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I'm Someone Else Chapter 31

Irieson's University of Technology had been elated when they first heard the news of Thomas being the top scorer in his SATs. It had been a long while since Irieson's University of Technology had any top scorers in their school—many of the talented and smart students had gone to other local universities. Right when Irieson's University of Technology was celebrating the recruitment of a top scorer, they received the shocking news of Thomas giving up on his opportunity to study. They were devastated to hear that Thomas was going to enlist in the army instead.

Meanwhile, Veronica, who had been in charge of recruiting students, turned into the university's scapegoat. She ended up being punished by the university for this incident. The university's harsh treatment left a deep scar in Veronica's career even until current times. "You b*stard! You're the reason Veronica was punished by the university, and you're the reason she hasn't gotten a promotion in years!" Ophelie grew increasingly emotional as she spoke. She picked up the glass of wine on the table before splashing it in Thomas' direction.

"That's too much!" Norman slammed his palm against the table as he got to his feet. His eyes were wide with fury, and he raised his hand up as if he were about to give Ophelie a slap. Ophelie was simply too rude. How could she be so rude to our guest? She's embarrassing us Pearsons!

"Dad!" Ophelie never expected Norman to get mad at her over someone like Thomas. Ophelie had always been a rather spoiled, entitled character who rarely reflected on her own actions. She put all the blame on Thomas instead. We wouldn't face so many issues if it wasn't because of Thomas. If looks could kill, Thomas would've been murdered by Ophelie a few days ago. "Hmph!" Ophelie scoffed before she turned and headed upstairs.

"I'm so sorry, Mr. Clifford. My youngest daughter is way too spoiled. I'm going to teach her a lesson later!" Norman hurriedly handed Thomas some tissue, and Thomas merely wiped his face without making any comments.

"This has got nothing to do with you at all. My sister, Veronica, was punished for many reasons—there were a lot of external factors that led to it. Your change in mind to quit studies was probably just adding oil to a fire that had

already started.” Norman explained himself. Ophelie was still young when Veronica was punished, so she had limited information about the events.

Thomas heaved a sigh and shook his head to indicate that he was fine. He hadn’t expected his decision to enlist to have brought harm to another individual. He genuinely felt guilty over this matter. The moment Olivia gazed at Thomas, she could tell how guilty he felt, so she quickly spoke up. “Don’t overthink this matter, Thomas. This isn’t related to you at all. My sister is just too immature—don’t take her words seriously. She graduated from Irieson First High School as well, so she’s technically your junior,” Olivia uttered.

He nodded. My junior, huh? She slapped me the first time we met, and she continued to cause me trouble after that. She even splashed alcohol over me today. I don’t think I want a junior who’s like her. After the whole commotion, the Pearsons decided to call it a day. They wrapped up the celebratory dinner before Thomas drove Olivia home. Once that was done, he returned to his own house.

In the meantime, Norman sat on his couch with his brows knitted tightly together. He was recalling all that Thomas had done that day. The more I think about Thomas, the more he seems like a complicated man. Just the way that he had remained calm after Ophelie splashed wine all over him earlier shows how unique of a person he is. He isn’t just any regular man.

The rented house was pitch black when Thomas entered. He listened to the sounds in his surroundings to recognize Chloe’s soft snoring coming from the room. It seemed like she had been asleep for a while. He tiptoed his way to the bedroom before lying down to get some rest. However, he tossed and turned in bed as he couldn’t seem to fall asleep at all.

“Can’t sleep, Thomas?” A playful voice sounded right beside Thomas’ ear. All of Thomas’ muscles tensed up as he turned around to find a young man dressed in a camouflage uniform. There was an

innocent grin on the young man’s face as he stared at Thomas.

“Zachary!” Thomas widened his eyes as he stared at the man in disbelief. Thomas would’ve never expected to see his best friend, Zachary, here. Isn’t he dead? How could he be here? Am I dreaming?

Thomas bit down hard on his bottom lip, and the sharp pain jolted him awake from his sleep. “Phew!” He took a deep breath as he thought, I knew it. It was just a dream.

“I always knew that you were harsh toward your enemies, but I didn’t know how harsh you were toward yourself, Thomas. Didn’t it hurt to bite yourself like that?” the voice said.

Thomas jumped out of bed as he looked around him. What’s going on? Why can I still hear the voice? I’m sure it’s Zachary’s voice. I would never forget the voice of my brother from another mother!

“Stop looking around, Thomas. I just came to visit because I was worried about you.” As Thomas was looking around puzzledly, he heard Zachary speaking again. “Stop standing around like an idiot. Take a seat. I just want to talk to you—we haven’t spoken in a while,” the voice said. Thomas tried his best to calm himself down as he took a seat on a chair. He pulled a cigarette out to take a smoke.

“We’re brothers, so I know what’s going on in your mind. You should stop feeling guilty. I’ve never blamed you for anything,” the voice uttered. Thomas simply shook his head without saying anything. “This isn’t good for you, Thomas. You keep everything to yourself, and you carry all your burdens on your own. Aren’t you afraid that you might have mental issues in the long run? Do you think I should hate you?” the voice asked.

Thomas let out a sigh. “I’m sorry, Zachary. I was the one who killed you. Now, I know that I might have also harmed and hurt a lot of other people...” Thomas muttered.

“Don’t be silly, Thomas. Back then, I would’ve died even if you didn’t kill me. My death would’ve been an even more painful one if you hadn’t. Do you remember what I told you before our mission? If I had a choice, I would rather you be the one to kill me,” the voice said. “Do you understand me? I have no regrets. I found meaning in my life after meeting you, my friend. You need to stop blaming yourself for this. What matters now is that you live life to its fullest. You’re much more impressive than I am. I was just a regular military observer while you were the famous and almighty King of Marksmen! Haha, wait, I’m not just a regular military observer. I was the military observer of the King of Marksmen. That itself is something I can brag about!” the voice chuckled.

“You were no regular military observer; you were my Eagle Eye. You could’ve had a bright future ahead if it weren’t for my mistakes,” Thomas uttered. ‘Eagle Eye’ was Zachary’s nickname. In some ways, Zachary was Thomas’ eyes, and Thomas only performed so well because he had an outstanding and sharp military observer like Zachary.

“Why are you beating yourself up again, Thomas? I died because the mission was a failure. How could you bear full responsibility for the team’s failure? I’m content to know that you’re caring for my family. Alright, times up; I should leave now. I just want you to remember that I’ll always feel proud for having had a friend like you. Always!”

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Thomas’ face was covered in tears before he realized it. “Zachary. Zachary!”

However, the voice was gone for good, and Thomas didn’t see anyone around him, no matter how hard he looked. Thomas put his head in his hands. How am I supposed to resolve my guilt? The scene in my head is still as clear as day even now... I can see my pointer trembling as I curl it around the trigger... I ended Zachary’s life... I’m the person who killed Zachary!

“Are you home, Thomas?” Thomas had just lit another cigarette when he heard Chloe’s voice coming from the room.

Chloe had heard some noises in her sleep, and she got out of bed to check on Thomas as she was worried.

“Yeah!” he replied.

“Are you okay, Thomas? Can I come in?” she asked. She sensed something odd in the man’s voice.

Thomas hastily wiped his tears before replying. “Come in,” he said.

“Hey, Thomas. Are you crying?” she asked when she saw him

He shook his head firmly. “I’m a man. Why would I cry?!” He rubbed his eyes as if they were itchy.

...

The next morning, Thomas drove Olivia to work at Pearson Group. After that, he didn't have much to do, so he strolled over to the hall and took a seat on the couch. He had just lit up a cigarette when his phone rang. He held his phone up to see that it was a call from Sean.

"When will you be free, Thomas? Our parents wanted to buy you a meal," Sean said.

"There's no need for that, is there?" Thomas curled his lips into an awkward smile.

"You're our savior, Thomas. William and I would've been buried in foreign grounds if you hadn't saved us. Our parents are aware of this, so they wanted to buy you a meal to thank you. It's just a meal—it's reasonable after all that you've done for us!" Sean insisted.

Thomas thought about it. Both Sean and William have been really helpful since I met up with them again. Sean, in particular, helped me a great deal when I had that argument with Norman. He stood up for me even though it meant risking a fight between his and Norman's families. William has been really supportive, too, of course. He only gave Howard that decent job because of me. I guess I do feel pretty thankful for both of them. I should have dinner with them since they've been so supportive—it wouldn't be nice for me to reject them all the time.

"Alright. Let's have dinner tomorrow, then," Thomas uttered.

"That sounds great, Thomas!" Both Sean and William were overjoyed to hear this, and they hastily contacted their parents to make arrangements.

The Mortons and the Peraltas had tight connections with one another, and they had frequent exchanges in their business. Sean and William grew up together, and they were so similar that they were practically the same person.

Thomas had been distracted by his phone call, so he didn't realize that Izzy had quietly made her way toward him. Izzy utterly despised Thomas—he was the reason why she spent an entire day in the police station. Fortunately, her family had bribed the police with all sorts of gifts and had used their connections to bail her out from the station.

On top of that, she was also lucky that William hadn't been too harsh with his complaints. Otherwise, she might have still been stuck in the interrogation room!

She hadn't expected to bump into Thomas early in the morning. How unlucky, she thought. But how am I supposed to deal with this b*stard? Izzy's mind was racing when a bold thought surfaced in her head. She made sure that there was no one around her as she crept over to Thomas. Then, she threw the diamond necklace that she was holding while making sure that it landed in the gap between the cushions of the couch. Izzy was the head of the sales department, and this necklace was a demo item that she was supposed to show to her client that day.

The necklace was worth 28,000, and it was considered a luxury item. Izzy had a perfect plan—she was going to hide the necklace away before claiming that Thomas was the one who had stolen it. He forced me to stay in the station for an entire day, so I'm going to make sure that he spends his whole life in jail! Once this is over, I'll sneak back here to take the necklace. That way, I might even be able to sell the necklace for money!

"Ah! My necklace! Where's my necklace?!" Izzy put on an anxious look as she searched around where Thomas sat.

"Hmm?" Thomas was confused when he saw the woman. What's up with her? I've been sitting here for a while, and she just came over. She shouldn't be looking for her necklace here even if she lost it.

He was still in a daze when she pointed her finger at him. "You're the one who stole my necklace!" she cried angrily.

Thomas' temper flared the moment he heard her words. Do you have a problem? I'm sitting here and minding my own business. I didn't even move from this couch! How could I have stolen your necklace?!

Izzy's fierce voice attracted the attention of a lot of staff members. It was peak hour then, so a bunch of curious staff members gathered around them in a matter of seconds.

"What is it, Miss Lynch?" Curtis walked over to them.

"This guy stole the diamond necklace that I was supposed to show my client! I had the item with me and was about to head out, but my shoelace came off

when I passed by the lobby, so I placed the item on the couch to tie my laces. However, the necklace disappeared right after I stood up, and he was the only one who was around the whole time. He has to be the one who took my necklace!" she stated furiously.

He was stunned for a moment. "Are you talking about the necklace that's worth 28,000?"

"That's right!"

Curtis pointed directly at Thomas after that. "How dare you, you brat!"

However, Thomas simply shot Curtis an annoyed glare. "Are you brainless? When did you see me stealing a necklace? You trust everything this woman says. Are you going to call her Mom if she says that she was the one who gave birth to you?" he growled.

The whole company knew how much Curtis fancied Izzy. However, Izzy had always seemed rather uninterested in him. Now that Curtis had a chance to get close to Izzy, he was going to take it. Curtis didn't actually care if Thomas had stolen the necklace or not—Thomas was a thief to Curtis if Izzy said so!

"How dare you argue with me, you brat? It seems like you won't feel threatened until we take legal action! This is Pearson Group! Do you think you're allowed to do whatever you want here?" Curtis hissed.

Izzy showed her support for the man's words. "Hurry up and hand the necklace over. We're going to call security otherwise!" she cried.

Deep down, Izzy knew that the necklace wasn't with Thomas, so she knew that it was impossible for him to hand the necklace over. However, it didn't matter to her then as she didn't care about the

necklace—all she cared about was sending Thomas to jail! You made me stay in the station for so long. I'm going to crush you today!

Thomas continued to smoke his cigarette without looking too concerned. He gave the woman an icy stare. "What evidence do you have to show that I was the one who stole the necklace?" he asked.

"Well, I know that you're the one who stole the necklace because you have a bad record. You've always lacked integrity!" Izzy hissed. "You're the top

scorer in your SATs, and you got an offer to study at Irieson's University of Technology, right? Yet, you decided to enlist in the army and broke your promise to the head of recruitment at Irieson's University of Technology. You're the reason the head of recruitment got punished!

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Izzy crossed her arms in front of her chest as she spoke in a harsh tone. "If I were you, I would never return to Irieson. You're nothing but a piece of scum!" she uttered.

"Is he... Is he that guy... Thomas?" someone asked.

"That's right. That's him! I only realized it now that Izzy mentioned it. That explains why he looks so familiar!" another person commented.

"Sh*t! That's him? He sure is impressive. Did you guys know that Irieson's University of Technology stopped offering places to students from Irieson First High School to study with them after that incident? They were worried that they would be stood up again!" one said.

"The current students of Irieson First High School know about him as well. What's he doing here?" someone asked.

"Didn't you know? He's one of our company drivers! He's President Pearson's personal driver!" Izzy said.

"Are you saying that the SAT top scorer is now our company driver?" Izzy's words left the crowd in shock. Many of the people in the crowd had graduated from Irieson First High School, and they all recalled how huge the news had been when Thomas first rejected the invitation to Irieson's University of Technology!

"So, you're that guy, Thomas! You must have no shame! Aren't you embarrassed to be here?" Curtis laughed. He had heard of this matter in the past, but he hadn't expected to bump into such a 'famous' figure here. Well, I'm sorry, young man. I don't care who you are, but my beloved lady says that you stole something, so I'll have to deal with you regardless if my lady is telling the truth! Curtis thought. "Mr. Sedaris!" Curtis noticed a man who was in his forties in the crowd and waved at him. "Hurry and

get the security to pat him down! I want to know where he hid the diamond necklace. That piece is worth 28,000!”

“Yeah! We should run a check on this guy since he seems to be a man who doesn’t stick to his word. We never know what we might find!” someone else said.

“We’re all colleagues, so I don’t think it’s nice to pat him down without any evidence, right? Furthermore, don’t we have CCTVs around here? We’ll know the truth after looking at the security footage. It’s too disrespectful to do this to him! What if he isn’t the thief?” Right when everyone had agreed to search Thomas, a gorgeous lady stepped forward to protest this.

Thomas had just put his cigarette out and was about to teach Izzy a lesson. This woman is way too annoying. She has been targeting me a few times now. If I don’t teach her a lesson this time, I’m not sure if she’s ever going to stop causing me more trouble! To his surprise, someone spoke up for him before he said anything. He turned around to see the pretty lady who had been around on his first day of work. She was Molly from the HR department.

“Molly, how are you sure that Thomas didn’t steal the necklace?” Izzy was furious. In the past, Molly had disobeyed her when she brought her brother over for a job application. Now, Molly was even speaking up for Thomas. Does she even have any respect for me?!

“I… I’ll just take a look at the security footage. It’s not right to accuse someone of something they might not have done, right?” Deep down, Molly was filled with hatred for Izzy. Molly despised women like Izzy, who acted like she was above everyone else. She’s always demanding others to do things! What’s so great about her? Isn’t she just the head of the sales department?

Izzy’s next response caught everyone by surprise. She sent a fierce slap across Molly’s face before shouting at Molly. “This isn’t the first or second time you’ve talked back at me, Molly. What is this? Do you think you’re that great? Let me tell you this—I only kept you around because I’m a kind person.

Otherwise, I would’ve definitely fired someone as useless as you! Are you trying to take advantage of my kindness right now?”

Molly pressed her hand against the spot that was burning after Izzy slapped her. Molly was fuming too. Sure, she was just a subordinate, but that didn’t mean that she didn’t have pride. It also didn’t give Izzy the right to step all

over her just like that! I'm just sharing my views on this matter, and I didn't do anything wrong! Who are you to hit me? "I'm just speaking the truth, Izzy. How could you hit me? Do you think you can bully me just because you've been in this company for a longer time than I have?" Molly winced at the pain on her face as she tried to share her point of view.

"How dare you argue with Izzy again?" Curtis was triggered at this point. He wanted to give Molly a few more slaps on the face. Who does she think she is? How dare she question my beloved lady's actions?! Curtis had just taken a few steps toward Molly when he felt someone grabbing his arm. Before he knew what was going on, he felt his whole world spinning. He was slammed down onto the ground, and pain shot through his entire body moments later.

"Ouch!" Curtis felt as if all the bones in his body had been dislocated! "F*ck... His strength... Is he even human?" Curtis didn't get a proper view of what just happened, but the rest of the crowd saw the whole process. Thomas had single-handedly grabbed Curtis by his arm before flipping Curtis over and down to the ground!

Curtis was a six-foot tall man with a huge build—he definitely weighed more than 160 pounds. How much strength would one need in order to overthrow Curtis? "You b*stard! Who do you think you are?" Thomas hissed as he shot Curtis a glare. Is he trying to assert dominance when he barely has any strength in him? Who does he think he is? Does he think he's related to God or something? Is he not afraid of death?

"F*ck you!" Curtis was raging at this point. He had just been thrown down to the ground by another man in front of the woman he liked. Any man in his situation would feel utterly embarrassed, and that embarrassment turned into rage as Curtis' testosterone levels peaked in his body. He ignored the pain he felt in his body as he stood up and charged toward Thomas with his fist in the air.

Thomas grabbed and stopped Curtis' fist without any effort. Then, Thomas twisted his hand upward which created a crisp sound that was Curtis' bones breaking. Everyone's gazes were filled with shock as they watched this happening. That was his wrist! Did it break just like that? Isn't Thomas a little too cruel?

Before Curtis had the time to cry out in pain, Thomas threw a solid punch. The next moment, Curtis found himself on the ground. His mouth was filled with

blood, so he had to spit it out. If one looked closely at the pool of blood, they'd spot a few white solids in it—those were his teeth!

He made Curtis lose a few teeth with just a single punch... Thomas seemed almost like a devil in everyone's eyes right then. Everyone instinctively shuffled a few steps back as they were terrified of Thomas. They didn't want to get on Thomas' bad side.

Once Thomas was done with Curtis, he turned to look at Izzy. I'm going to teach this woman a lesson today! She has caused me so many problems in the past. I might not hold her accountable for whatever happened in the past, but since she's here to falsely accuse me again today, then she shouldn't blame me for being cruel to her!

"What are you doing? Don't you dare do anything! We're at Pearson Group!" Izzy stumbled backward when she saw Thomas walking toward her. She had witnessed Thomas' skills twice by then. If Thomas could defeat a man so easily, how could a weak lady like her stand a chance against him?

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"Are you kidding me? Do you think I care about my surroundings if I'm in the mood to teach someone a lesson?" Thomas growled. At that very moment, a pleasant, sing-song voice sounded in the hall. "Why is everyone gathered here? Don't you guys need to work?" The crowd turned around to see two gorgeous ladies walking toward them, with one lady walking in front of the other. The person who had just spoken was none other than the president of Pearson Group—Olivia! Olivia had a meeting to attend, and she had just come down to get Thomas to drive her out. She hadn't expected to encounter this commotion when she got to the lobby. The girl behind her, who looked just as youthful and pretty as her, was Chloe!

The commotion at the lobby had been a huge one—Chloe's colleagues in the administration department had been discussing it earlier. Chloe overheard them talking about a fight happening in the company, but she hadn't paid much attention to it since it had nothing to do with her. However, she started feeling uneasy when she heard that the person involved in the fight was Olivia's personal driver. Isn't that... Thomas?

"President Pearson, that guy stole a diamond necklace that Miss Lynch was supposed to deliver to a client. He even injured Mr. Turner!" someone cried. "That was exactly what happened! Let's call the police, President Pearson."

This guy is really violent!” another one said. “How dare he? He beat someone up after stealing an item! It’s too dangerous to have a man like him in our company. Mr. Turner might be the only one who got injured today, but we never know who he might injure next!” The crowd huddled closer to voice their complaints when they saw Olivia walking over.

Before Olivia could say anything, Chloe rushed over to stand in front of Thomas as if she were a protective lioness. “What nonsense are you guys talking about? Thomas would never steal anything!” she cried. Thomas patted Chloe on the shoulder as a signal for her to calm down. “Are you guys saying that he stole something?” Olivia asked as she gazed at Thomas.

Do they think Thomas stole something? How could that be? Dad told me that Thomas wasn’t even mildly intrigued when he offered him 750,000. Why would Thomas steal a necklace worth 28,000? That’s ridiculous! Olivia thought.

“That’s not it, President Pearson!” Molly hurried forward to explain the situation. “Thomas was just sitting there without moving. Miss Lynch was the one who walked past him before claiming that he stole something!” If Thomas hadn’t stepped forward earlier, Molly might have been slapped a second time. Since she had already offended two senior members of the company, she figured that she wouldn’t be able to keep her job for much longer. If that’s the case, I might as well stick to my principles and stand up for Thomas! she thought.

“Molly was rude to her superiors in front of everyone, President Pearson. She doesn’t know where she stands at all! I bet she’s Thomas’ accomplice—she keeps taking his side. I think she should also be sent to the station. The police can handle both of them!” Izzy thoroughly despised Molly at that point. It seems like this woman still isn’t afraid after receiving that slap. I can’t believe she’s still speaking up for Thomas. Well, Molly, don’t blame me for dragging you down along with Thomas, then!

“You’re making groundless accusations, Izzy! Who are you to make such claims about Thomas? You’re calling Thomas a violent man, but weren’t you also violent when you hit me?” Molly felt extremely wronged—Izzy was too much. “Hmph! People like you and Thomas deserve to be slapped. What are you going to do about it?” Izzy scoffed with a disdainful look on her face.

“F*ck! You’re the one who deserves to be beaten up!” Thomas was infuriated upon hearing Izzy’s words, and he felt the urge to step forward and beat her

up. Molly was just trying to restore justice to the situation, yet Izzy made it seem like she was my accomplice. I've barely spoken to Molly in my whole life, and I've never interacted with her privately. How could she be an accomplice? Thomas thought.

"Calm down, Thomas!" Olivia stopped the man when she saw Thomas edging forward with his fists clenched. "Calm down. There are CCTVs in the lobby. I'll know the truth after checking the clips," she uttered. Thomas took a deep breath before he calmed himself down. When Izzy heard that Olivia wanted to check the surveillance tapes, she instantly panicked. If Olivia checks the security footage, wouldn't I be exposed? No. I can't let her do that!

"I don't think there's a need to check the security footage, President Pearson. We're supposed to be at work now, and checking them would only waste more time and reduce our work efficiency. A sneaky, sly thief like him should just be sent to the police. The police can deal with him!" Izzy cried.

"Are you itching for a beating?" Thomas was triggered once more. As much as he wanted to heed Olivia's orders, he couldn't stop himself from beating the woman up! He reached forward and grabbed Izzy's hair before yanking it downward. "Ah!" Izzy let out a scream as she felt her entire body being thrown to the ground. "Let go of me... It hurts..." she cried.

Thomas stepped on Izzy as he spoke. "I understand that you wanted to help your brother get a job as the president's personal driver. However, I was already the president's personal driver before your brother came in for the interview! I didn't ruin anything for your brother—you're the one who's causing me trouble!" Thomas shouted.

"I was just having a meal with my friend when you came forth to cause me trouble. I held myself back that time because my classmates were there. However, today, I was just sitting here without moving at all. Then, you stepped forward and claimed that I had stolen something. Did you actually witness me stealing anything? Am I a thief just because you say I am? Stop trying to act all high and almighty, Izzy. I was the SATs top scorer, and I can succeed in my career if I want to! I simply chose to enlist in the army back then, but ultimately, I never did anything harmful! How is this any of your business?" Thomas sent a kick in Izzy's stomach, and she rolled over to where Curtis was lying.

The whole crowd was too stunned to speak for a moment. He even attacks girls... How cruel! Olivia was rather taken aback too, but she didn't want to

make any comments just yet. After all, Thomas wasn't just her personal driver; he had also saved her life twice! He was her savior!

"This is the security footage, President Pearson!" Daniel from the security department brought the tapes over to Olivia. Olivia nodded before tapping on the play button to watch what had happened. The footage made it clear that Thomas hadn't moved from the moment he sat down. Izzy, on the other hand, seemed to have thrown something into the gap between the cushions of the couch while no one was looking. It was obvious that Izzy was trying to frame him. It also explained why Thomas was so furious. He was accused!

"I want Frank to come over right now!" Olivia ordered. Daniel hastily dialed Frank's number and got him to come over. Frank was the head of the HR department, and it seemed like someone was about to receive some bad news! Soon enough, Frank walked out of an elevator in a suit. "Take these clips and go through them. I want you to fire every single person who insulted Thomas!" Olivia ordered.

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Olivia held her arm out to point at Curtis and Izzy. "Also, I want these two individuals to be sent to the police station after they have been fired!"

The crowd gasped in surprise after hearing Olivia's words. There're so many people who are going to be fired! There were more than ten people who had offended Thomas earlier, and a few of these people were core figures in the company. Is Olivia going to fire them just like that? When the crowd saw Izzy and Curtis lying on the ground, they soon realized how some of them were about to be fired. If the head of departments were fired this easily, regular staff members like them wouldn't stand a chance to save their jobs.

How is Thomas related to President Pearson? Why is President Pearson so protective of him? The crowd couldn't help but wonder. Although Izzy, who was lying on the ground, was in a lot of pain, she was still conscious and aware of what was going on. When she heard that Olivia wanted to fire her and that she was about to be sent to the police, she immediately tried to defend herself. "You can't do that, President Pearson! I've been working for the company for a very long time now, and I've always remained professional and hardworking throughout the years. I've put so much effort into my work! I can't believe you're treating me like this because of a driver who doesn't even have a college degree! I won't allow this to happen!"

Is she going against President Pearson's decision? Izzy was the first person who ever had the guts to do that in the company, and this was the first time Olivia had ever encountered someone like Izzy. Olivia had no idea where Izzy found the courage to utter such words. "You won't allow this?" Olivia's brows were tightly knitted together—she was clearly annoyed by what Izzy said. "The security footage clearly shows that Thomas didn't steal the diamond necklace and that you were the one who hid it to frame him! How dare you say that you're not happy with my decision? Fine! You can be as stubborn as you want. You can explain yourself to the police! You're the thief here! You're falsely accusing an innocent man!" Olivia shouted.

The crowd was stunned after hearing Olivia's words. After all, Olivia was the only one who had watched the security footage earlier. So, Izzy was putting on an act all along...? This b*tch... Is she trying to ruin all of our lives? She could've just left her job if she didn't like it! Why did we speak up for her? Great—now all of us are going to be unemployed!

"President Pearson!" Thomas uttered all of a sudden.

"Yes?"

Thomas pointed at Molly, who was standing by one side. "She's a great girl. She was the only one in the crowd who spoke up for me earlier. I was wondering if... for the sake of me, could you provide her with a better position in the company?" he asked. Molly was just as stunned as the rest of the crowd. This guy really thinks he's something! President Pearson fired Izzy and Curtis because they were at fault. Is he requesting President Pearson to do things for his sake? He's just a driver. Who does he think he is? What a joke!

Someone in the crowd even chuckled out loud. Olivia took a long look at Molly. Molly had left an impression on her, and she remembered Molly as a young lady who was good at her job. Earlier, Olivia saw Molly speaking up for Thomas when she was watching the security footage, and she recalled watching the scene where Izzy slapped Molly. However, Olivia had been too focused on Izzy's actions, so she was only reminded of what Molly did after she heard what Thomas said.

"How long have you been in the company?" Olivia asked.

"It has been three years!" Molly felt her heart pounding as she spoke. She was speaking to her idol, the one and only President Pearson!

Olivia nodded thoughtfully. “The company rule states that you have to work for a minimum of five years before you can get a promotion. It seems rather inappropriate to give you a promotion now, but... how

about this? I need a secretary now. If you don’t mind the job, why don’t you be my secretary? You’ll receive a monthly salary of 1,200. How does that sound?” Olivia asked.

“Well... I...” Molly was too emotional to speak at that moment. Initially, she assumed that she was going to lose her job after offending two senior members of the company. However, it turned out that she had managed to keep her job after what Thomas said about her! This good news was shocking to her. Even though Olivia was offering her nothing more than a secretarial job, she would get to work directly with Olivia. In other words, all the other heads of departments would have to be on her good side!

“Do you not want the job?” Olivia asked with a smile.

“No! No! I mean... I want the job!” Molly cried.

“That’s great!” Olivia turned to look at Frank. “Please help her with her job arrangements.”

“I got it, President Pearson!” Frank replied.

“I wonder if you’re pleased with this outcome, Thomas. If you don’t have any other issues, can you drive me out now?” Olivia asked in a playful tone.

“Um...” Thomas rubbed his nose awkwardly as he nodded. Then, he reached his hand out to ruffle Chloe’s hair. “Everything’s fine now. You can go back to work,” he said in a loving tone. “Okay! Drive safe, Thomas!” Chloe uttered. Thomas beamed before he tagged along behind Olivia and walked out of the building. The whole crowd only processed all these interactions after Thomas and Olivia had left!

Molly just got a promotion after what a driver said?! I can’t believe Olivia actually complied with the driver’s words! How could we have been dumb enough to offend the driver earlier? Were we trying to dig our own graves?! Everything that just happened felt like a nonsensical dream. It shattered the

worldviews of all the company’s staff members. Curtis and Izzy were the unluckiest ones out of them all—they were sent directly to the police. Curtis

was free from charges, but charges were definitely going to be pressed against Izzy.

Izzy would've never expected herself to be the one who was sent to the station when she had been trying to get Thomas into jail. Great. My entire future has just gone down the drain. I'm probably going to be the joke of the century even if I get out of jail. I'm going to be the person I once thought Thomas was... a loser! Karma really bit me in the back!

Thomas was kept busy for the rest of the day. He didn't return to the company at all—he followed Olivia around as she worked. She finally allowed him to get off work at around 6.00PM. Thomas sent her home before he drove off to the spot where he had agreed to meet Sean. Both Sean and William's parents were extremely friendly people. In fact, they were overwhelmingly friendly to Thomas—they had ordered a tableful of dishes to fill Thomas up.

Before Sean and William met Thomas, they were typical rich brats who wasted their lives away by doing nothing. That was how they ended up abroad—they went there to experience the life of being deadbeats. They had been unreliable and useless men until Thomas saved their lives. Thomas was the one who taught them how meaningful their lives were, and it was after that incident that they started exposing themselves to their family business. They showed a 180-degree change in their attitudes, and they turned into two of the most outstanding figures of their generation in their families. In other words, Thomas had single-handedly altered their life trajectories!

Both Sean and William's parents held their glasses up to give Thomas a toast. Sean and William also made it a point to get Thomas to drink as much as they could. Fortunately for Thomas, he had a great tolerance for alcohol. Otherwise, he would've probably been knocked out halfway through dinner. They ate and drank all the way past midnight before Thomas made his way back home.

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Everything returned to normal the next day with the exception that Molly was now Olivia's secretary. She got her own office, and although it wasn't huge, it was situated right beside the president's office. Olivia ordered Thomas to hang around in Molly's office while Olivia was in the company since Molly's room was large enough and had two desks inside.

After what happened with Izzy, Olivia could tell that Thomas was like a magnet for conflict and grudges. Olivia didn't want Thomas running around—it was troublesome for her to find him when she needed to, and she was worried that he would end up in all sorts of other issues. Thomas was glad to comply with her orders as it meant that he didn't need to roam around like a mindless soul that didn't have a place to be.

It was nearly noontime when Molly brought her work over to the secretary's office. She settled down at the other table before she started on her work. The secretary's workload wasn't heavy—if anything, it was much easier than the work she had when she was back at the HR department. “Molly, please send these designs over to the design department. I've made some comments in accordance with the client's requests, so please tell the team to finalize the design before sending it over to my office. I want to see the final outcome!”

Olivia was a lot more demanding and intimidating when she was at work. She didn't seem like a weak and soft girl at all. Instead, there was a hint of dominance and power in her demeanor, and both Molly and Thomas couldn't help but feel impressed by the woman. Thomas, in particular, really looked up to Olivia. He was certain that Olivia had to have some skills and talent in order for her to handle such a large company when she was only in her twenties. “I got it, President Pearson!” Molly took the documents and hurried out of the office. Before Molly left the room, she stole a glance at Thomas. I didn't look at him properly before this, but as I pay more attention to him now, he does seem pretty handsome! she thought.

Thomas spent the whole day in the office. For the most part, he was just sipping on tea and reading some news. He didn't have much to do. Olivia was still busy at work at 7.30PM, and Thomas figured that work wasn't going to end early for him that day. He walked over to the windowsill by the corridor and smoked a cigarette while he dialed Chloe's number. He told her that he was going to be home late and told her to have her own dinner. “Don't worry about me,” he said to her.

After ending the call, Thomas fell back into thought. I've been in Irieson for a while now. Should I visit Chloe's father at the hospital soon? Thomas had never visited her father so far as he didn't know how to look the old man in the eyes. After all, the old man's son had died in Thomas' hands...

“You can get off work now, Molly!” Olivia walked into the secretary's office and addressed Molly in a rather apologetic tone. Olivia had lost track of time when

she was at work, and it was already 8.00PM the next time she checked the clock.

“Alright!” Molly replied. She tidied up her desk before grabbing her bag and heading out of the office. “Mr. Thomas Clifford!” When Molly saw Thomas smoking beside the window, she went over to greet him. She hadn’t gotten the chance to properly thank him yet—she would have been fired by the company if Thomas hadn’t spoken up for her. She would’ve never gotten a promotion and a salary raise if it weren’t for him either!

Molly started a conversation when she saw the rather dazed look on the man’s face. “I graduated from Irieson First High School as well.”

Thomas shook his head while letting out a scoff. “You don’t have to address me so formally. I was the laughing stock of that whole school,” he uttered. After what happened during Thomas’ year, Irieson’s University of Technology stopped offering early admission offers to the students from Irieson First High School. Thomas was certain that everyone in the high school hated him. “Alright, I’ll call you Thomas, then. You can call me Molly,” Molly uttered with a toothy grin that—alongside her good looks—made her look especially adorable. Thomas felt himself being blown away by her smile for a brief moment.

“Alright. You should head home. It’s getting late,” he said after a long pause.

“Alright, Thomas. I’ll buy you a meal after I get my salary!” Molly was extremely grateful to the man. Many of her university peers were still struggling with finding a job, yet she had managed to become the president’s secretary just because of what Thomas had said. A monthly salary of 1,200! That’s a lot! I have to thank him, she thought.

“Alright!” Thomas let out a hearty laugh. He already had a good impression of Molly when he first entered the company, and he found her even more special after seeing her stand up for him one day ago.

Soon enough, Olivia emerged from her office as well. “Are you not going to continue working, Miss Independent?” Thomas uttered in a playful tone. Olivia rolled her eyes at him before continuing with another joke. “What is it? Do you feel sorry for yourself for having to wait here for so long?”

“No, of course not,” Thomas uttered while rubbing his nose. “Do you not feel sorry for yourself, or are you afraid to admit it?” she asked again.

“I’m afraid because I don’t want you to deduct my salary,” Thomas uttered honestly after giving her words some thought. “Pfft!” Olivia burst out in laughter. This was one of the things she appreciated about Thomas—he would always remember to respect her role as a leader when there were other people around, but he was also comfortable joking around with her when it was just the both of them. They headed out of the office and went to the parking lot before driving off in the BMW Z4.

Olivia sat in the passenger seat. She was tidying her messy fringe, and there was a hint of fatigue on her pretty face. It was evident that she had a rough day at work. Their car had just gone past a traffic light when four Cadillacs steered close to their car, with one Cadillac on each of the four sides of the car. The BMW Z4 was caught between the four cars. Thomas frowned in confusion. What’s going on?

The roads are huge—why are they all ganging up against our car? Thomas tried to take a look at the drivers to understand what was going on.

Thomas nearly jumped out of his skin when he turned to look at one of the Cadillacs. The car to the right had lowered its window, and the barrel of a gun was pointed directly at Olivia’s head!

“Keep your head down!” Thomas couldn’t care about anything else at that moment—he instantly pulled Olivia into his arms while Olivia was still shutting her eyes and resting from her long day. Fortunately for Olivia, Thomas’ reaction had been quick enough, so he managed to shield Olivia by taking a bullet to his shoulder. Otherwise, Olivia might have been dead!

Olivia woke up in response to these sudden noises. The moment she opened her eyes, she found herself pressed tightly against Thomas’ chest, and she could feel some sticky liquid on her face. She reached her hand out to touch the liquid, only to realize that it was blood coming from Thomas’ shoulder! “Ah!” Olivia’s face turned pale as she clamped her hand over her mouth.

Thomas slammed the brakes, and the Cadillacs zoomed off after they missed their target. The cars disappeared down the road in a matter of seconds. “Are you okay, Thomas?” Olivia hastily pulled some tissue out to clean the blood.

Read Novel I’m Someone Else Chapter 38

I’m Someone Else Chapter 38

“Please, don’t!”

Thomas clung to the last shred of hope he had as he charged into the bathrooms.

No one was around!

Sh*t! I was too late.

A sense of despair rose in him. It seemed like he had been right. Those people had returned and taken Olivia away. Since they were capable of shooting at them while on the road, that meant she was in danger in their hands.

“Damn it!” At that thought, anger surged in him and he punched the door.

Immediately, the sturdy metal door had a dent. It was clear just how angry he was.

He took a few deep breaths to calm himself down as he searched hard through his memory for the number plate of the Cadillacs. “IA35888.”

Years of military experience had forced him to develop the habit of memorizing everything that he saw. Evidently, that habit had come in handy as he was able to recall the vehicle registration number of one of the Cadillacs.

“Hey,” he barked out as he called William.

“What is it, Thomas?” William was currently enjoying his dinner.

“Look up a license plate number for me, Will. Be quick!”

“Okay.” William could hear the urgency in Thomas’ voice. Hence, he did not ask for more information and swiftly left his dinner behind to pull out a pen and paper from his desk. He then jotted down the

license plate number Thomas recited.

“Don’t worry. I’ll get it done soon.” After hanging up, William contacted his father and asked him for help tracing the location of the Cadillac. However, the government servants had all clocked off. That meant it would take at least ten minutes for anything to happen.

Hopefully, it would not be too late.

William was in no mood to eat his dinner anymore. Instead, he patiently waited by his phone.

Ding!

Twenty minutes later, he received a message that he swiftly forwarded to Thomas.

Thomas was still in Olivia's apartment. He was smoking while waiting on the couch for William's news. When he saw the message come in, he hurriedly read it.

"Hind Group!" His eyes went icy cold when he read the message, particularly when he reached the section that stated the Cadillac was a car reserved for the inner disciples of the Hind Group.

He was puzzled. What did Hind Group want with Olivia?

"Whatever the reason is, if they lay a single hand on her, I will kill them all!" he swore.

Standing in the middle of the living room with his phone in his hand, a spine-chilling look flashed in his eyes. He grabbed a paring knife and charged out of the apartment toward Hind Group.

While he had not known Olivia for long, she had shown so much concern for him in that short time. When he faced financial troubles, she helped him out and even gave him a well-paid job. This was especially evident tonight as she showed just how much she cared for him. In his heart, she was already a good friend of his.

Anyone who tried to hurt his friends had better be prepared to be taught a lesson!

Furthermore, there was still the issue of the gunshot wound. He was the King of Marksmen. How could he be wounded by mere nobodies?

He drove to Hind Group's office building using the GPS. The entire building was empty by now. It was pitch black with only lights on inside the security room on the first floor.

Where did they go? he wondered. In spite of his confusion, he charged into the security room and easily took the two security guards out. He then held the knife against the older-looking security guard's neck and ordered him to call the chairman of Hind Group.

"The call went through," the security guard stammered.

What a truly cursed day. He was planning on enjoying the snacks and alcohol he had just bought when this demon barged into the room. The demon did not say a single word before beating them up. What on earth was going on? Could they not have talked? Why did they have to fight? Even now, he could still feel a sharp pain in his chest.

Thomas snatched the phone away and shouted, "Jake Hind! I'm warning you, have Olivia escorted to your company office right now. If she's hurt at all, your entire family is doomed! Remember, my patience is finite. You only have thirty minutes. If I don't see her by then, just you wait for death!"

The two security guards in the room held their breaths in fear when they heard that. Who was Thomas? What gave him the arrogance to threaten the chairman?

After all, the chairman was one of the most powerful men in the city. It was not an exaggeration to say one of his sneezes could have the entire city trembling.

Thomas sat down and casually lit up a cigarette. With his knife in hand, he took a puff while looking at the entrance of the office.

Tick. Tock.

Time slowly passed, and it was soon half an hour later. One final glance at the entrance of the building revealed no one at the door.

Seeing that, he stood up and left the building.

"Thank goodness! The demon is finally gone!" exclaimed one of the security guards.

"I was so scared. I thought I was going to die today!" the other security guard said.

The moment Thomas disappeared from view, the two security guards went limp. Their clothes were soaked with sweat.

Thomas drove straight to the Hinds Residence. He had given them a chance, but they did not cherish it. Unfortunately, that meant he had no choice but to kill them.

Soon, he arrived at the mansion. He stopped the car and got out.

The Hinds Residence was a European-style mansion with bright lights everywhere. It looked very impressive.

It was obvious that they were extremely powerful and rich. There was no way they could afford such a luxurious mansion otherwise.

It had been eight years since he had last been in Irieson. Hence, he did not know much about the Hind Family or the Hind Group. However, he did not need to know much about them anyway. It did not

matter how rich or powerful they were. The fact that they dared to plot against his friends meant they would be beaten up regardless!

Crash!

The doors were kicked open with a loud bang. He then strode into the house.

As he entered, he found two men sitting on the couch. None of them reacted to his entrance, as if they had been expecting him.

“Come, sit down. Let us talk.” The middle-aged man who spoke was Jake Hind, chairman of Hind Group. The young man sitting next to him was his son.

Thomas narrowed his eyes. He walked over to them and glared at them coldly.

“Who are you?” Jake curiously asked. “Why would you risk your life to save Olivia?”

He had just heard from his subordinates that an unfamiliar man had taken a bullet for Olivia. The news had surprised him.

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In this day and age, someone actually blocked a gun for a woman who was not related to them. Was he a lunatic?

“It doesn’t matter who I am. You just have to tell me, where is Olivia?” Thomas pointed the paring knife at them and asked coldly.

“Are you an idiot? Do you know who you’re talking to? Do you have a death wish?” The young man on the side was unhappy. Did he know where they were? They were in Hind Residence! He was facing his own father, Jake Hind, the head of the Hind Family! How could he speak in that tone? Was he tired of living?

Bang!

Without hesitation, Thomas lifted his foot and kicked the coffee table in front of the young man. The coffee table slammed into the young man’s knee, causing his kneecap to shatter.

Crack!

“Ah!”

The young man cried out in pain and glowered at Thomas with a sinister gaze. He never imagined that this person would be so arrogant and act if he disagreed.

Jake was taken aback by the scene. If he was able to smash his son’s kneecap with just one kick, he was probably no easy opponent!

“My patience is limited. I’ll give you one last chance to tell me where Olivia is.”

Thomas lit a cigarette and squinted at Jake while smoking. He had already given the father and son a chance. If they were still stubborn, then they couldn’t blame him anymore!

“Take a guess!” Jake snickered and teased.

He didn’t believe it. Did Thomas think he was the king? Not to mention the instances where he ruined his plan, but Thomas even broke into the Hind Residence alone this time. Did he really think he was invincible? Sure. He was going to watch how great he was today!

“Haha!” Thomas also laughed out loud, but his eyes were filled with ferocity. “You are a b*stard who’s determined not to give in, aren’t you? Great. I shall take the heads of you and your son in exchange for Olivia’s life! Let’s see which is more unbreakable, your mouths or your lives?”

“I’m so scared. I’ve been a scaredy-cat since I was a child!” Jake’s face didn’t show any hint of fear. Who was he scaring? Was he going to kill him and his son? Damn it. He isn’t even afraid of talking big. Jake was even more eager to watch him do it!

Thomas nodded. “Think I’m frightening you? Great.”

Without another word of nonsense, he stepped forward and held the paring knife against the young man’s neck while glancing at Jake coldly.

“Hmph!”

Jake tilted his head to one side and thought, What are you bragging about? Dare to kill my son? Anyone who dares to do it hasn’t even evolved from monkeys yet!

Somehow, Jake was exceptionally confident, and he was sure that Thomas was just scaring him. He had been through all walks of life. How could he be frightened by Thomas’ little tricks?

Thomas’ murderous intentions started to boil. Did Jake really think he wouldn’t kill?

Not to mention Jake’s son, after eight years in the army, his hands were already stained with so much blood that he lost count of the number of people he had killed. Though his intention was not to kill, Jake

seemed to be testing his patience!

If he wanted to watch his son getting killed, Thomas would show him!

Swoosh!

Although paring knives were not as sharp as actual knives, they could still kill, and it was even easier to slice someone’s neck!

The paring knife in Thomas’ hand flicked, ready to slash the young man’s throat. He was going to make Jake watch whether he dared to kill!

Dared not? That was the funniest joke he heard in his life. In this world, there was really nothing Thomas dared not do. Well, there were, but it was just a matter of whether he wanted to do it or not.

“Jake!”

Before Thomas could act, there was a loud shout.

Thomas looked back and saw that it was Olivia’s father, Norman Pearson!

Norman had received a notice from the Hind Family and came to look for his daughter, but when he walked into the living room and saw the scene, he was stunned.

What was going on? Wasn’t that Thomas? Why was he here too? Moreover, a paring knife was shoved against Jake’s son’s neck!

Thomas merely glanced at Norman lightly without greeting him.

Grabbing hold of the young man’s hair, Thomas glared at Jake and scolded, “I don’t know why you want to kill Olivia, and I don’t know why you kidnapped her, but if she doesn’t appear before me right

now, or if she suffered any bit of injury, I will wipe out your whole family! It doesn’t matter if you believe it or not. You can watch me.”

“What an arrogant young man!”

A middle-aged man who looked like Jake walked down the stairs of the mansion, wearing a dark- colored martial arts suit. His piercing eyes exuded a chilling light.

“Blake!” Norman was surprised to see the middle-aged man. Didn’t he leave Irieson? Why was he still in the Hind Residence? Was the information he received inaccurate?

“Blake!” Jake walked up to him.

After taking a meaningful look at Blake, Thomas then looked at Jake and his son before nodding. What great timing. Since all of them were gathered here, he would take their three lives in exchange for Olivia’s!

“Young man, I advise you to let my nephew go, or I’ll make your blood splatter!”

Jake placed his hands behind his back and exuded a dominant and almighty aura.

“Jake! Don’t cross the line, or it won’t be good for everyone!” Norman announced loudly as he thought, Since you’re here, I shall deal with you. The conflicts and entanglements between our families should not involve the younger generation. Besides, if the news spreads out, what will the other big families in Irieson think about us?!

“Hah, what can you do?” Blake shrugged. “The conflict between our two families isn’t something we can settle within a day or two. If you want to save your daughter, give us something that our family is interested in in exchange! ”

After speaking, Blake looked at Thomas and warned, “Young man, I’ll give you ten seconds to let go of my nephew, kneel on the ground, and beg for mercy. I will spare your life for the sake of your courage.”

“Let him go? Beg for mercy?” Thomas laughed out loud due to fury. “You don’t deserve to abuse me with your age, old geezer!”

The moment he ended his sentence, Thomas slashed the neck of Jake’s son. All of a sudden, blood splattered everywhere!

Everyone was too stunned to speak. No one expected he would actually kill!

“I’m going to f*cking kill you!”

Seeing his son dying a tragic death before his eyes, Jake dashed toward Thomas like a madman.

Bang!

Thomas kicked Jake’s stomach harshly and knocked him to the ground. At the same time, the paring knife in Thomas’ hand was pointed at Jake’s head as he threatened, “Hand Olivia to me!”

He didn’t care what kind of bullshit family the Hind Family was. Life and death were nothing to him. He would just act on it if he was unsatisfied!

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Crack! Crack!

He clenched his fists tightly to the point a horrifying cracking sound rang. As Blake didn't have children of his own, he had always treated his nephew lovingly. It would not be a stretch to say that he had seen his nephew as his own son. Hence, when he came face to face with the young man who had dared cause the death of his nephew, he couldn't just stand still and do nothing. He wanted that man dead. "Looks like you still haven't learned your lesson. Alright, then he dies as well!"

At that, the paring knife in Thomas' hand moved.

In a flash, Blake appeared beside Thomas as his fist came swinging like a ferocious beast right at the latter's face. He wanted to avenge his beloved nephew. He wanted to shred the man who was the cause of his nephew's death to pieces. Unfortunately, his fist didn't connect.

"Not a step closer!" With a roar from Thomas, Blake flew backward before falling to the ground, no longer able to get up.

Gulp. Norman froze and couldn't help but gulp. He wondered just how powerful Thomas was to be able to knock Blake out with a single punch. It was so terrifying that he could only describe it as something that went against common sense.

Not only Blake had been practicing martial arts since his childhood, he was also a reputable person in Irieson. He was known as the Guardian of the Hind Family. So, how can this be so one-sided? How is he so strong at such a young age? However, with what had happened before his eyes, Norman had no other choice but to believe it.

Thomas' words were emotionless. "If you don't let Olivia go, I'll end the Hind Family. I've already ended one of yours. I have no problem adding two more to that count."

It was then Jake, who had been held at knifepoint the whole time, was truly terrified. Not only had his trump card fallen, but Blake was knocked out in one hit. Hence, he couldn't help but be afraid, as he realized what Thomas had said to him before this wasn't a bluff. Just where did the Pearson Family find such a monster? What relations do they have with him?

Blake didn't dare put on airs anymore after realizing the situation they were in. He knew that they were in a situation that might end with the destruction of the Hind Family if they didn't obediently release Olivia according to Thomas' wish. Trembling, he got up and dialed a number on his phone to have his men bring Olivia over.

Keeping a firm hold on Jake with one hand and a paring knife to the man's neck with the other, Thomas waited in silence. He wanted to see how Olivia was doing first before coming to a decision about what to do with these people. Should she suffer any kind of injuries, then matters would not end with just having her back.

Trembling, Jake didn't dare take any deep breaths as he stared at Thomas. He was afraid his life would instantly come to an end if the latter made any careless error in holding the knife. Compared to how he treated Thomas with contempt previously, it was like looking at two separate people with the way he was acting now.

Twenty minutes later, they heard a car stopping outside the villa. Next, eight large men entered. Thomas recognized the one leading these men, as it was the same person who had shot at Olivia before. In the leader's hand was a pale Olivia all tied up. Looking at the residual tears at the corners of her eyes, it was clear to see that she was scared witless with today's events.

When she noticed Thomas and Norman, Olivia began to struggle violently. However, the leader of the men hadn't the intention of letting her go as he was only ordered to bring the woman over and wasn't given instructions to release her.

Norman only remained silent with his eyes on Thomas. He understood the person who had saved his daughter was Thomas Clifford. If it weren't for the latter, he alone might not be able to save his daughter.

Although the conflict between the Pearson Family and the Hind Family had long reached a critical point, both families only argued and never took actions that directly went against one another. It was beyond Norman's expectations that the Hind Family would be brazen enough to kidnap his daughter to achieve their own goals.

"Release her..." Blake reluctantly gave the order. He felt as though he had aged by ten years with what he was going through, as this was the first time he had ever felt so helpless in his life.

Only after Blake's instructions did they untie Olivia's rope and release her.

"Dad!"

Panicked, Olivia jumped into her father's arms. She couldn't understand just who she'd offended. All she remembered was when she had just gotten home and was getting ready to have her meal, someone broke in and knocked her out. Upon regaining consciousness, she only knew that she was in an unfamiliar place, so she cried for help. However, what she received was two slaps on her face. Even now, the pain of those slaps was still lingering on her face.

"I've already released Olivia, so shouldn't you get your hands off my brother?"

Thomas did intend to release his captive, but he wouldn't let Jake go so easily, so he knocked the man unconscious using the knife handle to vent his anger and the frustration he accumulated when Jake acted haughty and arrogant toward him. He wanted to teach him a lesson.

Looking at that, Blake could only shake his head. Nonetheless, he knew that being knocked unconscious was the better option when the other option was death. Now that the situation had

escalated, even if Thomas had gone back on his word and slit his brother's throat, there was nothing he could do. After all, even he couldn't win against Thomas.

"Who was the one who hit your face?" Thomas asked Olivia.

"Him!" Olivia pointed at the person Thomas identified as the leader of the group.

"You, come here!" Thomas beckoned to the man.

The man's lips twitched before he walked over to Thomas. Just as he was about to speak, he was tackled cleanly and pinned to the coffee table by Thomas. As it all happened in the blink of an eye, there wasn't any resistance from the man.

What Thomas didn't know was that Blake frowned slightly at what just happened. The rest of the men wanted to come forward but were stopped by

Blake instead, so they could only hold their anger back and only viciously glared at Thomas.

“Which hand did he slap you with?” Thomas looked at Olivia.

“The right!” She didn’t know what Thomas was planning, but she knew he would never hurt her.

“Put your right hand on the table.”

“Who the hell are you? F*ck! Let go of me! Or I’ll shoot you!” the man bellowed.

“Wow. Looks like we have a tough guy here, huh?” Then, Thomas held the man’s right hand and pressed it on the table. Before the man could even react, a streak of light flashed before his eyes and he found his right hand had been sliced clean from the wrist.

“Gaaah!” The man let out a miserable, blood-curdling cry.

Without so much as a glance, Thomas simply tossed the paring knife on top of the man’s chopped hand. Tough guys should be able to take this much.