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upon hearing that. She looked at Rose incredulously as she asked, "Mom, look at how things turned out. Do you still think we can get married?" Norman frowned. "Silly girl, what are you thinking? I already made it clear that if they wanted to dissolve the engagement, they wouldn't decide last minute; it isn't how they do things."However, Linda's frown deepened. "You guys just don't believe me, do you? I truly feel that way!"At times, my sense of ominous premonition is very accurate! Gareth is acting very peculiar!Rose's brows furrowed together. "Alright. I'll speak to Monica to see if anything's up."Linda nodded profusely. "Yes, you should ask about it, Mom. Otherwise, I will keep worrying about it. These days, it's always his assistant who picks up my calls, and he is constantly busy. I don't even have the opportunity to speak to him alone. If this carries on, we..."Her voice trailed off. She was worried about her speculations becoming a reality. "Okay, okay. You should stay calm. Look at how you are behaving right now! You don't seem to be the daughter I brought up," Rose said with contempt, leaving Linda momentarily stunned."Mom, you-" She was on the verge of crying. To begin with, she had been somewhat agitated that day. Yet, her parents didn't even seem to care about her, making her unable to hold it in anymore. Tears streamed down her face in the next second. "Why don't you believe me? Do you know how much I've suffered? Am I really your daughter?" "Oh, sweetheart!" Upon seeing his daughter crying, Norman felt sorry for her. He immediately walked to her and wiped the tears off her face. "You have always been our baby. How could you say that? I've already explained this to you – if they dare to dissolve the engagement, I will terminate our business deals. The Wickam family values our business a lot. How would they fix the situation after that?"Linda's expression changed after hearing that. "This..." Norman wiped her tears again before saying gently, "If they really dare to do that, I will terminate everything with them. Let's see what they'll do next!"Linda heaved a sigh of relief. After all, she knew how important their family business was. In that case... it seems that there won't be any problems.Rose also interjected exasperatedly, "Look at you. I don't even

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paused for a moment before replying with a laugh. "I have no clue. Why don't you give her a call? I'm running errands for Mrs. Wickam elsewhere, so I'm not in town." Rose's brows were interlocked tightly as she felt the assistant's hesitance. Something's definitely fishy! Regardless, she was not in a position to comment on that. "Alright then. I'll call her myself. See you around," she said with a perfunctory smile. "Sure, Mrs. Benett." As soon as Rose hung up, Linda spoke weakly with a pale face. "Mom... are we doomed?" Frowning, Rose said firmly, "No." "What should we do now? What should we do?" Linda asked frantically.Rose immediately made a decision. "Let's go to Wickam Residence."Linda followed her footsteps without any hesitation. Both of them got into the car and headed to Wickam Residence. Along the way, they discussed what they should do when they arrived. However, Rose was not as composed as she was before. After all, something was definitely off, seeing how Monica hadn't replied until now.Right after they arrived at Wickam Residence, her phone suddenly rang.The pair of mother and daughter looked at the phone, surprised to find it was from Monica.Linda quickly said, "Pick up the call and tell her we are here now!"Rose ignored her suggestion and picked up the call with a smile, "Hi, Monica.""Hey, Mrs. Benett. Sorry about the delay – I was playing tennis with my friends, so I wasn't paying attention to my phone. What's up?" As soon as Rose heard the way Monica addressed her, she froze.We have always been on a first-name basis. Why is she

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for a moment before she replied, "I see. Then we-"She was about to say, 'we will visit you another time,' but Linda cut her off." Mrs. Wickam, I'm Linda." As the call was put on speaker, it was not weird for Linda to interject."Oh, hey there, Linda," Monica replied kindly, without any hint that something was wrong. "Unfortunately, I'm not home. What brought you guys here today? Perhaps you can visit again."Linda's expression changed upon hearing that. Initially, she wanted to tell her they could wait for her to return.But...She has already made her intentions clear that she wants us to leave. What else can we do?Linda shot a panicked look at Rose, asking her to think of an idea.Rose took a deep breath before saying, "I see. Well, I guess we have no choice but to visit again. Have fun, Monica!""Thanks. Let's meet another day."Though Monica was polite, they could feel the thick rejection in her tone."Alright," Rose replied. "See you later, Mrs. Wickam." Linda tried to sound sweet. "Of course. Goodbye!" With a smile, Monica hung up.Immediately after that, Linda grabbed Rose's hand. "Mom, something is definitely off with her!"Rose's face darkened, and she remained silent. Upon seeing the situation now, she was not as confident as before. "But-"Linda did not want to give up, but as soon as she said the word, Rose immediately looked at her in displease. "What are you going to do? We are clearly not welcomed. Do you want to barge into her home to wait for her?""I..." she spluttered, not knowing how to continue.Nevertheless, it didn't change the fact that she felt bitter and incredulous about the situation. "Let's go home." With that, they went back Meanwhile, in Wickam Residence, Monica shot a conflicted look

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of her family background. On top of that, she was not a massive fan of Elisa. To her, Linda was a lot smarter than Elisa.However, if they could find an alternative, even Linda was not good enough for Gareth.Gareth explained calmly, "I have already started our own wood industry." Both Darren and Monica were surprised to hear that. "You?" There was no change in Gareth's icy expression at all. In fact, the iciness was also apparent in his tone. "Benett Corporation takes a lot of commission. Since we are no worse than them, it's better to handle it ourselves." Darren frowned deeply. "Show me!"...Elisa and Rachel stayed home for an entire day. Elisa felt bored since she had not gone out in days.She looked at Rachel exasperatedly. "I'm not as weak as you think. We can totally take a walk outside.""You

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your cousin doing here? Did Linda give you a call before this?" she asked softly.Elisa frowned and shook her head.There was a look of disapproval on Rachel's face as she asked darkly, "What should we do? Should we let her in?"The sarcasm was apparent in Elisa's smile. "Let her in. Since she dares to show up here, it means she has nothing to be afraid of. I believe she doesn't dare to hurt me. Let's see what she has up her sleeves."Though Rachel looked worried and conflicted, she opened the door regardless upon seeing the determination on Elisa's face.Linda marched through the door, but when she saw Rachel, she froze. "What are you doing here?" "Why can't I be here? It is none of your business!" Rachel retaliated.She thoroughly despised Linda at that moment; such a reply was already considered polite.Upon receiving such a rude reply, Linda said furiously, "You–"Before she could finish her sentence, Elisa interjected, "What's up?"Distracted by Elisa, Linda walked toward her, losing control of her rage with every step she took. "Elisa, what do you want? When will you stop? Haven't you caused enough harm for me?" she screeched miserably. Rachel did not approve of such accusations at all. She walked over instantly and stood in front of Elisa. Staring fixedly into Linda's eyes, she retorted viciously, "What do you mean, Linda? Who is the one causing harm? Let's clear things up today! How much more are you going to make Elisa suffer? She has already broken a rib – what else do you want? Do you really want her dead?"Linda's expression immediately changed. "What nonsense are you talking about? What has that to do with me?"Elisa let out a derisive snort. "Rachel, it's meaningless to argue with her."Rachel frowned, but she didn't disagree with her.On the other hand, Linda was enraged upon hearing that.She started walking toward Elisa again, but Rachel stepped forward and shoved her, making her stagger backward. "What are you doing? Are you going to kill us yourself since the car crash didn't do its job? With me here, don't even think of touching Elisa! Over my dead body!" Rachel roared fiercely. "Rachel!" Linda thundered.Rachel snorted coldly and scratched her ears irately. "I'm not deaf; I can hear you perfectly. Are you trying to make everyone in the vicinity hear you? How funny! Aren't you worried that I might take a recording of how ferocious you are? Your elegant facade will be completely ruined by then."Linda's chest heaved angrily. She was here to settle scores with Elisa, and it wasn't in her plans to involve another person.Then, she took a deep breath to

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can enjoy her downfall as you take away her belongings? I've never seen anyone as thick-skinned as you and your family!""You!"Linda used to be treated with respect; no one dared to take such a tone with her over the years. It was entirely out of her expectations that Rachel would say something like that. After all, even if they disliked each other silently when they met each other in the past, they never had such a full-blown argument. What is going on with Rachel today?"Rachel." Elisa pulled her backward, not wanting to involve her in this. Knowing that Linda and her family were ruthless, she didn't want Rachel to be harmed. However, Rachel did not even care about that. She shot a look at Linda again and said, "What? I'm telling the truth! Don't you think that you are thick-skinned? You seduced Elisa's husband! Since you guys are getting married soon, you better be happy with him. A jerk like him is compatible with a b*tch like you.""Rachel Markee!"Linda was so enraged that she couldn't even think of a reply.She was so overcome by fury that she could only think of killing Rachel.Damn it! Elisa deserves to die, as well as Rachel! I will make these two b*tches die in a car crash! When Elisa saw Linda's blood-red eyes filled with vengeance, she quickly grabbed Rachel's hand tightly. "Shush, Rachel. Go back to your room. I believe she won't dare to do anything to me.""No! I shan't let her touch you! You are not fully recovered yet," Rachel rejected without a second thought. "With my skills, what are you afraid of? Trust me." With that, she looked at Rachel firmly. Even so, Rachel had no intention of leaving her with Linda. "No, I won't leave you. I know everything that happened between you guys. Just spit it out, Linda. I'm not an outsider here. So long as you don't hurt Elisa, I won't do anything to you."Linda gritted her teeth. So much fury was built up within her that she felt on the verge of exploding. Taking another deep breath, she thought, Calm down! Calm down!Finally, the protruding veins on her forehead slowly disappeared. She looked at Elisa darkly before asking, "Elisa, I only have one question for you – since you don't like Gareth, why do you keep pestering him? Are you planning to be his mistress?" Elisa snorted out laughing. "Ah, this is the reason you came here furiously."Linda's eyes widened with fury. How could she be so nonchalant about this? Right,

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anymore, why did you let him get closer to you?" Elisa laughed softly as though they were talking about something amusing. Rachel looked at her in confusion. How is Elisa so calm? She regarded Linda as her sister in the past. Shouldn't she be furious about how things turned out today? Linda and her family

repaid her kindness with betrayal and hurt. God knows how many immoral things they have done! Yet, Elisa is still so composed! Alas, I can never have her composure. Linda frowned. "What are you laughing about?" Elisa's smile widened. A moment later, she slowly explained, "There might be some misunderstandings in the past, but weren't you the cause of our grudges after that?" Linda's

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a hard time. No matter who it was, they both chose me. If I worked with one of them, the other would be offended. Under such difficult circumstances, you guys thought of another idea, didn't you?"Linda clenched her fists tightly with the urge to scream loudly, 'Stop speaking!'Rachel gritted her teeth upon hearing the story. What a story! If they hadn't taken such advantage of Elisa, she wouldn't be in such a tragic situation now. I feel so sorry seeing how she has endured the pain lately.Rachel held Elisa's hand quietly with pain in her eyes.Elisa smiled at Linda again. "You guys came up with such a ruthless plan in the end, but I bet it's out of your expectations that I would only break a rib. However, Gareth was so worried about me dying. He loves my proposal. He will lose an important business partner and suffer massive losses if I'm not around. Look at how he stayed with me when I was hospitalized! He even visited me regularly. If I didn't treat him coldly, he would probably visit me every day. Weren't you the one who caused all this to happen? Sometimes I wonder if I misunderstood your intentions; you kept saying that you are trying to bring us together. Now, it really seems the case.""Hey!"Linda was enraged. However, Elisa could not help chuckling gently. "Unfortunately, I don't like Gareth, or we would have gotten back together. Linda, if you continue to make

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live this time?"Linda took a deep breath, not wanting to be provoked by this woman again. She bit her cheek to compose herself, "Don't act daft with me!"She stormed away.Linda initially wanted to reason with Elisa, but it backfired. If I keep this up, I'll be embarrassing myself.Take a deep breath. Just walk away, Linda. Ugh, this bitch! I'll have her head one day!'Boom'The door slammed behind the vexed lady.Rachel looked at her with concern, "Elisa, let's not waste time! We need to figure this out before that madwoman does something to you!"Elisa smiled, "Don't worry."It was accurate to say that this plan needed a firm hand. Unless Linda was compelled to stop, she wouldn't.Moreover, Rachel had said so many things to provoke Linda. Linda obviously played a role in Rachel's outburst, but she threatened her kin. Knowing the Markee family, Elisa did not dare to take it lightly."Rach," Elisa called. "About Uncle James," she rubbed her neck. "Why didn't he work with the Markees but with Benett Corporation instead?" Rachel shrugged, "To be fair, my uncle and dad don't have the best relationship. Besides, your dad and Mr. Markee were chummy at that time. So, it's

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you mean?""I sent Linda the exact recording I sent to Gareth, including some interesting recordings from the past. If Linda wants these recordings to be kept private, she can't do anything to the two of us. She'll get the message." She cracked her knuckles, "If something happens to the two of us, she'll be exposed to the public. After all, Linda still needs her precious reputation.""Hahaha, this is too perfect. Elisa, you clever minx." Rachel was over the moon over how things were progressing. Her nemesis, whom she had hated for so long, is finally at her mercy....At that moment, Gareth was busy processing documents in the office. He talked with his old man, and he agreed wholeheartedly.Being able to cancel the engagement, Gareth felt relieved. Work seemed easier now with how things were heading.Moments later, a familiar ding came from his computer, indicating incoming mail. Gareth was confident it was the same anonymous mailer from before. Gareth had requested Thomas's help in the investigation during that period, but evidence had been covered up.Gareth nonchalantly played the audio and scowled upon hearing Linda's sharp voice. "Elisa, what do you want? When will you stop? Haven't you caused enough harm for me?" Gareth was starting to feel repulsed by her shrieking. The man suddenly heard Elisa's voice in the recording. He increased the volume. The recording was rather long. Gareth appeared to be losing patience gradually, but his attention peaked over Linda's question. "Elisa, just tell me when you will leave Gareth for good. Are you really disillusioned by him?" Gareth grew tense. He heard Elisa chuckle in the audio. "I already told you that I am not interested in him anymore." The man's heart sank. Overwhelming emotions began to surge in him. "If that's the case, why do you keep engaging with him? Since you don't like him anymore, why did you let him get closer to you?" Gareth inhaled sharply. "There might be some misunderstandings in the past, but weren't you the cause of our grudges after that?""I made a proposal back then. If your father had agreed, all these conflicts would never have happened. However, you guys were