Chapter 4144

Timothy continued, "Tinsley, the Labbe family is just as powerful as the Ormonds—if not more. As the eldest son of my family, why would I be after your family's money? The Labbe family has so much wealth that money is the least of our concerns. In fact, you and I are the perfect match. With our families' combined strength, we'd be unstoppable."

Tinsley wanted to scoff at his claim. The Labbe family was indeed powerful, possibly surpassing the Ormonds, but Timothy wasn't the one in charge. In fact, even his father wasn't the true head of the family.

The real power and fortune of the Labbe family belonged to its actual leader.

Timothy and his father were merely caretakers, managing things on someone else's behalf. Did they really think acting as intermediaries made them the rightful owners?

If the former head's son returned, reclaimed his position, and took over the family's assets, Timothy and his father would be left with nothing. They'd be reduced to salaried employees, compensated for their years of service—but nothing more.

Without the Labbe family's backing, Timothy's personal wealth wouldn't even come close to matching the Ormonds'.

Tinsley had already discussed this with Elora. The two sisters knew exactly what Mr. Labbe was after.

What man who pursued them didn't claim to be sincere?

Who would ever openly admit they were after the Ormond fortune?

Since the Labbe family was still under Mr. Labbe's management and there were no direct business conflicts, Tinsley chose not to voice her thoughts.

Instead, she simply said, "Mr. Labbe, I have no interest in love right now, nor do I have time for it. Please, don't waste your energy on me. There are plenty of beautiful women in the world—go pursue someone else."

Timothy could easily find another woman to chase.

He was handsome, though he paled in comparison to Elora's private chef. But among the general public, he was considered quite attractive.

On top of that, as the eldest son of the Labbe family, he was always seen driving luxury cars, surrounded by bodyguards—exuding an air of wealth and prestige. He didn't even need to pursue women. Plenty of admirers would line up for the chance to be with him.

Of course, anyone from an equally wealthy family—those who knew the truth about the Labbe family's structure—wouldn't be fooled by his status.

"Tinsley, I only like you. You're the first woman I've ever truly wanted." His voice was filled with determination. "It's okay if you don't like me now. In time, you'll see who's genuine and who's not. One day, you'll believe in my sincerity. And when that day comes, you'll see that I won't give up on you."

Timothy then ordered his men to load the flowers back into the van, making sure Tinsley couldn't complain about them piling up outside her office like a funeral arrangement.

What was supposed to be a romantic gesture had become anything but.

Timothy couldn't help but grumble internally. If it weren't for the Ormond family's influence along with Tinsley's stunning looks and perfect figure—he wouldn't have put up with this.

He had assured his father that he could win over the second daughter of the Ormond family, no matter how difficult it was.

And in a way, he did have real feelings for her.

The harder it was to claim something, the more determined he became. Like a thorny rose, the challenge only fueled his desire.

One day, he would make Tinsley fall in love with him—so deeply that she wouldn't be able to let him go.

With a smile, Timothy softened his tone. "Tinsley, I'm sorry about today. I wasn't thinking things through. I won't do something like this again. Don't be mad, okay?" Then, as if none of this had happened, he casually added, "Let's have dinner tonight. I'll pick you up after work."