Love Spell 291

Chapter 291

Gareth was obviously stunned, but he soon shook his head with a smile. "You're wrong. I'm jobless, you

see."

Regardless of who Gareth really was, Carlisle knew that he was hiding his identity and could not reveal too many secrets. As such, he didn't push further.

When they arrived at the spot where Gareth had been drinking just now, an unfamiliar ringtone came from Carlisle's pocket.

It was Wanda's cell phone. Christine was c

Carlisle passed the cell phone to Wanda, who had remained quiet for a while.

Wanda excused herself to answer the call. Meanwhile, Carlisle went to the railing with Gareth.

With both hands on the railing, Gareth uttered, "Carlisle, you're not an ordinary person."

Carlisle turned to look at him. "Neither are you."

Gareth turned to meet Carlisle's eyes and said gleefully, "As a person who is willing to pay a million

dollars to listen to a song, of course I'm not ordinary."

Carlisle laughed and said, "Then, tell me which part of me seems unordinary

you.

Gareth lit a cigarette and took a long drag. "It's just my intuition."

Carlisle turned back to look at the river and casually asked, "Do you believe in fortune-telling?"

Gareth became interested. "Can you tell fortunes?"

Carlisle said with a deep voice, "Your fate is bad and you probably encountered terrible things recently.

Your bad fortune either entails you going bankrupt or your family being ruined."

"Fuck!" Gareth flicked the cigarette in annoyance.

If it were someone else, Gareth would have already beaten him to a pulp. But he had just given Carlisle a

million dollars and had not listened to his singing yet.

Gareth said without expression, "Sing for me. After that, we'll owe each other nothing!"

He had originally appreciated Carlisle's talent and wanted to be friends with him. Unexpectedly, Carlisle actually cursed him with bad fortune. He didn't want to be friends with such a person.

Gareth pulled out his cell phone from his pocket and turned on the recorder. He planned to record this song and learn it by himself later.

By then, Wanda had already ended the call. Christine informed her that the deal with Gerard was done.

As if on cue, Carlisle started singing at that very moment.

Wanda wanted to record it with her cell phone, but she found that Carlisle did not sing as passionately as

he did just now.

Although Carlisle was singing it to another person now, she was not upset.

She had no idea if this song would sell or not; but when someone paid Carlisle a million dollars to sing it. it had given the song monetary value

This song was now worth a million dollars, and she had listened to it without paying even a single cent

just now.

She was growing excited about Carlisle's upcoming performance at the bonfire party.

As she was thinking this, Carlisle had finished singing the song.

Gareth's face was covered in tears. He stared at the shimmering river in a daze, humming. "For once, I want to live with you forever. We can laugh on sunny days, and argue freely on colder nights. Do you know the only thing I want....

His intonation and tune were good. This was especially true considering he had only listened to it twice.

Carlisle even suspected that he majored in music.

Gareth lifted a liquor bottle and chugged it. "I also wished for a chance to live with her forever, but she

never let me...

Carlisle smiled lightly. "You're rich, so there should be many girls pursuing you. Why do you have to trap yourself with her?"

Gareth downed the liquor and muttered with a sad smile, "You don't understand."

Carlisle shrugged helplessly. Everyone had their own secrets. Perhaps the relationship between him and his girlfriend was indeed very complicated.

Just like Francis' ex–girlfriend, who was terminally ill but made an excuse to break up with him. In the end, it became a deep wound in Francis' heart.

Another example would be Shane and Olivia. If Olivia had really slept with another man for 1800 dollars, it would also become an eternal scar in Shane's heart.

Why should he care about others when he hadn't even figured out his own relationship?

Carlisle smiled and then said seriously, "Since you've so kindly given me a million dollars, I'll warn you again–don't get into the liquor business. Otherwise, you'll find yourself in big trouble!"

Gareth's already downcast mood instantly worsened, but he did not lose his temper this time. Instead, he

stared at Carlisle without saying a word.

Carlisle had mentioned the liquor business twice now. At first, he thought that Carlisle assumed he was in the liquor business because he was still sober after drinking so much.

Gareth had denied it just now, yet Carlisle mentioned it again. This was becoming a little odd.

As a matter of fact, he did invest in a wine brand recently—one that was founded by his childhood best

friend.

His childhood best friend had bought a private winery in Etalino.

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He even planned to import the red wine from the winery into their country for sale.

After some discussion, the two friends established Scarlet Fizz.

In just two months, they had spent eight million dollars on marketing and advertising.

Fortunately, the publicity brought good results. Now, they had hotels all over the country preordering

wine from them.

Once the wine was shipped over, they would be able to start making profits.

Gareth estimated that Scarlet Fizz would occupy a 20% share of the high–end domestic red wine market.

He would stand to make a fortune from Scarlet Fizz. Yet, here Carlisle was—warning him to stay out of the liquor business. Wasn't it equivalent to asking him to give up on reaching the peak of his life?

After quite some time, Gareth remarked, "I'm a materialist. I don't believe in fortune-telling."

He had invested nearly 200 million dollars in Scarlet Fizz. It was impossible for him to give up halfway.

How could he believe what a 17 or 18-year-old teenager said on a whim?

"I'm just warning you that the red wine might kill..." Carlisle casually walked to Wanda's side after saying

that.

Gareth narrowed his eyes as he watched Carlisle's receding back.

Carlisle was aware that Gareth was in the liquor business, and he also knew that he made red wine.

Scarlet Fizz was currently managed by his childhood best friend. Only a few people in Yorksle knew that he was the major shareholder behind Scarlet Fizz.

So why was Carlisle privy to this information? Did he really know how to tell fortunes? This was fucking

ridiculous.

Carlisle held Wanda's hand and walked further away.

Gareth stared at their backs for a long time.

Not long after they left, Gareth called Max.

Soon, Max's car drove over.

The chauffeur got out of the car and opened the car door for Max. Max got out of the car and asked with a smile, "Aren't you going to drink anymore?"

Gareth shook his head. "Max, please help me check the background of that kid just now. I only know that his name is Carlisle Zahn, and he should be a student of Riverland University."

Max asked with a smile, "Do you want to get back the one million dollars?"

Gareth rolled his eyes. "I'm not like you, alright? I'm a man of my word."

Max was a little displeased at this. "Are you saying that I don't keep my word? That's because you always spend a fortune after drinking."

"Forget it, I don't want to argue with you. Let's go back to the hotel. I want all the information on Carlisle. ready by tomorrow morning." Gareth sat at the back of the car and rested with his eyes closed.

Meanwhile, Carlisle and Wanda continued to stroll along the river.

Many young couples were having fun on the grassland by the river.

Suddenly, there was a shriek.

Not far away, a few hooligans were robbing a couple. The girl was unwilling to hand over her purse, so the hooligans beat and kicked the poor girl.

Her boyfriend saw this happening and turned to run away.

Wanda widened her eyes and exclaimed, "What a terrible guy!"

Carlisle also looked at the back of the fleeing guy with contempt. "It's fortunate she's seen his true colors now rather than later."

Wanda took a deep breath and was about to stomp over aggressively.

While calling the police with his cell phone, Carlisle grabbed Wanda's wrist and asked, "What are you doing?"

"I'm going to stop them from bullying that girl!"

"Do you want to get beaten? Don't you see how ruthless they are toward a girl?" Carlisle said with a stern

countenance.

The last time he jumped in to save Christine, he would have been stabbed too if it weren't for Zachary who passed by and lent him a hand.

ng others should be done based on one's ability.

Helping

There were five hooligans in their thirties with daggers in their hands. It was dangerous to go up against

them.

Wanda looked over again and saw a buff, tattooed man clasping the girl's neck and slapping her

repeatedly.

The girl's mouth and nose were already bleeding.

Wanda gulped as she leaned toward Carlisle, who had already called the police.

He briefly described what he saw and told the police the location.

After hanging up the phone, three women hurried over.

One of the women saw that someone was being beaten, and she immediately scolded, "Are you guys just

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The several guys nearby turned to leave with their companions.

"A bunch of cold–blooded people. Bastards!" The woman looked at the men and cursed. Then, she turned to look at Carlisle with expectant eyes.

"Carlisle, let's go." Wanda quickly dragged Carlisle away.

Carlisle was also scared of being implicated, so he turned and left with Wanda.

In this era, the security in Riverland was still relatively poor. Online payment was still not readily available,

and people would bring cash with them everywhere, so robberies were common.

Not long after they made to leave, a short–looking guy suddenly rushed over.

Wanda asked in surprise, "Is he going to help?"

Carlisle turned to look over, and that short guy was indeed heading toward those hooligans.

"Carlisle? Wanda?" A familiar voice came from not far away.

Carlisle and Wanda turned and looked to the front. It was their guidance counselor, Susan.

She was wearing a long skirt, looking delicate and gentle. She was holding bags of packed food in her hands.

"M–Ms. Lowe..." Wanda immediately let go of Carlisle's hand and distanced herself from him.

Carlisle was more collected and did not look as nervous.

Susan said, "Don't come to such deserted places in the future... It's too unsafe.

Carlisle thought of something and looked up at Susan. "Ms. Lowe, is Mr. Hanson the one who rushed over just now?"

Just as he said that, the people there had already gotten into a fight.

Carlisle and Wanda turned to look over.

The short guy had already beaten the three hooligans.

Wanda covered her mouth and said, "It really is Mr. Hanson. He's so amazing!"

Carlisle nodded. "Mr. Hanson is an army on active duty. It's a piece of cake for him to deal with a few hooligans."

"Go back to campus quickly. Don't stay in this place any longer, Susan reminded them and walked toward Lawrence.

Only then did Wanda come to her senses and ask, "What's the relationship between Ms. Lowe and Mr.

Hanson?"

Carlisle answered casually, "They're probably a couple."

"No... No way!" Wanda was surprised.

She didn't look down on Lawrence. Instead, she admired him. That said, it was hard to imagine Lawrence,

who was bulky and stood at the height of 5'5", being with the beautiful Susan.

Carlisle and Wanda only left when they saw that the girl had been saved.

When they passed by the spot where Gareth had been drinking just now, he was no longer there.

Wanda asked, "Carlisle, can you give me the one million dollars?"

Carlisle casually took out the check from his pocket and put it into Wanda's hand without hesitation.

Wanda was stunned. "But this is a million dollars. With this, you won't have to worry about money for a

long time."

guy just now abandoned his girlfriend to avoid getting beaten up. This showed the ugly side of human

The guy

nature.

Thus, she intended to test Carlisle by asking him to give her the check. Unexpectedly, he handed it to her

right away.

"You silly girl, you are my biggest wealth!" Carlisle pinched Wanda's cheek affectionately.

These words were cringey but Wanda loved to hear them.

She stood on her tiptoes and kissed Carlisle on the cheek. Then, she lowered her head and said shyly." This is your reward."

Carlisle pursed his lips and said, "Kiss me on the lips."

Wanda smiled. "In your dreams."

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Wanda put the check back into Carlisle's hand and said, "Let's go. We should head back to campus now."

The next day, Gareth, who was sleeping in the most luxurious presidential suite at Imperial Hotel, was awakened by a knock on the door.

"Come in."

Only Max would dare to disturb him at this time.

"I have the information you asked me for. It's really shocking!" Max pushed the door open and strode in, speaking excitedly.

do you mean?" Gareth looked confused.

"There's something weird about this kid. He doesn't have anyone backing him, and his academic performance was very poor during high school.

"Interestingly enough, he studied hard a month before the SATS and was able to submit the test within

half an hour for every subject. Then, he was even admitted to Riverland University

"From then on, his life has been smooth sailing. Max handed the documents to Gareth, who briefly read

the information.

He was surprised when he saw the flow of hundreds of millions of dollars into Carlisle's bank account.

He had sold game equipment and even invested in properties at Riverwatch District.

"This kid is quite lucky. No wonder he didn't even blink when he took the check for a million dollars." Gareth smirked and recalled Carlisle's casual demeanor.

Max said with a deep voice, "I don't think it's as simple as being lucky."

Gareth looked up. "What else could it be then?"

Max thought for a while and replied seriously, "I think he can tell fortunes."

Gareth was speechless.

Max continued to say, "Think about it. He's just a freshman at a college in Riverland. Why would he suddenly go to Rainville to hunt for bargains?"

Max remained silent. No matter how well Max put it, he would not believe in old–fashioned superstitions

like fortune-telling.

Max exclaimed, "It was an impromptu decision to develop Riverwatch District back then, yet Carlisle dared to invest all his money in property there. Do you think this is luck? He was confident about the

project!"

Gareth was a little convinced when he heard Max's words.

Yes, if it were him, he would certainly not invest all his money in the unknown.

Carlisle dared to do so because he was fully confident the project would do well.

Gareth looked at the information in his hand and asked, "What about Riverwatch Hotel? The eight million dollar bargain that Carlisle got was not enough to buy the hotel, right?"

Max narrowed his eyes. "We'll have to ask Lethan about it. His phone number is written there."

Gareth stroked his chin as he threw the documents aside. "Invite Lethan over for lunch today."

Max nodded as he picked up the pieces of paper. He then phoned the number that was written.

It was the weekend today, but Lethan was very busy. Shania and Nathan were also busy in the new

company.

They had to treat the one-billion-dollar investment of Holly Fisheries seriously.

The three of them were reviewing the greenhouse's blueprints in the meeting room.

It was then that Lethan received a call from an unfamiliar Yorksle number. He thought for a while and

decided to answer it.

"Hello, Mr. Warbane. I'm Max Reyes, the deputy director of Scarlet Corporation. Our chairman would like to invite you to lunch," came Max's voice.

"Scarlet Corporation?" Lethan frowned in confusion.

The name sounded familiar, but he could not recall what kind of company it was.

Overhearing the name, Nathan informed, "That's the company that runs Scarlet Fizz, one of the most talked about high–end red wines recently. This is definitely a huge company!"

Upon hearing that, Lethan asked, "Are you sure your chairman wants to have lunch with me?"

"Yes."

"Alright, then you decide the location."

"12:00 pm at Imperial Hotel

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Carlisle was now used to checking for Wanda's messages in his messenger inbox after waking up

Wanda did indeed send him a message at 6:00 am, informing him that she would return to her hometown for two days to visit her relatives. She also asked him to think of her often

Carlisle only replied with an"Okay"

He had to be careful while chatting with Wanda. He did not dare to send her cringey messages and had to be as cold as possible

He sighed and wondered when they could start dating openly,

Just then, his phone rang Heath was calling

Carlisle answered the phone and immediately heard Heath say, "I have good news and bad news. Which one do you want to listen to first?

"Good news"

"lan is dead"

"What?" Carlisle jumped up from his bed and asked nervously with a low voice, "What happened?"

Heath said with a smile, "Calm down, lan's death has nothing to do with us. He was stabbed by Mike."

"Damn, how did this happen?"

"Well I myself find this matter to be quite ridiculous. It's because Mike's child is not biologically his Heath said playfully

The corner of Carlisle's mouth twitched. "It's lan's child?"

Heath couldn't help but laugh over the phone. "You're right. It's lan's child."

"Damn, that's crazy Carlisle was rendered speechless.

Ian even slept with his brother's wife. He was truly good-for-nothing scum

Carlisle, however, was not particularly interested in the scandal, so he asked, "What's the bad news?"

He could hear Heath lighting a cigarette on the other end of the phone

After a while, Heath reported, "Albert has come, and he plans to take over lan's territories."

Carlisle instantly fell silent upon hearing the news.

Albert Jones was more terrifying than lan ever was, and he had great influence over half of Riverland.

Now it seemed that it wouldn't be easy for Carlisle to take control of the nearby areas.

After smoking half of his cigarette, Heath said slowly, "I plan to fight him for the territories."

Carlisle said in a deep voice, "That's up to you. Just make sure to stay safe!"

Heath would eventually become the underground boss of the entire Riverland. His path was destined to be bloody and dangerous. Carlisle would not stop him.

Heath said quietly, "I know what to do."

Carlisle then instructed out of the blue, "Ask your men if they know anyone who studies at Riverland

University."

"Okay, I'll find out." Heath knew that Carlisle was bullied in school—and the one who bullied him was Mike.

Now that lan was dead, Carlisle wanted to get rid of Mike.

After hanging up the phone, Carlisle went to tug Daniel's blanket away. "Look at the time, and you're still sleeping–Fuck! Why aren't you wearing any underwear?"

Carlisle threw the blanket back to him with a disgusted expression.

Daniel woke up in a daze. "Aren't weekends for sleeping in?"

Carlisle asked, "Where's Shane?"

"He went over to his girlfriend's place last night." Daniel turned over and went back to sleep.

At that moment, Carlisle heard rustling sounds by the door.

Carlisle went to check, warily pulling the door open.

Shane was standing at the door with a few boxes of breakfast. He was surprised to see Carlisle opening the door. He passed a breakfast sandwich to Carlisle and asked with a smile, "Carl, why are you up so

early?"

"Is 9:00 am still early?" Carlisle brought the sandwich back to his bed and ate it.

Shane placed another sandwich on Daniel's table and ate the remaining one himself.

Daniel turned over just then and asked with a smile, "Shane, how many times did you two do it last night?"

Shane understood what Daniel meant, so he retorted, "We just slept together and nothing else!"

"I don't believe you for a second. Carl, do you believe him?"

Daniel put on a pair of underwear and a pair of shorts. Then, he sat cross—legged on the edge of the bed and ate his sandwich.

Carlisle nodded. "I believe him. Do you think everyone is as nasty as you?"

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"How am I nasty?" Daniel was displeased.

"Fuck, you masturbate in your bed every night. How can you not be nasty?" This was said by Dylan, who slept in the bunk below Daniel.

Daniel slammed his fist against the mattress. "Dylan, do you have any evidence?"

Dylan said flatly, "Our beds shake at 1:00 am or 2:00 am every night."

Daniel still denied it vehemently. "That wasn't me!"

Jasper gave Daniel a thumbs–up, "Dan, you're growing more thick–skinned by the day. I really admire you."

Shane laughed at this. "Dan, you're a grown–up now. We understand that you have desires."

Even Carlisle added, "Brat, you'd better control yourself."

"Oh my... did you all know about it?" Daniel's face turned beet red. He had never made any noise

throughout. How did the guys know about it?

Carl was the exception, of course, as he had unfortunately caught Daniel doing it once before.

How did the other roommates find out about it?

Just as he contemplated this mystery, his roommates burst out laughing.

At this time, someone knocked on the door again. Shane immediately went to open the door.

Kelvin was standing at the door with a bruised and swollen face.

Daniel laughed at the sight of him. "Kelvin, did you fall somewhere?"

Kelvin walked into the dorm dejectedly, lay on the bed, and covered himself with a blanket as he cried.

Daniel scorned. "Why're you crying? You're such a pussy."

The other roommates also ignored him.

Kelvin had been so arrogant when he hung around Mike. Now that he had been abandoned, those he had offended before immediately got revenge on him.

Carlisle ignored Kelvin and looked at Shane, asking, "Are you free later? Run some errands with me."

Shane hesitated before reply, "I... I have to go to my part-time job later."

"Part-time job?

"Yes, the military training is over, sot have to work part-time during weekends."

Carlisle told him, "Stop your part-time job. I'll find you a lucrative business to do soon."

"Huh?" Shane looked at Carlisle in shock.

Was Carlisle giving him the chance to make money?

After breakfast, Carlisle went to the bank with Shane and Daniel.

He had promised to sponsor Olivia 100 thousand dollars for her mother's subsequent medical expenses. While they were at the bank to do the transfer, Shane told Carlisle that both Olivia and he did not have a bank account.

They had been using cash all along.

"Open a bank account then. It's dangerous to carry so much cash on you," came Carlisle's reply.

There were a lot of motorcycle muggers lately. Carlisle did not want to give Shane the 100 thousand dollars in cash.

Shane didn't bring his identity card with him, so he had to go back to the dorm to get it.

It was already noon by the time the transfer was done.

Carlisle then brought the two people to the game studio to surf the Internet.

Elsewhere, Max led Lethan to the door of a private room at Imperial Hotel.

Lethan was feeling anxious at this moment. He had asked Shein about Scarlet Corporation, who in turn only told him that the corporation was very amazing.

After hearing the last name of the chairman, Shein made a bold guess.

Lethan was a little weak in the knees when he heard Shein mentioning the person's name.

Max pushed the door open and said with a smile, "Mr. Warbane, please go in."

Lethan took a deep breath, braced himself, and walked into the private room.

There was only a normal–sized dining table in the private room. A good–looking young man was sitting in the main seat, wearing a white suit, with the sleeves rolled up to his elbows.

He was holding half a glass of red wine and looking at Lethan with a smile.

Lethan only felt scared as he forced himself to smile, "Mr. Spencer..."

Gareth gestured for him to sit down with a lazy smile. "Mr. Warbane, please sit down. You're a pioneer in Riverland's fashion industry. It's only a meal, there's no need to be so nervous.

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"Mr. Spencer, you're flattering me." Lethan smiled stiffly as he sat across from Gareth.

The family name "Spencer" was very rare, but it was also the name of a very prominent family in Yorksle.

The former mayor of Yorksle was surnamed Spencer, and so was the chairman of Yorksle Culture and

Tourism Board.

Although Shein didn't say it aloud, Lethan had made the deduction himself.

This person in front of him was the grandson of the former mayor of Yorksle, and the chairman of the Culture and Tourism Board should be his father.

They were in a top–class private room, but there were only five dishes on the table.

Lethan was a little displeased by that. He was at least a pioneer in Riverland's fashion industry. Even if this was a meal with malicious intentions, it should not be this humble.

"My father has taught me not to waste food since a young age, so I didn't order many dishes. Please forgive me if it's not to your standards." Gareth smiled politely, then he opened a bottle of wine

and poured the drink into two glasses. He stood up and placed one in front of Lethan.

It was the tradition of the Spencer family to not waste food, a principle Gareth had internalized since childhood. Even though he had made over 100 million dollars in business over the years, he remained

steadfast to this commitment.

He would pay a million dollars to listen to a song, but food wastage was never an option.

When the wine glass was placed in front of Lethan, Gareth flashed a polite smile.

Lethan nodded in understanding and smiled after listening to Gareth's explanation. "Not at all, there is already plenty of food."

Gareth happily made a toast. "Mr. Warbane, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to come. Here's to you." Then, he downed the wine in one go.

Lethan was secretly relieved to learn that Gareth meant no harm.

He liked being friends with straightforward people.

Since Gareth was without pretense, it was probably not a bad thing that he sought Lethan out.

After finishing his glass of wine, Gareth opened another bottle, placed it in the middle of the table, and gestured for Lethan to take it.

Gareth poured himself a full glass of wine with the previous bottle and revealed, "I invited you here

because I want to know more about Carlisle."

Lethan, who was filling his own glass with wine, was startled when he heard Gareth mentioning Carlisle.

He stopped pouring the wine and forced a smile. "Carlisle is just a freshman in college. We haven't known

each other for long."

He may sound perfunctory, but he was telling the truth.

Carlisle first predicted what was about to happen to Lethan and saved his life. Then, he predicted the successful development of Riverwatch District. Later, he predicted that there would be a horrible cold spell at the end of this year.

Carlisle confessed that he could tell fortunes.

Lethan didn't quite believe his explanation, but he couldn't find other reasons to explain Carlisle's newfound ability. Therefore, it was true that he didn't know much about Carlisle.

Gareth asked cautiously, "Does Carlisle know how to tell fortunes?"

Lethan nodded after a moment of hesitation. "Yes!"

Since Gareth asked this question, he must have met Carlisle and had his fortune told. He didn't believe Carlisle's words, so he checked Carlisle's background and found Lethan in the mix.

Gareth asked again, "Can you tell me in detail?"

Lethan looked up at Gareth and then lifted his wine glass to take a sip. "I owe Carlisle big time, so I won't reveal too much about him–but if he has ever told you your fortunes, you'd better listen to him."

Gareth had expected Lethan to be protective of Carlisle's secrets. He just smiled slightly and inquired," Did Carlisle advise you to buy Riverwatch Hotel?"

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Lethan looked down and continued to drink his wine. He did not intend to answer Gareth.

Gareth eventually said with distress, "Carlisle advised me to close down Scarlet Corporation, otherwise

I'd go bankrupt and lose my family. You should know how big of a business Scarlet Corporation is.

"If I close down Scarlet Corporation, I'll suffer a loss of more than a billion dollars. That's why I want to

know more about Carlisle."

He could tell that Carlisle was no ordinary person when he interacted with him last night. But he didn't

dare to risk it with the business he had invested everything in.

"Then you should close down Scarlet Corporation and cut your losses." Lethan put down his wine glass

and spoke indifferently.

Gareth asked again, "So it was Carlisle who advised you to buy Riverwatch Hotel, right?"

Lethan didn't answer his question, but he said with a smile, "If it weren't for Carlisle, Islo Clothing would

have long gone bankrupt by now."

"I got it." Gareth lifted his wine glass and chugged it.

Lethan poured himself another half a glass of red wine, lifted it, and said, "I still have many things to do in my company, so I'll take my leave now. Thank you for the meal, Mr. Spencer."

"Alright, Mr. Warbane. Thank you." Gareth nodded with a smile.

Lethan left after finishing the wine in his glass. When he was at the door, he suddenly stopped and said, Mr. Spencer, you may suffer a great loss after closing down Scarlet Corporation. If you want to recover

your losses, you should invest in my new company. Carlisle is also one of the shareholders."

After s

saying that, Lethan opened the door and left.

Gareth continued to drink in dismay. Max opened the door and came in at this moment. "How was it?"

Gareth shook his head and sighed, "He said nothing."

Max pulled out a chair and sat down. "So, what do you think?"

Gareth took a deep breath. "Get me two experts to check that batch of red wine."

At Dragonaire Studio, Carlisle smiled after reading the financial report.

The five–day profit of Dragonaire Studio this week reached 150 thousand dollars.

After deducting the salary and food expenses, Owen used the remaining money to purchase 12 new computers.

The wound on Owen's face was mostly healed. He had dyed his hair black and got himself a buzz

cut. He even wore a white shirt and a pair of suit pants, looking like a proper salesman.

While serving Carlisle tea, he said with a smile, "Now that we have 12 more computers, the profit next week is expected to reach 200 thousand dollars."

Daniel and Shane, both sitting next to Carlisle, swallowed in disbelief.

Daniel gulped down half a cup of water to quench his thirst and mumbled, "Damn.... This game studio

makes a lot of money!"

He was also into games and played quite a lot, but he had never heard about the business of game studios. He was shocked to learn how much money this game studio was making.

Shane looked at the financial report in a daze.

The staff of the game studio made at least 100 dollars a day, and they were only 17 or 18 years old. That's

over 3,000 dollars a month.

He

e was only paid 500 dollars when he worked in the factory during his summer break.

In order to make fast money, he went to the black market to sell his blood and to various hospitals to participate in drug trials at the same time.

It was no exaggeration to say that the ten thousand dollars was earned with his life.

Meanwhile, these junior high school or high school graduates could easily make 3000 dollars a month by sitting in front of a computer.

This made him doubt his life choices.

Carlisle took a sip of his tea and turned to look at Shane who was in a daze. "You don't have to be envious. I'll take you with me to make more money in the future."

In order to build his business empire, Carlisle had to recruit plenty of talented and hardworking people.

As long as Shane was willing to work with Carlisle, he would definitely have a bright future.

Shane's eyes were slightly red as he nodded enthusiastically. "Thank you, Carl."

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Shane was very grateful to Carlisle.

It was Carlisle who helped him when he was bullied by Kelvin in the dorm. It was also Carlisle who saved his girlfriend when she was about to sell herself for money.

He even gave Shane 100 thousand dollars earlier today for his future mother—in—law's medical expenses.

Besides that, Carlisle intended to give Shane a chance to make more money with him.

He wouldn't be able to repay Carlisle for such kindness.

He had always been tough, but his eyes became red and teary at this moment.

Carlisle handed Shane another two thousand dollars in cash, saying, "Don't do your part–time job anymore. Enjoy the weekend with your girlfriend and future mother–in–law."

"Carl, I can't take the money."

Shane got up from his chair and took a few steps backward. "I'm indeed poor, but I'm not greedy.

"You've covered the medical expenses of Olivia's mother, which has significantly reduced my burdens. How can I still take your money to enjoy the weekend?

"Thank you, Carl. My life will be yours from now on."

Shane bowed to Carlisle and turned to leave.

"I'll take it since he doesn't want it. Carl, you're rich anyway." Daniel was all smiles as he reached out to take the money.

Carlisle slapped Daniel's hand away and hissed, "You're not short of money."

The back of Daniel's hand turned red from the slap as he pouted. "That's not true. I'm broke now."

Carlisle ignored Daniel and looked toward Sunny. "Sunny, recruit some experienced game engineers. I want you to form a group of game developers."

"Are we going to develop our own games?" Sunny's eyes lit up in anticipation.

There were numerous online games on the market these days, and the popular ones were extremely profitable.

However, the return of profitable projects was directly proportional to its risk.

If the game was not well–received, Carlisle would suffer a great loss.

Carlisle nodded and said, "The game I have in mind has a long development period, so let's get the team. together first."

"What kind of game is it?" Owen asked curiously.

"It's a 5V5 strategy game," Carlisle smiled.

"But a 5V5 isn't fun. Nowadays, most gamers prefer massive multiplayer games." Owen immediately countered Carlisle's idea.

"Owie is right. If we're really going to develop a game, I think we should focus on MMO games. We have to be able to promote this game overseas." Cameron agreed with Owen.

MMO games referred to massive multiplayer online games.

"Your idea is good, but the game I want must also be developed," Carlisle answered them with a grin.

The type of game that Cameron and Owen mentioned allowed a large number of players from all over the world to join and play at the same time. This kind of game would have been launched two years later.

The game Carlisle suggested was a multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) game. It also acted as a foundation for future mobile strategy games.

MOBA games were released in the early 2000s, so the current gamers were not yet familiar with them.

Carlisle deduced he should be able to attract some of the gamers who play Electronic Arts games by releasing a 5V5 strategy game in advance.

"Then we go with the plan of developing two types of games first?" Sunny suggested.

Carlisle nodded. "Yes, form two research and development teams. I want the two types of games to be developed at the same time."

The game suggested by Owen was also not bad.

People had to pay to play online games in this era, so if they launched a free online game, it would definitely attract a lot of gamers.

Although the game was free to play, there was a charge for the in–game equipment.

An MMO game was previously well–received upon its release, and it was said to have made over 10 billion dollars in less than half a year.

Carlisle felt a little distressed. He only thought of the most popular games in the future but forgot to target the gamers of this era.

The game studio was making money too slowly.

Cell phones were also still relatively unused in Riverland. Chapter 300 Carlisle only had a 20% stake in Holly Fisheries, and he could only get the profits months later.

In the meantime, the smart system and chips constantly cost him money.

His funds were currently below ten million dollars, and it was estimated that they would be depleted by the end of this month.

As of now, he needed a profitable game to support his cell phone company and chips company.

However, he would need a large sum of money to develop the game in the first place.

He pinched his nose bridge while thinking about whom he should borrow the money from.

After a while, he thought of Gareth. He closed his eyes and recalled something.

In his previous life, Gareth had been on the news for a long time.

Gareth started doing business while he was still in university. He had already made 300 million dollars by the time he graduated.

Two years after graduating, he had made about a billion dollars in total.

However, a business genius was ruined due to a single mistake made during the incident at Scarlet Corporation.

With Carlisle's reminder, Gareth would definitely act cautiously. He would be able to change his fate if he

checked on that batch of red wine.

Only if Gareth could turn the tide would he completely believe Carlisle's words.

At that time, Gareth probably wouldn't refuse to invest in his game development plans.

Soon after, Francis returned with several bags of fast food.

The group sat together to eat while discussing the games' development.

Cameron said with concern, "Our ideas are good, but it costs a lot to develop a game."

Owen was not familiar with this industry. He mumbled while chewing the food, "Carl has a lot of money."

Carlisle smirked. "It costs tens of millions or even hundreds of millions to develop a large–scale game."

"What the fuck? It costs that much?" Owen widened his eyes in disbelief.

He had thought it was quite amazing that the game studio had made a profit of 150 thousand dollars.

He instantly fell silent upon hearing that developing a game cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

If the studio could make 200 thousand dollars every month, it would be making around 2 million dollars a year. And it would take 50 years to make 100 million dollars.

Carlisle said indifferently, "Let's eat first. I'll find a way to get the funds we need."

"Carl, that's 100 million dollars. How are you going to get it?" Owen questioned gloomily as he secretly resolved to live thriftily.

Daniel said proudly, "Carl has 200 million dollars now."

Owen and Cameron widened their eyes in shock. On the other hand, Sunny and Francis looked unbothered.

Carlisle gave Daniel a cold look. "Can't you just shut up and eat?"

Daniel flashed an embarrassed smile and continued to eat.

Owen looked at Carlisle as if he was a stranger. He wondered if Carlisle was still the same neighbor he'd known for a while.

Where did he get the 200 million dollars?

Cameron was also in a daze at this moment. He originally thought that he was already quite proud to be friends with a millionaire.

Now, he found out that Carlisle had over 100 million dollars. Was he actually friends with a billionaire?

Carlisle continued to eat as he said lightly, "Don't look at me. I used up almost all of the 200 million

dollars."

Daniel almost choked on his food. "Damn it. How did you spend it all?"

Carlisle had spent all that money in such a short time?

Francis explained, "You all should know that Carlisle has a lot of businesses. Some businesses have high operating costs, so isn't it normal for the money to be used up quickly?"

Daniel nodded in agreement. "Yes, especially the research and development of chips. It's basically a

bottomless pit."

After saying that, Daniel could feel Carlisle's cold gaze again. Realizing that he had once again spoken too much, he went to the other corner of the room to eat.

Owen said in a low voice, "Carl, take out my wages from your expenses first. You only need to pay for my basic living expenses. You don't have to pay me my salary."