

## No Chance 661

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an inexperienced girl head this critical project? If there are any issues, she won't have to bear the responsibility for the colossal losses. Instead, Gareth will be responsible because he makes the final decisions. If that happens, the only person who will be criticized will be Gareth, not Elisa. Perhaps Gareth's decision will be questioned as well. How can a woman like Elisa shoulder this tremendous responsibility? "Of course, I understand your perspective. Ms. Becker, why don't you point out some of the challenges we might face? You are always welcome to test me on how I'll resolve them. I know

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looking forward to witnessing the next scene. She is not just all talk but is well-versed in many different fields. Elisa nodded in reply. Hazel cleared her throat and continued, "I can tell we will need a lot of talent in the later part of the project. We will need at least two hundred of the leading experts in the field. Even though we are not lacking in talent, we still need to recruit elites. How are you going to do this?" "For those up to par, I will recruit them myself." The crowd was again speechless upon hearing that. Apparently, Elisa was well-prepared for this battle. At this point, no one questioned her capabilities anymore. Hazel nodded and fired three more questions, and Elisa answered them perfectly and with ease. Finally, Hazel nodded in satisfaction. "Thanks. I'm done with my questions now." Throughout the process, Gareth had been sitting quietly without any intention of leaving or helping Elisa. She handled the situation on her own. Everyone in the meeting changed their perception of her after that. There were a few more people who weren't satisfied with her. They asked challenging questions to give her a hard time, but she gave them plausible and compelling suggestions. In the end, they agreed with her and were even excited about the proposal. Throughout the entire Q&A session, Gareth's gaze never left her. Even Thomas could feel the intensity of his gaze. This is a bit too much... There are so many people here – why can't he restrain himself? Thomas was not the only person who noticed. Even those who weren't close to Gareth felt that something was different. Why does Mr. Wickam keep staring at Elisa? Is it purely because he wants to know her replies? Or because he values this project a lot? Perhaps he values Elisa because of this and is willing to forget about their past to work with her. Meanwhile, some people assumed that he still had feelings for her. After all, the news about him and Will was well-known by everyone. Both of them had been competing with each other publicly and privately. It seemed that they were even competing for the same woman. Wow, it seems like we have an exciting drama to watch. In the past, Will and Gareth had always competed with each other through projects and proposals. This time, the team wouldn't have to work on

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with Elisa and take her instructions." "Noted, sir," some replied, while others nodded. Elisa didn't make any further comments. Her throat was getting dry from all the talking moments before. Then, Gareth made his way out of the room. "The meeting is over. You may proceed with your work," Thomas quickly announced. The crowd collected their belongings and left the room. There were different attitudes toward Elisa suddenly becoming one of the company's directors. Some were neutral, some annoyed – thinking she had nothing to offer, and some indifferent. Meanwhile, she didn't care what they thought about her. After all, she was bound to encounter challenges in life. She just had to resolve them when the obstacles arose. After returning to her office, she started drafting a new action plan. However, as

soon as her hand touched the mouse, her phone rang. "Ms. Benett, I'm Serena Jenkins, Mr. Wickams's new assistant. He is calling you to his office." "Serena? A new girl?" Elisa was surprised to hear that. Gareth usually delegates most of his tasks to Thomas. Perhaps Thomas is busy with other stuff. I've never heard of Serena Jenkins, though. "Sure," she replied. "See you." She put the phone down and made her way to Gareth's office. When she arrived at the door, she knocked before saying, "It's me, Mr. Wickam." "Come in." His voice was void of all emotions. As soon as Elisa entered the room, she saw a tall, beautiful woman standing behind him. Something is definitely up with them. They appraised each other simultaneously, but Serena quickly smiled and nodded at Elisa as a greeting. Elisa returned the greeting in a similar fashion before looking at Gareth. "Yes, Mr. Wickam?" she asked, standing in front of him. Behind him, Serena placed a document

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their screens. While working on it, they could also see each other's progress. It took more than three hours to complete it, and they missed lunch because of that. After pressing the enter button one last time, Elisa massaged her arms. "Does it hurt?" he asked. "No." She looked at him. "Is there anything else?" "Not for now." She didn't even look at the contents after successfully cracking the code. She merely shut the laptop and got up. "I'll take my leave, then." She nodded. "Thomas has already bought our lunch. Let's eat something first," Gareth said indifferently. Elisa didn't want to spend any more time with him, so she rejected coolly, "It's okay. You guys go ahead." With that, she proceeded to walk out of the room. However, he quickly grabbed her hand. She frowned at him, but she didn't jerk away. Gareth's behavior was out of character, making Elisa feel that something was off. "Please let go." Nevertheless, he pulled her into her chair. Before she could even struggle to get up, Thomas' voice rang at the door. "Mr. Wickam." "Come in." Elisa quickly sat up straight, not

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eat – Gareth didn't touch his food at all. Sitting at his desk, darkness loomed on his face.... Three days later, Elisa and Gareth were still mad and ignoring each other. They also didn't join any meetings together. Even without the fight, Elisa would have ignored him in all circumstances. This made her the host for most of the meetings. Unless absolutely necessary, Gareth would not show up. This made Elisa's life easier, but because of Gareth's absence, many people changed their minds about her. In one particular meeting, she pointed out some of her dissatisfactions about the first phase, making everyone groan in protest. "Ms. Benett, it's true that we have to coordinate with you, but we also have to make sure that what you suggest is correct so that everyone will trust us," someone voiced out dryly. Even though the meeting only consisted of fifteen people, they were all experienced veterans in this field. The problem was about hiring the elites in human resources to support them in the project. Since most of them were already experienced, they had their own quirks and habits. If Gareth were here, they would all be meek and quiet. However, since it was Elisa, they would feel embarrassed if they remained quiet and listened to everything she said. The person who commented just now was Darell Anderson,

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right – we think you're wrong here. Aside from capabilities, I agree we should also observe if the candidate is a cultural fit. However, the candidate the other day was simply odd. Yet, you decided to hire him immediately and even increased his wage." He paused. "On top of giving Mr. Anderson a hard time, you even criticized him in front of everyone. Has he really done something wrong?" Regarding this

conflict, the majority stood with Darell, who was more experienced and capable. The fact that he worked with Wickam Group – a company that would not tolerate underperformers – for such a long time proved that he was capable. Though that was the case, Elisa criticized him point blank in the meeting. It was only reasonable that he found it difficult to accept. Upon hearing that, Elisa looked at the young man in confusion. “Since when have I criticized Mr. Anderson?” I was just telling them my idea to recruit new talent. I’ve never even mentioned Darell’s name, yet he thinks I’m criticizing him. Darell’s face darkened, but he remained arrogantly silent. The young man explained, “You just said that we can’t continue working based on the old evaluation system, and you asked us to shift from an old mentality to a more modern working method. Aren’t you implying that we are the problem here?” Elisa was dumbfounded when she heard that. What? Is he dumb? “Are you sure those were my exact words?” Elisa asked calmly. He frowned. “How can I remember every single word you said? I’m only describing the gist of the conversation. Since everyone heard it too, I hope you can explain everything to us.” Elisa lowered her gaze before taking out a recording pen. The young man’s expression immediately changed when he saw that. Without any hesitation, Elisa copied the recordings into her laptop. Under everyone’s shocked expressions, she found the exact conversation and played it to the public. “Even though we had some difficulties in the interviews today, we did well. The people we are currently looking for are different from the usual candidates; we need people from the management level to join us. Hence, we have to make some alterations to our

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name and even calls him an idiot. They felt slightly conflicted when they thought about that. Apart from that, Thomas is still here! Wouldn’t he report this to Mr. Wickam? With that thought in mind, they turned around to look at Thomas but were baffled when they realized he was trying to hold back a smile. ??? One of them felt the urge to ask, ‘How long can you hold that for? If not, feel free to laugh out loud.’ What is going on? Seeing how everyone turned around to look at Thomas, Elisa felt something was up. She observed him from the corner of her eyes and glimpsed the occasional grin on his face. Regardless, she didn’t comment on it. After retracting her gaze, she continued, “You may freely share any suggestions, but I disagree with people who slander others. If this happens again, don’t blame me for being ruthless.” What is she going to do about it? Right when everyone was wondering, the door was suddenly pushed open. Though shocked, the crowd felt as though their life savior had arrived. Gareth appeared in a smart, black suit. Standing at almost two meters, his broad shoulders and comparatively slender waist made him look appealing. His handsome face, especially, could send girls into a frenzy. Though he was usually arrogant and indifferent, no one thought badly of him. After all, he had the power to act in that manner. The crowd did not dare to look him straight in the eye. As their eyes secretly followed him around, he sat next to Elisa. Though Elisa was the host of the meeting, she didn’t sit in the main seat. She sat to the right of his usual seat. As soon as he sat down in the main seat, he looked at her calmly. “So, what are you going to do about it?” Does Mr. Wickam disagree with her? They thought in surprise. That’s great news! I hope he fires her immediately! I want her out of this company! Darell looked at them expectantly, but he didn’t dare to complain to Gareth

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disbelief. In a moment, they suddenly returned to their senses. He approves of her way of handling it! Oh my gosh! How could he agree to that? Darell was the last person in the room to return to his senses. With his heart aching, he thought, Why is Mr. Wickam behaving this way? Gareth arched his eyebrows. “Did

you hear me?" he asked threateningly, staring straight into Darell's eyes. Darell gave a jolt before nodding furiously. "Of course, of course." At that moment, his commanding demeanor vanished entirely. As the fear of being fired thickened, cold sweat broke out on his back. He had always been a subject of envy due to his position as the deputy manager of the human resources department in Wickam Group. His friends and relatives got along with him because they wanted to benefit from his status. Hence, he didn't even dare to imagine the consequences if he was fired; he didn't want to risk losing everything in his life. Since he agreed humbly, no one else dared to voice their

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way. Serves him right! Meanwhile, the young man who spoke up for him looked fearful. He seemed dazed when he walked out of the room.... Gareth's actions had alarmed the entire company. Rumors spread like wildfire. By the time the information had gone around, it turned to something akin to 'Gareth almost proposed to Elisa in front of everyone.' In no time, such a rumor spread outside the company and even appeared on the trending page on Twitter. Elisa was working when Rachel called her. Before she could say a word, Rachel squealed. She moved the phone a few inches away from her ear and waited for Rachel to calm down. "What's wrong, my overreacting