reward myself with a brand new outfit but look at how expensive your clothes are! I couldn't afford them even if I sold a year's worth of eggs!"

Chapter 2187

"I didn't want to buy your clothes, but you forced me into buying them, saying that I'd have to take them once I've tried them on. That was why I had no choice,"

the woman continued. "I figured I'd just scrimp a little more from now on, but I didn't expect your clothes to cost this much when the quality is horrendous! I could buy things like these for just twenty bucks back in my village! This is a scam, First Bloom Apparel! Have you no conscience?"

The crowd began to comment on First Bloom Apparel, and the few people leading them were especially vicious with their words.

"Hmph! To think they'd even try to rip a poor villager off. That's just savage!"

"If we were in the olden days, these guys would've been sentenced to death by now."

"You know what? Every First Bloom Apparel outlet may look fancy and all, but they sell nothing but knockoffs. I've bought their clothes before. They're awful." "Anyone who spends their money here is an idiot."

"Seriously? And here I thought First Bloom Apparel was some famous brand. I guess I was wrong."

Nancy gazed at the middle-aged woman coldly. "Mind telling me what you have against First Bloom Apparel? Why are you deliberately framing us like this?"

The woman stomped her foot in exasperation. "Watch... Watch your mouth! How dare you accuse an old woman like me of framing you? I have a reputation to maintain!"

"You barged in acting like you bought these knockoffs from my store, and now, you're causing a scene too. Are you not trying to sabotage my business?"

"What? I bought these here! This is the receipt! Also, all these clothes have your tag on them!"

While speaking, the woman flashed her receipt and all the tags on the clothes. Nancy glanced at them. Indeed, the tags indicated that these clothes came from First Bloom Apparel.

However, it was obvious that the tags had been attached later on. She definitely cut the tags off of our clothes and reattached them onto these knockoffs.

"Look, everyone. The tags have clearly been tampered with. Look at these obvious marks."

Upon closer inspection, the crowd noted that there were indeed traces of adjustments having been done.

Still, those few people working with the woman weren't about to let the situation take a turn.

"Hmph! I bet you enjoy lying to your customers. The tags have been tampered with, you say? How could a villager like her know how to do that?"

"He's right! Besides, do you think we'd believe you just because you say that?" "You just don't want to admit that you've been selling knockoffs and take responsibility!"

The audience grew more frantic.

Nancy clenched her teeth and glared at the woman. "How much were you paid to do this? Name your price. I'll pay you twice the amount."

Evidently, the middle-aged woman began to waver.

I was given five grand. If I switch sides, I'll be paid another ten grand. That's a year's worth of savings!

How could she not be tempted?

Nancy stared at her eagerly.

If this woman were to accept the offer, their current predicament would be solved.

That also meant saving their brand worth nearly ten billion.

Unfortunately, the woman suppressed the urge to give in, for the person who had paid her to cause a scene was far too terrifying.

I might just lose my life if I switch sides.

"I don't know what you're talking about, but I demand an exchange. You can't pick on the poor like this."

Nancy naturally refused.

It didn't cost much to exchange the clothes, but that would mean acknowledging that they were selling defective goods.

The middle-aged woman threw a bigger tantrum at once, and Nancy had to turn to Lacey for help.

It would be increasingly difficult to solve this ordeal with every passing minute, for more and more people were now making their way over.

Chapter 2188

"When we're dealing with someone this unreasonable, we can only count on the law," Lacey remarked. "Call the cops, Dawnie.

"Okay."

Dawn hastily dialed Harry Hudson's number.

Zeke had once told them to look for Harry if they were ever in trouble.

He had also requested the man to take extra care of Linton Group.

Harry was one of the few people who knew Zeke's identity as Great Marshal.

The call got through quickly, and Dawn explained the situation to Harry.

The latter was instantly stumped upon hearing the news.

Someone's messing with Great Marshal's wife on my turf? I'd be dead if Great Marshal hears about this!

"I'm heading over right now," he replied in fear. "Don't panic. I'll be sure to give you the justice you deserve."

"Okay. I'm counting on you, Mr. Hudson."

Harry rushed over right after hanging up.

Meanwhile, the middle-aged woman gazed at Dawn anxiously. "W-Who did you just call?"

"The police. Mr. Harry Hudson, to be specific. I'm sure he'll help us uncover the truth. Let me give you a warning: you'd better own up now while you still have the chance, or you can say hello to jail time."

The woman's heart began to race.

She had just been released from prison a while ago.

In fact, it was Harry who had ordered for her to be locked up for five years. He's too terrifying. I don't want to have to face him again. No. I can't go back in there just because of five grand.

"O*! My stomach hurts. Where's the bathroom?" the woman suddenly cried out. While doing so, she made a beeline for the bathroom.

As soon as she entered one of the cubicles, she whipped out her phone and called the mastermind.

"Something's happened. I'm in trouble."

"What is it?"

A rough voice came through the line.

"They just gave Harry Hudson a call. I'm doomed if he throws me back in prison."

The mysterious figure fell silent for a moment. "Don't panic. Just keep insisting that you bought those clothes at First Bloom Apparel. What else can he do if you're just exercising your rights?"

Besides, it's just Harry Hudson. He's nothing but small fry. I'll get someone above him to deal with him."

"Really?" The woman became hopeful.

"Of course."

"Okay. I'll do as you say."

After hanging up, she ran out of the bathroom and began to kick up a fuss again.

Harry arrived shortly after.

The entire scene made his head hurt.

The situation's worse than I expected! I didn't think there'd be this many people. The public's going to be furious if they can tell I'm taking Mrs. Williams' side. But if I don't help Linton Group take care of this whole ordeal, I'll end up incurring Great Marshal's wrath.

Harry was now trapped between a rock and a hard place.

But after much consideration, he eventually decided he had to help Linton Group.

I can't afford to get on Great Marshal's bad side. If the public gets mad, I'd just lose my job at most. But I know I'm dead if I ever cross Great Marshal.

"Make way, make way." Harry squeezed into the crowd.

Then, he immediately recognized the middle-aged woman.

Isn't that Sally Lodge? She was jailed for five years after being caught stealing. Wasn't she released just last week?

Needless to say, the man now knew who was behind this current mess.

Sally began to tremble in fear as soon as she saw Harry.

But upon remembering the mastermind's words, she forced herself to calm down.

Chapter 2189

Hmph! Why should I be afraid of you, Harry Hudson? The one paying me to do this knows your boss.

Harry's gaze fell on Lacey. "Ms. Hinton, could you please explain what's happening?"

Lacey nodded. "She came to our store earlier today to buy a few outfits-"

Hang on...

"Ms. Hinton, correct me if I'm wrong, but these clothes are luxury goods, aren't they?" Harry interrupted.

"They are," answered Lacey.

"First Bloom Apparel is a luxury brand, so our prices are certainly considered above average to most common folk."

"How much did she pay for these clothes?"

Lacey turned to the sales assistants. "How much did she spend in total?"

"About thirty five thousand and eight hundred," one of them responded quickly.

Harry turned to Sally with a skeptical look on his face. "Tell me, Sally Lodge, where did you get thirty five thousand and eight hundred when you just came out of prison last week?"

"I... I..." the woman in question instantly turned red.

The crowd broke into discussion once again.

"What? She just came out of prison? So she's an ex-con?"

"How could someone who just got out of prison have so much money?"

"Honestly speaking, I've been saving up for two years now, but I haven't even managed to collect this much."

"I'm starting to think this whole incident was staged."

"That's what I was thinking too. Why would such a high-end store sell defective goods? They'd just be giving themselves a bad rap."

Sally's accomplices hastily began to try and steer the crowd again. "That's not necessarily true! What if she actually comes from a rich family? She might've gone on a shopping spree after finally being let out of jail."

"Yeah! It's not unusual for something like this to happen. There's nothing suspicious about it."

"But judging from what she's wearing and how she behaves, she doesn't seem she comes from a wealthy family," someone refuted.

"She's obviously a farmer."

The accomplices were rendered speechless.

"Sally Lodge does come from a village, in fact. Her parents are both farmers. They don't come from a wealthy background like some of you are saying."

With Harry's confirmation, more and more people began to think that Sally was a fraud.

"Tell me, Sally Lodge, where did you get nearly forty thousand from?" Harry pressed on.

"My... My children gave me the money," the woman stammered. Oh, really?

"But according to my knowledge, your children also work in the fields. How could they willingly give you this much money just to buy some clothes? On top of that, none of your children visited you even once while you were in prison. It just doesn't make sense that they'd give you nearly forty grand once you got out."

"I... I... They probably gave me the money because they felt guilty about never coming to see me."

Oh?

Harry smiled profoundly. "I guess I should ask them about this."

Thus, he took out his phone to call Sally's son.

"Mr. Hudson!" Sally suddenly called out. "Don't... Don't call him."

"Why not? Do you have a guilty conscience?"

No! Not at all!

The woman shook her head immediately. "Of course not. They... They're just pretty busy, so they might not pick up."

"That's not a problem. If none of them picks up, I can always get someone to bring your son here so I can talk to him in person."

With that, Harry pressed the dial button, and the call got through immediately.

"Mr. Hudson! Hello, there," said a reverent and fearful-sounding voice.

"Good day, Simon Levine. There's something I'd like to ask you, so please give me your honest answer." "Of course, Mr. Hudson! Ask away. I'll tell you everything I know."

"I heard you gave your mother nearly forty grand to buy clothes."

Chapter 2190

Simon burst into laughter. "Are you kidding me, Mr. Hudson? We're bumpkins! How could we ever afford forty grand on clothes?"

"Oh, is that so? So you're saying you never gave your mother forty thousand?"

Simon smiled awkwardly. "It's not like you're unaware of my family's situation, sir. Times are hard so I can barely afford to send my kid to school, let alone give my mom forty grand. Hang on, Mr. Hudson. This isn't a trick question, right? Anyway, don't worry. My mom may have spent the last five years in jail instead of contributing to the family, but I'm still going to care for her. I won't abandon her."

"It's not a trick question," Harry responded. "I'm just chatting with you. But I have to tell you this: your mother came down to the city to buy some clothes worth forty thousand, and she says you're the one who gave her the money."

What?

Simon flew into a rage. "Forty grand worth of clothes? Where the hell did that money come from? Godd*mmit! Don't tell me she stole it! She may be old, but she doesn't deserve any respect! Please don't be mad, Mr. Hudson. I'm responsible for this too. She asked me for a hundred bucks yesterday to buy some new clothes, but I said no. That's probably why she resorted to stealing. Please stop her, sir. Don't let her buy anything. We'll surely return every cent."

"Okay. I understand."

As soon as Harry ended the call, the crowd roared with laughter.

"Haha! Her son refused to even give her a hundred, and here she is claiming he gave her forty grand."

"To be fair, her son isn't doing too well either. He can't even afford his kid's school fees. Yet, not only did this woman contribute nothing to her household, but she's even causing them more trouble. It's not a stretch to say that she doesn't deserve respect despite her age."

"She definitely stole the money. What's worse, she staged this whole incident with money that isn't even hers. What a lunatic."

Sally was so embarrassed that she wanted to dig herself a hole and crawl inside it.

This is so humiliating!

"Sally Lodge, tell me where you got this money from. If you don't come clean, you'll be punished according to the law."

Okay, okay! I'll talk!

In a moment of panic, Sally came up with a blatant lie. "These are my savings. I... I had them before I was locked up. I just withdrew the cash recently."

Harry smirked. "Oh? Which bank did you initially put the money in, then? Was it Commercial Bank, Agricultural Bank, or Construction Bank?"

"Construction Bank," the woman answered randomly.

"But I remember seeing all your bank accounts frozen before you were put behind bars."

Huh?I...

Sally was dumbfounded.

Harry ignored her and turned to Lacey. "Please continue, Ms. Hinton."

Lacey was filled with gratitude.

Truthfully, all the evidence they had now was enough to clear First Bloom Apparel's name.

He saved us just with a few words! He sure is capable. It's no wonder Zeke entrusted Linton Group to him.

"She came back to my store in the afternoon with a pile of defective clothes, acting like she had bought them from us this morning. Then, she demanded an exchange. If there was really a problem with the quality or if she didn't like the clothes, we would've been more than willing to give her a refund. The problem is that these clothes aren't even ours! She's obviously trying to slander us."

Harry grabbed one of the clothing items and glanced at it before questioning Sally, "If you had really bought these from here, wouldn't you have identified the defects before walking away with them? Don't tell me you didn't notice anything."

"I'm just a bumpkin, Mr. Hudson. I really couldn't tell these were defects when I first bought them," Sally insisted.