

Her Revenge 161

Chapter 161

Many viewers on the Internet were affected by what happened at the press conference. Coupled with the guidance of public opinion, some people had already been completely brainwashed. They stood up and called for support for Matilda.

Ewan picked up

saw the situation and the the laptop that he had knocked over. When b comments, he exploded again. "How shameless! She paid those families to act with her. She even hired people to write those comments online. It's her usual trick."

Ewan even spat at the laptop screen. "You're all blind. You've all been deceived."

Lea looked at Ewan. He had been married to Matilda for nearly twenty years and knew Matilda quite well. However, he had to tolerate Matilda for so long that Lea felt a little sorry for him.

However, Matilda was not too smart this time. Even Ewan could see through her. Still, Matilda managed to brush off the problem now. That was also quite capable of her.

A chat screen popped up on Lea's computer screen. It was a message from Chris. [Should we release more shocking news and ruin the press conference?]

Lea and the others had looked into the hospital for a long time. Almost all of Fraley Hospital's data archive was in their hands.

Matilda had said that she didn't know. If they posted her work record, her lies would be exposed. Lea thought momentarily, then replied: [There's no need to go through so much trouble.]

Lea had her ways of dealing with Matilda. She instructed: [Check Fraley Group's funding. If they want to bring in funds, cut them off.]

Chris's eyes lit up. She knew what Lea was going to do. She replied: [Okay.]

"I'm going to expose that shameless bitch." Ewan could not take it anymore and stormed toward the door.

Ewan had just pulled the door open when there was a loud bang.

Lea had shut the door from behind. "The press conference is over," she said.

It had just ended.

Ewan was stunned. He knew that by the time he arrived at the scene, there wouldn't be a soul there.

Ewan retorted, "I'll call the media. I'll expose her."

Lea nodded. "Sure. If the media asks you why you do that when she's your wife, how will you answer?"

Ewan went silent.

Lea continued. “The media will ask you what the inside story is, is the truth? How will answer them? They will want you to give them evidence. What are you going to give them?”

Ewan did not have an answer.

you

Lea did not relent. “They will ask if you are trying to get a divorce now by destroying your wife. They will want to know if something is going on between you two.”

Ewan was at a loss for words.

Lea went on. “If Matilda takes advantage of the situation and announces that she’s divorcing you, will you be able to stop her from taking away half of your assets and Berry Group shares she has? She doesn’t just have Berry Group shares. She also has the technology, resources, and connections.” Ewan turned around and lay back on the bed. Life was so difficult. He might just well just sleep.

After the

press conference, the crisis at the Fraley Hospital almost cleared up. The public fury and videos on the Internet disappeared within a few days.

Matilda was busy with Henry’s funeral.

Without Helen and Matilda disturbing them, the family residence was very quiet.

At night, Lea received a message from Chris saying that Nixon met the CEO of the largest investment group in Jopuris and they seemed to have a good chat.

The

group was the largest investment group in Aetheris and had always wanted to enter the domestic medical market. Last week, the group had even contacted Chris to invest in Riverview Hospital.

However, they were not short of money.

If Fraley received enough funds, they would be able to reopen the hospital and survive.

That was not what Lea wanted to see.

Chris called and asked, “Do you want me to go to Jopuris?”

Lea replied, “No, I’ll take care of it.”

Chris answered, “Okay.”

After the call ended, Lea looked at the time and turned on her computer. She wrote a code and began to investigate the investment company and the CEO.

Lea worked late into the night. She took a screenshot of the video Jason had given her and sent it to the CEO’s private email.

The next day was Henry’s funeral. Because he had done such a heinous crime, his funeral had to be a quiet affair.

However, Matilda still invited several dozen guests. Almost half of the prominent people in Vaporleon City came. Although a few of them did not attend personally, they sent representatives.

As for the other half, some were not afraid of the Fraley family's power, including the Berry family supporting Matilda.

The rest really did not want to come. They saw no reason to attend the funeral of a man who had committed a heinous crime. After all, they had been powerful for nearly all their lives and did not want their reputation to be ruined by attending the funeral.

If they had been photographed by the media, it would implicate their career and family. They were eager to avoid the funeral.

There were also a few relatives of the Fraley family with some interest in the Fraley Group attending the funeral.

Lea also went with Christian. After all, they were relatives of Henry's. Because of their relationship with Matilda, Christian could not be too cold.

On the other hand, Lea was purely there to watch the show.

When Christian saw that Lea did not stop him and even wanted to come along, he naturally felt that he should go.

The funeral was held in the Fraley family's cemetery. The plot had already been chosen by Henry a few years earlier.

In the evening, the afterglow of the summer sun cast a warm light over the entire cemetery. It was quiet and beautiful. However, the scene was abnormally silent and no one mourned the deceased.

Nobody had really wanted to attend Henry's funeral. They were glad that Henry was dead.

Prior to the burial, the Fraley Group held an inheritance ceremony. This was the reason why Matilda was able to invite these guests.

The inheritance ceremony was conducted by Matilda's trusted aide, Max. They were accompanied by a lawyer, the board member of the company, and the media.

Max announced Henry's will first. He said that the will was made by Henry a few years ago. He only had one daughter, so no one doubted him.

In the will, Henry left all his assets and shares to his daughter, Matilda.

Then, under the witness of the lawyer and the board of directors, Matilda signed the equity acceptance letter.

"Ma'am." Max handed Matilda the contract bound in a folder.

Matilda took it, holding the folder in one hand and the pen in the other. Her hand was shaking so badly that it made a noise when her hand brushed across the paper.

Matilda gritted her teeth. It took a lot of effort. It took her three times longer than usual to write her name.

Plop.

When the last stroke was completed, tears rolled down Matilda's cheeks and landed on her signature. Her eyes were red and she choked silently.

Everyone thought that Matilda was too sad and could not control her emotions again. They all felt that Matilda was a little pitiful.

Lea was very close to Matilda and could see her clearly. It was obvious that Matilda could not suppress her excitement.

Matilda had finally succeeded in getting her hands on Fraley Group.

Lea was probably the only one present who understood what Matilda was thinking.

Although Matilda was Henry's only daughter, she was just a tool to him. Henry had raised Matilda and nurtured her for the sake of his business, so she had to marry for the sake of the company's development.

As Henry's only daughter, Matilda had always believed it was her right to inherit his company and assets. But Henry had valued the company more than his life. He'd never made it clear that he would hand everything over to Matilda when he died. Matilda had been afraid she wouldn't get

As time passed, it became an obsession for Matilda.

Now that Matilda had finally obtained the company, it was natural for her to be excited.

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"Mom..." Helen went forward and hugged Matilda's arm to comfort her. "Don't be sad anymore. Grandpa wouldn't want to see you sad either. He would have wanted you to take good care of the company for him."

Helen also wiped her tears and looked quite sad.

However, Lea was embarrassed when she saw that Helen almost couldn't hide her excitement as she cried.

Matilda nodded. She wiped her tears and calmed down.

After signing the share acceptance letter, the board of directors handed the company's official seal to Matilda.

Matilda handed Max the shares and the seal and gave a simple succession speech, It was also her inaugural address as Fraley Group's CEO.

Matilda said. "Thanks for attending my father's funeral and the inheritance ceremony. From now on, I will redouble my efforts to correct the mistakes made before by Fraley Group. I will make amends and contribute to society. I bring Fraley Group to greater heights. I will repay everyone who has always supported me and the Fraley family."

After that, it was time for the burial.

Matilda personally closed the coffin and watched as the coffin was buried. The guests went up one by one and placed a white rose on the grave. Lea walked up to Matilda and placed a white rose on the grave.

When Lea got up, she leaned toward Matilda. Lea's voice was not too loud nor too soft, and just audible enough that Matilda could hear it. "You might want to bury him deeper. Otherwise, he just might come looking for you."

Matilda raised her head abruptly. Her forehead almost collided with Lea's. Their eyes were only inches apart.

Matilda saw the sharp glint in Lea's profound eyes, as though she could see through everything. She also looked menacing glint in Lea's eyes. Matilda thought, 'Does the bitch know something?'

Matilda didn't need to think to know that Lea had to have known that they had made her father the scapegoat.

Lea could read Matilda's thoughts clearly, but could only guess part of it.

Matilda's pale face gradually turned red. Her hands gripped the shovel tightly, and her knuckles turned white. If not for the fact that everyone was watching and it was her father's funeral, she would have killed Lea to silence her.

"Go away." Helen saw that Lea was provoking Matilda and went forward to push Lea.

Helen did not want Lea to attend her grandfather's funeral at all. Every time Lea appeared, nothing good would happen.

However, they couldn't chase Lea away when she came with Christian.

With just a glance from Lea, Helen's hand froze; she didn't dare push her away.

Lea straightened and walked away from Helen and Matilda.

It was already eight o'clock in the evening when they returned to the family residence from the cemetery. The sky was completely dark.

When the car reached the iron gates, Lea received a call from Lorrard. "Yannis went to the underground boxing arena. I saw that boxing glove in his room. I'll send you a photo."

After hanging up, Lorrard sent the photo over.

The black boxing gloves were cut and torn open. The hard steel parts inside were dismantled and thrown on the table.

Lea could tell at a glance that it was the tool that gravely injured Yannis's chest.

Lorrard had seen the model which Lea used the formula to create and could also tell at a glance..

As Yannis was injured, Lorrard had gone to deliver medicine to him. But Yannis was no longer in his rooms when Lorrard came. Seeing what was on Yannis's desk, he understood and called Lea.

Lea said to Jason, "Go to the underground boxing arena."

After a forty-minute drive, the car arrived outside the underground boxing arena. The street was dilapidated and chaotic. The lights were dim, but it was bustling. There were many vendors selling food.

Some of the audience bought food and went to the entrance to head down to the arena.

Jason parked the car and got out first. He opened the door for Lea and followed closely behind her to protect her. He walked toward the underground arena with a frown.

Jason did not expect a rich young lady like Lea to come to such a chaotic place. But he quickly realized that Lea was walking briskly and looking straight ahead, as if she were a regular there. It was unbelievable.

Lea had suffered in the asylum for a year in her previous life. There was no place in this world that she would not dare to go.

This underground boxing arena was less than one-tenth the size of Iverton's. The arena was dilapidated and the layout was poor. It was dim. Only the boxing arena was lit up as bright as day.

The venue was packed with about 500 to 600 people.

There were the roars from the audience, the scent of beer, and the indulgence and wildness in the atmosphere.

BOOM!

On the stage, a boxer was hit by his opponent and fell to the ground.

All the audience stood up at once. They cheered and applauded. The clamor was almost deafening.

“Number one! Number one! Number one!” The shouts continued.

The winner standing on the stage was Yannis.

Number 1 was the number on Yannis's boxing uniform. It was also his code name when he joined the boxing competition.

Yannis had joined this boxing arena half a year ago. His go-all-out fighting style left a deep impression on people. He was also the boxer who had fought the most matches. The audience here, had long remembered him, and some of them were his fans.

The audience was all boxing fans. When they shouted Yannis's number, they naturally thought of the world boxing champion, Joshua. However, no one would think they were connected.

Yannis was wearing a black and red boxing suit. His exposed arms, legs, and even his cheeks were covered in scars. They were soaked in sweat and reflected the light, emitting vigorous strength.

Yannis didn't look as if he was in pain. Those scars were the result of his hard work and sacrifice. They were also his trophies. This bit of pain was completely acceptable to him.

The audience, who had been busy all day and were exhausted by work and life, looked at Yannis and watched the boxing matches. Under the influence of the atmosphere, they felt that their tired and weak bodies were filled with strength again.

That was the charm of boxing.

The host went on stage and invited Yannis down. “Ladies and gentlemen, the most exciting moment has arrived. Next up is our life-and-death match.”

The so-called life-and-death match was not a match, but a fight for one's life.

There was no limit in the match. As long as no one died, it did not matter. There was no time limit. It would only end when the losing party collapsed and admitted defeat.

“Who is tonight’s arena champion?” The host turned the microphone toward the audience.

This was announced yesterday, so the audience naturally knew.

“Vaporleon City boxing champion Aiden Armstrong, everyone shouted in unison. Their voices were loud and clear, nearly shooting to heaven.

A banner fell from the roof above the boxing ring. On the banner was the arena champion for tonight.

For more than a month, Aiden had been the arena champion. Since he went on stage, he had never lost.

When the audience saw Aiden’s banner, they applauded and cheered.

The host continued, “And the person who will challenge him tonight is our popular boxer, Number One who has returned!”

The applause was obviously much softer this time, and the cheers were almost gone.

It that the audience didn’t think highly of this Number One, but Number One had lost to Aiden a month and a half ago, helping Aiden consolidate his position as the arena champion and setting a record of more than a month of consecutive wins.

And for the past month, those who bet on Aiden had made a profit. Therefore, it was easy to choose who to bet on tonight.

Yannis had decided to fight this match at the last minute. He had not even done a banner.

Next was the cheerleading dance performance during halftime, creating an atmosphere of entertainment and leisure.

When Yannis came down from the stage, he saw Lea enter. Then, he saw Jason beside her.

No matter where it was, when Lea appeared, she would be the most striking one. It was because Lea was too good-looking and had quite the presence.

Yannis walked out of the arena.

Jason was full of questions. “This kid is here to box?”

Lea did not answer Jason. She only said, “Follow him.”

The trio arrived at the dark corner of the venue.

Yannis confessed. “I want to fight this match.”

Lea turned around and looked at the banner above the boxing ring. “Was he the one who injured you last time?”

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Yannis nodded.

Lea responded with a nod.

Yannis paused and looked at Lea with reddened eyes. He was very touched. Lea always knew what he wanted to do and supported him unconditionally.

“Then I’ll go prepare first,” Yannis said.

“Okay,” Lea replied.

Yannis went to the boxer’s locker room to prepare.

Lea asked Jason, “Do you have money?”

“What?” Jason replied, looking confused.

“How much do you have?”

“Around 300,000 dollars.”

“Go all in on Number One.”

Jason subconsciously covered his wallet in his pocket.

Lea almost rolled her eyes. “Count it as mine.”

Now that the hospital was making money, if Lea needed money, she could transfer it out. However, for the sake of the hospital’s development, Lea did not use its money. She even put in the money she earned from her surgeries.

The money Lea spent was Christian’s pocket money. She also spent a lot when she went to Iverton for the exam. She almost had no money now. She was really poor.

Jason was speechless. He thought, ‘Bet around 300,000 on that kid? If Miss Berry is so confident, why doesn’t she use her own money? Doesn’t she have any?’

Jason knew Lea’s assets in Riverview Hospital were worth billions of dollars. Of course, that didn’t include the projects and patents in her lab.

Jason was saving up for marriage. He could not afford to lose his money. He thought, ‘If Miss Berry loses the bet, I can’t ask her to pay back, right? Even if she wants to return the will skin me alive if I take it.’

money, Mr. Andrews

Jason wondered if he could change bosses. It was so difficult for him.

Lea opened her eyes and looked straight at Jason.

Jason found himself unable to reject Lea when she looked like that.

“Alright, I’ll go lay the bet.” Jason lowered his head defeatedly.

But when Jason laid the bet, he only bet 200 thousand dollars.

Then, Jason looked at the opponent’s bet and secretly glanced in Lea’s direction. Seeing that she was not around, he silently bet 40 thousand dollars on Aiden. At least he could recoup some losses.

Lea went to the washroom..

The venue was small. The washroom and the lockers where the boxers got ready were next to each other. There were several utility rooms beside them and several passageways that allowed one to enter or leave the venue.

There were many passageways and dark corners. It was dark.

Lea came out of the washroom and was walking through the passage when she suddenly heard an argument.

“Joe, you can’t do this. It’s against the rules. As a boxer, you have to abide by the rules,” an old voice advised earnestly.

“Stay out of my business.” The reply was arrogant and angry.

“You’re a boxer with a lot of potential. As long as you work hard and improve, you’ll definitely be able to make something for yourself in the boxing ring in the future. There’s no need to destroy your future like this...” the old voice continued.

“Where did you find this stubborn old fool? Deal with him yourself, the arrogant voice ordered.

Bang! There was the sound of the door slamming.

“Joe...” the old voice called out.

“I hired you to help Joe to win the competition that the club wanted you to win.” This was spoken by another arrogant and mocking voice. “Do you really think this is the World Boxing Championship?

the boxing champion or his instructor? You’re just an old fool who can’t even afford food. You’re fired, you old cunt. Get him out of here.”

Are

you

“Joe” When the old instructor was dragged away, he called out repeatedly, “Don’t go astray.”

In the darkness, Lea saw the old man being dragged away. She frowned and walked away.

Lea entered the arena. The ring was already surrounded by people. She wanted to watch the competition, but there were no good seats. That gave Lea a headache.

“This way.” Jason gestured to Lea.

Lea squeezed her way through after Jason and arrived at the best spot. Jason said to the man in the seat. “I’ll buy your seat for 200 dollars.”

The man retorted, “I bought my seat for 200 dollars”

Jason wanted to hit the man. It was already a good deal if the man sold his seat for 100 dollars.

“300 dollars.” Jason offered.

“600 dollars,” the man argued.

“400 dollars.”

“500 dollars.”

“Deal.”

After Jason got the seat, he said to Lea, “Miss Berry, please sit.”

Lea sat down and straightened her skirt. She wore a long black dress for the funeral. She looked calm, elegant, and imposing.

Then, Lea looked up at Jason. “Didn’t you bet all your money?”

Jason nearly tripped over his own feet. “I just... left some for spending.”

Lea glanced at Jason, then turned back to the boxing ring.

That look made Jason feel guilty. He lowered his head and wiped his sweat, then looked at the ring.

The competition had already begun.

The title of “Vaporleon City boxing champion” was not for nothing. When the arena champion went on stage, he appeared very powerful.

Bang. Bang.

Aiden punched his fists together twice.

Jason narrowed his eyes.

“There’s something wrong with his gloves.”

Like Craig, Jason grew up learning to box and fight. Even Eddie, who was better at paperwork, was the same. Therefore, Jason could tell there was a problem with the gloves at a glance.

Lea could tell too. She had the powerful ability to analyze the structure of objects, so she could see more clearly than them!

Those boxing gloves could increase the punches of boxer by three to five times, and could easily destroy the human body and bones.

“We can’t let Yannis fight this match. He’ll be crippled. I’ll go to him,” Jason said.

Jason could tell that Yannis was a talented boxer. Moreover, Yannis was someone Lea cared for. Jason could not ignore Yannis.

“Let’s watch first,” Lea said.

Jason, who was all set to go, was stunned. He turned to look at Lea. Lea looked calm and composed. Jason stood there suspiciously. He was still uneasy.

“Shall we call the ambulance first?” Jason asked.

“Sure,” Lea said.

Jason felt even more uncertain and called an ambulance.

Everyone was silent as they stared at the stage.

The referee whistled and announced the start of the match. The powerful “Vaporleon City boxing champion“, who had been waiting to show off his might, suddenly threw a punch.

Just as the fist was about to smash into Yannis’s head, Yannis dodged and the fist brushed past his hair.

Yannis seemed slow, but he was very agile and could accurately predict Adien’s punch.

“Vaporleon City boxing champion” grew flustered. He continued to throw punches, but all of them missed. His footsteps became chaotic.

Then, it was Yannis’s turn to punch.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Punches after punches landed on Aiden’s body. When Yannis’s fists landed, one could see the muscles strain and tremble. The punches were very powerful.

“Vaporleon City boxing champion” was forced into a corner. He could only hug Yannis and hit at close range

A few punches landed on Yannis’s chest, waist, and abdomen. Even if Yannis did not die, he would definitely be severely injured.

It would be like last time when Aiden broke Yannis’s sternum with one punch and made him fall to the ground. At that time, they all thought Yannis would not survive.

Aiden did not expect Yannis to dare to come back and challenge him. He thought, ‘Since he wants to die so badly, I will give him what he wants.’

The sounds of impact continued..

Aiden felt as if his fists had smashed into an iron wall. There was no reaction.

Then, Aiden thought, ‘No, it is not an iron wall. His Dosh and muscles, as well as his ability to cushion and protect his body, have formed an iron-clad protective layer around him.

Aiden looked up sharply at Yannis. Yannis was different now. He seemed to become ten times stronger. Perhaps even more than that.

Aiden couldn’t believe that. There was no way a human body could achieve that.

While Aiden was in a daze, Yannis counterattacked. He clenched his fist tightly and punched Aiden in his abdomen.

The medicine Lea gave Yannis was very effective. He practiced for a few days to test the effect.

Bang. Bang. Clang.

“Vaporleon City boxing champion” took a few punches and fell heavily to the ground. He looked. like he was seriously injured.

Everyone was dumbfounded and forgot to react.

The match had just started. Even if Aiden lost, he couldn't lose like that. Otherwise, he would never continue in this industry. Aiden gritted his teeth and slowly got up.

When Aiden regained his balance, Yannis punched out.

BANG!

The punch hit Aiden in the chest, exactly where he had hit Yannis in the past.

However, before the punch landed on Aiden, Yannis slowed and the punch wasn't as powerful.

Yannis had come for revenge. He had decided to return the same punch to Aiden, but when he was really about to kill Aiden, he could not do it. Aiden would not be as lucky as him to meet Lea who saved him.

Yannis retracted his fist and looked up in Lea's direction. He gentled, and his punch lost its fatal power.

BANG!

"Vaporleon City boxing champion" fell to the ground. The stage shook.

"Can you still get up?" the referee asked, kneeling down.

Aiden could not answer at all. He blinked and his eyes rolled back, as if he was about to die.

The referee was used to seeing all kinds of incidents in the boxing ring, but this was the first time he had seen someone so badly injured from a single punch. The referee was certain that Aiden could not get up now and had lost."

The referee grabbed Yannis's arm and raised his hand. "Number one wins!"

After a moment of silence, the entire venue suddenly burst into thunderous applause. People cheered and screamed.

The boxing match ended too quickly. It was so quick that it was boring. Such a one-sided suppression of strength was an instant kill. It was not entertaining.

However, they remembered how nimbly Yannis avoided his opponent. His prediction ability and punches were extremely strong. He could defeat a powerful opponent in a few moves.

These were all shocking talents and performances of boxers. It was too inspiring and moving.

Chapter 164

But soon, some people started crying.

"I'm done for." A man had lost all his money.

"I bet on the wrong boxer," another wailed.

"I lost all my savings," a third cried.

"My down payment's gone," a woman exclaimed sadly.

The voices continued.

Only a few people were so happy that they cheered. No one could win all the time. That was the reason why they did not bet on the arena champion.

As there were many people betting on the arena champion, the payout was very high. They had made a killing.

After a while, Jason closed his mouth and looked at Lea, who was sitting elegantly and quietly in her seat. "You know boxing, Miss Berry?"

Jason was surprised by Yannis's talent and strength, but what surprised him even more was that Lea predicted this outcome.

"I don't know," Lea said.

"Then why did you want me to bet on Yannis?" Jason asked.

"Because I knew he'd win, Lea replied.

Even without Lea's special medicine, Yannis would still win because his original strength was not weaker than this opponent.

Compared to last time, Yannis had improved a lot. The brutal training in Iverton had also improved Yannis greatly. Moreover, Yannis would not lose twice to the same person.

"Then why did you ask me to call an ambulance?" Jason asked.

"Well, someone else needs it," Lea said.

Jason followed Lea's gaze. The "Vaporleon City boxing champion" was being carried to the ambulance. Jason didn't know what to say now.

"Let's collect our winnings, Lea told Jason.

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“Let’s collect our winnings,” Lea told Jason.

“Sure,” Jason replied. He had definitely made a killing this time.

When Lea and Yannis came out of the boxing ring. Jason was already waiting happily with the check.

“Miss Berry, the payout rate is 30 times.” Jason handed over the check.

Lea took the check. She wasn't very happy. She hadn't brought any money and had bet too little.

Jason thought, ‘200 thousand dollars has now become 6 million dollars. Why does Miss Berry still look like that?’

“I'll transfer 200 thousand dollars to you later.” Lea shook the check and stuffed it into her pocket.

“200 thousand dollars?” Jason asked.

Looking at how injured Jason looked, Lea did some calculations. “I'll include the daily interest when I pay you back.”

Jason went speechless. He thought, ‘Miss Berry, can't you tell what I'm thinking? I thought we would split it 50-50.

Jason decided that Lea really couldn't tell what he had meant. He suspected she was doing it on purpose.

Jason followed Lea and Yannis dejectedly.

“What's wrong with you? Why do

you? Why do you look like you've lost money?” Yannis asked in confusion to Jason.

Jason rolled his eyes at Yannis. He had lost 40 thousand dollars. If he had believed Lea and bet all money on Yannis, he would have 6 million dollars too. He could have become rich.

his

The trio walked along the river and went to the parking lot.

Splash!

They turned and saw someone fall into the river.

Lea glanced over. It was the instructor who dissuaded the boxer.

There were two figures where the instructor had fallen. They were closing the windows and drawing curtains shut. The unlit room looked like a black hole in the distant light.

That was the accommodation for the employees of the boxing arena.

Jason and Yannis were stunned. They seemed to have witnessed a murder. They subconsciously looked at Lea.

“Go get him,” Lea ordered.

Jason looked at Lea and then at Yannis, who was covered in wounds. He frowned and jumped into

the river.

Jason didn't mind saving someone. However, the river was badly polluted. It made Jason feel agonized.

Lea said to Yannis, "Call an ambulance."

The ambulance had already arrived by the time the instructor was rescued.

The paramedic examined the instructor and shook his head grimly. There was nothing to be done.

Jason was not surprised. This was murder, If someone had thrown a man into the river, they would ensure the man was dead.

Yannis stared blankly at Lea.

Lea had already gone forward to check on the instructor. Then, she said to the paramedic, "Carry him into the ambulance."

The paramedic had already made his own judgment, but for some reason, he listened to Lea and did as she said. He carried the instructor into the ambulance.

After getting into the ambulance, Lea said to the driver, "Drive to Riverview Hospital."

Then, Lea changed into the doctor's scrubs and began to examine the patient. Her movements were fast and smooth, but not chaotic.

This was the first time Jason had seen Lea save someone. He was completely dumbfounded as he watched Lea do a series of resuscitation and simple surgery. He thought, 'How can an underage girl have such ability?'

Jason, Yannis, and the paramedics who came with the ambulance watched in shock and nervousness.

The patient had no pulse. His heart wasn't beating.

The confined space in the ambulance felt even more suffocating.

The ambulance swayed on the road, making them even more uneasy.

Only Lea was different. Her calm and precise performance gave them a sense of security.

Lea took out a syringe from the medicine box and drew out some epinephrine. After injecting it, she took out a pacemaker and began to perform cardiac resuscitation.

However, in the paramedics' opinion, all of that was useless.

But after a while, the line on the ECG monitor suddenly fluctuated. The patient's heart was beating again.

They looked on in shock. They kept silent but everyone was surprised.

Now that the patient's heart was beating and he was breathing, Lea put down her tools and personally called Lorrard to ask him to prepare for surgery.

Then, Lea hung up. Within a few minutes, the ambulance arrived at Riverview Hospital.

The ambulance drove straight to the entrance. When Lea alighted, her phone rang again. It was

Shannon.

It was already very late when Lea and the others left the boxing arena. They even saved someone. It was now already past one in the morning.

Lea immediately picked up the call..

Shannon said, "Lea, save me... Ah-"

The line went silent abruptly.

"Shannon!" Lea called out, but there was no response.

The call ended.

However, Shannon's cry for help still echoed in Lea's ears.

Lea said to Jason, "Call Lorrard to pick the patient up." Then, she said to Yannis, "Follow me."

Lea took Yannis and got into the car.

Yannis drove while Lea took out her phone and laptop. She traced Shannon's number to track her down.

Yannis's entire body was covered in injuries. It would hurt whenever he moved, but looking at Lea, he knew that something serious had happened. Thus, he stopped hurting.

Lorrard had already brought doctors and nurses to pick the patient up at the entrance of the hospital. "Where's Miss Berry?" he asked.

When Lorrard received Lea's call, he knew she was in the ambulance.

Jason looked at where the car had driven off. "She has something on and left first." It was extremely urgent.

Jason wanted to rush over to help, but Lea's car had already driven had been carried out of the ambulance and could only stay to help.

off. He looked at the

patient who

"Quick. Send the patient to the operating room," Lorrard instructed. Since Lea was not around, he was the only one who could perform the surgery.

When the car hit the road. Yannis was instantly at a loss. "Where are we going?"

In the night, the city filled with tall buildings was like a maze.

"Drive onward first." Lea had yet to find Shannon's address.

Yannis obeyed Lea's instructions and focused on driving forward.

Chapter 165

In a sealed room of a hotel, there was a loud crack.

Shannon's phone was thrown to the ground and crushed.

“You haven’t learned your lesson, have you?” A bald, potbellied man in his forties crushed Shannon’s phone into pieces and even took out the SIM card to break it.

Shannon crawled to the door again and banged on. “Open the door. Let me out...”

Shannon could not exert any strength and her voice was very weak. Her body felt like it was on fire, and her brain was about to be fried. She relied on her strong willpower to force herself to remain rational.

The back of Shannon’s collar tightened, and she was lifted by the man again. She fell hard onto the bed made customized for sexual play. The bed shook.

Shannon’s brain jolted. The world spun, and her vision went black.

The buttons on Shannon’s white shirt were ripped off. Her collar was torn, revealing her shoulders, chest, and white lingerie.

The man stared at Shannon, his eyes bright. He swallowed hard.

The man went forward and tugged at the strap on Shannon’s shoulder to smell it. “You’re really top– notch.”

“Let go...” Shannon pushed at the man with all her might. Although she was weak, her blood–red eyes were vicious. “You’re breaking the law. I’m going to sue you... You’ll go to jail.”

“Jail?” The man touched Shannon’s cheek. “You’re already mine. No, let me correct that. You’re my wife. I’ll bring you to get our marriage license later,

Before this, the man had only seen Shannon’s photo and knew her height, age, and other basic information. Shannon was a high school student who had just graduated. She was just his type.

After meeting Shannon in person, the man realized she was even more beautiful, fiercer, and more attractive than in the photo.

“No. I refuse,” Shannon said firmly. “There’s no arranged marriage now. No matter what you and my mother-

At the mention of Donna, Shannon gritted her teeth fiercely. Her eyes filled with hatred. She hated - her mother” to the extreme.

Shannon went on, “No matter what deal you made with her, it’s illegal for you to touch me... I’m going to sue you...”

Smack!

The man slapped Shannon hard. “I’ll fuck you first. Let’s see how tough you are then.”

Women would naturally become obedient after being taught a lesson. If one lesson didn’t work, then two would.

The man grabbed the waistband of Shannon’s pants and pulled hard.

Shannon screamed. With all the strength she could muster, she kicked the man hard in the

stomach.

Thud. The man fell to the ground.

Shannon struggled to get up and stumbled away. The door wouldn't open. Desperate, she opened the window.

BANG!

The window opened and a gust of night wind blew into the room. Shannon gritted her teeth and shook her head hard, sobering up a little.

The man had already stood up and looked at Shannon viciously. "You don't want to sleep with me? You want to hold onto your chastity? Fine. Go ahead. Jump."

This was the eleventh floor. If Shannon jumped, she would definitely die.

The man was sure that Shannon wouldn't dare to jump.

Shannon's fingers slowly tightened on the window sill. Her injured hand left blood on it.

Shannon had already gotten into university. Her dream had been fulfilled. The life she wanted had just begun. She thought, 'Why do I have to end my life this way because of these people?'

Shannon let out a roar and charged at the man, wanting to drag him to hell with her.

However, Shannon was controlled by the drug and could not exert any strength at all. She gradually lost her rationality. After a while, she was pinned to the ground by the man.

Downstairs, the black Mercedes-Benz drove straight to the entrance of the hotel and almost crashed into the door.

Before the car was parked, Lea had already opened the door and entered the lobby.

Lea was wearing a long black dress. The wind blew under her feet and her skirts danced. She had the presence of an army

The manager and staff of the lobby immediately greeted Lea. "Miss, what are you-"

Lea interrupted them, "Call your guest from room 1106 out."

Lea had used the system, including the hotel's surveillance system, to find Shannon on the way

here.

From the surveillance footage, Lea saw Shannon being helped into the hotel by an old man in his forties. She also found information about the old man and the room he had booked.

The manager's eyes flashed. "Miss, what's your relationship with the guest? Why are you looking for him? As you know, we are responsible for the safety of our guests."

Lea glanced at the manager and went straight in. She would go looking herself.

The manager went to stop Lea. "Miss, you can't barge in like this. If you don't stop, we'll have to kick

you out."

Yannis stepped forward and used his body to create a path for Lea to the elevator. “You go ahead.”

It was important for them to be fast.

Yannis was tall and strong. When he came out of the boxing ring, his face, mouth, and exposed arms were covered in injuries. When he became serious, he was very intimidating.

However, Yannis was alone. He had to face the manager, receptionists, and staff in the lobby. There were nearly eight of them. There were also dozens of security guards in the hotel who were on call.

“They’re here to cause trouble. Stop them,” the manager shouted.

The group

group of staff surrounded them at once.

Lea turned to look at Yannis. Her eyes were sharp and murderous. “Give them hell. I’ll take responsibility if you kill someone.”

From the manager’s expression and gaze just now, Lea could already tell that he knew. There were probably many people present who knew about it.

Anyone could imagine what would happen if an old man brought a young girl who had just reached adulthood and was semi-unconscious into the hotel.

Now, they wanted to stop Lea and Yannis, even using force. This could only mean that they were protecting that guest.

According to the information Lea had found, the old man had booked a room here a few years ago.

He was a regular customer at the hotel. Everyone was secretly connected.

Yannis immediately understood. Then, he thought of Shannon’s situation tonight.

Yannis grabbed the manager who wanted to stop Lea by the collar and lifted him. He punched the manager in the stomach and threw him to the ground.

A staff and security guards rushed up to Yannis one after another. Yannis knocked each one of them down with a punch.

Meanwhile, Lea took the elevator to the 11th floor.

After leaving the elevator, Lea retrieved the fire extinguisher from the hallway and went to the door of 1106. She raised the extinguisher and slammed it down.

BANG!

The entire floor shook. The door broke open.

Lea saw a woman lying on the ground and a fat old man leaning over her like a vicious dog.

Hearing the loud bang, the man turned around.

BANG!

Lea swung

the fire extinguisher at the man's head. He was sent flying.

Only then did Lea see Shannon clearly. Shannon's clothes were almost torn apart and she was covered in wounds. It was a shocking sight.

Lea yanked off the bed sheet and wrapped it around Shannon.

"Lea..." Shannon still had some rationality left and immediately cried.

Lea helped Shannon sit by the bed and walked toward the man with the fire extinguisher.

The man had just gotten up when Lea stepped on him. He fell back to the ground. He had a cut from the blow just now and his face was covered in blood.

Lea stepped hard on the man's chest. Her dark eyes were deep and murderous. She slowly raised the fire extinguisher.

"Don't kill me," the man shouted in fear. "This has nothing to do with me. It's her mother." He pointed at Shannon. "She accepted my 100,000-dollar betrothal gift and we're getting married."

Lea's eyes slowly lit up. She frowned and looked at the man under her foot. "100,000 dollars?"

"Yes, 100,000 dollars!" The man gestured agitatedly. "That is a significant betrothal gift."

A daughter from an ordinary family would only receive a betrothal gift of 20 thousand dollars at most. The man had paid quite a lot.

Lea put

down the extinguisher and took out her phone to call Yannis.

When Yannis picked up, he said, "It's settled here. I'll be right up."

"Withdraw 100,000 dollars before coming up, Lea replied.

"Sure," Yannis replied.

After hanging up the call, Lea retracted her foot. She went to close the door and leaned against it.

The man hurriedly sat up and panted heavily. However, when he saw Lea leaning against the door, he subconsciously quietened his breathing.

The man had never seen such a beautiful girl before. Lea's black dress made her skin look as though it was glowing. Even though she simply stood there quietly, she was striking.

The man was lecherous, but he did not dare to have any thoughts about Lea. He only felt fear. The man thought Lea was going to smash his head just now.

The man was not wrong. Lea had indeed planned on doing that. It was what the man said that stopped Lea.

Soon, Yannis arrived with a large heavy bag filled with cash. There was a 24-hour business office next to the hotel that allowed him to take out so much cash.

Lea opened the door for Yannis and let him in. Then, she closed the door and locked it. She carried the money and walked to the man.

Lea unzipped the sack, revealing the cash inside.

“W–what are you doing?” the man stammered.

“It’s yours.” Lea raised the bag and threw 100,000 dollars in cash at the man. Then she picked up the fire extinguisher and brought it down on his right thigh.

Lea wanted to break one of the man’s legs.

Chapter 166

BANG!

A scream followed.

When Shannon was taken out of the hotel, she was already unconscious. There were dozens of security guards at the hotel, but no one dared to stop them. Yannis alone could deal with all of them.

After bringing Shannon out of the hotel, they headed straight to Riverview Hospital.

Shannon had been drugged. The doctor injected her with medicine and bandaged her injuries. She fell asleep peacefully.

Lea did not sleep. She went to the CEO’s office. It was the office that Chris had prepared for Alfred. Lea investigated the man again.

The man really did have some background. He had some power, was lecherous, and had hurt a few young ladies. People like him were never clean.

In less than an hour, Lea had dug up all the dirt on the man. Everything little bit about the man barming young women, abusing his ex–wife, embezzlement, bribery, and so on. All that was enough to send him to prison for a few years.

Lea quickly collated the evidence and sent it to the police anonymously.

The Vaporleon City police force had cracked many difficult cases, as if they had help from God.

There was indeed a god–like existence behind them. It was the 198 Mighty. They were the ones who provided the evidence for the major cases.

For the small cases, they helped anonymously, but it was still vital.

That night, the police force received evidence and caught a corrupt person. They followed the clues and caught a few more criminals,

When it was nearly dawn, Lea came out of the office and came to Shannon’s ward. When she saw Yannis, she could not help but be taken aback.

Lea did not expect Yannis to be guarding Shannon. After all, Yannis was also injured last night and was hurting too.

Yannis and Shannon were like two injured lone wolves, guarding each other.

Compared to them, Lea felt lucky. She had Alfred.

“Let’s head out for a bit,” Lea said.

After Lea spoke, Yannis followed.

They drove to a decent hotel and parked the car around the corner. After a while, they saw Donna coming out of the hotel.

Donna had done up her hair and was wearing expensive clothes. She wore a lot of expensive jewelry, mostly gold. She had high heels on and carried a designer bag. She was ready to go. shopping early in the morning.

Donna had received 600,000 dollars as compensation, found a good “home” for her daughter, and received 100,000 dollars in betrothal gift. That was a huge sum of money to her.

Donna never had so much money before and it had gone to her head. She only wanted to shop. She didn’t even stay in her rented apartment anymore. Instead, she stayed in a decent hotel.

Lea looked at Donna with disgust from her car. Donna’s expensive outfit only made her look even more detestable.

Lea gave Yannis a look. He nodded and got out of the car.

Donna stood by the roadside and was about to hail a taxi when a black hood suddenly covered her head. She screamed, “Help-

Before Donna could finish, she was dragged into a nearby alley. There, she was punched and kicked repeatedly.

By the time Donna managed to pull the hood away from her head, there was no one there.

When Yannis drove back to Riverview Hospital, the sky had lit up. Jason waited for them at the entrance, then followed the car into the car park.

Seeing Yannis and Lea get out of the car, Jason asked. “Where did you two go?”

“We had breakfast. This bagel is delicious,” Yannis said as he handed Jason one before stuffing another bagel into his mouth. Yannis was in a good mood.

Jason went silent. He thought, ‘Do they think I don’t know?’

Last night, after the patient was sent to the emergency room, Jason was worried about them and went to look for them. But when Jason found the hotel, they were already gone, leaving only a tragic scene behind.

Then, Jason saw the news before dawn. The old man who tried to harm Shannon in the hotel was arrested for embezzling, His accomplices had all been caught too.

When Jason returned to the hospital and realized they had driven out again, he had no choice but to follow. He had seen everything they did.

Jason now realized something serious. Lea was someone who should never be provoked. Anyone who provoked her would be caught in one fell swoop and eliminated completely. They would also be schemed against.

Lea was too scheming. Not only her, but these three youngsters were not to be trifled with.

Then, Jason felt really annoyed. They did not call him along for something so thrilling. Lea was his boss. He lived for her and would die for her. It was simply unacceptable for Lea to abandon him when there was a crisis.

Lea walked past Jason and looked at his excited, complicated, anxious, and aggrieved expression. She thought for a moment and said, “The bagel is really delicious.”

As Lea spoke, she stuffed one into her mouth and walked toward the elevator.

Jason took a bite of the bagel. He thought, ‘Yeah, it is good. Wait, I’m not talking about this.’

Jason jogged after Lea. “Miss Berry, what are you up to lately?”

In Jason’s mind, he shouted, Take me with you.”

“I’ll be preparing for my birthday, Lea said.

Jason was at a loss of words.

Donna was nearly beaten to death and could only return to her former rental house, where she and Shannon had lived for the last few years. Coincidentally, someone from Riverview Hospital came to collect medical fees from her..

If Donna didn’t pay up, she would be sent straight to the police station. Donna had no choice but to pay tens of thousands of dollars.

In less than two days, the “rich son–in–law” Donna had chosen was imprisoned. He even broke a leg. Even the power behind him had been arrested by the police.

Donna was scared:

That night, while it was dark, Danna packed her bags and limped out. She wanted to leave Vaporleon City.

Squeak.

Donna opened the door. Her heart almost stopped “Shannon? W–Why are you here?”

Chapter 167

Ever since Donna had given Shannon to that “son–in–law,” she had not paid attention to Shannon’s whereabouts. She did not expect Shannon to appear here at night.

Shannon was wearing a small black coat that blended into the night. Her cheek was a little bruised, and her expression was cold and imposing.

At first glance, Shannon appeared a little scary. But on a closer look, Shannon was still the daughter Donna had raised.

Shannon glanced at Donna indifferently. “What are you doing?”

Shannon was very aware that Donna wanted to flee. By asking, she was also distracting Donna.

Donna was taken aback. Shannon’s tone tonight was too distant and unfamiliar. It was as if Shannon treated her as a stranger.

However, Donna did not care about her daughter’s feelings right now.

Shannon looked at Donna with an extremely indifferent gaze. That little bit of kinship they shared had disappeared when Donna drugged her and gave her to that old man.

Shannon would always remember what happened that day.

Shannon had come home to persuade Donna to pay the hospital fees. At that time, Donna's temper was still good. She made dinner for Shannon and they ate together. She even agreed to pay the fees.

Although Shannon had felt that Donna was a little abnormal at that time, she was still very gratified. She still harbored some fantasies about Donna.

However, halfway through the meal, Shannon felt weak all over and collapsed on the table. Then, that old man appeared, took Shannon away into his car, and brought her to the hotel.

Donna had even said, "Shannon, I've found you a good husband and a good home. You have to be nice to me in the future."

At that time, Shannon hated Donna to the core and wanted her to die.

"I'm just tidying the house." Donna suddenly changed her mind. Shannon was her lucky star. Since Shannon was young, she had always brought Donna surprises and benefits.

Now that Shannon had returned safe and sound, Donna didn't want to escape.

"I see," Shannon replied coldly. She came in and stood at the window.

The apartment was small and dilapidated.

Shannon had been busy lately and hadn't come back to clean up. It was damp lately, and there was a strong musty smell. A few cockroaches were crawling in the corner.

Donna began. "Shannon, I found you such a husband for your own good. I don't know that--"

"It's all in the past," Shannon said indifferently without even looking at Donna.

Donna was stunned again. Shannon really hated her and was estranged from her now.

However, Donna quickly regained her confidence. They often quarreled in the past. Yet they were still together now. Shannon's fury would subside in a few days.

However, Donna had no idea that her so-called daughter no longer had any feelings for her. From now on, Lea was Shannon's only family.

Since Shannon said that it was over, Donna did not dare to mention it again.

"I came back tonight to tell you that Helen bribed Peter to hurt you. If you sue her, you can get compensation. Shannon pretended to think for a moment. "About 800,000 dollars."

Donna's eyes lit up when she heard that. She had suddenly accepted over 600 thousand dollars recently and went to the mall to buy many luxury goods. It felt very satisfying.

However, Donna had already spent about 200 thousand dollars and paid the hospital's fees. There was less than half of that amount left. She began to panic, yearning for more money.

"Helen values her reputation a lot. They will definitely pay to close the case. Then, we can get more money. Two million dollars shouldn't be a problem Shannon continued.

Donna's eyes lit up even more. If she could get two million dollars, she could buy a house and a car and live like a rich lady. She no longer wanted to escape.

"I've already found a lawyer and contacted Peter. I just need you to go to the police station and help build the case," Shannon said. "But let's get this straight. After I get the money, you'll give me 400,000 dollars. I'm going to Iverton to study. I need money."

Donna was already dizzy with excitement after hearing "two million dollars". When she heard the word "Iverton", she suddenly paused and fell silent.

Donna nodded and agreed. "You can go to the university in Iverton. I will give you money to pay for your tuition. It's only right."

When Shannon mentioned 400,000 dollars tuition fee, Donna did not doubt it.

"I will accompany you to Iverton. We will move to Iverton then," Donna added.

Shannon looked at Donna indifferently. Donna's gaze and expression were so excited that it was abnormal. Shannon thought. She even wants to go to Iverton and enjoy life. Is she qualified? It is all because I can get into Conrad University

Shannon closed her eyes. Because she didn't care anymore, she wasn't that angry. She was only disappointed and resistant.

However, Shannon saw a rare scheme and worry in Donna's eyes. She thought, 'Is there something on her mind about Iverton? Then Shannon decided she would forget about it and not care about Donna anymore.

"I'll pick you up and take you to the police station tomorrow morning," Shannon said.

With that, Shannon left. She knew that Donna was greedy and would agree and cooperate with her.

"Shannon, where are you going? If you leave, what will happen to me?" Donna didn't want to stay in this lousy rental house either.

Shannon went downstairs without looking back. The taxi that had brought her there was still waiting. She got in and left.

The 7th of July came. It was midsummer. The sky was clear and the entire city was filled with vitality. It was Lea's 19th birthday. Christian booked the event hall of the Vaporleon Grand Hotel and invited guests to his granddaughter's birthday party.

They would also celebrate Lea's acceptance into Conrad University. Christian would also transfer some shares of Berry Airline to Lea. It was equivalent to holding three celebrations at the same time.

To compensate for past negligence, Christian spent a lot of money and made it a grand affair.

The Berry family's party should be managed by Matilda. However, Matilda had taken over the Fraley Group after Henry died and had a lot of things to deal with in the hospital. She could barely squeeze out time. Thus, she was not very involved.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, the party was about to begin.

Lea sat in the hotel room. A professional stylist was helping her dress up.

Lea looked at herself in the mirror and was slightly stunned. Her reflection showed her girl wearing an off-shoulder pink and silver haute couture gown with diamonds embedded in it. She wore a diamond necklace and earrings from the same set.

Lea had put on makeup and her long hair was slightly curled. It was done in a simple princess hairstyle and flowed past her shoulders. She wore a similar floral diamond crown as her gown and jewelry.

Lea's eyebrows were long and thin. Under her long eyelashes, her beautiful eyes were crystal clear. Her eye makeup made her look captivating. The gorgeous and resplendent dress made her smooth skin glow.

Lea exuded a magnificent and splendid aura.

"Miss Berry, you're so beautiful, the stylist exclaimed.

Lea smiled faintly. She was mesmerized by her reflection too.

Lea knew that she was pretty, but she did not know that she could be so beautiful when she dressed up exquisitely.

No wonder there were so many women in the world who put in so much effort and spent so much money on beautiful dresses and expensive jewelry.

Lea had never paid attention to dressing up in her previous life. She had focused all her attention on research and wore work clothes. Her most expensive dress had been her wedding dress.

However, Lea's wedding with Milton had been very rushed. The wedding dress was an ordinary dress that she bought at the shop at the last minute. It was not as expensive as the dress she wore, now.

This was the most expensive and beautiful dress Lea had ever worn in two lifetimes. She thought, 'If Alfred saw me dressed like this, he probably would like it too. Lea really wanted Alfred to see her like this. If only he were here, Lea added silently.

But Alfred wasn't at Vaporleon City. Last night, when they spoke on the phone, he wished Lea Happy Birthday and told her he had prepared a gift for her.

"Miss Berry, are you done?" an assistant knocked on the door and asked.

"Yup," Lea said..

"You can come out now. The guests are waiting in the party hall.

“Sure.”

Lea got up.

got up, held

up her skirts, and walked out.

Chapter 168

The event hall was huge and was divided into two floors. The lower level was the hall, and the upper level consisted of rooms for guests to rest.

A chandelier nearly 10 feet long hung from the ceiling dome. It cast a dazzling light on the famous paintings, sculptures, and other artworks on the walls. It was luxurious and elegant.

Lea walked out of the room and saw Christian waiting in the corridor.

“Grandpa,” Lea called out.

Christian turned and his eyes widened in surprise. He couldn’t believe his granddaughter looked like that. Lea looked just like a princess from a legend.

When Lea walked to Christian’s side, he was still mesmerized by her.

“Grandpa, what’s wrong?” Lea asked.

“You’re beautiful. I’ll buy you more beautiful clothes in the future,” Christian said.

“Of course I am beautiful. After all, I’m your granddaughter,” Lea retorted.

Christian raised his eyebrows and chuckled.

Lea held Christian’s arm and they walked toward the hall.

The doors opened, and the lively hall suddenly fell silent for a moment. Then, there was a burst of noise.

“Is the girl with Mr. Berry the highlight of the party tonight?” someone asked.

“She’s the Berry family’s useless illegitimate daughter?” another questioned.

“Why don’t we know there’s such a beautiful young lady in Vaporleon City?” a woman added.

“Looks like Mr. Berry keeps a low profile. If I had such a beautiful granddaughter, I’d have shouted it to the world long ago,” an older man grumbled.

year.

“Wow. She’s so beautiful. It’s worth it to look at her every day at home after my son marries her,” an older woman pointed out. “She’s probably still single, right? My son has just come of age this I’ll ask Mr. Berry later.”

A young man said, "Mom, I want to cancel my engagement." In comparison to Lea, his engagement partner was too ugly.

The voices went on. Everyone was stunned by Lea's beauty.

"Not only is she beautiful, but she also got into Confad University. I heard that Mr. Berry is going to transfer shares to her. Are they bringing her into Berry Group?" a voice asked.

"Isn't it the same?" someone pointed out.

"Mr. Berry doesn't really value his genius eldest granddaughter. Looks like this second. granddaughter is even more outstanding," another deduced.

When Lea appeared at the doors, Helen was entertaining the guests with her mother. She used this opportunity to get to know more people and promote herself.

Helen had gotten into Conrad University and had a good reputation. Now that Matilda had inherited Fraley Group, her status had also risen. She was also very beautiful.

Helen had specially chosen a red haute couture gown with the most expensive and eye-catching jewelry. She had even put on heavy makeup so she could look even better than Lea and take over Lea as the highlight of the party.

But now, everyone only had eyes for Lea. Those praises about Lea far exceeded those about Helen.

Those rich matrons thought highly of Lea and praised her. Their classmates and those of their age admired and envied Lea.

By comparison, Helen became insignificant. No one took notice of her anymore.

Helen felt resentful. If only Lea doesn't exist, she thought.

But soon, Helen's lips curled into a smile, and her gaze was vicious. She thought, 'Lea, you'll be humiliated as much as you're dazzling now.'

Seeing so many people being stunned by Lea and praising her continuously, the smile on Christian's face widened. He felt very smug.

Such attention and praise was something that Lea had dreamed of in her previous life.

Lea's confidence and reputation had been destroyed in her previous life. She needed to be recognized if she wanted to rebuild herself and her confidence. Therefore, she worked hard on scientific research to prove her value and capability

What Lea had wanted the most was Milton's approval because he was her husband and the most important person to her. But in the end, reality proved her wrong. She had focused on the wrong track from the start.

Right now, Lea was unperturbed by outside perception. She responded to the guests with a polite

smile.

Everyone noticed Lea's responses and was even more stunned by her temperament.

Christian brought Lea forward and introduced her to everyone. He also introduced her to important guests so she could come into contact with society and learn to integrate into this circle.

"Miss Berry, happy birthday. Hope you do well in school, someone said.

"Thanks, Lea replied.

After chatting with the guests, everyone liked Lea even more. Although Lea was young and looked innocent, she was polite, dignified, and humble.

Helen looked at Lea and those prominent people. Regardless of who they were, Lea could get along well with them. She was even more jealous when she saw how everyone liked Lea.

It was only because of Matilda's solemn introduction that the older people looked at Helen and chatted with her. However, they would not be so enthusiastic.

Not only was Lea prettier than Helen, but she was also more diplomatic and more likable than Helen. Even her results were also far better than Helen's. In comparison, Helen was still inferior to Lea. Helen felt utterly useless.

Helen's face contorted.

When Matilda saw her daughter looking like that, she looked at Lea coldly. Tonight, no matter what, she had to chase Lea out of the Berry family.

"Helen," Matilda called out a few times before Helen came back to her senses.

"Mom..." Helen's eyes were red with grievance. If they weren't under public scrutiny, she would have burst into tears.

"Drink some water." Matilda wanted Helen to calm down. She handed her daughter a glass of cold

water.

Helen took the water and took a big sip. Her emotions calmed a little. She told herself not to be angry. She would let Lea be smug for now. Lea would suffer later.

Lea followed Christian around and realized that there were many more younger guests. Many of their classmates from Vaporleon High School also came. There were also many reporters.

Christian kept a low profile. He only valued the upper-class circle of Vaporleon City. Most of them were his

peers. He did not interact with nor know those younger than him.

Christian needed to invite the media to bear witness but would only invite traditional and important media personnel. no more.

These were all done by Helen. And Matilda had to agree before Helen made a move.

Lea glanced at Helen and Matilda.

Helen was dressed too grandly today. Before Lea appeared, everyone thought she was the highlight of the party tonight. Some even congratulated her.

However, when Lea appeared, Helen's outfit seemed a little vulgar.

Appearance was something one was born with. Temperament was unique to oneself. There was no way Helen could surpass Lea in looks.

As for Matilda, she looked haggard and had lost a lot of weight, but her dark purple gown was still luxurious and dignified. However, she had suffered repeated crises in the last two months and did not look radiant. She appeared dark but ruthless.

Meanwhile, Matilda saw a figure from the corner of her eye and was shocked. She dodged among the guests and chased after the figure,

Alarmed, Matilda pulled Nixon behind the pillar and looked around. No one she knew saw her. She lowered her voice. "What are you doing here?"

"Why are you so nervous? Why can't I come?" Nixon asked.

"You're crazy. Ewan..." Matilda did not finish her sentence but Nixon understood.

Nixon moved Matilda's hand away and tidied up his luxurious suit. He pushed up his gold-framed glasses. His slightly long hairstyle made him look a little flirtatious. "What are you worried about? Aren't you prepared?"

Matilda glared at Nixon, her eyes full of warning and anger.

Nixon said, "I received an invitation and decided to come. I can get to know a few more people and get investments for the hospital. Not many people here know me, so you don't need to worry."

Before Fraley Hospital's accident, Nixon was also a famous figure in Vaporleon City.

However, because Henry did not like it, Nixon's relationship with Matilda had to be kept a secret. Nixon could not enter such a circle. Therefore, everyone only heard of Nixon's name but did not recognize him.

Nixon didn't think there was a need to worry.

"How did you get an invitation?" Matilda was very cautious when it was critical.

"It was probably sent to the hospital," Nixon answered.

Matilda couldn't verify that now.

As Christian wanted the party to be lively this time, he did not overly restrict the guests invited. Helen wanted to invite her classmates and also let the media in, so they sent out a lot of invitations. There were more people than they had imagined.

"You need to leave now," Matilda said.

"Alright..." Nixon was a little frustrated. "I'll have a drink with those CEOs before I go."

Only then did Matilda feel slightly relieved. She was afraid that if they talked too much, they would draw attention, so she left first.

Chapter 169

Christian was dragged away by a few old buddies to chat. Lea moved around on her own and saw Shannon and the others among the guests..

For the formal and grand occasion, Shannon wore a white dress. Her facial features were exquisite and beautiful, and she looked pure and clean.

Ever since Shannon got away from Donna, she grew more confident and competent. There was a sense of determination and tenacity in her. Even in a gathering of socialites, the simply-dressed Shannon was not overshadowed.

Yannis wore a suit. His posture was even more upright, and his facial features were also very handsome. He was not used to such an occasion, so he quietly followed Shannon.

Chris was also here. She wore a sleeveless one-piece business suit with a round collar and wide-legged pants. The material of her outfit was excellent. Her skin glowed, and her long hair was tied behind her head. She looked intellectual, elegant, and capable..

Chris was the one who brought Shannon and Yannis to the party. She was also the one who brought them to buy their outfits and even styled them.

Unlike Yannis and Shannon who were worried about their friend, Lea, Chris was not worried and was purely here to watch the drama.

Lorrand was also here. He stood not far from them and had come with the same goal.

Charles brought the big shots from the laboratory to the party too. Though they highly valued their scientific research, they specially took time to celebrate Lea's birthday and her admission to Conrad University.

At this moment, Charles was chatting with his friends.

Seeing that they were all here, Lea was in a good mood and her smile became more sincere. She thought, 'If Alfred were here too, it would be perfect.

On the second floor, in a VIP room, a man stood next to the glass window and looked down at the scene. His gaze followed Lea, taking in every detail of her.

"Mr. Andrews, aren't you going down to see Miss Lea?" Craig asked in confusion.

To rush over to celebrate Lea's birthday, Alfred had been very busy in Iverton for the last few days. that he did not sleep. He had pushed off many important things and especially rushed over on the private plane from Iverton.

Craig couldn't figure out why Alfred didn't go down to see Lea.

"With my status, if I go down, the situation will go out of control. I want Lea to celebrate her birthday how she intended." Alfred turned to look at Craig. "What? You've been with me for so long. Can't you tell?"

Craig took a while to reply. "I... just think Miss Berry will be very happy to see you."

Alfred nodded. His attitude toward Craig immediately changed.

Craig silently noted it down. However, he did not believe Alfred's words. He felt that something was about to happen. He could barely wait.

In the hall, everything was ready. It was almost time. Christian led Lea onto the stage to give a speech before the party began. "Welcome, everyone, to my granddaughter's birthday party. She's 18 years old today."

Christian looked at Lea beside him, appearing doting and proud.

There was a round of applause.

"Congrats, Miss Berry. Congrats, Mr. Berry," many people said to them.

"Today is also her graduation party. My little granddaughter has been accepted into Conrad University, Christian went on.

"Wait!" Just as the guests were about to clap again, Helen stepped forward and interrupted

everyone.

Everyone was stunned for a moment before their eyes lit up.

Although Helen was far inferior to Lea in terms of looks and temperament, she still had her background. Compared to her peers, Helen was also very outstanding.

Looking at Helen and Lea, some people were envious and sang their praises.

"I really envy Mr. Berry for having two outstanding and beautiful granddaughters," a man said.

"If I had known, I would have let my son have a daughter," an older woman whispered.

"That's right. That grandson of mine is a good-for-nothing. He's infuriating, another woman. added.

The voices went on.

Helen walked forward in her high heels. The stage was not high and she was almost at the same

level as Lea and Christian. "After Conrad University's interview, Lea didn't take out her acceptance letter. Lea, do you have the letter or not?"

As soon as Helen said that, the atmosphere changed. The guests were puzzled.

Shannon was shocked. She thought, 'Lea didn't get the acceptance letter? She wasn't accepted by Conrad University?'

Shannon had never seen the acceptance letter. She immediately became nervous.

Yannis was just as nervous and worried as Shannon,

Chris raised an eyebrow. Lorrard and Charles were also stunned.

In the VIP lounge upstairs, Craig immediately thought to himself, 'Fuck!'

Alfred frowned. Lea had also told Blake that she did not have an acceptance letter. Alfred still remembered his grandfather's expression. It turned out that Lea really did not have the acceptance letter.

Alfred looked at Lea, who was standing beside Christian. She looked calm. Thus, he was not worried.

The entire venue fell silent for a while. The guests exchanged glances and started discussing.

A guest asked in a low voice, "What's going on?"

Someone explained, "The acceptance letter for Conrad University is issued on the spot after the interview."

"Oh! So, she didn't get accepted?" the guest confirmed.

"That's right," another person chimed in.

"Then why did she still say that she got in? She even wanted to hold a school acceptance party?" the guest continued asking. "This is so embarrassing."

"I'm embarrassed for her," someone added.

"Look, Mr. Berry's face is red," a voice pointed out. "But why did Miss Helen call her out publicly?"

"Those two sisters don't get along at all, one of the guests explained.

"Exactly. Miss Lea is illegitimate," a man said.

"Mrs. Berry has been abusing Miss Lea all along," another voice stated.

Matilda also heard those whispers. She no longer cared about family scandals, her past scandals, and her reputation. It didn't matter as long as she could watch Lea be embarrassed publicly. Matilda's lips curved into a sneer.

Helen could not help but laugh. The expression on her face became even more smug.

Christian heard everyone's whispers and understood what was going on. He glared at Helen and said in a deep voice, "Leave!"

Helen was instantly enraged. She had just celebrated her nineteenth birthday not long ago. Her mother had organized a grand celebration for her, but it was not as grand as today. Christian had only shown up that day.

As Helen expected, Christian was biased toward Lea. Even now, he still wanted to protect the bitch and chase her away.

Helen thought, "That's right, Grandpa did me wrong first. She said, "Grandpa, we can't lie in front of our friends and influential guests."

Christian was speechless. He turned to Lea. “Where’s your acceptance letter?”

Lea looked up at Helen indifferently.

Helen grinned. “Lea, tell us then? You’re not scared silly, are you?”

The students from Vaporleon High School immediately celebrated. They finally understood why they were invited to the party. They already had a lot of conflicts with Lea at school. Lea had been extremely arrogant in the last month of the SAT exam.

After the SAT exam, they heard that Lea had really gotten into Conrad University. They were scolded by their parents at home.

Their parents had said, “I heard that the last place in your class got into Conrad University. How can you be worse than her? How can I have such a disappointing child like you?”

It only increased their hatred toward Lea.

The students would not let such a good opportunity go. They scrambled to speak.

“Lea, go on. Show us your acceptance letter,” one of them said.

“Don’t tell me you really didn’t have it,” another asked.

A few of them burst into laughter. “You’re so useless. You’re an idiot. What a joke!”

The youngsters were unbridled, and the atmosphere grew extremely awkward.

Christian gritted his teeth. “You really don’t have it?”

“Yeah,” Lea replied nonchalantly and self-righteously.

Christian’s body swayed. He almost fainted on the spot.

The entire hall was in an uproar. The group of youngsters laughed even more wantonly. The parents and even the older guests could not hold it in anymore. Those who were well-mannered lowered their heads in embarrassment.

However, most of them were mocking Lea. On the surface, they were partners, allies, and friends, but in essence, they were competing for benefits.

Berry Group was in Vaporleon City. After suppressing the other families for so long, everyone hoped that they would be ruined as soon as possible. Now, they were all happy.

Upstairs, Craig was also anxious. “Miss Berry didn’t get Conrad University’s acceptance letter?” He thought, ‘Mr. Andrews, didn’t you fail in your duty as her boyfriend?’

Craig was extremely anxious, but he saw Alfred looking downstairs calmly. “Mr. Andrews, what are you looking at?”

Craig followed Alfred’s gaze and immediately exclaimed, “What the hell.”

Chapter 170

A voice suddenly sounded in the hall. “John, you didn’t give Miss Lea the acceptance letter?”

Everyone looked in the direction of the voice and saw an old man in his sixties dragging a seventy-year-old man forward by his collar.

Craig's eyes went wide. "How dare someone treat Mr. Brooks like that?"

The corners of Alfred's mouth curled up and he laughed.

"That's- Someone was shocked for a long time before he called out, "Mr. John Brooks."

"That is Mr. Brooks?" another asked.

"Yup. John Brooks," a voice confirmed.

"It's him. I recognize him," a man stated.

The guests exclaimed in admiration and were so excited that tears welled up in their eyes. They almost wanted to bow before John.

"Who is John Brooks?" someone asked, not sure why everyone was excited.

"Look. You've just revealed your true nature as a nouveau riche and a boor. How could you not know Mr. Brooks? He's the principal of Conrad University. That's the leading authority in the education and academic world," a guest explained.

"So that's him. It's my honor to see him," another voice exclaimed.

"I wonder if I can get an autograph from him," someone asked.

Only then did everyone realize what kind of people were invited to the party.

Conrad University had been established for 120 years, and the principal was appointed once every 10 years. No one had ever been re-elected.

John was the only exception. This was the 25th year of his term.

Managing Conrad University was equivalent to managing half of the world's intellectual academia. John's influence was the highest in the world.

But when John was sixty years old, he fell seriously ill and lived in seclusion. He rarely showed up even at Conrad University.

To the elite circle in Vaporleon City, John was more like a legend.

"But what is Mr. Brooks doing here?" everyone wondered aloud.

Everyone looked over curiously. The clamor in the ball immediately fell silent. They all looked at the highly respected principal.

"Charles, let go of me first!" John, who was being dragged by Charles, was about to cry.

John was a big shot in the education world, but now he was being dragged around. Most importantly, he had been recognized. He wondered if Charles gave a thought to his reputation.

Charles did not even think about that. He dragged John to the front of the stage and let John face Lea and Christian.

"M-Mr. Brooks? Helen was dumbfounded and called out tentatively.

After being dealt multiple blows by Lea, Matilda gave Helen a professional management team that took care of everything.

When Helen was sent to Conrad University for the interview, the team told her the school's background. Helen naturally knew about the principal and had even seen his photo.

John was old and not as exquisite as in the photo, but his looks were still roughly the same. Helen recognized him.

John ignored Helen and greeted the two people on the stage with a smile. "Hello, Mr. Berry, Miss Lea." He even chuckled, looking like an extremely amiable old man.

Helen gripped her dress and trembled. She felt wronged and embarrassed, and tears welled up in her eyes. She was a student at Conrad University. Yet, when she greeted John, he ignored her and went to greet Lea, who was not even admitted.

Charles tugged at John's collar again. "Where's Miss Lea's acceptance letter? You didn't give it to her? Don't tell me you're-" Charles wanted to say "senile but thought perhaps it wouldn't sound nice.. Charles continued, "Perhaps you should retire, John

John almost spat out a mouthful of blood. He turned and shouted at the crowd, "Raymond, where's the acceptance letter for Miss Berry?"

John wanted to kill them. They didn't give him the acceptance letter but he was the one who ended up being criticised and embarrassed.

"Mr. Brooks, I'm here. I've got the acceptance letter here." Raymond Lane, an old man in his seventies, held up a document with gold trimmings, rushing through the crowd as he urged his companions, "Come on. Let's give the letters to Miss Lea."

"Miss Berry, here's your acceptance letter," Raymond handed the document to Lea.

"Miss Berry, here's the letter," another man said.

"Miss Berry, here you go," another stated.

However, some people had already handed three acceptance letters to Lea before them.

They were the dean of the medical school, Marshall, the dean of the Mathematics Department, Benedict Hayes, and the dean of the School of Physics and Engineering, Ethan Pole.

They had brought professors with them. The three deans had expected such a situation. Thus, they surrounded the stage with the professors now.

"You guys are shameless. Miss Berry signed up for our genetics school. What right do you have to steal her from us?" Greg Black, the dean of the genetics school squeezed out from among the guests, holding the acceptance letter up high. He was so angry that he bristled.

The two professors Greg brought along also glared at the others furiously.

All the deans were stunned. However, it was not the time to argue now. They all looked at Lea.

Marshall said, “Miss Berry, you’re very suitable for our medical school. Join us. We can help you achieve world–famous achievements in medicine.”

Benedict stated, “Lea, you’re the only examinee who scored full marks in the math exam. No one had ever solved the last math question. We don’t even have an answer ourselves. But you helped us solve it.”

The two professors around Benedict were shocked. “Mr. Hayes, don’t say anymore. Many people are watching, and there’s also the media. Please don’t embarrass the mathematics school and us.”

Lea’s eyebrows twitched. She knew that question was outside the scope, but the professors couldn’t even solve it. ‘How can they use it as an exam question?’ she thought.

Ethan chimed in, “Lea, your talent in physics is excellent. If you join the Physics and Engineering School, your future will be limitless.”

The professors who came with Ethan added, “That’s right. Lea. Physics is the driving force of the world’s progress. Isn’t it very interesting?”

Marshall’s eyelids twitched. ‘Seriously? Lea? They’re trying to play the friend card with Miss Berry? Didn’t they say that these old folks who specialized in academics didn’t know how to socialize? Well, they seem really good at it now!

As a part–time doctor, Marshall was only thirty–five years old. He was much younger than them. He was good at socializing with others. Now, he was inferior to them.

Greg squeezed up to Lea. “Lea, you applied to our Genetics School. You must remember what want initially.” He thought. Please keep to your original goal.

you

The professors who came with Greg looked at Lea cagerly and nodded. They had been too excited during the interview and forgot to give Lea the notice. It was embarrassing. They didn’t even know when Lea left. Now, they really regret it.

“What she want initially? Greg, don’t limit Lea, Benedict said.

“That’s right. A genius like Lea can conquer many academic fields,” Ethan retorted. Since they couldn’t have Lea to themselves, they changed their strategy.

“That’s right. Mathematics is a basic subject. No matter which major you choose, you have to learn it. Lea, welcome to our mathematics school,” Benedict added. As he spoke, he handed the acceptance letter to Lea.

“Lea, welcome to our medical school.” Marshall saw that an acceptance letter was already stuffed into Lea’s hand and handed his acceptance letter to Christian.

The letter felt like hot coals in Christian’s hands, but he could not throw it away.

Greg was shocked at how shameless the old professors were.

“Lea, you must come to our mathematics department, Benedict said.

“Lea, you must come to our School of Physical Engineering,” Ethan cut in.

“Lea, the medical school is waiting for you,” Marshall added.

“Lea...” another voice began.

Charles, who was grabbing John, couldn't stop smiling. He immediately tidied John's wrinkled bow tie. “It's a misunderstanding. All a misunderstanding. If I had known you brought Raymond and the others here for such a big surprise, I definitely won't-”

Charles was gonna say “grab you like that“, but changed his mind and finished off with, “I would have picked you up personally.”

John's eyes widened. He thought, ‘A surprise? How did you come to that conclusion? Please don't slander me. I don't want to be embarrassed. Besides, this is a shock, okay?’

The group of old professors who had surrounded Lea and Christian had stopped trying to rope in Lea and now turned their sights on Christian.

“Mr. Berry, if Lea comes to our mathematics school she will become a great mathematician in the future, Benedict said.

If she comes to medical school she'll be even more successful,” Marshall persuaded.

The others shivered. ‘Marshall, aren't you the aloof type? You've changed, they thought.

The professors of Conrad University had always appeared serious. Now, that had changed.

Furthermore, everyone was shocked by how the acceptance letters were issued this time. Conrad University allowed capable students to choose one to three majors, but that was only after the sophomore year, not now.

But it didn't matter. After all, school rules were made up by them.

The professors were still fighting crazily for Lea. Even kids did not do this.

John had come to take a look after hearing that a rare genius candidate had appeared. If he had known this would happen, he wouldn't have