

Chapter 381 The Truth

"The president is not aware of this matter..."

The vice-president's words were barely out of his mouth when Josiah swiftly interjected, his voice dripping with disdain, "You, the vice president, publishing such a deceitful paper without the president's consent?! Do you take us all for fools? Do you think we would swallow your lies without question?"

"Oh, how you misunderstand me! What I meant was that the president was not privy to those specific details," the vice-president reluctantly admitted, his true intentions laid bare. "The president is growing old and will soon retire. If I want to succeed him, I must make some noteworthy contributions..."

"So, you published that data as your own research findings?" Out of anger, Josiah clenched his fists unconsciously.

Camila had put so much trust in him.

She had entrusted him with something so important.

But due to his lack of discernment, not only did he render her efforts futile, but he also put her in danger's way.

"Do you think that such actions will pave your path to becoming the president? I will most certainly contact the current president and expose the truth!" Josiah's fury blazed, his determination unwavering. ②

He felt utterly betrayed.

"I trusted you wholeheartedly and placed something so significant in your hands, but you selfishly took it as your own. If you had made genuine contributions, perhaps things would be different, but you didn't! People like you are unworthy of holding the position of president. Your character and integrity are sorely lacking!" Josiah's anger raged like a tempest!

With the publication of that paper, the vice-president had likely secured his position as the future president. Once the current president retired, he would step into that role with ease.

If Josiah were to report him to the president, it would jeopardize his own career.

"Josiah, I apologize for how things have turned out..."

"A simple apology won't solve this matter!" Alick, who now understood the full extent of the situation, expressed his disappointment and anger toward these individuals.

They were driven solely by fame and personal gain.

Their actions displayed a complete disregard for the consequences.

He couldn't help feeling a deep injustice on behalf of Camila.

The data she had painstakingly acquired, with the intention of advancing the domestic medical industry, had been appropriated for personal gain.

And by someone who didn't deserve it!

But in order to confront the vice-president, Isaac's permission was required!

"Mr. Johnston," the vice-president hastily attempted to explain. "I know I have erred, and I will do everything in my power to make amends..."

"Make amends? And how do you propose to do that? Your actions have already caused harm. Do you think lofty words will make us overlook your transgressions?" Josiah interjected again before the man could finish his sentence.

His anger matched Isaac's in intensity.

He believed that Isaac would never allow the vice-president who cared only for personal interests and lacked a broader perspective to ascend to the position of president. Under his leadership, the entire Hammaslahti would likely be doomed!

Isaac had no time to listen to their ongoing argument.

But Josiah had accurately guessed one thing.

Isaac would never allow such an individual to assume office!

"Alick, I need to meet with the president of Hammaslahti," Isaac said before making his way out. He paused momentarily, glancing back at Josiah and the vice-president.

Josiah quickly made his stance clear. "I take full responsibility for this matter. Whatever punishment you deem fit, I will accept it."

He also felt profound remorse for Camila.

He had put her in harm's way through his own actions.

If Isaac refused to let him off the hook, he would accept the consequences without refuting.

He was convinced that the vice-president was the root cause of all this turmoil, and he couldn't help but shoot him a glare, filled with animosity.

Josiah's stance was crystal clear. Although Isaac wasn't entirely satisfied, he understood that Josiah hadn't intended any harm, so he decided to temporarily forgive him.

The vice-president, still attempting to escape, pleaded, "I can compensate for it elsewhere, please..."

"Compensate elsewhere? Not this again!" Isaac sneered.

The vice-president, panic-stricken, admitted, "I know I was wrong. Please forgive me this time..."

Isaac let out a scornful laugh. "If I let you off the hook, how can I justify myself to those in your institute who are worthy of becoming the president? How can I face Camila, who risked everything to retrieve the data? Tell me!"

"I..."

The vice-president wanted to say more, but Josiah couldn't bear it any longer. He stepped forward and covered the vice-president's mouth, wishing he could stitch it closed, saying, "You hypocrite, enough of your stupid babbling! Don't waste Isaac's precious time! Listen, you'll never become the president in this lifetime! And even if Isaac doesn't approach your president, I'll storm into your research center and expose all the damn dirty secrets you've been hiding!"

The vice-president, filled with anger, realized he was in a point-of-no-return situation. He understood that he wouldn't have a very good ending, so he no longer feared Josiah and confronted him directly, saying, "Do you think you're better than me? Have you never entertained the thought of gaining personal benefits from that research data?"

"I comprehend the significance of that data for cardiology research, and



I had hoped it could be utilized to its fullest potential. Unfortunately, its potential was destroyed by people like you! My only regret is that I placed my trust in the wrong person!"

Josiah and the vice-president engaged in a continuous argument.

The tension closely escalated to the point of a physical confrontation.

Isaac, however, had neither the time nor the patience to listen further.

Alick received a call from one of their investigators who had been searching for Camila's whereabouts.

"We found no information regarding their departure."

Alick replied, "Understood."

After ending the call, Alick asked Isaac, "Do you think there's a possibility they're still in the country? We found no records of their departure."

Isaac's optimism seemed to wane as he contemplated the situation.

They must have fled the country at the first opportunity, perhaps utilizing an alternative method that left no trace.

"You'll handle the domestic matters. I'm heading to Faymoor now." Isaac couldn't sit idly at home.

Alick nodded, saying, "Alright, I'll make the necessary preparations."

Isaac had a thought and instructed Alick, "Don't tell Rowena about this. Just say that Camila and I have gone on a business trip abroad and will return soon."

Alick assured him, "I know how to handle it."

Isaac nodded in agreement.

When Forrest returned home, he was surprised to find Divya there.

She was dressed in a two-piece suspender pajama set and greeted Forrest with a smile, "You're back!"

Considerately, she poured him a glass of water and walked over to hand it to him, saying, "I couldn't help but notice that you don't look so well. Is work killing you?"

Forrest pondered, his gaze lowered. He wondered if this gentle and

considerate woman was truly the one responsible.

"Did you arrange for someone to hang the banner at our wedding?"

Divya was unexpectedly thrown for a loop!

Why was he suddenly asking about that?

"What... What do you mean? I have no idea what you're talking about!"

Divya decided to feign ignorance!

She couldn't admit to such a thing. Never!

Forrest grabbed her wrist, and Divya panicked, dropping the glass of water, causing it to shatter loudly, with glass shards scattering everywhere.

The water reached their shoes.

Divya pretended to be frightened and said, "Forrest, what's happening? You're scaring me!"

"Tell me, where have you hidden Laura?" Forrest stared at her with an intense, chilling gaze.

"Forrest, I don't understand what you're talking about. How would I know where Laura went?" Her anxiety skyrocketed uncontrollably.

Why was Forrest suddenly asking about this?

Had he discovered something?

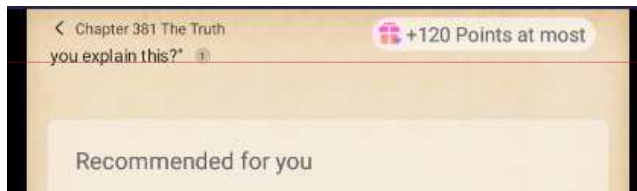
Thoughts raced through her mind, leaving her pale with shock and fear.

She feigned victimhood in front of Forrest, saying, "You know me better than that, Forrest. I would never do something as petty as hanging a banner. I don't know where Laura went. Even though she brought about my miscarriage, I don't hold it against her. I know she didn't do it on purpose..."

She was still playing dumb with him.

His gaze fell on the phone on her dressing table. He strode over and picked it up, and somehow, the screen displayed the messages Divya had sent.

Forrest's eyes turned bloodshot as he stared fixedly at Divya. "How do



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