

Love Spell 351

Chapter 351

Benjamin finally spoke, "I'll deliver the message."

With that, he and Sirius helped

other out of the villa.

Outside, over a hundred men glared at them with such hatred that they would've been ripped to shreds if looks alone could kill.

"Boss, I don't understand. We clearly have more leverage..." Henry said with confusion as he looked at Jalen.

Jalen's face was cold as he remarked, "Ten chips of a hundred each can't compare to one chip worth ten thousand."

Narcisse was his everything. He couldn't take any risks with her safety. Not even a single hair on her head could be harmed.

Henry asked, "Does he know we're behind Shein's kidnapping?"

Jalen frowned. "Did any of our men get involved in this?"

Henry thought for a moment and nodded. "Hendrix had us arrange for someone to watch Sebastian. I had one of our men help out..."

The next second, realization dawned on him. It must have been his subordinate's incompetence that caused the information leak. Thinking of this, he dialed Landon's number, his face darkening.

"Boss!"

Landon questioned, "Where are you?"

"I'm on my way to claim my reward. I'll be there soon!"

"Alright."

Henry ended the call after Landon's reply, then received a cold glare from Jalen.

"I told you to stay out of this. And you picked unreliable people."

Henry bowed his head. "It's my mistake. I'll make sure he gets taught a proper lesson."

Jalen sat on the couch and said calmly, "Contact Ryder. Have him bring Hendrix's family here."

Henry looked puzzled but didn't dare to question further.

He called Ryder, one of Jalen's trusted men, who was in charge of protecting Hendrix's family.

It was now 4:00 pm.

Six hours had passed since Shein and his family were kidnapped.

At this moment, several trucks filled with cash had arrived outside Trodie Town. Hendrix had also demanded a helicopter from Shein.

For the safety of himself and his children, Shein complied and arranged for one of his private helicopters to be brought in.

Elsewhere, a few people were skulking around Network Nexus. This was an abandoned internet café in Riverwatch District, a property Yuriel had acquired for redevelopment.

With no one guarding it, anyone could enter.

Francis had brought Benjamin and Sirius to the internet café.

Carlisle asked, "Were you followed?"

Francis nodded. "Yes, by quite a few, but I managed to lose them."

Carlisle was pleased with Francis's efficiency.

Seeing Benjamin and Sirius covered in wounds, his mood grew heavy. "Ben... are you alright?"

Benjamin forced a grin. "I'll live."

Carlisle patted Benjamin's shoulder, his voice laced with guilt. "You went through hell."

Benjamin shook his head. "This is nothing."

Carlisle turned to Shania. "Shania, take them to get patched up."

Shania nodded. "I'll get the first-aid kit from the car."

Just then, Carlisle's phone rang. It was Jalen.

"Have you seen them?" Jalen's voice came through.

"Mr. Holder, you're straightforward as always."

"I want to hear my daughter's voice." Jalen needed to confirm Narcisse was unharmed.

Carlisle handed the phone to Narcisse, who was enjoying some ice cream. "Talk to your dad."

Narcisse took the phone. "Hello, Daddy."

Hearing Narcisse's voice, Jalen's demeanor softened. "Sweetie, have they treated you well?"

"They've been nice. They even bought me ice cream!"

Jalen sighed in relief, smiling. "That's good. Don't worry, Daddy will be there soon to get you."

"Alright, Daddy. I believe you! Narcisse nodded and handed the phone back to Carlisle.

Carlisle took the phone, his tone shifting to one meaning business. "Now, let's talk terms."

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Jalen slowly said, "I agree to your terms. I just want my daughter back."

Carlisle was slightly taken aback. "I haven't even stated my terms yet."

"Your condition is obviously to release Shein and his family."

Carlisle chuckled. "Mr. Holder, you're indeed sharp. I'll be waiting for your good news then."

With that, Carlisle hung up the phone.

Back in Trodie Town, the helicopter slowly descended. Three billion dollars in cash had been transported

over.

Gabriel's expression was grim. All their rescue plans had failed. Now, they could only watch helplessly as

the kidnappers took off with the money.

Hendrix had arranged for his men to load the cash into the vehicles. He sat in the helicopter by himself, holding a phone and speaking with Gabriel.

“Oh right, left some surprises in the town. Make a move, and I’ll detonate them.” Hendrix grinned before

hanging up.

This level of meticulous planning and foresight was why he always managed to escape unscathed after

each kidnapping.

Gabriel nearly had a stroke upon hearing Hendrix’s threat.

Just as Hendrix was about to board the helicopter, his phone rang again. It was Jalen.

He started, “Jalen...”

“Leave the money, release Shein and his family,” Jalen ordered.

“Jalen, are you kidding? Our plan has already succeeded!” Hendrix laughed, thinking Jalen was joking.

Jalen’s tone was cold. “I have your family.”

Hendrix’s smile faltered, and his face twitched. “Jalen, you...”

Hendrix was a devoted son. His 80-year-old mother didn’t have many years left, and he couldn’t bear to

let her suffer.

“They have my daughter,” Jalen said bitterly, torn by his betrayal.

Hendrix quickly pieced everything together.

He had kidnapped Shein's family, then someone else kidnapped Jalen's daughter in retaliation. Fearing a

fallout, Jalen had taken Hendrix's mother.

Hendrix's face twisted in rage behind his mask. "Jalen, you're out of your mind!"

He had known Jalen for 15 years. Throughout that time, Jalen had treated his mother like his own, and

she had grown fond of Jalen, treating him as if he were her son.

Never had he imagined Jalen would use his mother against him.

"Hendrix, I'm sorry. I can't lose my daughter!" Jalen's voice was filled with guilt.

He knew he would lose a brother and a godmother after this, but he had no choice. Narcisse was his everything, and he was willing to sacrifice anything for her.

"Boss, it's getting dark. We need to get on the helicopter and leave," one of Hendrix's men urged.

"Shut up!" Hendrix hung up the phone and yelled at his subordinate.

The man recoiled, not daring to say another word.

Hendrix pulled out his walkie-talkie. "Leave the money. We're getting out of here."

The rest of the crew were stunned by his words. What did Hendrix mean? Leave the money? Did that mean the money was fake? Otherwise, why would Hendrix want them to leave it all behind?

“Boss, is there something wrong with the money?” one of the braver ones asked over the walkie-talkie. “Damn it. If they’re trying to cheat us, let’s just kill the hostages!” another snarled.

Hendrix’s voice was calm but firm. “Do not harm the Thompson family. Leave the money. If you want to leave, do it now. If you don’t, stay and face the consequences.”

With that, he climbed to the helicopter’s cockpit, pressing a gun to the pilot’s head. “Head to Degon City!”

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The helicopter eventually ascended, leaving Hendrix’s crew in a state of shock.

The money was real! It was already in their hands! Yet Hendrix was calling the operation off?

This was three billion dollars!

Despite their confusion and disbelief, they followed Hendrix’s orders, piling into the vans and cars.

Shein, Zachary, and Wanda were equally baffled. Had the infamous Hendrix Evans suddenly turned over a

new leaf?

Was he really willing to give up the money he had already secured?

Zachary looked up at the slowly departing helicopter and said, “It must have been Mom. She must have found a way to make Hendrix abandon the three billion in cash!”

Shein shook his head lightly. “It’s unlikely to be Josie, and I can’t think of any method that would make

Hendrix leave like this.”

Wanda's dark eyes brightened with a glimmer of hope. She wondered if it was Carlisle's doing, but quickly dismissed the thought.

Carlisle was just an 18-year-old student. How could he possibly make the notorious Hendrix Evans back down so easily?

Hendrix's men drove their vehicles to the town's outskirts where Gabriel's armed team immediately

raised their guns to intercept.

The leading masked man waved a remote control in the air. "Every car is equipped with one of these.

Harm us, and Trodie Town is gone!"

Gabriel narrowed his eyes and gestured for his team to stand down.

Without any further obstruction, Hendrix's crew sped away.

"Inspector Yost, are we really letting them escape?"

"Contact the bomb squad to check the town and have Teams 3 and 4 execute Plan C!" Gabriel promptly

issued orders.

Plan C was the final pursuit plan.

Even if it meant chasing them to the ends of the earth, these criminals had to be brought to justice.

At that moment, Gabriel received a call from his superior.

The voice questioned, “Gabriel, what’s the situation over there?”

“Funny story, actually. Hendrix and his men left empty-handed—taking not even a penny with them!” Gabriel joked, as he often did with his superior.

“Just as I expected,” the voice on the other end said gravely.

“What do you mean?” Gabriel asked, puzzled.

“Jalen called me not long ago. His daughter has been kidnapped!”

“Someone dared to kidnap Jalen’s daughter?” Gabriel’s face showed surprise.

Jalen was a dangerous figure, well-known to the police. They had been monitoring him closely.

Jalen cherished his daughter more than his own life. If she was kidnapped, Jalen would certainly not take

it lying down.

“Who could it be? Was it the Thompson family’s power, or the Warbane family’s influence?” Gabriel

muttered to himself.

“It doesn’t matter who did it, it’s good news for us. Yorksle has already issued the directive—put a stop to

Hendrix’s operation at any cost!”

Meanwhile, Carlisle received a call from Jalen at Network Nexus.

Jalen’s voice was cold. “Hendrix and his men have retreated. Return my daughter.”

Carlisle felt a slight relief and replied calmly, "I've arranged for her return. Be patient, Mr. Holder."

"If I find out who you are, I'll have you torn to pieces!" Jalen threatened before hanging up.

Carlisle chuckled dismissively.

He set down the phone, removed the battery, and broke the SIM card in half before discarding it.

At this time, SIM cards were not registered under real names, so it would be impossible for Jalen to trace

the phone number's owner.

Meanwhile, Landon had been severely beaten at Jalen's villa.

Henry asked again, "Still not going to talk?"

Landon's voice was weak. "I... I really didn't leak anything..."

Given that Landon was one of his men, Henry didn't want to be too harsh. He looked up at Jalen and reasoned, "Mr. Holder, Landon has been with me for three years. Maybe he really doesn't know."

Jalen glanced at Landon dismissively and waved his hand. "My daughter is coming back soon. You lot

can leave for now."

He didn't want Narcisse to witness such brutality.

Henry quickly took Landon away.

Jalen then went outside the compound alone to wait for Narcisse's return.

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After an hour's wait, a taxi finally arrived.

The window rolled down. And as soon as Narcisse saw Jalen, she happily shouted, "Daddy!"

Jalen felt his heart melt and quickly walked over to open the car door.

He scooped Narcisse out of the car, his face full of affection. "My precious daughter, did they bully you?"

Narcisse shook her head and said, "No, Daddy. They treated me very well and even bought me ice cream!"

Jalen looked at the taxi driver and asked, "Where did you pick my daughter up?"

"Network Nexus at Riverwatch District," the driver replied.

"What did they look like?" Jalen pressed.

"I don't know. They were wearing masks." The driver shook his head.

"Alright, I understand. Thank you," Jalen said, knowing he wouldn't glean any helpful information from him.

He knew the kidnappers were clever enough not to leave a trace. But he wouldn't let them get away with

it.

Holding Narcisse in his arms, Jalen returned to the villa and instructed the housekeeper, "Take my daughter for a bath and change her clothes. Her teacher and classmates will be here soon!"

The housekeeper took Narcisse upstairs.

Jalen then called Henry over.

As soon as Henry entered the villa, he excitedly said, “Boss, the person we let go turned out to be Benjamin!”

“Benjamin?” Jalen was puzzled. “Who’s Benjamin?”

Henry sneered, “Prince Heath’s brother!”

Jalen’s eyes narrowed to slits. “So, he’s one of Prince Heath’s men!”

Henry said gravely, “I’ll assemble our men and eliminate him tonight!”

Jalen thought for a moment, then shook his head. “Today is Narcisse’s birthday. Let’s not cause any trouble tonight. We’ll deal with him later.”

Back at the apartment, Carlisle removed his mask and slumped onto the couch with a sigh of relief.

Francis also took off his mask and reminded him, “Jalen won’t let this go easily. He’ll eventually trace it back to you.”

Carlisle shook his head. “Jalen will go after Benjamin first. That’s my main concern right now.”

After saying this, Carlisle suddenly looked up at Francis. “Stick with Benjamin for the next few days and

ensure his safety.”

“What about you?”

“I’ll be safe at school. Don’t worry.” Carlisle planned to stay on campus for a while.

It wouldn’t be easy for Jalen to trace things back to him, but Benjamin had already shown his face to

Jalen’s people. They would soon know all about Benjamin.

With this in mind, Carlisle took out his phone and dialed Benjamin’s number.

Benjamin was tending to his wounds when his phone suddenly vibrated. He picked it up and answered

the call.

“Carlisle...” His speech was slurred due to his injured tongue.

“Liquidate all of Heath’s assets,” Carlisle ordered.

“What?” Benjamin was full of questions, and his emotions surged. “Why, Carlisle?”

These assets were partly bought with Carlisle’s 15 million dollars and partly earned through Heath’s hard work. Selling everything felt like letting Heath’s efforts go to waste.

“Just do as I say. Leave Riverland with Heath tonight.” Carlisle’s voice carried an undeniable authority.

After a brief hesitation, Benjamin reluctantly agreed. “Alright.”

He paused and then asked, “Who should I sell them to?”

A smile played at the corner of Carlisle’s mouth. “Sell them to Titan.”

Benjamin didn’t understand Carlisle’s strategy but reluctantly ended the call.

Valin frowned and asked, “Did Carlisle tell you to sell our assets?”

Benjamin nodded.

Sirius was visibly agitated and exclaimed, “Benjamin, Carlisle doesn’t trust your abilities!”

Who warning, Bejin slapped Sis hard across the face. Don’t you dare question Carhshe’s

Stries was stay injured but now had blood streaming from his mouth and nose

Outching his cheek in shock, he retorted, Benjamin, can’t you see it? Carlisle is manipulating you. He’s ussing you to kidnap Jalen’s daughter just to please the Thompson fami

Shut up or I’ll kill your Benjamin lunged over the coffee table, pinning Sirius down

He rained punches on him and grabbed Sirius’ throat as he yelled, “Are you working for Titan and Jalen? Are you trying to divide us?

Sius’ eyes bulged as he struggled to breathe

Valin couldn’t stand by any longer. He pulled Benjamin away. Benjamin, calm down! We all served under Horace. Sirius would never betray us

Remembering how Sinus had refused to betray them under Jalen’s torture, Benjamin slowly released his

Seeing a chance to reason, Valin said, ‘Sinus does have a point, though. Carlisle mentioned the alternative medicine to play on your emotions and ensure your loyalty.’”

“You want to get hit too?” Benjamin glared at him.

Valin wisely shut his mouth.

Benjamin gradually calmed down and helped Sirius up. He then sat back on the couch and said slowly,” Heath once told me something very wise. Do you want to hear it?”

Valin nodded.

Sirius took out a cigarette with bloodied hands, put it in his mouth, and lit it.

Benjamin continued, “Heath said that Carlisle gave us a future, and we are destined to work for him.”

Valin and Sirius lowered their heads.

Carlisle had indeed given them everything they now had. Their loyalty to him was unquestionable.

It would have been no different if Heath had told them to kidnap Jalen’s daughter. They would have gone

ahead, risking their lives to get the job done.

After all, Heath had provided them with a life of comfort and luxury.

Benjamin went on, “The thing is, when Carlisle asked me to do this, I hesitated. That’s why he had to play

the emotional card. If Heath were here, he would have executed Carlisle’s orders without a second

thought.”

Sirius took a long drag on his cigarette, his emotions in turmoil. “We’ve worked so hard to build this

empire. Are we really going to just hand it over? What about the guys who will be left with nothing?”

Benjamin said, “Carlisle must have considered that. He must have a plan if he’s asking us to do this.

There has to be a way out.”

Valin’s eyes lit up with realization. “Did Carlisle mention who to sell it to?”

Benjamin lit a cigarette of his own and replied, “Titan.”

Valin smiled. “Now I understand Carlisle’s plan.”

Sirius and Benjamin looked at Valin, eager for him to explain.

Valin smiled. “Didn’t you guys say that Jalen failed to recognize you?”

Sirius nodded. “He shouldn’t have. They were still trying to figure out who Benjamin and I were.”

“Do you think they’ll remain clueless?” Valin pressed.

Benjamin shook his head. “They’ll probably figure out who we are soon.”

A shiver ran down Sirius’ spine, and his eyes widened with sudden realization.

Once Jalen finds out who they are, there will definitely be relentless revenge. Their businesses would

undoubtedly be destroyed.

Carlisle planned to make Titan take the fall.

Sirius suddenly felt guilty for doubting Carlisle's intentions earlier, his face full of remorse. "I misjudged

Carlisle."

Valin sighed softly. "Who would've thought an 18-year-old student could be so cunning?"

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Benjamin lifted his chin and declared. From now on no one is allowed to mouth Carlisx WYM

Heath wakes up, he won't forgive any doubts ether

When

Later that night, Carlisle was preparing instant noodles in his apartment when his phone TWIN IT WA

Lethan

rang. it

"Hello, Mr. Warbane

"You call Shania by her name, so why are you calling me Mr. Werbene? Lethan's tone had a hint of

displeasure.

Carlisle chuckled. "Changing how I address you requires a fee

Lethan's mouth twitched. "Forget it. I'm so broke right now

Carlisle teased, "Come over, I'm making instant noodles"

“Really? A billionaire eating instant noodles? Lethan sounded surprised.

“Come and see for yourself. Being a billionaire is a thing of the past. I’m broke now, with only a few million

dollars left in my account.”

“Well, I’m a little better off. I still have over 30 million.”

“And you’re still complaining?” Carlisle quipped.

Lethan laughed heartily. “Look at you, a millionaire eating instant noodles!”

After a brief chat, Carlisle asked, “So, what did you call me for?

Lethan straightened up and said, “Josie is hosting a banquet tonight at Imperial Hotel to celebrate Shein and his family’s return. Shania and I think we should mention that you saved them. Maybe Shein will

finally accept you-”

“Absolutely not,” Carlisle quickly interrupted. “You’re not helping me, you’re putting me in danger. Jalen is furious as it is. If he finds out I was behind this, I might not live to see tomorrow.”

Lethan insisted, “The banquet is only for close friends. They won’t spill the beans,”

Carlisle chuckled. “The only person you can truly trust in this world is yourself.”

It wasn’t just outsiders he needed to be wary of—even close family could be a threat.

Shein had broad vision, so he might keep quiet. But Zachary? That was another story.

Lethan sighed. “So, you’re going to keep your good deeds a secret?”

Carlisle carried his noodles to the living room and put his phone on speaker. “These actions are just a

facade. I’m doing it for Wanda.”

Lethan couldn’t help but laugh. “No wonder Wanda likes you so much. If I were a girl, I’d want a man like you too!”

Carlisle choked a little on his noodles and quickly changed the topic. “How’s the Holly Fisheries project coming along?”

“It’s already underway. We’re expecting it to be finished by next month. By December, the ecosystem should be in place, and in January, we can start stocking the fish.”

“Don’t wait until January. Start taking pre-orders this month. That’s real money. The more we stock, the more we earn.”

“You’re right. I’ll start the pre-orders tomorrow!”

After a bit more conversation, they ended the call.

Carlisle continued eating his noodles when a knock interrupted him. He walked over and opened the door.

Standing outside were Daniel, Shane, and Sean.

“What are you guys doing here?”

Carlisle turned back and walked toward the couch.

Daniel followed behind. “Carlisle, did you know your girlfriend was kidnapped?”

Carlisle sat back down on the couch and resumed eating his noodles. “Yeah, I know. Didn’t she get rescued?”

Daniel sat opposite Carlisle, his tone serious. “The kidnappers didn’t take a single penny. Were you behind

this?”

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“I saw it on the news, but it has nothing to do with me,” Carlisle said, his mouth full of noodles.

Daniel had a big mouth; it could spell trouble if he knew the truth.

“Hmm.. Then who could it be?” Daniel looked disappointed.

He had hoped Carlisle was already strong enough to take on the infamous Hendrix, but it seemed he was mistaken.

Carlisle had potential, but his current state was far from the sharp, formidable figure he once was. There was no way he could confront Hendrix and his gang of infamous criminals.

Carlisle shrugged. “Who cares who it was? The important thing is that Wanda and her family are safe.”

Daniel nodded. “You’re right.”

*Carlisle, are you just eating instant noodles? Let me find you a housekeeper to cook for you,” Sean said, pulling out his phone.

Carlisle sighed. “Don’t bother. I’ll be staying at school for a few days.”

Sean put his phone away and sat on the couch opposite Carlisle. “If you’re being so frugal, I guess I should start watching my spending too!”

He felt guilty for his recent spending spree.

Carlisle's tone grew serious. "You should. We're in the early stages of our business. I've only invested a million in your venture. If you can't make it work, you'll have to go back to your dad's textile business."

Sean quickly shook his head. "No way. Textiles are hard work and don't bring in the big bucks."

Meanwhile, celebrations were underway at Imperial Hotel's private room No. 1.

Lethan, Shania, and a few Warbane and Thompson family relatives were holding their glasses, toasting

Shein.

Wanda sat in a daze, still haunted by the image of Mac being shot.

Josie poured Wanda a drink, her voice gentle. "Wanda, it's all over now. Try not to dwell on it."

Wanda nodded. She then downed the drink and focused on her food. She quietly ate the salad in front of her, not bothering with any of the main dishes.

Queenie sat on Wanda's other side and frowned. "Zac, what's wrong with Wanda?"

The rest of the relatives also turned their attention to Wanda.

Zachary replied in a somber tone, "She witnessed Mac's death. It's likely traumatized her."

Queenie looked at Wanda with concern and said softly, "I have a friend who knows a bit about psychology 18 have her come by tomomow to see Wanda"

The doorbell rang and a water opened the door

Yuriel walked in looking weary and anxious. “Shein, are you alright?”

Everyone at the table fell silent

Shein was Yuriel’s biggest business rival. The former suspected Yuriel’s involvement in the kidnapping but lacked evidence

Shein stood up and smiled. Thank you for your concern, Mr. Gust. Not a hair on my head was harmed.”

Yuriel patted his chest in relief. That’s wonderful to hear. I was so worried when I saw the news. You’re truly fortunate, Sheint

He picked up a bottle of wine, poured a glass, and raised it. “Here’s to Shein, a toast to your survival!”

Shein maintained his composure, clinking glasses with Yuriel before downing the wine in one go.

After finishing the drink, Yuriel added, “I have clients to attend to, so I’ll excuse myself. I hope you don’t mind. Shein

“Mr. Gust, go ahead,” Shein said with a smile.

As Yuriel turned to leave, his face darkened. The plan had almost succeeded, but now it was ruined.

Who was the bastard that kidnapped Jaler’s daughter? Damn it!” he fumed inwardly.

After Yuriel left, Shein calmly sat back down.

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Shein’s smile gradually faded. He strongly suspected Yuriel was behind the kidnapping

If it hadn't been for an unexpected intervention, he would have lost at least three billion dollars, falling far

behind Yuriel in the process.

Since Yuriel had already made a move, Shein couldn't just sit back and do nothing. Otherwise, Yuriel

would think he was easy to push around.

Just after Yuriel left, there was another knock on the door. The waiter went to open it once again.

A middle-aged man with a face full of menacing features walked in, holding a glass of white wine that was oddly filled to the brim.

It was Titan.

Shein knew Titan only superficially; their relationship was based more on pleasantries than genuine

friendship.

"Greetings, Mr. Lynch." Shein stood up to greet him.

Titan smiled. "Congratulations on your survival, Mr. Thompson. I'm here to offer a toast!"

"I survived thanks to your well wishes." Shein raised his glass and clinked it against Titan's.

Titan finished his drink and icily said, "Hendrix and his gang were too bold, daring to cause trouble on my turf. If he ever falls into my hands, I'll make sure he pays dearly."

Being one of the Heroes of Riverland, Titan had a commanding presence that made most people in the

room fall silent.

Shein showed his gratitude. “Mr. Lynch, your concern means a lot. Would you like to sit down and have a few more drinks?”

Titan shook his head. “I’m having dinner with some old friends, I’m afraid I can’t.”

Shein’s invitation had been more of a formality, so he nodded in understanding. “Your presence here is an

honor, Mr. Lynch.”

Zachary gently nudged Shein’s foot under the table.

Knowing Zachary’s usual antics, Shein smiled and added, “Mr. Lynch, about Luke’s territories-”

Before he could finish, Titan interrupted with a smile, “Mr. Thompson, you’re a businessman. Just focus on your business. We rough types need to make a living too. Riverland’s a big market, after all. Gotta leave

some for the rest of us, right?”/

The implication was clear—Titan intended to take over Luke’s territories. He wasn’t worried about Shein

resisting.

Jalen and Yuriel were closely aligned, while Titan didn’t see eye to eye with Yuriel.

For Shein to go against Yuriel, he needed to strengthen his ties with Titan.

As expected, Shein smiled and said, “You’re right, Mr. Lynch. We’ll need your protection in the future.”

Owning several entertainment venues often attracted troublemakers. With Titan's support, those troublemakers would think twice before causing issues at Shein's places.

"Enjoy your meal, Mr. Thompson. I'll take my leave now," Titan said, leaving the room with a slight smile.

It wasn't until the door to the private room closed that Zachary clenched his fist and slammed it hard. against the table.

The empire they'd painstakingly built over the past three years was gone just like that. The losses were around a hundred million.

His heart ached terribly.

Shein's face was stern as he said, "Focus on legitimate business with me, and stay away from those shady ventures!"

Zachary sighed deeply and took a swig of his drink.

Josie suddenly asked, "Shein, do you know who helped you from behind the scenes?"

At her words, everyone's eyes turned to Shein.

Shania glanced at Lethan, who subtly shook his head.

Shania pouted in response and continued eating her meal.

Shein pondered for a moment, narrowing his eyes. "It's highly probable that someone from Yorksle was

involved."

Josie gently nodded, elegantly sipping her winé.

Meanwhile, Titan returned to his private room, where he had assembled his top men to strategize the

complete takeover of Luke's territory.

"Mr. Lynch, why don't we take over Prince Heath's territory as well?"

"Yeah, Prince Heath is out of the picture. His assets are substantial. If we take them, even Jalen would have to show you respect!"

Chapter 359

Titan took a sip of his drink and smiled. "You guys are too ambitious. After Ian's death, Luke's power

dwindled, causing key members to abandon him. He's vulnerable now.

"But Prince Heath is different. His subordinate, Wade is tough to deal with. If we take over Prince Heath's

operations, Wade and his crew will cause us endless trouble. I don't want to sleep with one eye open

every night."

The mention of Wade made everyone shudder. He had once single-handedly taken down over 20 of their

men.

Give him a knife, and it would be a bloodbath.

"But we can't ignore Prince Heath's assets. If we don't seize them, someone else will."

"Did I say we wouldn't take them?" Titan glanced at his cousin, Quiller Lynch.

“What I mean is, we need to take things step by step. Let’s absorb Luke’s power first. When Wade and his

crew are released, I’ll talk to him. If he’s willing to work with us, great.”

Quiller muttered, “But what if he’s not?”

Titan’s eyes turned cold. “Then we take him out. He might be able to fight ten or 20, but not 50.”

Quiller’s lips curved into a smirk. “Swallowing these two factions would allow us to challenge Jalen.”

Titan took another sip of his drink and said calmly, “Jalen is currently focused on his daughter. Going up

against him won’t be too difficult.”

Suddenly, Titan’s phone rang. He pulled it out and saw it was an unknown number.

He was about to ignore it but decided to answer instead. “Who is this?”

“Mr. Lynch, it’s Benjamin.”

“Benjamin?”

Titan raised an eyebrow and chuckled. “What, you itching for another fight?”

Benjamin laughed nervously. “Not at all, Mr. Lynch. I’m calling to offer you all our businesses.”

Hearing this, Titan’s eyes lit up. But his instincts told him something was off.

Heath was critically injured by his men, clinging to life in the ICU. Benjamin should harbor deep

resentment, not offer him a business deal.

“You want to meet up and ambush me, don’t you? Kid, you’re too naive for that.” Titan sneered and was

about to hang up.

“Mr. Lynch, we can do the transaction through lawyers!”

“Hmm?” Titan paused, somewhat intrigued.

Maybe this kid really wanted to sell off Heath’s businesses.

“To be honest, it’s unlikely that Heath will wake up. The doctors say that even if he does, he’ll be bedridden for life. I want to take him abroad for better treatment.” Benjamin’s voice was choked with emotion.

Titan replied sternly, “Shouldn’t you hate my guts? If you’re selling Heath’s businesses, you should be selling them to my rival, Jalen.”

Benjamin sighed. “In this line of work, there’s no room for personal grudges. It’s all about survival. I contacted Jalen, but I wasn’t satisfied with his offer. I also worry that they might just wreck the places.

“That’s why I thought of selling to you. With you in control, Jalen wouldn’t dare touch those businesses.”

Titan lit a cigarette, exhaling a cloud of smoke before asking, “How much are you looking to sell for?”

Benjamin replied, “We have ten internet cafés, 12 ice rinks, nine karaoke bars, six discos, three bars, and

13 game halls. The total package is 80 million dollars.”

Titan took another drag on his cigarette, contemplating the offer. “How much did Jalen offer you?”

“He only offered 30 million.”

“30 million is indeed low. Alright, I’ll give you 60 million.”

Titan had initially planned to wait for Wade’s release to negotiate, but he overlooked Benjamin.

Buying Heath’s businesses would prevent Benjamin and Wade from making a comeback. With their

resources gone, Wade would have no choice but to consider Titan’s offer of a higher salary upon his

release.

“60 million is too low. Our entertainment venues are in high-traffic areas. I guarantee you’ll make your

money back in less than two years.”

“Fine, 80 million it is. Have your lawyer prepare the paperwork, and we’ll close the deal tomorrow. I’ll only meet with the lawyer, not you.”

Titan finally agreed to the deal, sealing the arrangement.

Chapter 360

Benjamin was right. Heath’s businesses had excellent foot traffic and would definitely yield profits within two years.

The best part was the assurance that Benjamin wouldn’t come back with Wade for revenge.

After hanging up, Titan felt elated and celebrated by drinking three consecutive glasses with Quiller

Meanwhile, Narcisse's birthday party went smoothly,

The teachers and classmates had a great time, while the parents engaged Jalen in conversations about parenting.

Jalen enjoyed the discussions, laughing and sharing his experiences.

After the party, Jalen summoned Henry to his study,

Henry who had also indulged in a few drinks stumbled in, reeking of alcohol. "Boss, are we moving tonight?"

Jalen gave him a cold, measured look. "Did I not make myself clear earlier? Today is Narcisse's birthday. I don't want any bloodshed tonight."

Henry realized his mistake and slapped himself. "Sorry, Boss. I had too much to drink. Please forgive me."

Jalen continued, "Make sure you get him to spill who's behind all this. If he won't talk, bury him."

Henry sobered up slightly, narrowing his eyes. "Could it be that Benjamin planned this on his own?"

Although Heath's downfall benefited Titan, Jalen was the true victor. He had received prior information and tipped off the police, leading to their intervention at Sanctuary Resort.

Jalen shook his head. "No way. After Prince Heath was taken down, his remaining forces should be in disarray. They wouldn't have the organization or motive to kidnap Narcisse, especially not to save the

Thompson family.”

Henry nodded. “Alright, I’ll start preparing. We’ll move in the early hours of the morning.”

Jalen waved his hand. “Go ahead.”

Carlisle finally finished his instant noodles and sat on the couch, watching financial news.

Daniel and the others had already left.

His phone remained on the table with its screen still lit up.

Carlisle was waiting for a message or call from Wanda. He considered phoning her first but worried that

Shein or Zachary might discover it.

As the night deepened, Carlisle still hadn’t heard from Wanda.

A few hours later, Francis was wakened from a nap. He yawned and checked the time. “It’s 2:00 am. Aren’t you going to sleep?”

Carlisle smiled. “Just about to.”

Francis then walked back to his room.

Carlisle waited until 3:00 am but eventually couldn’t stay awake any longer. He washed up and went to bed.

The next day, Carlisle slept in until 9:00 am. He eventually jolted awake. “Damn, I’m late!”

He checked his messages but found nothing from Wanda. On MSN Messenger, Wanda’s avatar in his

special contact list was gray and inactive.

After washing up, Carlisle instructed Francis, “Find Benjamin. Take him and Heath to Rainville’s Franklin

Complex and locate Gordon Zahn.”

Francis asked, “Should I stay with them the whole time?”

Carlisle nodded. “Yes, stay with them until Wade is out. Once Wade is back, he can protect Benjamin

himself.”

Francis later drove Carlisle to the school gate.

As Carlisle got out of the car, a white BMW pulled up beside him. Queenie stepped out, followed by

Wanda who looked pale and expressionless.