

### Chapter 391

Adina only answered the video call after she fixed her hair. “Hey, Addy. Why is your hair so messy? You didn’t just wake up, did you?”

Flint’s unrestrained voice came from the phone

When the bedridden Duke heard his voice, he frowned tightly.

Why did he feel like he had heard that voice somewhere?

Adina stood by the door and nonchalantly said, “I don’t dawdle in bed like you. I brought the kids to visit a patient in the hospital today. If you need anything, just tell me quickly Otherwise, I’ll hang up now.”

“Hey, don’t hang up. Let me see Mel. It’s been a long time since I last saw my goddaughter.”

Adina pursed her lips She never agreed to let Flint be Melody’s godfather, but the guy always called Melody his goddaughter, so she could not be bothered to correct him.

She waved and called Melody over.

The little girl smiled brightly at the video call.

“Wow! Mel, your smile’s gorgeous. I miss you so much. Wait for me, okay? I’ll go to Sea City and visit you later on.” Melody suddenly moved her lips. “Uncle Flint, I miss you very much too.” Flint was instantly stunned on the other end of the phone. Soon after, he screamed at the top of his lungs like a groundhog. “What the f\*ck?! Mel, you can speak now? What the heck? When did you start speaking? You actually called me ‘Uncle Flint’! Call me again! Your voice is so lovely! Argh!”

Adina took the phone from Melody, “Can you calm down?” “How can I stay calm? I can’t calm down! Addy, when I finish handling my work here, I’ll fly to Sea City right away and find you.”

Flint kept talking on the phone. Meanwhile, Duke’s expression was extremely dark He recalled it. Flint was the man who had stayed overnight in Adina’s house last time. Great! That brat dared to think about his woman. He must be fed up with his life.

Alden was standing beside the bed, and he glanced at Duke before he casually said, “When we were abroad, Mom managed to take good care of Mel and me thanks to Uncle Flint. He’s a really funny person. I think Hal will like him too.”

When Duke heard that, his face became even more sullen.

But he could not refute him.

If he had known that Adina was pregnant with his children, how could he have neglected her over the past four years? When Adina finally ended the call, she raised her wrist and looked at her watch. “It’s getting late now. I’ll send the kids to preschool first.”

The moment she said that she wanted to leave, Duke felt empty. This woman had been there for a long time, yet he never had a chance to talk to her alone. He pursed his lips and said, "George, bring your brothers and sister out to play for a while. I want to talk to your mom alone for a minute."

Harold held Melody's hand and ran out of the ward, while Alden and George followed suit.

Adina stood five steps away from the bed and indifferently asked, "What do you want to talk about?"

"You don't have to be so wary of me," Duke said softly. "Sit down first. We can talk about it slowly."

Adina appeared indifferent. "I have ten minutes at most."

She wanted to send the kids to preschool, and she also had a lot of work to do in the company. She did not have time to waste.

Nevertheless, she also realized that something had to be solved.

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"How were the kids born four years ago?" Duke slowly asked. He had read the news four years ago. That night had been described in graphic detail by the reporters, but there was a combination of truth and lies.

The only thing he could be sure of was that Adina did not go to a hospital the day she gave birth. She gave birth to the four babies in the Daugherty family's warehouse. Even a normal person had to risk her life to give birth to one baby. He could not imagine how she successfully gave birth to the four babies. Besides, he had also heard that the Daugherty family's mansion was set on fire that night. Adina pursed her lips with a blank look. "George and Harold were born first. When they were born, they were not breathing, so I thought that they..."

She started to quiver before she resumed. "Dew took the babies away. I didn't know where she brought them, but I always thought that the kids were dead."

She looked down and hid all the emotions in her eyes. Duke felt as if he was tearing her scars that had already scabbed over. "I'm sorry. It's all my fault. If it weren't for me, you wouldn't have suffered from all of this," he said apologetically. "It's alright. It's all in the past." Adina raised her head and had already schooled her gaze by then. The pain that she had suffered over the years had passed. She was no longer that fragile.

Duke just stared at her firmly. He conjured up the figure of the woman from five years ago in his mind, and her face slowly overlapped with Adina's face.

No wonder he did not have any feelings for Dew. It turned out that the woman was Adina.

This woman was with him five years ago.

This was his woman.

Suddenly, a ringtone broke the silence in the ward.

Duke glanced at the incoming call. It was Mrs. Winters. He then gestured at Adina to keep quiet.

As soon as he picked up the call, Mrs. Winters' nervous voice came from the other end. "Duke, Brown said that you were shot. What happened?" Duke frowned and calmly said, "Mr. Brown likes to exaggerate things. I'm fine. I'll be discharged tomorrow." After he said that, he prepared to hang up.

"Hold on, I heard that you had quadruplets four years ago instead of a pair of twins?" Mrs. Winters said coldly.

Duke subconsciously glanced at Adina before he answered, "Mom, where did you hear that from?"

"I haven't been in Sea City lately, but that doesn't mean I know nothing." Mrs. Winters said indifferently. "I don't want to know what happened between you and the Daugherties, but you have to get our family's bloodline back. The Winters family children have to be back with their original family."

Mrs. Winters' voice was very loud when she uttered that last sentence, and Adina could vaguely hear her.

She recalled Mr. Osborne, who had been overbearing and rude when he found out that the Osborne family's "children" were out there.

Right now, Mrs. Winters was no different from Mr. Osborne.

Adina just did not know what Duke thought about it.

Once she saw Duke hang up, she preemptively said, "Mr. Winters, I won't give up my custody of Alden and Mel. I won't surrender no matter what you do!"

Duke frowned. "When did I ever say that I wanted to steal custody from you?" Adina kept away her hostility, calmed down, and asked, "What do you mean?"

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In the corridor outside the ward, Melody was riding a wooden horse, while the three boys surrounded her

Harold leaned forward and grinned. "Mel, I'm your brother. Come on, call me 'Hal.'"

Melody tilted her head and softly said, "Harold." "Hey, no. You should call me 'Hal,'" Harold corrected her. "I'm your second eldest brother. You should call me 'Hal.'" "Hal," Melody said obediently. George walked over too. "I'm your eldest brother. Mel, can you call me 'Georgie?'" "Georgie." Melody was very compliant. She just said whatever they wanted her to say. Alden was quite frustrated. His mother and sister had been taken away now. He was devastated.

"This is your third eldest brother." Harold pointed at Alden as he spoke. Alden's face immediately darkened. He pursed his lips and said, "Harold, I'm older than you. How can you be the second eldest and I the third eldest?" "Dad said I'm older than you!" Harold shook his head proudly. "I'm the older brother, and you're the younger brother. You should call me 'Hal!'"

He had been the youngest brother for so many years. He could finally salvage the situation and become the elder brother now!

It was an awesome feeling! Alden scoffed. "How could you be my brother with that IQ?" Harold puffed his chest up in defiance. "What's wrong with my IQ? I'm really smart too, okay?"

The two children glared at each other and almost got into a fight. George felt his head ache. He used to think Alden was a mature and composed child. Why was he so childish today to the point that he actually quarreled with Harold? Harold was a dumb kid. Whoever quarreled with him would lose brain cells! George pulled the brothers apart.

All of a sudden, Melody, who was riding the wooden horse, shuddered. She got down from the wooden horse and hid behind her brothers. She just stared at the other end of the corridor with caution.

The three boys raised their heads and looked over at the same time. A man in a black suit was walking over from the end of the corridor, and his face was covered by a silver mask

The mask glowed with a cold light, appearing extraordinarily scary and creepy.

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Alden took his phone out and captured a photo of Shura's back

"What does 'Shura' mean?" Harold asked with a puzzled expression after he snapped out of his daze

George rolled his eyes at him. "Did you learn English from your PE teacher?"

Harold felt insulted as he stroked his chin. "George, you know that I feel sleepy whenever attend English class. I don't have the talent for language. You can't blame me for that! Mel, don't you agree?"

"Shura's a character in a comic," Melody softly said

Harold became speechless

Even Melody knew the term, but he was clueless

No wonder his dad did not give him a company to manage Was it because he was too stupid?"

George glanced at Alden and nonchalantly asked, "Do you know that man with the mask?"

Alden put his phone into his pocket and shook his head "I don't know him"

He really did not know him. He had never met Shura He had only heard about the man from K

Shura was not a hacker, but his presence was more terrifying than that of a hacker He had human lives in his hands.

At this time, Adina walked out of the ward. She had to walk one round before she found the four children in the corridor on the other side As soon as she walked over, Harold rushed toward her. He felt hurt as he asked, "Mommy, am I incredibly dumb?"

Adina smiled and said, "Harold, you're the smartest You're not dumb." "But Alden refuses to consider me as his second eldest brother!" Harold blinked his eyes in a pitiful manner. "He says I'm too stupid. He says I'm not good enough to be his elder brother because I'm not as smart as him! Boohoo... Mommy, am I really that stupid?"

Alden was speechless He had told the truth, but why did it sound weird when Harold said it out loud? "Alden." Adina pulled Alden over. "Hal may not be as smart as you..."

This time. Harold was at a loss for words.

Could his mother stop being so honest when she spoke? He truly was not as smart as Alden "But he was born before you Harold is your elder brother," Adina gently said. "Georgie is the eldest brother, Hal is the second eldest brother, Alden is the third eldest brother, and Mel is the youngest sister."

Harold raised his chin proudly again. "I'm the second eldest brother. Yippie!"

Alden was not convinced, he still obediently addressed them the way they wanted."

Georgie, Hal." Harold laughed out loud. Adina could not help but chuckle. She smiled and said, "I'll send Alden and Mel to preschool. What about you two? Are you going home or somewhere else?"

Based on her parenting style, she would send George and Harold to preschool too. However, the boys were not in her custody now, so her opinion was useless. She had to take things slowly. "I'll go to the company, and Harold will go home," George said indifferently. "Mommy, can you give us a ride?" His car was actually downstairs, and Liam had also been waiting in front of the hospital for a long time, but he just wanted to spend more time with his mom. "I would be glad to. Okay, I'll send Hal home first before I send Alden and Mel to preschool. Then, I'll send Georgie to the company." Adina brought the kids along and left the hospital. At the same time, someone knocked on the door of Duke's ward, and a man in a black suit walked inside.

He emanated a very strong aura that discouraged people from staring at him, but the most attractive part of him was the silver mask on his face.

Duke slowly closed the documents in his hand and curled his lips into a sneer. "You dare come to me even though I've never looked for you?"

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The temperature in the ward instantly dropped to zero. The man in the silver mask pulled out a chair and sat down. His gaze was extremely hostile and profound. "Why? Can't I return to Sea City?" "You better disappear in three days," Duke firmly said. His gaze was as sharp as a knife. "I haven't visited Mom. How can I leave so quickly?" The man chuckled. "Duke, I'm your elder brother. We're twins. You don't have to keep ridiculing me. It really upsets me." Duke gritted his teeth. "You don't deserve to be my brother."

The man in the silver mask played around with his fingers, and his gaze gradually turned cold. "Duke Winters, I owe you nothing. Don't you talk to me like that! If we must distinguish between right and wrong, you're at fault too. If it weren't for you, would I be in such a miserable state? You owe me. All of you owe me!"

The man became slightly irritated.

Duke stared at him with disdain. "You deserve it. Don't blame everything on someone else."

"Yes, I deserve this! You're right. I deserve this! Haha!"

The man in the silver mask lost his cool as he broke the glass next to him, and the broken pieces of glass scattered all over.

He glanced at Duke ruthlessly before he slammed the door and left.

Duke simply lay in bed with an intense gaze as a storm rose from the depths of his eyes.

The man was his biological brother, but their characters were the complete opposite.

He only knew that he had a twin brother after he turned fifteen.

After Adina dropped the children off, she drove to her company.

During this period of time, LaStar Technology Corporation had been growing rapidly. After the last press conference, all of the company's chips were sold out. The company only had three projects, and they were already on track, so Adina did not need to monitor each of them personally. "Ms. Daugherty, this is Elitos Corporation's investment project book." Serene carried a stack of documents over, "This company is an international enterprise in Europe. They started recruiting collaborators in Sea City a few months ago, but our company was extremely busy back then, so I didn't disturb you with this. However, the busiest time in the company has passed. Hence, I was wondering if we could try to participate in the bidding?" Serene pointed at the last page of the project book and said, "They're looking to recruit a few hundred kinds of collaborators, and I think our company fits the bill as their chip vendor. Our company also has a ready-made framework. We can bring the basic version and participate in their bidding process. What do you think, Ms. Daugherty?"

Adina took the project book from her.

The bidding would be at 3.00 pm today on a large site. They could definitely take their chip's available framework and participate in the bidding. The rate of their success was very high.

With that said, Elitos Corporation was a huge international corporation, and the company possessed a wide range of businesses. They had a history of making a lot of money on projects. Since she wanted to collaborate with Elitos, she should not be satisfied with being a small chip vendor. She smiled faintly and said, "Okay, let's attend it at 3.00 pm." Adina wrote the codes the entire morning,

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At 2.00 pm, Serene returned and knocked on the door. Then, the two of them took the documents and prepared to go to Elitos Corporation's office in Sea City. While they walked to the elevator, they met Mr. Roberts and his secretary from the company next door.

Adina smiled and nodded to greet them. "Mr. Roberts, where are you going in a hurry?"

Just as Mr. Roberts was about to speak, his secretary cleared his throat and said, "We're going to meet a client."

They were going to Elitos Corporation for the bid too, but their success rate was not high, so it was not appropriate to announce it right now. It would not be too late if they won the bid later.

Adina nodded. "I have something to do as well. Goodbye then."

The two groups entered two separate cars in front of the office building.

Then, the two cars moved toward the same destination at the same time. Half an hour later, the cars stopped. Serene pushed her car door open and got out before she also saw Mr. Roberts and his secretary step out of their car.

She subconsciously pouted. "Mr. Roberts' secretary is really funny. They clearly came to participate in the bidding, yet he claimed that they were going to meet a client. Why? Was he afraid that we would compete against them?"

The two companies ran different businesses. She did not understand why the company next door was always guarded against them.

Serene's voice was neither loud nor low, but it made Mr. Roberts feel slightly awkward. He turned around and glared at his secretary before he walked over, chuckled, and said, "Ms. Daugherty, what a coincidence. Let's go in together."

Adina was not bothered by it. Every company had its own confidentiality, so there was nothing wrong with Mr. Roberts choosing not to tell her where he was going. "Ms. Daugherty, are you bidding to be the chip vendor?" Mr. Roberts' secretary smiled faintly and said, "I heard that Elitos wants to recruit at least thirty chip vendors. Ms. Daugherty, your chances of getting it are very high." He was trying to say that if Adina won the bid, it would be because the quota was high. Adina naturally understood the meaning behind his words, but she did not say anything. She just spoke to Mr. Roberts as they walked to the event hall. It was the Elilos office building in Sea City, and its construction was grand as well as majestic. The event had yet to start, but many company chairpersons had arrived at the lobby. They were discussing matters in small groups. "Ms Daugherty, the bidding arena for the chip vendors is on this side. It's right next to us." Mr. Roberts enthusiastically led Adina to the right side. Adina shook her head. "I'm going to Bidding Arena 1."

"One?" Mr. Roberts was stunned. "Isn't that the bidding arena for recruitment of collaborators? Why are you going there?"

Collaborators were one level higher than vendors, and they even had the right to negotiate the content of their contract with Elitos. Meanwhile, vendors were just merchants that sold products. They did not have any power, and the profit they obtained was lower. But if they could collaborate with such a huge transnational company, being a mere vendor would also be an opportunity that many small companies dreamed about.

"Ms. Daugherty, have you made a mistake?" Mr. Roberts' secretary chuckled and said, "There's a bid for Chief Designer in chip development in Bidding Arena 1, but it's different from a chip vendor. Ms. Daugherty, you better not go to the wrong venue."

Adina indifferently said, "Thank you for the reminder, but I have not made a mistake."

She walked toward Bidding Area 1, while Serene followed her with a confused expression. "Ms. Daugherty, aren't we going to be the chip vendor? Why—"

Adina smiled faintly. "A chip vendor's profit is less than \$100,000. It's not worth the trip." Serene was stunned. "But one has to prepare at least three months in advance for the position of Chief Designer in chip development..."

LaStar Technology Corporation had not even been established three months ago. What could they use to compete against the others?

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Elitos Corporation had just moved to Sea City. They had rented an office building but had not established their project team yet.

On this day of the large tender, not only did they have to recruit a chief programming designer, but they also needed to hire staff for the process control room, product operators, a full process planning team, technical consultants, and more. Bidding Arena 1 was a few hundred square feet, but it was filled with people who had come to bid.

Those who were qualified to bid there were the top players in their respective industries, and every one of them appeared ambitious. Adina sat in the last row. Her gaze was indifferent, and her expression was calm. Serene felt a little anxious, but when she saw how calm Adina was, she gradually relaxed as well.

"Hi, I'm the general manager of Philly Corporation. I'm here to bid for the position of general site controller. What about you?" A man, who had been sitting at the side, came over and greeted Adina. He even handed her his name card first. He was very sincere. Adina smiled faintly and said, "I'm here to bid for the position of chief designer in chip development. It's nice to meet you." The man was clearly stunned. "Are you Mdm. Jones?" Adina shook her head. "Why do you say so?"

The man pushed his glasses up the bridge of his nose. "I contacted Elitos Corporation half a year ago, and I heard that the position of chief designer in chip development had already been confirmed. The last name of the designer was Jones.

Adina frowned. "Since they've confirmed it in advance, why is it still listed on the brochure?"

"I have no idea." The man stroked the back of his head. He dared not look at Adina's stunning face. "But I heard that Mdm. Jones is an expert in chip design. Apparently, she was a lecturer at Cambridge University. It's also the reason Elitos has internally decided to recruit her."

Adina searched her brain for a lecturer from Cambridge University, whose last name was Jones, but she could not identify anyone. She had studied in Harvard, but she frequently had project collaborations with Cambridge. She had never heard about this person. The man thought she wanted to back out, so he said in a low voice, "Isn't the assistant chief designer position also available for bidding? I think you can give that a try." "Thank you, I'll consider it."

Adina nodded and thanked the man before she flipped through Elitos' brochure and read it wetully again

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Right then, the host for the session went on the stage in a hurry. He appeared apologetic as he said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we are very sorry. There's a problem with our bidding system, so the bidding



probably can't be held today. The exact time and location of the next bid will be announced. A man with a slightly bald head in the front row stood up and said, "Leave the system problem to me. I can get it fixed in five minutes."

The host wiped some of the sweat off his face. "It's not a normal system problem. It's an attack from hackers. Elitos Corporation's intranet is completely down." Elitos Corporation's website being attacked by hackers instantly became a sensational topic. Besides, it was not a normal attack from hackers. In less than twenty minutes, all the funds from the official website had been transferred out. The well-prepared bidders in the arena had to leave with regrets. There were many programmers who had experience in technical work, but their main focus was to write codes. Hacking was not their expertise, so they also left after they glanced around for a few minutes. "Ms. Daugherty, we should leave too," Serene softly said after she packed up their documents. Adina shook her head and leisurely said, "Wait for me outside." After she spoke, she passed through the corridor from the backdoor and went to Elitos Corporation's office in her high heels. The staff members there were already in a chaotic state. "The hacker is trying to transfer \$3,000,000. Please stop it. Stop it right now!" "The company account is being attacked. Please supply more manpower!"

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"Please support us, Technical Department." The staff members in the office were all over the place. "Miss, who are you? Who allowed you to come here?" The staff member, who had acted as the host earlier, saw Adina standing in the corridor. He frowned as he walked over and chased her out,

However, the moment he saw Adina's face, the annoyance on his face instantly disappeared.

Men would usually tolerate women more, especially if they were gorgeous women. "This is Elitos Corporation's internal office. Outsiders are prohibited from entering this section. Please leave."

Adina looked around indifferently. "Where is the person in charge of your company? Please bring me to him." The staff member frowned. "Mr. Wynters will not see anyone at this time. It doesn't matter who you are or why you're looking for Mr. Wynters. Please come again tomorrow." "Elitos is being attacked by hackers. If you don't stop the hackers in time, I can confirm that all the funds in your company account will be gone." Adina paused for a while before she said, "I can help you solve this. Please bring me to Mr. Wynters now."

"You can solve this?" The staff member was shocked.

When a woman was too stunning, people tended to underestimate her abilities.

The staff member was no different. He did not think that this beautiful lady was capable of solving their problem. "If you don't act fast, I might not be able to solve it." Adina had a stoic expression the entire time. It was also due to her indifferent temperament that the staff member felt convinced.

"Okay, please come with me." He brought her to the elevator before he suddenly stopped moving. "Mr. Wynters isn't a very good-tempered person. After such a serious incident, he's become even grumpier. When you go inside, please mind your language. If anything goes wrong, please leave immediately."

Adina nodded.

Her hacking skills were not as good as Alden's, but she was still considered among the top five in the industry. She had stolen a glance at the technicians' screens earlier. It was a simple Trojan horse virus. The attacker just happened to be extremely aggressive, and the virus was widespread, hence the technicians on this side were forced into a passive position.

Dealing with a Trojan Horse was actually not difficult as long as the correct method was used.

Adina followed the staff member to the top floor, and before she entered the meeting room, she heard the furious voice of a man.

"It's the simplest form of the Trojan horse, but all of you have no solutions for it. The company hired you for nothing!" "Ms. Daugherty, as you can see..." The staff member hunched his shoulders. "...Mr. Wynters is merciless when he berates people. I better leave first."

After he said that, he turned around and entered the elevator,

Adina stood outside the meeting room and knocked on the door only after the scolding inside died down.

"Come in!"

She then heard the man's cold and angry voice.

Adina frowned. Why did she find his voice slightly familiar?

When she pushed the door open, she raised her head and looked over. At that moment, she saw the man who was standing at the front. He was wearing a black outfit with a silver mask.

Was this the man who had gone to LaStar Technology Corporation and sought a collaboration with her?

This man was the person in charge of Elitos in Sea City? In an instant, different thoughts filled Adina's mind.

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Adina recalled the staff description on the Elitos brochure. There was only one name: Mr. Earley Wynters

When this man visited her in LaStar Technology Corporation previously, he had mentioned that his name was Wynters. So, he should be the person in charge of Elitos Corporation's project in Sea City

Elitos worked on Internet and IoT development. They did not have anything to do with the human biological tests that Mr. Wynters had talked about before.

Adina thought of a lot of things, but it all hit her in less than a second.

The people in the meeting room simultaneously looked at her. When they saw Adina, they sighed in relief.

For some reason, Mr. Wynters hated women getting close to him. Now that this woman was there for who knows what, she could probably bear some of Mr. Wynters' fury for them. "Ms. Daugherty?"

Earley's gaze was cold and angry, while he flashed her an evil smile. He wheeled around in his chair before he stared at Adina in an unfriendly and intense manner. "Have you made up your mind?" Adina moved her lips and nonchalantly said, "I came here for the bidding today, but I heard that your company's internal website is being attacked by hackers, so I made my way over to take a look." Earley's evil smile became brighter. "Are you here to solve the problem for me, Ms. Daugherty?"

His smile and gaze gave Adina the creeps, but she remained icy and aloof. "It looks like you don't need my help, Mr. Wynters." After she spoke, she turned around to leave.

"Wait."

Earley stood up coldly before he turned his computer screen and pushed it over.

"This is the company's main computer. All our data is stored on this computer. Step over here."

With that, Adina spun around and walked toward the computer. She sat in a chair, leaned forward slightly, and tapped away on the keyboard with great speed.

The Trojan horse looked familiar. There was a time when Alden had been interested in the virus, and he had simulated the same type of Trojan horse on his computer.

She still remembered Alden telling her that a Trojan horse of this type was a new virus that an overseas hacker organization would use to examine a company's staff members.

"This is the new U-TF Trojan horse." Adina operated the interface while she said, "They have taken control of your company's internal system, which means they're already accessing the

internal server. All the funds in the intranet account will be transferred by the other party along the network line. However, I have already controlled their exit route, so the money in the account has not left the country yet." She quickly clicked on the "Enter" button a few times. Someone in the meeting room shouted, "Mr. Wynters, the funds that were gone have returned!"

"Mr. Wynters, the Trojan horse has stopped spreading." "Don't be happy yet. Hurry up and get your technicians to repair the loophole to avoid the hackers from taking their anger and embarrassment out on you again," Adina indifferently. The executives in the meeting room immediately passed on the instruction. Adina only sighed in relief after she chased the hackers off the main line. She stood up and calmly said, "Strengthen the firewall. Use an S-class password. Block and get rid of all your current IP addresses." The Technical Department's manager immediately jotted down what she said in detail. The crisis caused by the foreign hackers was resolved silently just like that. Earley supported his arms on the meeting room desk as looked at Adina with a profound gaze, and slowly said, "Tell me, what do you want?" Adina was disgusted with his tone. She stood up and took a step back. Before she could speak, Earley said, "I know what you're bidding for this time, but the bidding isn't related to this. You can raise other requests." Adina curled her lips slightly and flashed him an extremely faint smile. "I heard that the chief chip designer has already been decided?"

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Earley dusted off his index finger. "Pretty much." Adina nodded to acknowledge that she already knew. She took out a document from her bag and indifferently said, "Since it's just a 'pretty much,' that means

I still have a chance. This is the chip solution that I wrote. You can have a look at it if you have the time, Mr. Wynters.”

She placed the document on the meeting desk before she turned around and left.

Earley stared at her back and only picked up the document from the table after she disappeared from the corridor.

His skin tone was slightly tan, and the ends of his fingers were dark with a thick layer of calluses.

He flipped through the documents, and they were filled with professional technical terms. Although he was not a professional technician, he had slowly started to understand that aspect of things after taking charge of this project. There was only a rough systematic framework in the proposal, and there was very little content. It also seemed a bit crude, but the angle was novel, as it was something he had never thought of before.

He tapped his finger indifferently. “Bring Mdm. Jones’ chip solution over and show it to me.” His assistant stood by his side and said, “I’ll contact Mdm. Jones now.”

Over in Jones Corporation, the secretary walked into someone’s office and respectfully said, “Mdm. Jones, Mr. Wynters from Elitos has requested for you to send your chip design over.”

A middle-aged woman in her forties was sitting in the CEO seat. She had curly brown hair, which was tied up in a high ponytail, and she emanated the elegant temperament of a rich woman.

She glanced at the calendar. It was the day of Elitos Corporation’s bidding event.

She clicked on her hard drive, but her hand suddenly froze. “Who touched my computer?”

Her secretary was so scared that she was rooted to the spot. “Mdm. Jones, without your instruction, we wouldn’t dare touch your computer. Did something happen?”

“I lost my proposal.” Mdm. Jones narrowed her eyes. “I just finished the final draft last night, and I kept it on my hard drive.”

Her secretary immediately walked around the office desk toward her and helped to look for it. However, she could not find the proposal. She cautiously peeked at Mdm. Jones before she respectfully said, “Madam, after you finished the draft last night, I took a picture and saved it. Should we send the photos over first?”

Mdm. Jones nodded with a cold expression, and her narrowed eyes expressed her anger.

After Adina picked the children up, she drove to the Winters family villa. Since Duke already knew that George and Harold were her sons, she did not have to hide the purpose of her visit anymore.

She just wanted to keep the children company more often. Her only wish was to be with her children all the time.

She had to nurture her relationship with the two boys while Duke was in the hospital.

Unexpectedly, just as she parked her car in front of the Winters family’s villa, she saw a figure walking out from the courtyard. Duke was wearing a casual outfit, but his right hand was wrapped in layers of

gauze, which hung from his neck. He looked comical. Adina frowned. The doctor had stated that he needed to stay in hospital for at least a week, but this man got discharged after less than two days. Did he take his body seriously? While she was busy frowning, Duke had already approached her. He bent down and pulled the car door open for her. Supporting the car door with his left hand, he leaned forward slightly and asked in a low voice, "Have you considered my suggestion from this morning?"