

## Never Say 456

Bryson, sitting to one side, glanced indifferently at Hannah's face but remained silent.

Before getting down to business, Bryan made casual conversation.

"Hannah, your grandfather is unwell, and since your eldest uncle is no longer with us, all the duties have fallen on Jalen. He's struggling with multiple failing projects, and board members are unhappy. There's a promising new venture from CloudTech, and I'd like you to lead it."

Hannah had expected Bryan to bring up his son, Bainbridge, but to her surprise, he focused on her instead.

She hesitated before declining.

"I've distanced myself from the White family. I don't think it's appropriate for me to engage in family affairs."

"Still holding a grudge against your cousins?"

With a deep sigh, Bryan said, "They, too, are in the dark about many things. Don't be too harsh on them, and don't dwell on what the family says."

Indifferent now, Hannah responded, "Uncle Bryan, the fact that I still call you uncle means I've moved past that. I returned only because Grandpa is sick. The family business has enough hands, you and my cousins. It doesn't need me."

Seeing that Hannah remained unmoved, Bryan cast his gaze toward Bryson, who sat nearby.

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He was aware of the dynamic between Hannah and Bryson and had hoped this might help the project with her leading it.

Ever since Bryson assumed control, the Mitchell family had ascended to a formidable presence in Valmere. Their influence was tremendous.

Various parts of the country were dotted with Mitchell industries, a fact not lost on Bryan.

Though the White family had once been prestigious, a series of misfortunes had taken their toll.

Bryan said, "We're family. Let's be straightforward. I aim to shed light on the matter of your mother. My wish is for you to rejoin the White family and assume control of the business. Mr. Mitchell is contemplating a partnership with the White family. I believe that you are the ideal candidate to take over this growing sector."

The implication in Bryan's words didn't escape Hannah. He seemed to know her connection to Bryson and wanted to leverage that.

However...

A frown crossed her face as she looked at Bryson, who appeared nonchalant.

Wasn't the original plan to collaborate with Jalen?

Unwilling to capitalize on her relationship, Hannah openly refused.

"Let's not, Uncle Bryan. I lack business acumen and have no desire to create conflict."

Catching her refusal, Bryson lifted his gaze to meet hers and subtly smiled.

"Ah." Bryan sighed.

"Hold off on your refusal. Drop by the ancestral home this weekend. Your grandmother has been longing to see you. You should pay her a visit."