

## Her Revenge 131

### Chapter 131

Lea held Alfred's hand as they walked across the beach, and suddenly she felt lost. She had no idea about the restaurant he had booked.

Alfred chuckled, gently turning his palm to take her hand more securely, and led her towards the seaside restaurant.

As soon as she entered the restaurant, Lea was shocked by the scene inside.

She had lived two lives in Vaporleon City. In her previous life, before she was chased out of the Berry family, other than going to school, she had been locked up in Berry Villa.

In this life, there were only a few places that she had visited. So, she did not know there was such a high-end restaurant in Vaporleon City

This was a seafood restaurant. All kinds of marine creatures were swimming freely on its walls and the ceiling. Under the light, it was beautiful.

There were only ten tables in the huge dining room, placed at the spots with the best view. It wouldn't affect the dining. It was mysterious, beautiful.

and romantic.

While she was surprised, Alfred had already led her to a seat by the window where they could overlook the river

Just sitting here and enjoying the night scenery was already enjoyable.

In her previous life, although she had achieved a lot in Iverton and the value of her research and development results was immeasurable, Milton had never taken her to a high-class restaurant for a meal.

It was the first time she came to such a luxurious restaurant in her two lifetimes.

While she was recalling the past, the waiter had already served the dishes.

Alfred looked at her deeply. "Let's have dinner"

That

brought her back to the present. "Okay"

Alfred had ordered the dishes in advance. Every dish was exquisite. The color, fragrance, and taste were excellent.

"Help yourself, Alfred said with a gentle smile.

"Okay" Les greedily enjoyed his love. She was afraid these beautiful things would disappear if she were not careful

She never dreamed that she and Alfred would have such a time. It was as good as a dream, and she was so absorbed in it that she forgot about time and the world.

Until a phone call from Christian brought her back to reality.

“Lea, look at the time now. Do you not even know your home after the exam? The exam is not over yet!” Christian’s words were like a bomb that exploded over the phone, making Lea’s ears buzz.

She couldn’t take it anymore and held the phone far away.

“Where are you now! With whom? Male or female? Christian asked a bunch of questions.

One thing that made parents worried the most was that their girl would be abducted by a bad man when she did not return home at night.

This was especially so for Christian, who had grown up in the old era and had never raised a child. Now that Lea was a girl, he was even more worried

Lea looked at the time on her phone. It was already 12:30 pm.

“No...” Lea looked at Alfred in front of her and quickly denied it. I’m just celebrating my high school graduation with my classmates. Ill be back

Alfred, on the other hand, was not in a good mood.

It seems like I need to get Mr. Berry’s approval as soon as possible,’ Alfred thought.

Christian stopped nagging when he heard that Lea would be home soon.

“Hurry up!” he ordered angrily.

Before hanging up, he asked with concern, “Should I get the driver to pick you up?”

After Jeffrey’s incident, he also changed his driver. It was someone that Victor, his assistant in the corporation, had trained.

“No need. Jason will send me back,” said Lea.

“Hurry up.”

“Okay”

After hanging up, Lea said to Alfred, “1... I’m full.” Then, she burped.

She had already eaten her fill. It was just that the atmosphere here was so good that she could not bear to leave.

Alfred smiled when he saw how she burped. “Let’s go back”

“Tilsette the bills

She dug into her purse,

“It’s already done online,” said Alfred.

She stared at him blankly. “Didn’t we agree that it’s my treat

“When I ordered the food, I seuled the bill directly,” Alfred said flatly.

Lea didn't know this restaurant needed to be booked three months in advance, and Alfred got to book the room at the last minute because of his special status and wealth.

Seeing

ng her conflicted expression, Alfred added, “You can treat me next time. We have a lifetime to go  
Her heart felt sweet again.

They came out of the restaurant- Jason was already waiting in the car.

Alfred got into the car with her and sent her to Herry Manor before asking Jason to send him back.

When Les pushed the door open and entered the house, it was already past one o'clock. As she saw the person sitting on the sofa, she could not help but be stunned,

Christian sat on the main seat of the sofa. And a

nd a man in his early

by sixties sat on the single sofa on the left.

He wore a black and purple shirt, and only a small portion of his hair was gray. He had a beard, and his face was fair. His posture was upright, and he exuded the wisdom and elegance of an old noble.

He had maintained his appearance well and looked only in his fifties,

However, at this moment, there were some blunt wounds on his checks, and his hair was a little messy. Two buttons on his shirt had fallen off, and there were creases. There were also some scratches on the back of his hand. He was in a sorry state and looked defeated. His face was filled with worry, and he couldn't hide it.

Lea was a doctor, so she could naturally tell how his injury came about. She anticipated he had conflicts with others. And it was more than one person.

She greeted Christian calmly, “Grandpa, I'm home”

“You finally came back. Look at the time Christian looked at his watch angrily. He was angry that Lea came home so late, but he could not flare up with a guest around

He said, “What are you waiting for? This is also your... grandfather. Come and greet him.”

He said the word “Grandfather” awkwardly.

Lea and Matilda were not related by blood, so she naturally had nothing to do with this man.

However, in name, she was raised by Matilda. To outsiders, they were mother and daughter. Naturally, she should call him Grandpa.

This was Lea's first time meeting this so-called “grandfather“, Henry Fraley.

Lea had already recognized him the moment she entered.

In her previous life, the most reported person in the medical field was Henry, Fraley Medical's big boss and chairman, and Matilda's father, the real pillar of support behind her.

She did not expect to see him in person in this life.

Henry was at the top of the food chain in Matilda that bullied Lea. He was also Lea's enemy.

Seeing that Lea was staring at Henry inquisitively. Christian explained, "Something happened to Fraley Hospital. Henry came here..."

Christian was about to say Henry came here to take shelter.

Considering Henry's pride, he said. "He's here to discuss how to resolve this matter."

These were the exact words that Henry had said when he came here.

A trace of embarrassment flashed across Henry's face, but he quickly pulled a long face and looked high and mighty

There is no need to explain the matter of the Fraley family to a little girl. I have heard many things about this little girl from Marilda. She is the bastard child of Matilda's husband. Her existence naturally threatened the interests of Matilda and Helen She is a thorn in Matilda's side. Matilda has been suppressing her and wants to get rid of her, Henry thought.

Therefore, his gaze on Lea was dark.

"I know about this. It's all over the Internet, Lea said.

Not only on the Internet. The entire city was talking about it not to let their

While she and Alfred were dining in the restaurant, the surrounding diners also discussed it. Some people kindly reminded them not to relatives and friends go to Fraley Hospital for treatment.

Ime

Lea went forward and sat down. She looked like a little hostess, wondering, What does Henry have to be so arrogant in front Christian considered Henry's feelings and slid not say it directly. However, Lea could tell Henry had fled here because his family was surrounded. From his sorry state, she could tell just by thinking about it.

Lea was surprised and happy. She had schadenfreude in her heart. Those people did a good job!

Henry turned around and said to Christian. "There's already some progress in the hospital's investigation. They said it was because a competitor was framing us deliberately. That serial killer doctor is not our doctor. He just cooperated with us a line. The doctor that Fraley is working with now is someone like Dr. Berry."

Lea smiled and thought, "I can't believe they are using my name to swindle others?"

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However, Lea did not show it on her face.

The "serial killer doctor Frank is the main doctor in their hospital for organ transplants. He has performed many important surgeries. Because of that, their hospital's standards and reputation got elevated. Now, he doesn't even deserve to be mentioned by name. A competitor deliberately framed

them! Henry was referring to Riverview Hospital. He's so good at finding a scapegoat. It turns out that Matilda's ability to shift the blame to others is inherited, Lea thought in disdain.

As expected, Christian believed his words.

"Don't worry, we'll find out. Christian comforted him. I'll think of a way to talk to the military and the police

Then I'll have to trouble you, Mr. Berry. Our company only needs a fair and impartial investigation," said Henry,

In other words, he did not need Christian to use his power and connections to pressure them. They had a clear conscience and could withstand the investigation.

When Christian heard this, he was even more convinced

His trust in the Fraley family was rooted in his bones.

He said, I'll make the call now."

"Grandpa, this matter has caused an uproar both online and offline. The crowd is in a bad mood. If we respond now, we'll charge head-on and become enemies with the crowd. Why don't you take action after the storm has passed" Dea said.

Christian used to be a soldier and general who had fought on the battlefield. He was immediately enlightened.

At the same time, he thought of things about Helen.

This was

was the first time in his life that he had made a fool of himself. He immediately gave up and didn't want to stand up for them again.

"Lea is right. Look at me, I'm old and muddle-headed. I don't even know the major taboos of the military. I should avoid the storm... Henry, don't worry too much. The right can't be wrong, and the wrong can't be right. When the evidence is conclusive, the relevant departments will bring you justice. At that time, you will get more attention and a better reputation, just treat it as free publicity After Christian said that, he laughed softly,

Henry's face immediately turned ashen. A mouthful of blood rushed to his throat, but he held it in and did not dare to spit it out

The Fraley family people all believed in

power

This time, the military came forward. With Christian's status and connections, if he comes forward to help us pressure in private and secretly suppress the commotion, it'll be wonderful for us. But now, I can't believe he is smiling and saying it's free publicity. He's getting more and more shameless, just because of a sentence from Lea, he stood by and did nothing! With those thoughts in mind. Henry looked at Lea and gave her a sharp glare.

If not for the fact that he was on their territory, he would have beaten her up

Lea turned a blind eye and played dumb.

Then, she glanced at Christian and gave him an appreciative look. This time, he was very sober.

Although the Berry family and the Fraley family were in a reciprocal marriage, in the past twenty years, whenever the Fraley family encountered any problems, Matilda would use the Berry family's resources to help solve them.

As for the Fraley family, they never cared about the Berry family. They even put it nicely, saying they would not interfere.

“Mr. Berry, Mr. Berry. A car drove straight to the gate. Before it was parked, Victor had already rushed out of the car and pushed the door open.

He said. “Bad news, our stock is down by the limit again!”

The moment he entered and saw Henry, he froze and felt awkward.

However, he couldn't care less when he remembered the company's matters. He continued, “After the Fraley Medical incident broke out, our company's shares plummeted. They're all falling to the limit now,”

Although this was expected, Christian's expression still darkened with worry.

After several major stock fluctuations, he made adjustments to the group, strengthening the capital chain and reducing the impact of the stock market on the company.

However, as a listed company, how could they not be affected?

He looked at Henry. Then, he said with a pleading tone. “The hospital was framed Soon, they will submit evidence to the police to prove their innocence. The share price will rise again, don't you think so, Henry!”

Victor looked at Henry eagerly when he heard that.

Henry's face turned ashen. Fortunately, the lights in the hall were not very bright. His head was slightly lowered, and his face was hidden in the shadows. Christian and Victor were old, so their eyesight was not good. They could not see clearly, so Henry was not so embarrassed.

After a while, he replied stiffly, “Yes”

Since Christian had already said that, he could only nod.

Christian and Victor heaved a sigh of relief. They both thought it was for the best.

Only Lea knew what was going on. She thought, This time, Henry will make a fool of himself, I won't give Fraley Medical a chance!

Henry felt a little embarrassed and anxious, so he went to the guest room next door to make a call.

Christian treated him as a distinguished guest, Candice had brought the maids to tidy up the guest room for him. It had already become his private

space.

Nixon was arrested, and coincidentally, Matilda was in the hospital, presiding over the situation.

He couldn't wait to call his daughter to ask about the situation.

In the hall. Victor and Christian heaved a sigh of relief.

Although it was already midnight, they were both old and did not sleep much, to begin with, so they did not feel sleepy tonight

Lea was young and healthy. Naturally, she stayed behind to accompany them, mainly to watch a good show

"Lea." Victor tried to chat with Lea. "The SAT exam's written test is over. How did it go?"

"Pretty good," Lea replied immediately

Her answer was so confident that Victor perked up. "You're going to Conrad University, right?"

"Are you confident about it

"Yes. No problem"

Victor's eyes immediately lit up with excitement as he thought, Students who can get into Conrad University are either geniuses or have their strengths. If she can do it, she is not an ordinary person

They didn't interact much, and Victor didn't know her very well. However, he felt Lea was honest and low-key. Her performance in dealing with problems, especially in Jeffrey's thing, showed her intelligence and personality.

Victor thought she was sophisticated and decent, which was quite rare.

This was also the first time she was so confident. He trusted her even more.

'She shouldn't be bad. Moreover, Mr. Berry wants to transfer so many shares to her to bring her into the corporation and train her, Berry Group will have a successor. We should train her from now on and leave the company's business to her, Victor thought.

Although the person in charge of the corporation was Christian, the real person in charge was Victor, a professional manager Berry Group had too many changes this year.

Its stock price had been down by the limit several times in the past month, though it hadn't caused much damage during the past few times. And it seemed that nothing would happen this time.

However, he was getting on in years. If he kept experiencing such things, his heart couldn't take i

"You haven't even taken the interview yet, yet you're spouting nonsense!" Christian immediately said those words, bringing Len down.

Although he did not investigate Helen's matter carefully, he could sense that Matilda had praised her too much.

He didn't want Lea to be like this.

Lea remained silent and didn't explain.

“Miss Lea has always been steady. Since she says so, she’s confident. She won’t be bad,” said Victor

‘Even if she doesn’t get into Conrad University, she can attend other famous schools. In short, she will be a promising young man, Victor thought.

“You’re getting worse as you live. How can you listen to a little girl? Although Christian said that, he was happy and proud deep down.

The few of them chatted and ate supper. Unknowingly, an hour had passed.

There was the sound of a car outside. Someone was there.

“Knock knock knock... Someone knocked on the door.

The maids had already gone to bed. Lea went to open the door. When she opened the door, she saw Matilda.

She smiled and said, “Hey.”

Henry is here, and now, she came too. There will be a good show to watch. It’s not in vain that I had stayed up late for so long. Lea thought

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Matilda’s expression changed drastically when she saw Lea

From the best hospital in the city, Fraley Hospital instantly became the target of public criticism. She received a call from her father When she left the hospital, it was like a disaster scene because Frank had fallen into the hands of the police. And he just so happened to be arranged by Nixon to kill her.

It was also from Jeffrey that Matilda learned that he had escaped, allowing them to catch their breath.

Now that she thought about it, Matilda realized Lea was the one who deliberately revealed this news to Jeffrey and sent it to her to mislead them, Even so, they were still vigil

vigilant and made contingency plans. However, it was useless. The police joined forces with the military to strike first.

Unbeknownst to them, the attack had almost destroyed their hospital.

Matilda wouldn’t dare to conclude that it was Lea if it weren’t for Frank.

Now, she was completely certain that Lea was behind this.

She could be sure Lea had set up an inescapable net to destroy her

And now, at this moment, she seems to be waiting for me. She wants to see how much I have failed and how down and out I am, Matilda thought.

“Lea, it’s you!” She roared and strode in her hands poised to strangle Lea.



Lea's gaze shifted and she retreated in time, saying, "Of course, it's me. It's lace. The maids have gone to bed. There isn't even a maid to open the door for you. Someone has to open it for you right? Grandpa is still awake. Victor is here, too"

Marilda had already entered. When she heard this, she turned around and saw Christian and Victor on the sofa. She immediately retracted her hands and placed them on her waist. She clenched her fists and dug her nails into her flesh, suppressing the urge to hit Lea.

She knew making a move on Lea in front of Christian was like courting death.

Seeing her like this, Lea smiled and pretended to be surprised. "Matilda, what's with the wound on your neck!

Startled. Matilda covered her neck with her hand.

The incident at the hospital had already caused her to be in a terrible fix. At this time, the exciting affair with Nixon had stimulated her heart and made her uneasy

Now that it was mentioned, she was like a frightened bird.

"Why are you so badly injured?" Lea asked.

Matilda could not cover it with one hand at all. There were more wounds from her neck to her chest.

Lea spoke with concern and reached for Matilda's collar.

"Don't touch me!" Matilda screamed, slapping Lea's hand away and backing away.

She couldn't help but think. This innocent-looking little girl is simply a devil. She can give me a heavy blow without me noticing and make me suffer

When Matilda saw Lea now, she felt something bad would happen and was afraid.

She was even more afraid that the secret of these marks on her body would be exposed.

At this moment, she really could not take any more blows.

Lea looked at Matilda's guilty and frightened expression and understood. Sure enough, she has suffered a huge blow today. However, it is not enough. She is still standing here, safe and sound!

"What happened?" Matilda's overreaction caused Christian to worry, and he came forward to express his concern

No matter what, Matilda was the Berry family's daughter-in-law. They were family.

He did not know the relationship between Matilda and Fraley Medical. Therefore, he thought she had nothing to do with those things and only got innocently implicated because she was from the Fraley family.

Victor followed suit.

Although Matikla is now a member of the Berry family, she comes from the Fraley family. How can she not be worried? With this thought in mind, Victor began to sympathize with her.

“Matilda was nervous and agitated. For a moment, she couldn’t organize her words and stammered.

“She looked haggard, and I noticed some scars on her neck, which looked serious. I was worried, so I asked said Lea

She didn’t finish her sentence. Who knew that Matilda would have such a big reaction?

Only when she reminded them did Christian and Victor notice. They were shocked.

“Matilda, what’s going on?” Christian asked.

Faced with Christian’s question, Matilda’s heart skipped a beat and she could not breathe. “It... It was a conflict in the hospital. Those people were too agitated and accidentally injured me.”

“Outrageous!” Christian was furious. “When you go out recently, bring more bodyguards with you, Don’t let others bully y  
you.”

‘Although she is the Fraley family’s daughter, the hospital’s matters were all handled directly by Mr. Donovan, the person in charge. No matter how angry the crowd was, they shouldn’t blame her, Christian thought.

Victor agreed. “If you don’t have enough people, I’ll get some security guards from the corporation.”

Matilda was instantly so grateful that she cried. “Thank you for your concern, Christian and Mr. Fisher. This kind of thing won’t happen in the

At this moment, how could she dare to let their people come to her side?–

Lea glanced at Christian. He and Victor had never thought about those scars that way.

“Her husband, Ewan, is still in the hospital. At this moment, they even stood up to support her, namely their family. Their protective nature is vividly displayed. They didn’t doubt her at all. They’re getting more and more innocent, Lea thought

She didn’t plan to let Christian and the rest know about this. She just wanted to stimulate Matilda and scare her.

As for Maulda’s haggardness, Christian and Victor only felt she was still a young woman who had never experienced such a storm, so she did not understand.

Not to mention a woman like her, if such a thing happened to them, they probably couldn’t withstand it.

“Your father has been waiting for you in the room for a while. Co squickly, Christian reminded Matilda

She looked at him, then held back her words, thinking. At this moment, it is important to put Christian at ease. However, judging from his reaction, he has no idea what role I played in these events, nor does he know the truth. This is undoubtedly for the best.

She nodded and went to look for Henry.

Before she left, she glared at Lea as she thought, I'll never be deceived by her innocent appearance again. This little bastard has been coming to take revenge on me since the night of Christian's birthday party. She won't stop until I die.

Lea looked at her calmly, thinking. She is smart enough to know my intentions. But she didn't know it early enough or thoroughly enough!

She moved to the side to make way for Matilda to find Henry.

What kind of scene will it be for the father and the daughter to meet now? It is something to look forward to Lea thought

Matilda could imagine what Lea was thinking. She looked at Lea again and knew Lea was deliberately waiting for her to meet her father..

Matilda gritted her teeth in hatred and endured it as she walked toward the guest room

Lea looked at her back view. Matilda's sore legs were in high heels, twisting and turning. This scene was ugly and comical. Matilda was in a sorry state. Lea felt satisfied when she saw it.

With a creak, Matilda pushed open the door and stepped inside.

"Click!" The door was locked.

Lea narrowed her eyes. She didn't know much about Henry. She was curious about what he would do to the daughter he relied on so much when such a thing happened.

She walked over with light steps.

Before Lea reached the door, she heard a loud bang and a clang.

As soon as Matilda entered, she was slapped by Henry and knocked against the door. She cried out in pain, "Ouch!"

Even Christian and Victor behind Lea heard it.

Their expressions instantly darkened, thinking, "Henry usually prides himself on being noble and virtuous, but he is hitting his daughter ruthlessly! The two of them thought so because it didn't happen to them. If this matter occurred to them, who knew what they would do?"

The corner of Lea's mouth twitched. Matilda would have knocked the door open if they hadn't locked it. Henry looked sinister and vicious. He was so ruthless when hitting his daughter.

"Lea, go to bed?" Seeing that Lea was about to eavesdrop, Christian ordered in a low voice.

"Okay." Lea replied unwillingly because she wanted to continue listening

This scene must be exciting Lea thought, “How can a person like Henry not be angry? He had lost hundreds of millions of dollars tonight. No, it’s more than that. His fortune continues to drain away, and he can’t stop it. He will lose hundreds of millions of dollars, billions of dollars, or even more. At last, he will go from being the richest man to the most indebted person in Vaporleon City!

However, Christian stared at her sternly, and she could only give up

“Grandpa, Mr. Fraley looks very angry. You have to be careful. It won’t be good if he loses control and hurts your daughter-in-law, Lea looked like she was reminding Christian out of kindness. With that, she went upstairs.

Christian was stunned, thinking. So she came over to eavesdrop because she was worried Mailda would be hurt? But it didn’t look like it just now Could it be that I was seeing things? That must be it. My granddaughter is obedient, sensible, and nice to the elders. Sure enough, I’m getting old. Even my eyesight is not good anymore.

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Seeing his granddaughter go upstairs, Christian glanced towards the guest room. The soundproofing was excellent, and there was no more

It seemed despite his anger, Henry didn’t lay a hand on his daughter again. Christian breathed a sigh of relief.

noise.

However, with such a major incident, the company’s stock plummeting, and the group in turmoil, there were many things to handle. So, Christian took Victor to the study to work overtime.

Meanwhile, he kept an eye on Matilda and Henry. Since there were no further disturbances, he left them alone. After all, it was their family’s matter. Christian couldn’t interfere even though they were relatives.

In the guest

room. Matilda collided with the door and fell to the ground.

When Henry raised his hand for another slap, she held his legs, crying and pleading, “Dad, I was wrong. I failed you. I have let you down, let the Fraley family down, 1...

Henry ultimately did not strike Matilda. Hitting her now wouldn’t help. He had called her here to handle the situation.

Henry asked. “What exactly happened? How do we stop the loss and recover from this?”

He sat on the chair and listened to her report. Matilda was silent and trembling on the floor. After a long pause, she explained the situation,

After Nixon was arrested and the hospital was sealed off, she immediately arranged for the most excellent legal team to bail him out. It was to bring him back to handle the situation and to understand the police’s stance.

The team, comprising over a dozen top-tier professionals in Vaporleon City, was armed with elite connections across various sectors. They worked for five hours to grasp the specifics of the situation

The police had more information than Nixon and the hospital knew. They even obtained all electronic records of the surgeries Frank performed at Fraley Hospital, as well as his statements and his employment contract with the hospital.

Matilda and Nixon had destroyed all related information at the hospital a few days ago. They denied Frank's employment, but it was all in vain. This time, there was no escaping.

"Idiot" Henry could no longer sit still. He slammed the table and stood up, shouting. "I told you not to rely on Nixon, but you wouldn't listen. Now look at the mess!"

Matilda looked at Henry, five finger marks appearing on her cheeks. Tears welled up in her eyes, and her disheveled hair clung to her face, dampened by the tears. She looked miserable, yet her eyes were filled with defiance.

It was not her decision that the hospital valued Nixon. In fact, Henry personally entrusted the hospital to Nixon after he achieved some decent results. But she dared not say these words.

Matilda explained, "Dad, Frank is a serial killer with an antisocial personality. He hid it so well that even the police only discovered it after many years. The hospital didn't know his background"

She could only insist on their ignorance.

Matilda truly didn't know much about Frank's crimes. Nixon only had a slight inkling. She had only vaguely sensed something wrong because she needed Frank to kill Lea. However, as long as they were unaware of Frank's crimes, the losses were the hospital's and not theirs. They wouldn't be convicted.

curse as there was nothing he could do. "What do we do now!"

"Useless" Henry could only curse as the

we must compensate the victims for their losses and give the public a satisfactory explanation"

Matilda was also at a loss. "Now, we must

"Compensation! How much do we need to pay! How much has the hospital lost? How much is left? Can it still operate?" Henry bombarded her with questions. He didn't care about anything else, only his money.

Matilda didn't dare to report the figures, fearing Henry couldn't handle it and vent his anger on her again.

She said, "The finance department is still compiling the data. We'll have to wait. I'm arranging for lawyers to contact them regarding the compensation lawsuit."

Henry took a deep breath, suppressing all his anger and frustration. He looked at his daughter with disappointment.

He said, "Matilda, you have disappointed me

She stayed humbly on the floor, her eyes blurred with tears again.

Henry said. "Don't ever think you can stay out of this because you're the Berry family's danglater-in-law. If this matter isn't handled well, you'll be

kicked out of the Berry family. Don't forget, your marriage with Ewan is built on the backgrounds of both families"

Matikia's heart was filled with despair. Her marriage was already in tatters, and if these events were exposed, both she and her daughter would be finished.

She thought. "No. That can't happen. Helen is still so young  
ang. Her life hasn't even started. She must get through this crisis.

"Dad, believe me, I will handle this" Matilda regained her confidence. The hospital's losses are temporary. We can earn it back,"

This was also Henry's hope, and his emotions calmed down a bit. Then, he asked, "You and Nixon..."

He scrutinized Matilda for a long time, his sharp gaze seeming to pierce through her. Then he continued. "There's nothing between you two, right?"

Their close collaboration in managing the hospital made him uneasy

When the hospital was rapidly developing, with increasing income and rising stock prices, Henry didn't care. But now, things were different. He had to ensure there wouldn't be any more issues.

Matilda was stunned. She quickly lowered her head and shook it, denying "No, no.

Tears filled her eyes again, full of sorrow, anger, and unwillingness.

Henry's expression finally softened a bit. "Get up, wipe your tears. Don't let anyone here see you

In recent years, the Fraley family had developed rapidly, making Henry look down on the Berry family more and more. He thought Christian was an outdated relic. Hence, he couldn't afford to lose his reputation because of this incident.

"Yes" Matilda wiped her tears and fixed her makeup before standing up. "Da, why are you here?"

Henry rarely interacted with the Berry family and hadn't seen Christian for years. Moreover, coming here at this time would draw more attention to the hospital's situation, which was unfavorable for them.

His face was filled with displeasure. "Do you think I wanted to come!"

The Fraley Manor was surrounded by a mob. Those savages stormed in like madmen, smashing and attacking everything I Henry had been caught, he would probably have been torn to pieces

He had escaped under the cover of the servants but still got injured. Then, he had to drive himself here.

Christian was highly respected, and his guards were former soldiers, making his house a safe place.

Matika suddenly understood, feeling shocked and embarrassed.

She hadn't expected the crowd to be so crazy, even bringing their fury to the Fraley family's doorstep. No wonder her father was so furious. He had never been so humiliated in his life.

Henry said. "Let's handle the company's matters now,"

Matilda nodded. "Alright"

They left the room. Matilda went to the study to bid farewell to Christian. Christian personally saw them off. Seeing them calm and composed, he felt reassured that the situation wouldn't be too serious

On the second floor, Lea stood by her bedroom window, watching them. There were three cars in total, all luxury vehicles. The last one belonged to Berry Manor.

When they arrived, Henry had driven himself, escaping in a disheveled state. But when they left, they were surrounded by luxury, with drivers, bodyguards, and a special car for the bodyguards. Lea thought it was a glaring scene.

Watching the cars drive out of the large gate, Lea took out her phone and called Lorrard. It was three in the morning, and he was still awake.

Lea said. "Hold a press conference tomorrow and announce your matter."

alem relentlessly, not giving them any chance to breathe.

She wanted to parisiliet

"Alright, Miss Lea," Lorrard responded. He had endured humiliation for a long time, and now he could finally bring the truths to light. More importantly, he could seek justice for his deceased wife and young child.

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The next morning, Lea went to Riverview Hospital under the pretext of visiting Ewan.

Christian was busy dealing with the chaos caused by the Fraley Group's hospital, leaving him no time for her.

The servants believed she was working hard to please Ewan, as she had not been favored in this household for years. This misunderstanding made it easier for her to avoid Matilda's watchful spies

At 10 am, Lea arrived at Lorrard's press conference just as it started. It was held in a corner of the first-floor lobby of the hospital's inpatient department, with over thirty media outlets present. Some of them were arranged by Chris.

As the p press conference began, many patients and their families gathered to watch. Lorrard's appearance caught everyone's attention.

The hospital's reputation had skyrocketed due to the influx of patients. As the director, he had also gained significant popularity. After being in the spotlight several times, his presence in the medical community was highly notable

Lorrard detailed his previous employment at Fraley Hospital and the reasons for his imprisonment.

Lea had already arranged for Jason to threaten and bribe Peter in prison. Now, Peter was brought to the scene to testify for Lorrard. This added credibility to Lorrard's statements.

Finally, Lorrard revealed that his pregnant wife had been held hostage at the hospital, injured during childbirth, and eventually died there. He also disclosed that his daughter's kidney had been removed when she was just four months old

He presented some evidence gathered by detectives to support his claims. He stated that he had reported the matter to the police and requested a thorough investigation.

He also announced that he had hired a lawyer to sue Fraley Hospital. He even pointed out that Nixon was behind all these.

After the press conference ended, a large crowd gathered. Many were moved by Lorrard's story. Some spectators, especially those with low tolerance for emotional stories, were already sobbing uncontrollably.

The entire staff at Riverview Hospital was also shocked. The doctors who had previously doubted and accused Lorrard due to his criminal record were filled with guilt and eager to apologize.

he future.

Some praised his resilience and steadfastness, while others comforted him, wishing his daughter a healthy

Before the press conference ended, the news had already gone viral, thanks to the media push and the hospital's media department's efforts

Since last night, Fraley Hospital's incident had been trending on all major media platforms, and this new story further amplified the attention.

Lea checked the internet on her phone and was satisfied with the press conference's outcome.

Last night, Henry had implied that he wanted to distance himself and the hospital from the incident, but this exposure would likely thwart his plans.

"Miss Berry, what should we do with Peter?" Jason asked.

Lea replied, "He is still useful. Take him back and keep a close watch on him."

Jason replied, "Understood."

Lea turned and saw a tall figure standing before her. Looking up, she smiled. "You're here"{{

Alfred said gently. "I came to see the commotion"

"Don't worry. I won't let the hospital be at risk. Although they were in a relationship, ip, they were also business partners. Even though she was using the hospital to attack Fraley Medical, her plan would benefit them greatly.

"I know." Alfred gave her a look of complete trust. "What's your next move?"

Lea was full of determination. "Let them waste their effort. If nothing unexpected happens, Fraley Medical should disappear from Vaporleon City"

It was a pity she didn't have the money. Otherwise, she could seize the opportunity to buy the hospital. That would surely infuriate Matilda and also benefit the hospital's development.



Lea felt delighted when she saw many seriously ill patients leave the hospital healthy and hopeful, as well as the joy on their families' faces.

She no longer just wanted to use the hospital to develop her power and status. She wanted to grow and improve it for the benefit of many, making the world a better place.

Alfred asked, "I think mergers and acquisitions are the fastest ways. What do you think?"

Lea looked up at him. In this, they were in perfect agreement.

He tousled her hair and said confidently, "Don't worry about the money. I'll take care of it."

Lea was surprised. It was an astronomical figure, one she could hardly fathom.

Alfred checked his watch and said, "It's almost lunchtime. Let's go eat."

Lea asked, "Sure, where to?"

Alfred replied, "In these sensitive times, let's go somewhere discreet."

Alfred drove her to a Lakeside villa.

In the car, Lea browsed the news on her phone. An official was being interviewed about Frank and Nixon.

After a moment of thought, she turned to Alfred. The bright sunlight highlighted his side profile, making his expression even gentler. His already handsome features combined with such tenderness were captivating.

She asked, "Alfred, I need your help. I need to send a gift to an ally."

Alfred turned and smiled, nodding.

She continued, "It's for a detective friend who helped with Frank's case. He's good. You know how important reputation is for such organizations. I want to use the hype from this incident to build some fame for them. Could you ask your military friend to mention their organization's name?"

Alfred responded, "Sure. What's your detective friend's name?"

"Dark Union" Lea briefly explained.

Alfred made a phone call. "Norman, when your people are interviewed regarding Frank's case, mention that relevant information. They have an excellent member named Quicksilver."

When they arrived at the lakeside villa, Lea followed Alfred through the door.

Alfred said, "Check online. There should be news by now."

Dark Union helped you

find the

Lea checked her phone and saw a headline, saying, "Dark Union exposed Frank, thanks to a detective genius, Quicksilver."

The content was brief and to the point, just as she wanted. She forwarded the news to Quicksilver and said to Alfred, "I'll cook."

Alfred watched her head into the kitchen with great enthusiasm and followed her, feeling very content

Meanwhile, at the Fraley Hospital's CEO's office. The entire hospital was on lockdown, and the crowd had been cleared, which made it safer for Matilda and Henry.

They had arrived at the hospital the previous night and had been working with the core team to handle the situation. They had copies of the evidence held by the police and were dealing with the complaints.

Henry stood in the office, having not slept all night. His eyes were swollen and his face was puffy from the strain, showing his advanced age.

Matilda's voice trembled. "Dad, the only way out now is to  
now is to pay

by off the families and settle with them so they drop the charges.

"How much will that cost? Mentioning money

y made Henry uneasy and annoyed.

This morning, he had asked the finance department about the losses. In less than twenty-four hours, the hospital had already lost hundreds of millions of dollars. The finance team didn't even dare tell him the projected future losses. The lawsuits were extensive, and the amounts involved. were not stall.

Matilda replied, "If we don't settle, we can't stop the losses. It could lead to all the shareholders facing criminal charges.

Henry asked, "How much?"

\*Currently estimated at around 200 million dollars, Matilda reported conservatively.

He was seething in frustration. Though reluctant, spending the money was much better than going to prison.

Moreover, the shareholders had been hounding him since midnight to resolve the issue. If they too faced criminal charges, they wouldn't spare

him either

Henry said. "Alright, let t

them take the money, but make sure they keep their mouths shut. Tell them what can and can't be said."

"Understood" Matilda breathed a sigh of relief. Resolving this matter was crucial. As long as Henry agreed to spend the money, they could manage  
the crisis.

"I'll handle it right away. As she turned to leave, the door swung open, and Max rushed in with a tablet. He said urgently. "Mrs. Matilda, there's another problem"

Matilda tensed but remained composed, thinking nothing could be worse at this point.

Henry snatched the tablet. Upon seeing the trending topic, he flew into a rage.

He hurled the tablet at Matilda. "How much more have you been hiding about Nixon?"

Matilda stepped back, narrowly avoiding the tablet. She immediately knelt to pick it up. Her high heels made the action awkward and uncomfortable

Looking at the tablet, she became utterly nervous. Lorrard had exposed everything and accused Nixon. Previously, she had claimed ignorance about Frank's actions to protect Nixon.

Now, Lorrard had revealed the illegal medical practices, the use of unqualified drugs, and the coercion of subordinates using their families as hostages. Additionally, the death of Lorrard's wife and the removal of his infant daughter's organs were linked to Frank's case, implicating the hospital

This indicated their hospital was involved in more than just a lone serial killer's actions. Trying to settle this issue with money was no longer feasible. The Riverview Hospital and Lea left them no chance for survival.

"Speak now!" Seeing Matilda dazed on the ground, Henry shouted.

Matilda lifted her head. "Dad."

Then, a heavy slap landed on her face.

She fell to the ground, instinctively covering her face. She could taste the blood as it dripped from her lips.

Max stood by silently while witnessing the scene.

Having followed Matilda for over twenty years, Max had seen her in her prime and glory, but only in front of her father did she show such subservience. Now, she was humiliated and wretched, utterly defeated.

Henry questioned, "Matilda, I entrusted you with the hospital to preserve and expand our legacy. What have you done? Why did you do this?"

His rage was uncontrollable, and he raised his hand to strike again.

"Mr. Fraley!" Max immediately pleaded, "Mrs. Matilda didn't know about these things..."

Henry's gaze fell on him.

Max quickly added, "She has been busy with the Berry family matters and had no time to manage the hospital affairs. She only knew the general state of the company. Mr. Donovan handled all the specifics."

Matilda, with tears streaming down her face, looked at her father. She silently admitted to Max's words. Only this way could she protect herself from her father's rage.

However, she knew the truth all too well. Nixon never shared the details but informed her of the benefits gained and the methods used. Their only mistake was being too harsh on Lorrard's family.

When Matilda heard about Lorrard's wife's death and his daughter's kidney removal, she even criticized Nixon for being too ruthless, as it would drive Lorrard to desperate measures.

Or rather, she thought Nixon was not ruthless enough to kill Lorrard 100, giving Lorrard a chance to retaliate now,

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"Then you deserve even more punishment! He raised his hand to strike again. I entrusted you with a hospital worth billions of dollars, and this is how you managed it?"

"Hit me Matilda sobbed, her voice hoarse.

She was breaking down under the pressure. No matter what she said, she would always be guilty in Henry's eyes. She no longer had the energy to deal with him.

Matilda retorted. "A hospital worth billions of dollars? When you gave me the hospital, it was a failing institution, heavily in debt. In twenty years, it has grown from a debt-ridden small hospital to a listed company. Its scale and profits multiplied a hundred, a thousand, a million times."

She added, "Do you think such rapid development comes easily! You only enjoyed the fruits, but you blamed it all on me when something went

wrong.

Then, another slap silenced her.

Henry was about to strike again but paused. At this point, hitting her wouldn't solve anything.

He

M, "Matilda, even if it means sacrificing the Berry family, you must fix this mess. Otherwise, you will lose everything and spend the rest of

life in prison. And Helen. You know what her life will be like if her mother ends up in prison."

With that. Henry turned and left the office.

Matilda knelt on the ground. Tears streamed down her face while she watched Henry leave.

"Mrs. Matilda..." After Henry left, Max quickly stepped forward to help her.

She picked up the tablet and looked at the trending news again.

Among them, another headline about the Dark Union caught her eye, explaining why Frank's secrets were uncovered so thoroughly with the help of this detective group.

Be it the military, police, media, or detective group, Matilda had no energy to deal with them now. They were beyond her control. This new blow

made her more vigilant

She ordered. "Investigate Lea and Riverview Hospital, as well as Lorrard. Find out their relationship,"

Max replied, "Yes""""

A few days passed, and the Fraley Hospital incident worsened due to the lack of a direct response. Early in the morning, Lea received a call from Conrad University.

Her exam scores had exceeded the admission threshold. She was invited for an interview. Once notified, she could attend the interview anytime within the next two weeks.

She decided to go to Iverton tomorrow and attend the interview the day after.

After hanging up, she immediately called Alfred. "Hey, it's me!"

"Len." His voice was soft and lazy.

She realized he hadn't woken up yet, and she called too early. He probably stayed up all night again.

"What's up?" he asked when she didn't speak.

Lea replied, "I passed the exam. I'm going to Iverton tomorrow for the interview the day after

In the lakeside villa, Alfred had just woken up. He checked the time on his phone and heard her news.

The result didn't surprise him because he knew she could get into Conrad University. But her calling at this hour meant she wanted to share the news immediately. She sounded thrilled too.

Alfred got out of bed, walked to the window, lifted the curtain, and looked outside.

The bright morning sunlight shone on him, highlighting his perfect figure and flawless skin.

He smiled. "Great. I'm going back to Iverton. Let's go together."

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Lea paused, but she was happy to be able to travel with him. She smiled. "Okay."

also pa

she quickly received a call from sh

Shannon. Shannon had al

After hanging up.

passed, and they agreed to go for the interview together.

Lea packed her things and went to Riverview Hospital to visit

it Ewan. Sitting by his bed, she began peeling an apple.

"I hired that detective. It's Quicksilver!" he exclaimed, holding his phone and browsing the web. He was excited.

Lea's eyes glimmered. Alfred had asked a military official to mention Quicksilver, and the effect was astonishing. The Dark Union and Quicksilver had become legendary. This was an unexpected gain in dealing with Fraley Medical

Ewan was still thrilled. "That wretch thought she could cheat on me and get away with it. She can't hide it forever. Fraley Medical is in shambles Bankruptcy is inevitable. She can't confront me without power and money"

Lea looked at Ewan. He still hadn't realized that Matilda's lover was Nixon. He was a bit naive.

However, this might be a blessing for Ewan. Otherwise, he would have suffered from Matilda and Nixon's scheme.

Lea said, "You two will divorce eventually. But if you were to divorce her now, she'd probably welcome it with open arms."

Ewan frowned at her. Lea knew about Helen's DNA test results, so he hadn't hidden anything.

"Fraley Hospital is in shambles. Matilda desperately needs money. Even if she cheated on you, she still has rights to the family assets, not to mention her shares in the Berry family," Lea continued, "If you bring up divorce now, you'll just become her cash cow, allowing her to funnel money to the Fraley family and save their hospital."

Ewan panicked. "So what should I do now?"

Lea replied, "Wait until they sort out their hospital issues"

Ewan nodded. Looking at his daughter, he asked. "You seem to be helping me a lot."

He knew Lea had other motives.

Lea said, "She abused me since I was a child. She'll try to suppress me to prevent me from exposing her and tarnishing her reputation. If she's having a hard time, I'll be happy."

Ewan glanced at Lea, seeing the truth in her words.

Lea added, "You take good care of yourself. I'm heading to Iverton for an interview tomorrow. Grandpa's busy and might not have time to visit you, so take care."

It was rare for someone to speak so thoughtfully to him. Even though they were not related in blood, he was touched and nodded

"Lea" Ewan suddenly called Lea when she was at the door. She turned around

Ewan said, "Good luck with your interview."

She was stunned, feeling a subtle emotional stir. People in the Berry family weren't all bad. Ewan wasn't inherently evil, just a bit dumb.

Back then, Matilda abused Lea out of Ewan's sight, as Matilda wanted to maintain her image. Plus, they had shown a strong preference for Helen.

After learning she had no blood relationship with Ewan, Lea felt neither love nor hate. Now, their relationship was relatively peaceful.

"Okay," she replied and left.

In the evening, Lea returned home to have dinner with Christian. The company's stock had plummeted again today due to the Fraley family's scandal, leaving them helpless. Christian had spent the whole day in vain and had to return home.

The atmosphere at the dinner table was somewhat heavy.

Lea spoke up. "I am going to Iverton tomorrow, and the day after, I will be interviewing at Conrad University"

"An interview?" Christian's eyes lit up. "So you passed the exam!"

Lea nodded. "Yes, I received the notice this morning.

He immediately looked at her with newfound respect. "Alright, I will go with you!"

His granddaughter was making him proud, so he had to accompany her.

Lea rejected. "No need. The company has been busy these days. If you leave, something bad might happen"

Christian hesitated. Fraley Hospital had another scandal. He had noticed some chies about the matter involving Lorrard. If it was true, then Fraley Hospital was really in trouble.

His face darkened, growing somber. After the past few decades, he had left the business world, distanced himself from business dealings, and stopped scrutinizing people. Instead, he blindly trusted those around him. He wondered if he had made a mistake.

Seeing Christian's pensive look, Lea understood his thoughts.

She said, "I have prepared for the interview. It's simple, and it's only half a day. I will have Jason take two people to accompany me,"

Christian replied. "Don't you still have some old friends in Iverton The Andrews family could help. If something happens. I can ask them for help."

Lea originally wanted to tell him she was traveling with Alfred. But at this time, she couldn't reveal her relationship with Alfred, so she didn't mention it.

Christian was taken aback. Seeing her confidence and thoroughness, he felt reassured. "Then I will have Victor go with you."

Lea responded, "No need, you cannot do without him these days"

Christin was startled again, then tentatively asked, "Do you think the Fraley Hospital incident is not as Henry described? Something is wrong?"

Lea replied, "Grandpa, even if you trust your family and relatives, you should know there's no smoke without fire. Frank has been involved in so many surgeries, and surgeries require the director's signature."

Her words awakened Christian, and his eyes lit up.

He said. Then, I won't accompany you. I will call the head of the Andrews family and have him look after you. Iverton is their territory. There's nothing they can't handle. I saved his life once, and he'll help me

Of course, he would look after his precious granddaughter. He looked proud and smug.

"Thank you. Grandpa, my." Leajust started when Christian's phone buzzed.

A call came in. He answered it and hurriedly left, not even having time to finish his meal.

He said, "Lex, if you need anything, call me. Let Candice and others pack your luggage

She replied, "Yes. I'll take care of it."

Lea wanted to tell Christian her exam results, but seeing him so busy, she decided to wait until the interview results came out and tell him everything.

At dusk, Matilda also returned to Berry

Villa.

As Henry said, she had to find a way to fill the Fraley family's financial hole.

At the hospital, she had to deal with lawsuits, reporters, and demands for repayment from banks and partners. A rough estimate showed a funding gap of about two billion dollars

Last time, to salvage Berry Group's stock price, she and Nixon leveraged the hospital to secure a loan of about a billion dollars. Now, this debt was nearly taking her life.

Matilda thought it was Lea's fault. Lea had pressured her in front of Christian to come up with this money. Then, things slowly developed to this point.

'Leal Leal' Matilda kept repeating Lea's name in her mind.

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Creak!

The main door swung open, and Max stepped inside,

Matilda immediately approached him, not even waiting for him to speak. "What did you find out?"

Max's face was somber. "I found some things.." but they weren't anything groundbreaking

"Spit it out!"

"Lea and Lorrard have been in close contact over the past month. Even last time, when Mr. Christian fainted and was treated at Riverview Hospital, Lorrard was in charge.

Matilda was taken aback and wondered, "Yes, I neglected this before. Looking at it now, for them to have pulled that off, they must have a very tight cooperation. They are working together against the hospital and against me, aiming for the same goal

"And what else? Matilda's voice was urgent

"Riverview Hospital used to be under the Andrews Group... Mr. Alfred Andrews Andrews had previously taken Miss Lea there for a check-up" Max added.

Matilda quickly associated Lea with Alfred

'Could that bitch have really seduced Alfred into helping her against me? Lea is attractive, but... I can't believe she has that much charm, she thought

"What else?."

Max shook his head. "N-nothing che



He then bowed his head, his face pale, barely daring to breathe loudly as he awaited his fate,  
“Previously, Dr. Donovan also investigated this matter. but he didn’t find any connection between Miss Lea and Riverview Hospital”

Matilda gritted her teeth, frustrated with his incompetence but also helpless.

She forced herself to calm down and rethought the situation. “Where is Lea?”

“Her flight to Iverton is tomorrow morning. She has an interview at Conrad University the day after.”

“Any news on Alfred?” she asked.

Max shook his head.

As long as Alfred wanted to conceal his identity, even if he walked around Vaporleon City every day, no one would know who he really was

“Investigate his relationship with Lea,” said Matilda.

Max stared at her, eyes wide with disbelief. “Well.. how am I supposed to do that?”

“What about Quicksilver? Ask him to investigate

Only by dealing with Lea could Matilda eliminate any future threats

But if Lea and Alfred were already a couple, Matilda couldn’t take any action against her. Otherwise, she’d be going up against Alfred.

Not even Matilda, with the powerful backing of families like the Fraley family and the Herry family, dared to offend Alfred.

Therefore, Matilda had to be clear about their relationship.

“Quicksilver! I remember he exposed Fraley. He’s our enemy...”

Matilda turned her eyes, glaring at Max, thinking no one could be more stupid than him.

“How can you definitively say who is an enemy and who is a friend?” she asked.

Matilda believed she had not offended Quicksilver.

my name.

“Quicksilver is just a detective who works for money. I’m not asking you to hire him in my

Max hesitated for a moment, then understood. “I’ll create a fake identity right now and contact him.”

At Berry Manor, at midnight, Lea was getting ready for bed when she received a message from Quicksilver.

Given the recent events, Quicksilver had completely changed his opinion of her, now holding her in high esteem.

Quicksilver: [Ms. Berry, someone has approached me to investigate you. Specifically, the Andrews family in Iverton.]

they

want to know about your relationship with Alfred from

Lea: [On2] Lea's curiosity was piqued.

Quicksilver (It's a woman. She wants to know about Alfred's personal life and to find out if you and he are romantically involved.)

If this had been a phone call, Lea would have easily picked up on Quicksilver's excitement.

He was also very curious about how far things had progressed between her and Alfred.

Lea raised an eyebrow.

'Alfred and I aren't together. If a woman were truly interested in Alfred, she wouldn't have been investigating me at a time like this. The fact that she's desperate to know our relationship status and hired such a skilled detective she wondered.

Lea already had a prime suspect in mind.

With such obvious overcompensation, she could be almost certain it was Matilda.

Quicksilver: [I set a high price, one million dollars. The lady hesitated for a moment but still agreed. She's desperate for information and gave a two-day deadline.]

Lea: [I know who it is.]

Quicksilver was stunned.

Quicksilver: [What? What is she trying to do? Should I investigate her?]

Lea being in danger was a normal occurrence. Quicksilver was worried and ready to protect her.

Lear (No need. I can handle it.)

Quicksilver: I'll reject this job then.]

Lea: [No need, just give her what she wants]

Quicksilver: [Seriously? This kind of information you're okay with giving it to her?]

Lea: There's nothing confidential about it. Even if you don't investigate, they'll find someone else who will. Isn't this better?]

This way, they could monitor the situation.

(Besides, I'll make some money.)

The chat box remained still, indicating Quicksilver's surprise.

After a moment, Quicksilver replied: [Are you short on money?]

Lea frowned slightly and replied with a simple yes

Lea: [Want me to take on some high-paying jobs for you?

The detective alliance had gained a significant reputation, attracting many clients for various tasks, like catching lovers, investigating corporate espionage, finding pets, or locating runaway children, basically anything.

They even had offers from intelligence agencies, like one from Crefan, trying to recruit them for their services.

Quicksilver knew Lea's capabilities well

During the Frank incident, everything their organization couldn't find was discovered by her.

If she were willing, Quicksilver could secure multi-million dollar jobs for her.

Lea: [That's not necessary, I need to focus on my exams.]

What she needed wasn't a small sum of money but enough to swallow Fraley Medical, a sum that couldn't be earned through a few jobs in a short

besides, with Alfred handling things, she wasn't in a rush.

ut Lea did want to make money.

quicksilver: [Yes, exams are important]

ca was still so young, and she should focus on her studies to become even more formidable in the future.

That was more important than anything else.

Quicksilver [How should I respond to this message then?]

ca: [My grandpa and his were close friends. We met at my grandpa's seventieth birthday celebration. He's helped me a few times, and I'm very grateful to him. I've treated him to meals.]

Their collaboration at the hospital was something that couldn't be revealed to Matilda now.

Quicksilver: [I know what to reply with, Seventy-thirty split.. no, eighty-twenty, with you taking the eighty]

This was the organization's rule. The person who did the investigating got the larger share.

Since the information came from Lea, it was naturally considered hers.

Quicksilver originally wanted to give it all to her, even considering lending her his private savings, but since she didn't ask, it meant she didn't need

He was especially mindful of Lea's pride.

Quicksilver cherished talent and was very supportive of this genius who had seemingly descended from the heavens, always considering her needs.

Lea: Okay 1

Just before dawn, Quicksilver sent the information to the client. The ring was perfect.

soon as Max received the information, he reported it to Matilda.

Upon reading the information, Matilda breathed a sigh of relief and smiled with satisfaction

She had no doubt about the authenticity of the information. It matched her analysis perfectly.

'I know Lea can't possibly have won over someone like Alfred in such a short time! This is the best news I have received in days, she wondered.

"Make arrangements. I want to see Nixon."

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Matilda set out from Berry Manor and headed to the detention center. When she arrived and saw Nixon, the sky was still dark. Meanwhile, Lea received a call from Jason.

"Miss Berry, Matil is currently at the detention center meeting Nixon. Should I find out what they're discussing""

Lea walked over to the window, lifted the curtain slightly, and glanced outside.

The horizon was brightening, painted with a vibrant red hue,

It was going to be a beautiful day.

"No need, just keep tracking her movements."

Matilda had received a message from Quicksilver and went straight to see Nixon. Len could guess the purpose of Matilda's visit

"Understood!" Jason replied.

Lea hung up the phone and stood by the window for a while. Less than twenty minutes later, Jason called again. "Matilda has left. Her car is heading toward Berry Manor"

Currently, the Berry family, except for Lea, believed that Matilda's connection to Fraley Hospital was merely due to her being the only heir of the Fraley family with inheritance rights

Lea intended to avoid suspicion and use this fact to lessen the impact on her while finding a way to save the hospital.

"I understand." Lea ended the call and then dialed Shannon.

"Lea, you're up early!"

"Are you ready? When are you leaving?"

Shannon was thrilled and excited. Her luggage was packed, and she was just waiting for dawn to depart.

After receiving the interview notice from Conrad University, Shannon had been working even harder.

Last night, Shannon worked on the hospital's security system until past four in the morning

With the sky soon to brighten, she decided to stay awake and pack her bags, figuring she could sleep on the plane.

Lea heard her excited voice and paused for a moment but quickly understood. I'm leaving on time. Change your flight and go ahead of me. Take Yannis with you, Tell him I instructed him to accompany you to Iverton

Shannon was taken aback by Lea's instructions and almost asked if something had happened.

However, knowing Lea's mind and current arrangements, Shannon decided to follow her instructions completely.

"Okay, I'll head out now and wait for you at the hotel with Yannis"

Last night, they had booked a hotel near Conrad University in Iverton.

"Okay" After hanging up, Lea held her phone and looked up. She saw her reflection in the glass window.

Lea had barely slept the whole night.

On one hand, she was waiting for news, trying to figure out Matilda's intentions,

On the other hand, she was dealing with the research problems that Charles and his team encountered.

Since her rebirth, Lea's daily sleep had been less than five hours. Her young body and strong willpower could sustain her, but the dark circles under her eyes were heavy, making her look somewhat fatigued and even slightly older.

Lea thought about traveling with Alfred, but she didn't want to appear unwell, so she decided to catch up on some sleep.

Their flight was a little after ten o'clock, giving her enough time to rest,

At Riverview Hospital, Shannon, with a backpack and a small suitcase, came out of the staff room and took the elevator to the basement.

Shannon had previously shared a room with Donna to take care of her and to save money.

However, Donna often berated and bossed Shannon around, instructing her to do everything. Even though Shannon had mentally prepared herself, Donna severely disrupted her life.

Chris couldn't stand it and arranged for Shannon to stay

in the staff dormitory under the guise of employment.

Yannis, since saving Lea had been living and eating at the hospital. The basement had several small rooms for the security staff, and he stayed in one of them

As Shannon reached the elevator, she saw Chris approaching

Chris was dressed in a black suit with a matching silk camisole underneath. Her hair was parted in the middle and tied back in a ponytail, giving her a stylish and energetic look.

ly too?" Shannon asked in surprise,

"Chris, you're up this early

Shannon knew Chris was very busy and had a lot on her plate, but she hadn't expected Chris to be out working so early

Moreover, Chris looked so energetic and beautiful, making Shannon admire her even more.

"Yes, I have some matters to attend to." Chris replied.

Lea had purchased Frank's medical technology patents, and Chris was going to handle the details of the handover.

The hospital was gearing up for significant changes, and there were many tasks awaiting Chris.

"Why are you heading out so early? Isn't your flight at around ten?" Chris asked, scrutinizing her.

After the SAT exam, Shannon had been staying up too late, and her eyes were swollen.

She was practically risking her health for her future.

Chris felt a pang of sympathy, reminded of her younger self.

"I just couldn't sleep. Lea told me to go ahead, so I changed my flight. It's a good time to leave now," she replied.

"Changed your flight?" Chris asked cautiously.

"Yes," she nodded.

"What else did she say?" Chris continued.

"She told me to bring Yannis along

"That idiot?"

Shannon was taken aback, but she had to admit that Yannis did seem a bit clueless sometimes.

She nodded in agreement.

Chris pondered for a moment, then took a thick envelope from her brickcase and handed it to Shannon.

"This is a bonus from the project. I wish you success in your interview." Chris smiled.  
paid yesterday?"

Shannon stared in disbelief. "Didn't we just get p

10 thousand dollars was a huge amount for her. It would be more than enough for her trip.

"That was your salary for the month, paid in advance. Take it" Chris insisted, pushing the money into her hands. The value of this recent project is much higher than you think. This is just a small part

of it"

Chris knew Shannon was struggling financially but never pitied her or offered private assistance. Shannon was too talented for that

Instead, Chris gave her more opportunities at work.

Shannon nodded, holding the envelope, feeling the weight of the thousand dollars. It was heavier than its actual weight, warm, and deeply touching-

“Thank you!” Her voice was choked with emotion.

Chris nodded. “Good luck

The elevator doors opened, and they both stepped in.

Chris exited the elevator on the first floor. Meanwhile, Shannon reached the basement, dragging her suitcase down the corridor toward Yannis’ small room

Bang! Bang! Bang!

She hadn’t even reached the door when she heard a series of intense noises.

“Yannis!” Shannon dropped her backpack and suitcase, rushing forward and slamming her body against the door

Bang!

She and the door crashed to the ground, and she felt like she was shattered into pieces. A wave of dizziness and darkness engulfed her vision

Shannon heard a voice and forced herself to stay conscious. She blinked her eyes open, and her vision slowly cleared.

In front of her stood a burly figure, wearing only tight boxers. From her angle, he looked enormous, like a towering mountain.

“What are you doing!”

The young man’s muscles were prominent and well-defined, though marked by numerous scars. Particularly noticeable was a long, jagged, and fresh scar on his chest, which was quite shocking.

His entire body was drenched in sweat, glistening under the light and exuding raw power.

The scars didn’t detract from his appearance. Instead, they added an air of rugged strength and fierceness.

This was the first time Shannon had seen a man dressed so scantily, especially one with such a physique. She was momentarily stunned.

A drop of liquid hit her face, snapping her out of her daze. She wiped it off with her hand. It was sweat, dripping from Yannis hair like raindrops,

Shannon struggled to get up, but the fall had been hard. Despite being young, her physical condition was poor, not built to withstand such impacts

She barely managed to lift herself halfway before collapsing back down.

Suddenly, she felt her body carried.

Yannis had grabbed her arm and lifted her up as if she were a small pet.

Shannon felt a surge of humiliation

Once she was on her feet, this feeling intensified even more,

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Yannis stood over six feet four tall, towering above her. His broad, muscular frame made Shannon feel tiny in comparison as if she had suddenly become a dwarf

Instinctively, she took a step back, trying to create some distance between them.

But as she moved, her body swayed, and she almost toppled over.

“Ah!” Shannon let out a startled cry.

Suddenly, she felt a weight on her shoulder, and she steadied herself.

Yannis had placed a hand on her shoulder to keep her from falling.

He leaned in close, examining her with a disapproving shake of his head. “You’re too weak.”

Shannon’s face fished with irritation. “Weak? How am I weak? I just... I just stumbled. Not everyone is like you, with muscles everywhere...”

Yannis was momentarily taken aback by her response.

After making sure Shannon was stable, he turned away, grabbing a towel to dry his damp hair while casting a sideways glance at her. “You damaged my door”

“What were

were you doing in there? With all the banging, I thought you were in danger. She had been so anxious that she had started banging on the door to get his attention.

Shannon rubbed her shoulder, wincing in pain as if she might cry from the discomfort.

Yannis looked at her with a sincere, stubborn gaze.

Shannon was momentarily stunned.

Then she quickly realized that he was expecting her to pay for the damage

Seeing that she had understood his point, Yannis asked with confusion, “What kind of danger could there be?”

Shannon thought to herself, No wonder Chris calls him a fool. He’s definitely a bit of an airhead

“So, what were you doing in there?” Yannis turned back to face her. Shannon followed his gaze and saw a set of punching bags, some of which were already damaged. The floor was covered in puddles of sweat

Training your fist?”

“Otherwise?”



“He’s not just clueless. He’s completely unsuited to be my partner. If it weren’t for Lea insisting I bring him to Iverton, I wouldn’t even bother?” Yannis thought.

“So you’re a boxer?”

“Yes! I want to be a boxing champion Yannis declared, patting the punching bag

Shannon blinked in surprise, watching him. His hair was tousled, hanging over his forehead and partially obscuring the light

From her vantage point, though, she could see his eyes clearly. They were blazing with intense determination, sparkling with ambition.

He was a young man with dreams, just like her in the past and like she still was now.

Observing the scars on his body, especially the one on his chest, she realized that he was a young man willing to risk his life for his dreams,

In a way, they were kindred spirits, both struggling in their own ways. Shannon felt a deep respect for him and a pang of sympathy. “You’ll succeed!”

Yannis’s eyes immediately brightened. He turned to look at her, unable to contain a smile. His smile was warm and genuine, lighting up his eyes.

For a moment, Shannon was lost in his gaze, momentarily forgetting what she was supposed to do

After a brief daze, she snapped back to reality and changed the subject. “Did you stay up all night?”

“Yes, but I’ll sleep soon, Lea said.

She found herself admiring him. “But you can’t. Lea asked me to take you to Iverton.”

“Oh, then I’ll go change. He suddenly became all business, with a newfound enthusiasm and politeness.

Shannon watched in resignation.

Yannis took a quick shower, changed clothes, and grabbed a simple backpack. He appeared before her in less than five minutes. “Let’s go

Shannon was surprised by his efficiency.

Shannon looked Yannis up and down, then glanced at his backpack. He was dressed in a simple white T-shirt and loose black shorts, typical

summer wear.

His backpack was empty, likely containing only his passport.

“We’ll be in Iverton for two or three days, so you’ll need to bring more stuff, she said.

“Got it,” Yannis replied.

He opened his wardrobe, pulled out two more T-shirts, and stuffed them into his bag. Then he came back to her.

Gritting her teeth, Shannon reminded herself that it was Lea who had asked her to bring him to Iverton, and she had to endure it

She stood on tiptoe, grabbed the bag from his shoulder, and began packing for him.

There wasn't much to pack. His wardrobe consisted mainly of summer T-shirts.

"This guy must be so single-minded about becoming a boxing champion that he can't even manage his own life, Shannon thought

She folded the clothes he would need, packed them along with some daily necessities, and stuffed the bag half full.

Then she handed it back to him. "Let's go."

Yannis took the bag and followed Shannon. When Shannon bent down to grab her own backpack and suitcase, he quickly picked them up for her, carrying them as if they weighed nothing.

Shannon was momentarily taken aback. This was the first time someone had been so proactively helpful in her daily life.

By the time she snapped out of her daze, Yannis was already a good distance ahead

She hurried to catch up.

Yannis's long strides meant each of his steps was nearly double hers.

He doesn't even think to wait for me. I'm exhausted, she thought.

"Oh, by the

way,

how do

you

know Lea? Shannon called out,

Earlier, Shannon had only known that Yannis had been severely injured and was hospitalized.

Yannis slowed down when he realized he had been walking too fast and stopped to wait for her.

Once she caught up, he answered, "She saved me and I promised to protect her."

Yannis's gaze fell to his chest, his long lashes casting shadows over his eyes. His eyes flickered with a distant memory.

When he was injured, he thought he was going to die. The only person he had been able to contact abandoned him, leaving him to suffer alone.

At that time, Lea had saved him and allowed him to survive.

Shannon 14

was moved by the realization.

"Once we get to Iverton, be extra careful and make sure to protect Lea, Shannon said earnestly, with a newfound concern and regard for him.

Since Yannis could offer more protection for Lea than she could, it was important for Shannon to keep him in good shape.

Given the recent turmoil at Fraley Medical, Shannon could understand why Lea wanted him to accompany her to Iverton.

“Okay, Yannis nodded seriously.

The two left the hospital, took a cab to the airport, and met Chris, who was heading to her work site with the driver’s assistance.

Shannon pandered for a moment, feeling uneasy.

There must be something going on for Lea to arrange for Yannis to come to Iverton.

His only role would be to protect her.

Alfred might not be aware of the details, Chris pulled out her phone and called Alfred to explain the situation.

While on the way to the airport, Shannon used a ticketing app to secure the nearest flight and rebooked the tickets.

Once they were in the airport and approaching the security check, Yannis carrying luggage suddenly stopped in front of her, and Shannon nearly collided with him “What are you doing?”

Yannis stopped abruptly like that and Shannon would have run into him. It made her wince just imagining it.

“Tin hungry,” Yannis said.

‘For someone as big as him, being hungry shouldn’t be a big deal. There will be food on the plane, Shannon thought

But when she saw his pale face and the sweat on his forehead, she became concerned.

After a night of intense boxing, his energy levels must have dropped significantly.

There’s a place to buy food over there. Go grab something to eat.” Shannon said.

Yannis stood still, scratching his head.

“What now?” Shannon asked.

“I don’t have any money with me, Yannis said with a grin.

Technically, he didn’t have any money.

Shannon was momentarily stunned.

She went to the food stand, buying two loaves of bread and two cartons of milk. Considering his large size, she added an extra loaf of bread and a

She handed him the bread and milk, keeping only one loaf of bread and some milk for herself, and went to retrieve her luggage.

Yannis took the food, handed her the lighter backpack, and carried the suitcase himself.

Shannon was taken aback for a moment but accepted the backpack and carried on.

Yannis followed behind, holding the suitcase and eating a piece of bread.

His large frame and the slight distance between them gave Shannon a sense of being protected.

It was a comforting feeling.

On the plane, their seats were together. Yannis let her have the window seat, stowed their luggage, and sat down

As Shannon settled in and prepared to eat something, she turned to him. "What about your food?"

Shannon's eyes widened as she wondered, With so much food and so little time, and while we were still going through security, he finished everything? Did he eat the bag too!!

"Are you... full

"Enough to last for a while."

Yannis accidentally glanced at the bread in her hand and awkwardly turned his head away.

Shannon was momentarily stunned.

She hit her lip and shoved her bread into his arms. "I'm on a diet"

Then she nibbled on her straw and drank milk to satisfy her hunger.

Shannon was very hungry. She had stayed up all night and had even forgotten to eat a late-night snack. This was her breakfast.

"On a diet?" Yannis looked at her. She was 5 feet 6 inches tall, very thin. She wore a white, high-waisted summer knit top and straight-leg jeans, giving her a slender and elongated appearance.

Her waist was so thin it seemed like it could break if you pinched it, and her collarbones were pronounced,

To him, Shannon looked like she was starving

"I really don't understand you girls. You're already so skinny, and you still want to diet" Yannis grumbled as he stuffed more bread into his mouth.

"..." She reached to snatch her bread back, but he had already swallowed most of it. She withdrew her hand, clenching it into a fist

'He's going to Iverton to protect Lea. I'm enduring this for Lea. Besides, what's the point in arguing with a fool' she thought.

As the plane took off, Shannon turned to the window, feeling her heartbeat quicken

This was her first time leaving Vaporleon City, heading to Iverson to pursue her dreams, dreams full of hope.

It was also her first time viewing the city from above.

She had dreamed countless times of escaping the city she once feared and hated.

But now, she no longer had the same dread or obsession to flee.

The best way to avoid something was to face it bravely and conquer it.

With Lea's help, Shannon was ready to confront her challenges.

As the pla

plane ascended, the entire cityscape came into view, majestic and beautiful.

It filled her with excitement.

Above the clouds, the sky was a brilliant blue with floating clouds. This was the first time she had seen such a scene, and it uplifted her mood.

Soon, the in-flight meals were served.

Yannis requested eight servings in a row, leaving Shannon stunner

He opened the meal trays and ate casually, complaining that the portions were too small and inconvenient.

Many passengers turned to look. Partly because he was eating so much, drawing attention, and partly because his imposing physique and appearance were striking.

Added to that, his charming and endearing demeanor won over many, making them find him amusing.

Shannon turned away, gazing out at the blue sky and white clouds, pretending she didn't know this big cater.