

## Chapter 8

After Kendrick patted himself on the chest to reassure Marilyn, he stood, looked up, and said, "Greetings, friend. My name is Kendrick from the Zabel family in Angevin. This postage stamp is a favorite of one of the elders. If you can, I hope you will give it up to me."

After saying that, Kendrick raised his bid paddle and shouted, "450 thousand dollars!"

Kendrick decided on the price after much consideration, but it was painful to him financially. There also were three reasons why Kendrick called out this price.

Firstly, Kendrick wanted to make a good impression in front of Marilyn, given that he had said a lot earlier and made a show out of patting his chest to make her a promise. If he only raised the price by a little, it would have made him look too miserly.

Secondly, Kendrick's family did not live in the city of Yrinas. To the citizens of Yrinas, he was an outsider. If an outsider wanted to get something from the leader of the business circle of Yrinas, he had to be sincere.

Lastly, Kendrick was also trying to show the people in the private room that he was not a wimp.

When Kendrick offered the price of 450 thousand dollars, he sat down again with a confident look on his face.

Sure enough, after Kendrick finished speaking, the people in the private room went silent for some time.

"It would appear that the Zabinski family doesn't want to

offend the Zabel family."

"The Zabinski family is powerful, but its power is only limited to the city of Yrinas, whereas the Zabinski family comes from Angevin. Come to think of it, the Zabel family is more powerful than the Zabinski family, after all."

"However, it's the first time I've seen the Zabinski family surrender."

"Ha-ha, that's because you haven't seen enough of the world yet. If you go out and look around, you will discover that the Zabinski family is only a beggar in the eyes of the people with vast wealth."

In the auction hall, some people were whispering and talking about something.

"450 thousand dollars going once! 450 thousand dollars going twice! 450 thousand dollars..." The host shouted excitedly.

Just as the host was about to call out 450 thousand dollars for the third time, Carlos, who had been calm for a long time, spoke. "No matter what price he offers, I will add 150 thousand dollars to it!"

Carlos' words immediately caused uproar. The Zabinski family was rich and arrogant! No matter the price, they wanted to add 150 thousand dollars more. Who else could have the audacity to say that? Everyone wondered if the Zabinski family was determined to go against the Zabel family after all.

Kendrick's expression darkened immediately. He didn't expect the Zabinski family of Yrinas to be so ungrateful! He

thought bitterly, "How dare he say that no matter how much I offer, he would offer 150 thousand dollars more than me in front of everyone!"

On top of that, Kendrick had just made a guarantee that he could get this item successfully for Marilyn. If he backed down now, he would be embarrassed.

In the private room on the second floor of the club, Carlos stood beside Robert and whispered, "Mr. Zabinski, although we are the richest among them, it's better not to bully others."

Robert looked out of the window and suddenly asked, "Carlos, how's the business of the Zabel family coming along?"

Carlos replied without thinking, "The Zabel family's main business in Angevin is channel trading, which is quite good and ranks first in Angevin."

Robert stretched out one hand and tapped rapidly on the table in front with his four fingers. "I need all the information on the Zabel family, including their business partners."

Robert's expression shocked Carlos.

Although Zachary did not spoil Robert in terms of material things, Zachary had always paid close attention to Robert's growth. Robert's mentors in college were all elites specially hired by Zachary. They would train Robert in specific areas during the learning process. Robert had always been very focused on his learning, so Carlos fully trusted Robert's capabilities.

This was also why Zachary felt comfortable enough to pass down all the businesses in Yrinas to Robert when he was

about to graduate.

At this moment, Carlos saw a strong sense of aggression in Robert's eyes.

"Mr. Zabinski intends to go against the Zabel family!" Carlos pondered in awe.

In the hall, many people looked at Kendrick. They wanted to know what the Zabel family would do in the face of the Zabinski family.

Kendrick took a deep breath, smiled mildly, and exclaimed, "My friend, we businessmen prefer making friends to enemies. This postage stamp is a favorite of one of the elders. I have to get it."

Kendrick's words showed his determination, and then he raised his bid paddle. "750 thousand dollars."

When Kendrick finished calling his bid, he sat down silently and looked quite pleased with himself.

This time, the private room upstairs was silent again.

"It seems that the Zabel family is stronger."

"After the two families declared their determination, the Zabinski family might finally give in."

"That can't be helped. The Zabel family has great influence in the trade industry of Angevin. I heard that some businesses of the Zabinski family are also related to trade. If they offend the Zabel family, it will not be good for the Zabinski family."

All kinds of whispers came into Kendrick's ears. Kendrick smiled imperceptibly as a sense of pride showed in his eyes.

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"Marilyn, I'll help you get what you want. No one else can have it."

"I'll pay you back." Marilyn took a deep breath. She didn't want to owe Kendrick such a huge favor.

The host rose up the gavel in his hand and shouted, "750 thousand dollars going once! 750 thousand dollars going twice!"

"Didn't you hear what I just said?" Carlos's voice sounded again. This time, he sounded quite irritated. "I said that no matter how much he offers, we would offer 150 thousand dollars more!"

Once again, the Zabinski family made a bold move.

Kendrick, who thought that he would have gotten it this time, looked extremely gloomy. The situation was at a standstill. "The Zabinski family is really out of their minds. It's just a postage stamp. Do they have to go that far? Besides, haven't they heard of the Zabel family before?" wondered Kendrick in disbelief.

Kendrick looked up and said, "My friend, you..."

"If you want to bid, do so by all means. If you're not going to, then get out!" Carlos interrupted Kendrick mid-sentence and was extremely intimidating.

Kendrick's chest was thumping hard, which exposed his emotions.

Kendrick clenched his fists tightly. If he were the head of the Zabel family, he would fight till the end against the Zabinski family. However, he wasn't. Even if he wanted to fight, he

couldn't do that because of the insufficient cash flow. The promise he made to Marilyn had no choice but to be broken, and he had to act as if nothing had happened and leave despondently.

"Very well. The Zabinski family, yes? I'll remember you! I hope your family can continue to be arrogant!" Kendrick huffed viciously and sat down again.

Kendrick's behavior made everyone understand that the Zabel family had given up.

When Marilyn witnessed what had happened, she was relieved. She didn't want to have too much to do with Kendrick. If he did manage to purchase the postage stamp, it would have made things more complicated for Marilyn.

The host on the stage was quick to respond. He didn't even call out the bid anymore and immediately sold the postage stamp to the Zabinski family.

Robert never cared about the postage stamp at all. Throughout the bid, he had never laid eyes on the stamp once. Instead, his eyes were fixed on Marilyn as he murmured, "Marilyn, when will you let go of your pride?"

When they broke up yesterday, Marilyn's indifferent attitude was etched deeply in Robert's mind. He was unable to get rid of the thought.