

Reborn 381

Chapter 381

Wayne almost couldn't hide his joy. Previously, he could never trust Charles Sawyer completely. But now he was sure of Charles' abilities by witnessing what he taught him to crack Hannah down. Therefore, Wayne firmly believed that he would win the Cooper Group sooner or later

He suddenly stood up from his seat and said, "I'm not qualified for this position yet. And I never thought of taking up it."

He was taking his stand.

Hannah glanced at him, thinking that it must be Charles who told him to say so—that was taking one step back today for two steps forward tomorrow, and he could be trusted more easily for that.

As expected, Simon Moss quickly praised, "Wayne disappointed us before, but he grew up a lot after what happened with his father. Now he has become much more responsible and stable, and he can clearly know who he is. Instead of thinking big, he starts working in a down-to-earth way. I believe that he'll make something for himself one day."

"I'm very grateful for your instruction." Wayne seemed to be humble. He won Simon's favor by using language skills.

"You may sit down. If you develop well, the board can see your change." Simon said to him earnestly.

"Yes." Wayne sat back on his chair, and his heart how indescribably happy. Because he was hardly ever praised for all that time, but he was recognized now for Hannah's failure this time. So he attributed all the credit to Charles.

He felt lucky that he had ignored Jane Cooper's prejudice against Charles but chose to trust him. Now thinking about it, he suspected that Jane's death had only herself to blame. She must have tried to seduce him. Otherwise, as such a tough man, Charles would never have something with that stupid girl.

In the conference room, Wayne was secretly pleased, which was all noticed by Hannah.

Simon added, "So, you cannot take people at face value. Before, we all thought Hannah was a dark horse in front of us, bringing a lot of interest to our company. But actually, she couldn't afford any setbacks and just ran away when getting into trouble. She's never gonna do anything great after this, I bet. Wayne, in contrast, is willing to learn from lessons after experiencing failures. A man like him will accomplish great things sooner or later!"

Hannah didn't refute him. Some executives were saying something agreeing with him, while others just waited and saw.

Simon affirmed, "I'm not gonna say I'm one hundred percent sure, but I'm still eighty percent sure that based on my experience over these years, he's going to do better than Hannah does in the future!"

Hannah just looked at him. She did not suspect that there was a secret relationship between Simon and Charles. Because he might not be so eager to carry out his plot just yet, and he would give himself away if he didn't succeed in colluding with Simon. He was never a fool, and he was stroked by her just because

of his self-conceit most of the time. So as long as he woke up to reality, he was not an easy man to deal with.

And now Simon was putting her down like this, just because he wanted to get off his chest as losing an important project on her. He deliberately used Wayne to deny her, to find a reasonable excuse to vent his anger. However, Wayne seemed to take what he said seriously.

“I don’t want to say too much.” Simon said directly, “My own feeling is that I certainly don’t approve her to be the future vice-president of the Group, cause she has no capacity to up to such an important position. We haven’t hired an external vice-president before, cause it’s usually a member of the Cooper family. But rules are fixed, not man. Currently, it’s difficult to single out a Cooper family member to take responsibility. So I personally suggest that we should recruit a vice-president.”

“I agree.” A shareholders said. Others started to vote by raising their hands.

“I agree, too. The company shouldn’t shut down just because the Cooper family has no abilities!”

“Yes. You shouldn’t be the dog in the manger.”

The people in the conference room kept talking loudly, and Simon was the loudest of them all. The atmosphere was kind of out of control. Obviously, Miguel’s face took on a bad-mood expression.

When he was gonna get mad, Hannah spoke.

“I disagree,” Hannah suddenly stood from her seat and said. Her intonation was determined, and even forceful.

“You disagree? You just rely on the identity that you’re the president’s daughter...”

“You’ve just said a lot, is it my turn to speak now?” Hannah cut him short with a straight glance.

The one who talked paused again because of Hannah’s tough attitude. After all, Hannah was the president’s daughter, so he didn’t dare to offend her too much.

“About the project, I apologize for nothing. I have utilized the best plan and calculated the most accurate offer, so I haven’t done anything wrong!” Separating every word to emphasize, Hannah said, “If you wanna say something is wrong...”

“If that’s not your mistake, then whose mistake is that? You wanna say the competitors are the ones to blame? Sawyer Group is the one to blame?” Simon stated in a loud voice, sarcastically.

“Will you just hear me out!”

“I don’t want to hear anything! I can’t accept a person as irresponsible and arrogant as you running the whole Cooper Group! Even if our company doesn’t allow both presidents to be external employees, I would rather recommend Wayne for this position than trust you again!”

“Did you just mention Wayne?” Hannah smiled slightly with sarcasm.

“What is your look!” Simon looked green, “Now you look down upon him, actually, you’re not qualified to look down on anybody like that! At least he has learned his lessons, what about you? You’re so haughty!”

“You think he’s better than me to be Cooper Group’s vice-president?” Hannah asked.

“At least he’s better than you. What I want to say is that we should either hire an external vice president or let Wayne fill this position. I can’t accept you anyway.” Simon said and turned to walk away. He didn’t afraid to disappoint anyone at all and seemed a bit unruly. Obviously, he was determined to bring her down.

Hannah just looked at how he turned away, looked as he flung open the door of the conference room. Outside the room, three men in police uniforms suddenly showed up and said, “We work for the supervisory department of Kensbury City, this is my badge, and this is the warrant for Wayne’s arrest!”

Not only Simon but all people in the conference room were rendered shocked.

“He’s facing charges arising from revealing trade secrets, now we need to detain him for investigation.”

After saying this, they walked straight into the meeting room without asking anyone and approached Wayne, “Wayne, Please come with us for the investigation.”

Wayne didn’t even know what happened and numbly looked at the policemen in front of him.

He had no idea what law he broke to get arrested!

Chapter 382

“I didn’t do anything. How can you arrest me?” Wayne realized what happened and shouted in rage. Unashamed, he called that out as if he was the righteous one since he did not believe he had committed any crime.

A policeman said bluntly, “You have caused the release of business secrets, so you have to be under investigation.”

“What business secrets did I release? When did I do this...” Wayne paused suddenly.

In that instant, he thought of the fact that he had handed over the plan of Cooper Group to Charles. He shivered at the thought of this and suddenly lost all of his confidence.

“What happened?” Miguel stood up and walked towards them.

As the chairman and Wayne’s uncle, he couldn’t just ignore what happened to Wayne.

People working for the supervisory department looked up to Miguel and said straightly, “We received the report from one of your employees that Wayne released your company’s trade secrets. Now we have collected sufficient evidence so we need to take him back to the investigation.”

“One of our employees?” Miguel was visibly surprised. He had no idea who reported Wayne, and what crime he had committed.

“It was me.” Hannah walked up to Miguel calmly and said, “I reported this.”

“What for?” Suppressing the panic in his heart, Wayne asked loudly, “You just hate me, and want to put me out of the company, don’t you? You can ask me to leave instead of playing all these tricks. I’ll just go! I’ll go immediately!”

After saying these words, Wayne was going to leave the conference room. Probably, he was in a huge panic. However, when he was about to take a step, the police had straightly stood in his way and prevented him from going away.

“Wayne, do you deny what you’ve done?” Hannah looked at him and asked slowly.

“I did nothing! You just want to set me up to expel me from the company! Hannah, how can you be so evil? No matter how bad our relationship is, at least I’m your cousin. I can’t believe you would do this to me!”

Hannah sneered and didn’t care about his accusation against her at all. She said to the policemen, “Can you give me ten minutes to set things straight? Otherwise, there might be nothing I can do to clear my name.”

They hesitated for a few seconds and agreed, “OK.”

“Thank you.” Hannah smiled with gratitude.

Then she slowly mounted the stage and plugged the USB she had prepared into the reader of the computer. A video of Wayne breaking into a safe in Rose’s office was shown on the screen in the conference room. In the video, everyone could clearly see Wayne opening the safe and taking out a USB, before hurrying away.

The meeting room was in an uproar. Wayne’s face turned pale when he saw himself in that video. He had no idea there was a security camera. He had disabled all the cameras that day, but he didn’t expect that there was still a camera under the desk aiming at him. He was too frightened to say a word and couldn’t disprove what was in the video at all.

Everyone was goggling at him in disbelief. They were wondering what the hell is in it for him.

Was he trying to frame Hannah?

If that were true, this guy was indeed malicious.

How could he disregard the interests of the company for his own?

...

Suddenly, it caused speculations and accusation against Wayne throughout the meeting room. What a slap in Simon’s face.

“As for the plan of Sawyer Group, the supervisory department has got it by formal means. Their plan is very similar to ours. Although it’s not easy to detect, once the department digs deep, its plan can be judged as plagiarism. And this \$9.9 billion bid is also not a coincidence.” Hannah said to them, “The point is I do have the records of his dealings with the person from Sawyer Group. Because time is limited, I don’t want to delay the work of the police, so I won’t play the video of his dealing records here.”

Hannah always did things neatly and never sloppy. She drew the USB and walked up to the police in full view of a large crowd, “Thank you for your working.”

Then the policemen got Wayne out of the conference room.

Wayne couldn't accept the fact that he was arrested by the police. He had been immersed in sheer delight a few minutes ago, and he was taken by the police the next second. He thought Hannah had lost the game but she did bite him back.

No way! By no means he could be imprisoned, or his life would be ruined in jail.

He struggled and squawked, "Don't take me out! Uncle Miguel, help me! Help me!..."

Watching them walk away, Miguel remained in silence with a clouded face. Never had he thought that Wayne would do such a thing. Even if his father, Roger Cooper, wanted this company so badly, he wouldn't be stupid enough to give away the business secrets of the company.

What an idiot Wayne was!

The conference room slowly quietened after he was taken away. It was a little more awkward because of this silence. After all, they had been reproaching Hannah, on Simon's side just now.

That made Simon embarrassed a lot. Standing on the same spot, he couldn't say a word while opening his mouth.

Hannah didn't pay any attention to him and said to all, "I just got that video today, this video was incidentally discovered by Rose while looking through the surveillance system. And I reported Wayne not because I wanna win a pissing contest. I wanted to cut him some slack for he's my cousin. But we all know the leopard cannot change his spots, so if we don't teach him a lesson, he'll never realize how bad the consequences of doing such a thing can be. The point is this is not only about my family but also all of our employees. If I give him free rein, I'll be irresponsible to our company. So, dad, please don't criticize me for my acting without your consent."

Miguel looked at his daughter, feeling admired for what she just said.

On the one hand, she accepted the responsibility of reporting Wayne, which at least blew up the gossip that Miguel was hardhearted towards his nephew. On the other hand, she also explained why she had to accomplish the report. There was no favoritism in Cooper Group, the Cooper family member who made mistakes would be punished just like ordinary employees. Besides, she punished him as a warning to other employees.

Miguel was wondering if his daughter was merely a 22-year-old girl or an undercover talent since she was pretty resourceful, collected, and thoughtful for her age.

The twist suddenly came, and Miguel even felt pleased about Wayne's end.

Chapter 383

"I agree with Hannah's handling of this affair." An executive director hurriedly said, "When you do something wrong, you should be punished. There is no need to worry too much about the causes and effects of dealing with this. Besides, This time the company did suffer a great loss because of him!"

"He should have expected his fate once he committed a crime like this. He doesn't deserve our sympathy anyway."

The room was in an uproar again but Hannah just let them chirp for a while and didn't interrupt.

Intentionally or not, she had a few glances at Simon Moss who didn't join others in denouncing Wayne and had a visibly embarrassed countenance.

Miguel also noticed his embarrassment. He was excited at the thought of how aggressive Simon had been toward Hannah just now. So he cleared his throat and said, "You've been criticizing Hannah just now and saying that the vice-president must be Wayne or an external employee. I wonder if you still hold on to that idea?"

Simon blushed when Miguel said it, although he was an experienced person in his late fifties.

"I didn't expect he would do such a stupid thing. After all, he's a member of the Cooper family, so I thought he wouldn't be so foolish." Simon tried to rescue himself.

"But you just said he's going to do better than Hannah does. Well, it seems your experience isn't enough."

Simon's face turned redder because of what Miguel said. But he couldn't refute it at all because what he had done was too humiliating.

Miguel was in a really good mood and asked, "You didn't answer my question. Hannah was set up, and Wayne stole our business secrets, did you still think it was her fault? Was she not careful enough? Was she not doing a good job keeping the trade secrets? I bet no one in the room can perfectly accomplish it, either. Since Hannah can make the plan so perfect, she has shown her capacities."

Simon said nothing for he knew he would contradict himself no matter what he wanted to say. So he just simply tolerated Miguel's questioning.

"Now I announce Hannah's official appointment as the vice-president of Cooper Group, and she is no longer in charge on an interim basis. As of today, an official announcement will be released in three days." Miguel said powerfully.

The executive of the general affairs department hurriedly said with respect, "Yes, Mr. Cooper. I'll immediately draw up the document of this appointment."

Now Miguel also acted with a lot of power since he felt that his daughter was so good that he couldn't keep a low profile.

"The meeting will be over if no one has an opinion. Hannah, come to my office." Said he.

"OK." Hannah nodded.

After Miguel walked out of the conference room, others successively left there.

Someone was saying, "Simon, did you act on impulse just now? We all complained about not winning the project, but in fact, we know Hannah is very capable. So we think this project must have failed because someone played a dirty trick! But you leave no room for yourself. Now the truth has come out. So awkward!"

Simon's face turned even darker.

Businessmen were so hypocritical and were good at hitting a person when he was down, he thought. Now he was the only one to take the blame.

However, he saw Hannah differently with admiration because of her handling of the thing. Besides, somehow, Simon thought it was more than that since it was too convenient to catch him on video this time. Clever as Hannah, she must get her way since she was afraid little of Wayne and allowed him to work in the company, while she knew he had ulterior motives. So she set a trap and waited for him to jump in.

Simon took a cold sweat at that thought. Hannah was so young to have such a calculation, so he feared she would kill him if he offended her! Simon realized that everyone who was against her came to no good end, such as Mason Porter, Maxwell Watson, and even Roger Cooper, which sweated him back with horror. He dared not offend Hannah again in the future!

However, Hannah had no idea what others thought of her, and she didn't really care about that. Anyway, businessmen only cared about the results and didn't talk about feelings.

Sitting in front of her father's office desk, Hannah asked straightly, "Dad, what did you want to say?"

"First, I'm proud. I'm proud that I'm your dad."

Hannah smiled with speechlessness, discovering that her father had become so narcissistic.

"Sometimes even I can't handle those old guys, but you're able to shut them up and even give them a slap in front of all! Hannah, I'm doubting whether you're my daughter or not. When did my daughter get so good?" Miguel was still in euphoria.

"Alright, dad. You can tell me your point now." Hannah was a little shy about her father's compliment.

In fact, she wouldn't be so capable if she hadn't lived a more decade in her last life, which made her recognize reality and led to her strong personality.

"Secondly, I want to ask you to sue Sawyer Group to get our plan back." Miguel suddenly turned serious and said, "It's a pity to fail this project. Can we grab back the initiative of the plan again?"

Hannah also became earnest, "Dad, I'm not gonna lie to you. Actually, this time our company's failure is part of my plan."

Miguel changed his countenance visibly.

"Of course, at first I didn't expect Wayne would release the trade secrets and didn't want to lose the bid intentionally. But then I found Wayne tried doing something against our company so I just went along with him. Dad, we can't keep Wayne anymore, cause he'll never be our people, only our enemy. We'd better get rid of him before he set us up."

Miguel paused for a second but didn't disapprove of her.

"We must get rid of Wayne, and it would be better if we could take Charles out, too. So I asked someone to keep an eye on Charles and tried finding his evidence of the crime. Unfortunately, He was too intelligent. He asked his assistant, Sandra Stein, to show up on all the occasions when Wayne appeared to get in touch with Charles. I thought Wayne must be too stupid to realize that he had left evidence.

And I also thought about threatening Wayne with the evidence I had got to force him to give Charles out. But Charles was so tricky that Wayne might make him feel something was wrong. So I took a big chance. If I wasn't lucky enough, Wayne would be the only one getting arrested. At least we've fought down one of our enemies."

"Right. I can understand the reason why you lost the project intentionally. Because you wanted to get rid of Wayne and Charles." Miguel said to clear his position, "But now the most important thing is whether we can grab the project back or not."

After all, for a businessman, especially a successful one, without violating his principles and conscience and breaking the law, the most important thing was always his benefits.

Chapter 384

"No." Hannah said bluntly, "There are three reasons. First, they have started the project and may shift the responsibility of stealing trade secrets to anyone else if they want. Secondly, the bureau has handed the project to Sawyer Group. I've read the contract they signed, and it's not written in the contract that they can break it if there is something wrong with the plan. So it's impossible for them to end their cooperation in this situation. At most, the bureau could let them redesign their plan, and the project still belongs to them."

Hearing her words, Miguel's face clouded.

"Thirdly, I didn't even think about taking on this project. Admittedly, the project is a collaboration with the Municipal Bureau of Land Management, and it would be an advantage for our company's development if we build a good connection with it. But there are also other ways to do it. We only need to help them in doing a good deed, then the heads of the bureau will think they owe us a big favor."

"What do you mean?" Miguel was confused.

"I'm not gonna tell it to you for the time being, because I'm not one hundred percent sure about it yet. Now I'm gonna talk about why I'm not gonna take this project. Actually, the project isn't profitable that much. I've calculated and discovered our benefit can only be at most one percent because of our low price, and we have to wait three to five years for the collection of payment. It means we invest \$10 billion and only earn \$100 million after three to five years. Although it's not a small amount of money, it's not as big as we think. And this project requires us to utilize a huge capital chain, so it's not such a pity to its failure from the point of efficiency."

What Hannah said made sense, and that made Miguel realize that this project wasn't that valuable.

In this case, Cooper Group lost its chance to cooperate with the governments, which made a difference to its public image. Besides, there was a point of pride.

But now if Wayne was found guilty of stealing the trade secrets for Sawyer Group, the pride thing won't be so important. Anyway, Sawyer Group won the project by stealing their plan. And it might become free publicity for Cooper Group.

As for the last point Hannah mentioned, Miguel would trust her since she had said she had a solution.

Thinking over it, Miguel relieved with a sigh and said, "Hannah, you always release me from anxiety. I have to say I was very upset these days because of the project's failure. I really didn't expect Sawyer Group would be able to snatch the project from us. We already have had tensions with them, and it annoyed me to see them showing off. You didn't know during the week you put your plan into action, I met Lee Sawyer once. He was so proud of himself that I still want to punch in his face now."

Hannah smiled because she felt that her dad got much more funnier than before. She used to make trouble for her father in her last life, making him look years older than he was. In this life, she was determined to let Miguel take an easy and free life.

"I can't wait to see Lee in disgrace!" Miguel said with excitement.

Noticing Miguel's change from a serious, hard-nosed chairman, she felt somehow delighted.

"Just wait for it nicely. I have something to do and I have to go." Said Hannah.

"OK." Miguel still didn't forget to say, "Although work is important, don't tire yourself."

"Got it."

"Hold on." Miguel suddenly asked, "You went to see Oscar these days. Is he all right?"

He didn't forget to care about his son-in-law, which made Hannah smile more at the thought of Oscar. And that was seen by Miguel. He felt lucky to consent to her marriage to Oscar before. And he couldn't have dared even to imagine that she was going to marry Charles at the beginning.

"I think he's okay. He's getting along all right in his new job, except the living environment isn't very good."

"Good. It'll be beneficial for us if Oscar can work for the government. Or we will have a hard time if Charles becomes a big one."

"Don't worry, dad. I believe Oscar will achieve much."

"Look at you, you're defending him now." Miguel showed his jealousy intentionally.

Hannah blushed lightly and said shyly, "Dad."

"Alright, I can understand. I'm not a fuddy-duddy at all. But your mom nagged me yesterday that 25 is a little late to have a baby. She's 50 now and she's worried about her health after a couple of years. So she wants you to have a baby early for her, and she can take care of your kid to pass the time. You don't know that her eyes will light up if she sees a baby in the street when she goes for a walk."

"Don't rush me, please. We'll have a baby when the time comes. And we'll give you a bunch of kids."

"No one's asking you to have a bunch of kids. One is good." Obviously, Miguel wanted a grandchild, too, but he just asked for it in Michelle's name.

"It's time to go back."

"Since you and Oscar are so close, can't you just have a baby..."

When Miguel was saying this, Hannah had walked out of his office. But her mind kept running through the last sentence Miguel said. There was no denying that their relationship was really good now. But as Oscar said before, they planned to get a baby when she was 25 years old.

She didn't allow herself to think about it anymore and come back to her office.

Rose hastily followed Hannah's steps. She had been a very serious and hard-nosed woman, but now she looked very excited and asked, "Ms Hannah, I heard that Wayne was arrested in front of all because he stole our trade secrets. Is it true? Now it's all over the company and everyone is shocked."

Hannah glanced at her and said, "Rose, Can you pay attention to your image?"

Rose had a short dumb and soon managed to keep her emotions under control.

"Yes, it's true," Hannah answered.

"How did you know that? How did you know Wayne colluded with Sawyer Group? Charles driven Wayne's sister, Jane Cooper, to her death before. Didn't he mind her sister's death? Could he work for Charles with no conscience?" Rose was hard to hide her excitement although she was trying to restrain herself.

"I was quite surprised, too," Hannah said with indifference. She didn't feel really happy about Wayne's arrest.

"You can go now." Hannah said.

"OK," Rose said with respect and didn't forget to show her earnestness, "Ms Hannah, you're my hero."

"..."

Hannah couldn't help laughing after all because she felt good at being admired by someone. In her last life, she was so stupid as to gloss over all of her abilities!

She would never be a low-key person again in this life!

Chapter 385

Hannah sat in the office. Pondering for while, she decided to give Theodore a call.

It got through and Theodore said, "I saw Wayne has been arrested."

"Yes, keep an eye on Sandra for me, will you?" Hannah asked.

"What's wrong?" Theodore frowned, "I thought Wayne will give her name. Even if he didn't, we still have enough evidence to bring her to justice."

"No, I think Charles will attack her."

"You mean he will kill her." Theodore said in surprise, "He will go this far?"

"He's capable of anything. He's a man without principles. Sandra is just his tool. Once she became a threat to him, he will be merciless."

"Okay, I see." Theodore agreed.

He truly admired Hannah. He always felt that her every move was carefully planned as if she knew what was going to happen, and step by step, she could make everyone walk into the trap she had set up.

Hannah hung up the phone. She was betting that Charles would panic. When he panicked, he would hurt Sandra, once he did that, Theodore could get evidence.

She could just sit back and reap the benefits.

...

Charles asked for a leave and left his office on hearing the news that Wayne was arrested.

As he sat in the car, he made a sour face all the way. He was now heading for the company.

He was really pissed off by Wayne, the useless one caught.

What he had asked him to do was perfect. That fool! He must have been careless so that Hannah could find the evidence.

He gritted his teeth, picked up the phone, and called someone.

“Sir, can you give me the evidence that the inspection department found about Wayne? I want to know whether he could clear all the suspicion or not.”

The man sneered. He said in a sarcastic tone, “Charles, you said that you would defeat Cooper Group this time. But it only lasted for a few days. Now everyone knew that you got their planning case by all devious means. Everyone knew you are no gentleman. I am so disappointed! Since when have you become so stupid? I can’t see any potential in you anymore!”

Charles maintained a poker face with rage.

He had only enjoyed his trophy for a few days.

“I just got the evidence of the prosecution. It is conclusive. Not only he was recorded when he was stealing, there was also another video of the handover between him and your assistant Sandra, and even their sex was filmed. Charles, were you setting Hannah up or she was setting you up?” The man said sarcastically, “When you were feeling smug, Hannah has seen through your tricks.”

Charles was grasping the steering wheel so tightly that his hands were shaking.

Hannah!

You bitch!

How could this happen?

How could she see through all his schemes and even prepare for them in advance?

She made him act like a clown!

He was so angry that he wanted to run her over.

“The guilt of Wayne is irrefutable proof in black and white. Do not waste you time on defending Sawyer Group! You’d better think about whether this will involve you. Maybe Wayne or Sandra will turn you in.

Will the construction of South Bay New Town be affected?" The man said in a cold voice, "Charles, if this continues, I will give you up. Do yourself a favor."

With that, he was hanging up.

"I won't be involved," he said, "Although I was set up by Hannah, I did not leave any trace. Everything was done by Sandra and I never intervened."

"Good. But this does not mean that Sandra will not keep some evidence about you secretly." The man said bluntly.

"You can rest easy. Sandra is smart, but she will not have any guard against me, nor can she hide any evidence about me in advance, she is not that smart!" Charles was sure of that.

"What if Hannah warned her?" Asked the man.

Charles panicked and his hands were shaking as he held the phone.

Could Hannah know about this before?

He didn't believe it.

"Of course, it was also possible that Hannah did not dare to act rashly to avoid causing undesired agitation."

Charles confirmed that and said, "Yes, Sandra was loyal to me and if Hannah approached her before, she would tell me. The benefits I have given to Sandra are beyond her wildest dreams. If I fell from power, it would not do her any favors, so she must have been entirely loyal to me."

"I was just giving you a heads-up. I hope that's true. Although you let me down again, I have already spent a lot of effort on you. If you are brought down by Hannah, then all my efforts will be a mockery." Said the man indignantly.

Charles knew that he was letting him down. Were it not for this person was reluctant to waste his effort, he would have lost everything by now.

He said with his clenched jaw, "I could kill Sandra."

To save himself, he could hurt her. And now he was going to the company to show others his concern about the company, but his real purpose was Sandra.

"If you're sure that she has no evidence against you, you don't have to kill her. If you killed her, it might become a recipe for disaster. Come on, think, what does Hannah want from you now?"

Charles held the steering wheel tightly.

"She wants nothing more than you make mistakes. She's watching every move Wayne made. Don't you think you're being watched? Have you ever thought that she is waiting for you to kill Sandra?"

Charles had a chill on his back. Thankfully he was reminded. He was almost set up again.

"So you should sound out Sandra's thought and make sure that she had no evidence against you. I suggest you try not to do anything illegal!"

“Yes.” Charles was respectful.

“Sawyer Group won the bid for the South Bay New Town project. I have read the contract, and considering that Hannah may come back to make trouble for us, I made sure that even if we were found to get the project by improper means, the bureau will not terminate our cooperation. That is to say, Hannah can never take back that project!” the man on the phone added.

Chapter 386

“You are quite smart in some ways.” The man praised him, “But you have to figure out that once Wayne was convicted, could you use that plan? According to the law of Northfield, they can withdraw their plan and forbid you from using it.”

Charles gritted his teeth. It all happened so fast and he didn’t think that far.

“Anyway, make a plan.” The man said coldly, “The reason why I didn’t abandon you is that your family still has a big estate. If your family came down, I would not continue to value you.”

“I’ll fix it.”

“Charles, just don’t let me down.”

And the man hung up.

Charles stopped the car and parked it on the side of the road.

He called his father.

“Dad.”

“Charles, where have you been? I can’t hold them back any longer.” Lee said worriedly, “The people of the inspection department have come to take Sandra in for investigation. If you don’t come here now, she will be gone.”

“Let them take her.” Charles said bluntly.

“I thought you said you wanted to meet her alone? Why the sudden change? Don’t you worry about...”

“Dad, to get promoted, she illegally colluded with Wayne to steal Cooper’s marketing plan, which does not deserve our sympathy. She should be brought to justice and that is her business. We should not interfere.” Charles said seriously.

Lee immediately understood what he meant.

He said, “Well, I’ll let it go.”

Charles nodded, “I will not be there. I have a lot of work to do in my office. As for the construction of South Bay New Town, I will talk to the person in charge of the bureau alone. I will let you know the result by then.”

“Okay.” Lee fully trusted his son.

Charles hung up the phone and slammed on the brakes and turned straight back. All that mattered now was how to get the South Bay New Town project off the ground. He put his foot on the gas and drove wildly down the street.

He was totally freaking out.

...

Hannah received a phone call from Theodore.

"Charles was heading to his company but he turned back in the way." Said he.

Hannah suddenly got interested.

"They have successfully arrested Sandra. It seems Charles is not going to kill her." Theodore added.

Hannah was a little surprised.

Was Charles confident enough in himself or did he suddenly become smart?

When Theodore told her before that Charles was heading to the Sawyer Group, she knew he was going to do something. But why did he suddenly change his mind? Was it because he was reminded by someone? People like Charles, especially in an emergency, could never be that thoughtful.

So, the man behind him, who the hell was that?

"What now? Do we still need to follow him?" Theodore asked.

"No." Said Hannah.

Since Sandra was arrested, he could not hurt her in front of so many people. Apparently, he didn't intend to kill her. There was no point in following him anymore.

"I guess this time he was lucky." Theodore sighed.

He thought he could get rid of him this time. Sure enough, Oscar said it wouldn't be so simple, and it wasn't.

"It doesn't matter. We still have time." Hannah continued, "Not to mention that I will let him know he was shooting himself in the foot."

"What are you going to do?"

"You'll know."

"Seriously?"

"I just don't want to give you false hope, so I'm not telling you yet."

So Theodore chose to pass over. He said bluntly, "Then I'm going to wrap up."

"You've had a long day. Take a good rest, thank you."

"Never mind." Then he hung up the phone.

Hannah was quiet for a moment. She took a deep breath and called Rose, "Rose, come in for a second."

"Yes."

Rose knocked on the door and entered.

"Ms Hannah, what can I do for you?"

Frankly, when she looked at Hannah, she felt she was shining, looking like a deity whom Rose could only look up to.

Hannah said, "Contact the bureau. We're going there to talk about the South Bay New Town project."

"Okay." Rose nodded.

"We're going now." She added.

"Now? Isn't that a little hasty?" Rose asked.

"No, we need to be there now." Hannah said firmly.

"Is there anything you need me to prepare?"

"No." Hannah stretched herself and said, "We just need to show up and talk to them."

"I see." Rose nodded. She was strangely excited because she thought Hannah was going to get their project back on her own.

Rose quickly contacted them and reported to Hannah, "The head of the bureau happens to be in the office. We can go anytime today."

"Then let's go now."

Then Hannah left the company with Rose. Jimmy sent them to their destination.

When they arrived, Hannah walked into the office and saw Charles. He got here sooner than she thought. Rose saw Charles and her face went dark since she didn't think they would negotiate about the project before this man.

But then, she saw Hannah smile. It seemed like she was expecting this.

Was this a part of her plan?

"Good to see you, Mr Gordon." Hannah said warmly and shook his hands.

Gordon was quite kind and asked her to sit. Hannah sat on the opposite side of him and next to Charles.

"I just received a call from you and you said you wanted to talk about the South Bay New Town project. Coincidentally, Charles was coming for this as well. I will not favor anybody so I decided we should talk about it together." Said Gordon.

"Of course." Hannah was very calm.

Charles took a look at Hannah. Feeling annoyed at the sight of her, he looked at Hannah with intense hatred. But he could only show a kind face, "You are still so understanding."

Hannah turned to look at him, wondering that he must be pissed off by now.

She said, "Anyway, South Bay New Town is also related to Sawyer Group. At first, I wanted to talk with Gordon alone, then Charles, since you thought it was better to talk together, I certainly love to accept this decision."

Charles' face changed slightly.

What did she mean?

He felt somehow what happened was all arranged by her.

What was she up to again?

Chapter 387

Charles scanned her face. He received a call from his spy in the bureau and knew that Hannah was going there. He felt that she was planning something so he immediately turned to go there too.

Hannah arrived within five minutes after he just sat down.

He thought the timing was perfect. But when he heard her words, he fidgeted in his seat.

Charles got to admit, although he was unwilling to, that this woman was a threat to him, who had caused him a great deal of trouble. Every move she made would make him nervous like she was going to kill him the next second! Charles secretly clenched his fist. If he ever got hold of her, he would make her die!

"In that case," Gordon stood up. "let's go to the conference room. Lucio, make some tea."

"Yes." Gordon's secretary said respectfully.

They sat down together in the conference room. After quite a while, Gordon finally said to the point, "To tell you the truth, this project of South Bay New Town is my first task since I worked here and it must not be screwed up. If anything goes wrong, I have to bear a fair amount of the blame. But now I have received the news that the bidding plan of Cooper Group has been stolen by Sawyer Group, which means you are now using their plan. This is obviously unfair to them."

Hannah and Charles listened intently without interrupting his words.

"Even if you don't come to me today, I will come to you. I'd also like to hear your solutions to this matter." Gordon looked very serious and he continued, "Hannah, you are the victim, why don't you tell me what you think."

Looking at Gordon, Hannah got the implication in his words—if she could pass over the losses, that would be great, and that was the way to calm this situation.

"I did come here today for this. Our plan was stolen by Sawyer Group, which did great harm to us. Now they have undertaken the project, which means all our efforts were wrongfully taken away. Of course, I understand your difficulties, but as far as our company is concerned, we can't just give it up. And I do not think that you will allow our group to take an undeserved hit."

Her words also made it clear that Cooper Group was the victim and it was badly hurt. As a leader, Gordon could not be that shameless just for his good performance at work.

Gordon knew what Hannah meant by this and he was in no position to refute it. After all, he was not powerful enough to have Cooper Group bear all the loss in silence.

Nobody talked in the room for a while.

Charles hurriedly said, "I am so sorry about that, that Sawyer Group borrowed the plan from Cooper Group this time."

Hannah glanced at him. "Borrow" was a very clever word, she thought.

"But I have to say that we are also victims. Although it was our staff who did it and we did have some mismanagement. But at the same time, because of this employee, we also bear many doubts and slander. And again, we are sorry and we don't mean for any of this to happen." Charles was good at fabricating the story.

Stealing from her made him a victim?

"As soon as this happened, we launched an emergency warning instantly and we are trying our best to resolve this matter properly."

"Have you figured it out?" Hannah asked.

Charles was a little embarrassed, "We are still discussing."

"The solution is simple," Hannah looked at him and said, "You can pull out from the construction of South Bay New Town and terminate the agreement with the bureau peacefully. We can take over the project, after all, it is our plan and we will be much more professional in using that. In this way, the construction of South Bay New Town can be carried out smoothly and Gordon's concerns will be relieved naturally."

Her words made Charles's face turn purple. Somewhat agitated, Charles said, "Why don't you guys give up your plan? We're doing fine now. The way we can address Gordon's concerns is that we continue to do this without any interference."

"Charles, this is a robbery. Do you still want to take advantage of us? You think we are stupid?" Hannah retorted, "No matter what you say, the guilt is a fact. Now you dare to ask us to give you the plan?"

Her words, in fact, were quite insinuating. She was not only aimed at Charles but also said to Gordon. She wanted him to understand she was right in this matter. If he was still helping Sawyer Group, then it would be unjust. As a leader, he could not do well if his reputation was ruined for being unjust.

Gordon felt awkward, not knowing how to decide on the matter. Neither side was likely to give way on this. The concession would bring great losses. So the tension rose again.

Hannah looked at Gordon, and then Charles.

Charles felt her gaze and looked back at her, although he wasn't composed.

“Are you sure you won’t back down? If we continue this stalemate, it will affect the construction of South Bay New Town, then I am afraid it will be hard for Gordon to explain it.”

Charles looked at her coldly.

She laid all the blame on him.

Honestly, if he could be fair, Sawyer Group should step back for the sake of the project.

But Charles said, “Gordon, we actually thought of pulling out and handing the project over to Cooper, but now we have made a lot of investment, and there is no way to recover it. If we pull out of this project, we will suffer huge losses. We have no choice but to continue with the project. We are already thinking of a new construction plan, but we still need some time. Please.”

“We can make it up to you.” Hannah showed aggressively, “How about we pay you at market price for all your investment?”

Chapter 388

Charles got mad. He could not control himself and shouted at Hannah, “We spent so much effort on this project and every employee of our company has been working overtime on it. You want us out now? Do you think that’s even possible?”

“So you meant that we put in less effort and time than you, right? Was our plan a windfall?”

“Anyway, there’s no way we’re going to pull out from this project! We’ll just have to do without your plan. We can start over.” Charles said angrily.

Hannah was still calm and she said, “You still kept thinking about yourself and never thought to help Gordon.”

“Hannah, don’t try to drive a wedge here. I thought about helping Gordon, but there is nothing I can do if you don’t give up. We have spent a lot of effort and money on this project, so it is impossible to let go. Please cut us some slack.”

While Gordon, of course, would not do that. All he was thinking about was his work performance. South Bay New Town project had caused him trouble and he certainly wouldn’t look good. But he couldn’t show that in front of them. So he remained silent.

Charles was such a shrewd person, and he naturally noticed his sulkiness, but for the benefit of his company, he would not let go. He bet Gordon would fail to persuade Hannah and she would not dare to be against him, so when the time came, it would be finished if they put some pressure on her. This might damage his relationship with the bureau, but he could repair that in the future by bribing more and doing the project well. So in Charles’s mind, the relationship between them could be managed but the loss of this project would be permanent. He must not suffer such a terrible loss.

The conference room was suddenly quiet again. No one spoke. It was like, whoever spoke would be doomed to lose.

After a long time, Hannah sighed heavily. Gordon and Charles both looked at her.

“Since Charles won’t let go, no matter how the situation develops, he is determined to continue, then I give up. After all, for me, besides profit, our relationship is also important. If we don’t give way on this, it will harm you, Gordon. I don’t want you to face such a difficult situation when you just started your work here.” Hannah spoke.

Hearing her words, Charles became visibly antsy. This woman was always trying to present herself and put him down. But to continue with the project, he had to let her. If she could let go, he would tolerate anything she said.

“Really?” Gordon was surprised. He did not expect Hannah would make a compromise. It was clearly Hannah who was more resolute before.

The surprising turn of her attitude made her look a lot more confident and powerful.

Gordon, in gratitude, was staring at her. This case did get on his nerves, not to mention the problems now, when there were no problems, it had already made him anxious. He attached great importance to South Bay New Town, so he was afraid to trust anyone.

“Yes.” Hannah gave him a positive answer, “We can give it up. But, many of our employees worked all night to come up with the plan and it was stolen. To be honest, I can’t explain this to my employees. So, we are willing to sell the plan to Sawyer at market value.” She said like she was quite generous.

What did she mean by “sell the plan” to them?

Charles was dissatisfied with her suggestion.

“This is the fairest and most reasonable solution that I can think of when Sawyer Group is unwilling to quit. On the one hand, it does not affect the construction of South Bay New Town. On the other hand, both Sawyer and us won’t be at a loss. What do you think, Gordon?”

Gordon hurriedly applauded, “You are really something, Hannah! This has been a timely solution for us all. I’m under a lot of pressure these days. I like this solution. No, love it!”

Gordon gave a very strong affirmation. Not only could the construction proceed smoothly, but he could also resolve the matter fairly so that there would be no gossip.

He could not help looking at Hannah with an admiring look and was genuinely satisfied with her. Cooper Group had done him a great favor this time. After all, there was nothing he could do to force her to drop out.

Meanwhile, Charles was very determined, he would rather extend the project until it got abolished. Never would he let go.

At the thought of this, Gordon got different feelings about the two of them. But he did not show that, then he turned to Charles and asked, “What do you think of her suggestion?”

Charles didn’t look good, but he couldn’t say anything. At this point, he would be truly ungrateful if he objected to this suggestion. But he did not want to do so. He always felt that it was like he offended others while Hannah became that nice one in this thing.

Depressed, he pretended to go along with this and said, “Yes, I think it is good.”

“Since you both think this solution is feasible, I will be blunt about the price,” Hannah said seriously, “100 million. If you agree, we can sign the contract in front of Gordon.”

“What? 100 million?” Charles flipped out. He felt like he was always driven mad by her.

“Is your plan made of gold?” Charles barked questions at Hannah.

“Mr Sawyer should be well aware of the value of our plan. The project we proposed to bid for was worth 10 billion. As the soul of the project, the value of the plan deserved to be settled at 1%, is that too much?”

“Of course it is too much.” Charles was furious, he shouted, “We won’t make more than 100 million on this project but you asked us to spend 100 million on a plan. Why would we do this? To screw up our project and made it a total loss? Is that even possible?”

Chapter 389

Hannah glanced at the agitated Charles, and then Gordon.

He was obviously disappointed in Charles. He probably had identified Charles as a person who only cared about money.

First impressions were awfully important. They tended to be ingrained and hard to change.

Hannah said to Charles in a calm voice, “I did it for the sake of your family and to give Gordon a better excuse.”

“You just do it for yourself!” Charles snapped at her.

She turned to Gordon and said, “Gordon, I did make this price for the greater good. I do not deny that we do need to recover the losses, but this is only one of the small reasons. The important thing is that I want this matter to end in a way that does not leave any potential problems for the future. First of all, Sawyer took our plan, no matter who stole it and although their senior leader had nothing to do with it, Sawyer still embezzled other people’s ideas, which can be huge damage to the reputation of Sawyer. Under this circumstance, if Sawyer Group does not make an official apology and give a huge compensation, its reputation will be ruined.”

Gordon felt that her words were reasonable.

Charles knew it was her trick but he could not figure out how to refute it.

“Secondly, both Mr Sawyer and I know the fact that Gordon wants to make a great achievement, and so do all the enterprises here know. In other words, Gordon is now under the eyes of countless people, who want to see how you work this out. If you ask Sawyer Group to stand down, there would be much gossip against you. After all, they have already invested a lot in this project and it is not in conformity with the contract as well. However, if you force us to give the plan to them for free or at a lower price, it will be regarded as totally unfair to us, and then people will suspect that you are using your power to crush our group, and you won’t be able to explain it to the public.”

Gordon kept nodding, showing that he agreed with her view. He had great regard for her ability to think deeply, while Charles grew angrier as she spoke.

She was pretending to be a total saint today, Charles cursed in his heart.

“Finally, if I remember correctly, on the day when Sawyer Group won the bid, Lee said clearly in front of the media that this project was a livelihood project and you did not care about making profits, but it was for public benefit. Since this is for public benefit, are you still thinking of making money from this project? Based on my rough calculations, Sawyer Group can still get a net profit margin of 100-200 million. In this way, if you pay 100 million for our plan, you won’t be losing money.” Hannah said with a smile, “Or what your father said to the media about public benefit doesn’t count? Or he meant Sawyer would make less money in this project?”

Hannah’s words are full of sarcasm. In fact, they all knew that what businessmen call ‘public benefit’ was to make less money, not to make no profit at all. No profit meant a loss to them.

This was the unwritten rule between businessmen, but in front of Gordon, he did not dare to admit what she said. If he did, he would be considered a hypocrite who exposed the rules of the business market. And then he would be facing an angry backlash.

Charles was so mad, looking gruesome.

“Mr Sawyer, it is nothing to embarrass yourself, but embarrassing your company would be a big deal. You don’t want to embarrass your father, right? After all, what he bragged to the media about had embarrassed him, such as your employees were working day and night and you paid them with a “7+2” principle. If you make them look more foolish for that little money, that would be your fault. Of course, everyone has a different business philosophy and I just make my suggestions. I respect your decision.” Her words were aggressive, but he couldn’t find any flaws.

She added, “I just said I will give up the construction of South Bay New Town. Now that I’ve made that promise, we’ll back out even if Sawyer Group doesn’t pay us. Mr Sawyer can think twice about the price. No matter how much you offered us, we will take it.”

Her words forced him into a dilemma.

She was just too smart for him to handle.

She just said it must be 100 million, but when she knew he can’t refuse that proposal after analyzing all the circumstances, she changed her words and let him make the decision.

She had everything under control. As Hannah said, the final decision was his, which pushed him admit in front of her and Gordon that she had thought everything through.

Charles had already got the short end of the stick but now he had to give her approval. He had never hated anyone in his whole life so much. Gnashing his teeth, he was unable to do anything about it.

“I have a very important meeting in half an hour.” Hannah looked down at her phone, “I’ve said all I want to say. I’m taking too much of your time and thank you so much. Just let us know when Mr Sawyer has made his decision. I just said we’ll take any price.”

With that, Hannah stood up. It was as if the project was truly left at their disposal, by which she showed her respect for Gordon.

“Fine!” Charles suddenly agreed.

He had to say yes. If he hesitated and tried to bargain, it would be a humiliation for Gordon. After all, this project was a livelihood project and it could build a positive reputation if done well. What's more, it also proved their strength. As a leading enterprise in the construction industry, Cooper Group lost to them in this project, and they would be greatly touted. The rise of their share was proof. Besides, they could cultivate good relations with Gordon through it.

And he naturally dare not offend Gordon, otherwise, it was not worth the trouble.

Hannah really made him get nothing from this project. After the news about stealing got out, their share was dropping madly and their credit wasn't good now.

Chapter 390

Hannah answered Charles's compromise with a pretty smile. Yet what he saw was a sneer.

"Mr Sawyer, Do you mean you agree to give us a plan fee of 100 million?" Hannah asked.

"Now that you mention it, I don't want to be the one who was not cooperating. For the sake of Gordon, I have to agree with it. But it's true that the Sawyer Group gave up its profit for the project, for the people of Kensbury. I have no idea how Hannah counted our turnover. But our profit is 0 in our calculation. I do not mean, of course, that I am unwilling to lose 100 million. Sawyer takes no account of our gains and losses when carrying out public welfare undertakings." Charles was whitewashing the Sawyer Group.

Hannah, however, turned a deaf ear, as did Gordon.

"I'll make the agreement signed with Cooper as fast as possible." Charles reaffirmed.

"Then I'll wait for it." Hannah said, "But I want to remind you at last. the Sawyer Group is now in the midst of a serious smear campaign. You'd better not waste time. The stock market wouldn't leave too much time for you."

"This is not your concern." Charles said.

"Sure. If there is nothing else, I'll be off, then." Hannah said with a composed face and then smiled at Gordon, saying, "Mr Gordon, contact me by phone if there is anything."

"OK." Gordon answered.

"So, I'm gonna go back to inform my father so that we can address the project earlier and launch the construction successfully." Charles rose while saying.

"OK. I won't keep you." Gordon nodded.

Hannah and Charles walked out of the office together.

"Hannah, you're so smart!" said Charles sarcastically.

"Mr Sawyer, you flatters me." Hannah said, "It is attributed to my weak opponent."

Her words ignited his anger, but Hannah cared nothing for his wrath.

"But," Hannah paused, while Charles was just standing by her side, waiting for her to continue.

“Without any cost, Cooper earns a good relationship with Gordon and 100 million. We actually gain a lot this time.” Hannah chuckled.

Hannah pretended not to see the ghastly expression on Charles’s face. As she looked down at her phone, she smiled more brightly.

“Gordon thanks me personally!” Saying, Hannah showed him the message sent by Gordon.

Charles was exploded with anger while reading the messages on her phone. Hannah just looked at him ironically. Without another word, she left with Rose and Jimmy. It was best, she thought, if Charles was killed by anger. If so, she could save a lot of energy to deal with him.

Glaring at her back, Charles was in intense rage for the Cooper Group got all the benefits in this case, while the Sawyer Group lost enough.

He couldn’t help but dial Hannah’s number and snap, “Hannah, you’d better be clever forever. Or...”

“Or you will kill me, right?” Hannah answered coldly.

“You won’t have a good ending.” Then Charles hung up abruptly.

Hannah did not mind his threat at all. After all, she had been always risking her life in the fight against him. Sitting in the sedan, she said to Jimmy, “Go to the detention house.”

“OK.” Jimmy responded.

Hannah was going there for Wayne, not out of mercy, but to tell him how foolish he was.

“Ms Hannah,” Rose could not help saying excitedly, “I really admire you from the bottom of my heart!”

It was true. For Rose, as Hannah’s secretary who followed her all the time, Hannah made business chess and she was a perfect chess player—in this game, the Cooper Group got everything and the Sawyer Group suffered all loss! Her performance was perfection!

Hannah just smiled serenely and said, “Thanks to the foolish opponent.”

“Our opponent is not foolish at all! If you did not take precautions in advance, we could just keep our grievances to ourselves this time!” Rose said.

“That’s not much of an accomplishment.” Hannah said lightly.

“Not much...” Rose widened her eyes. She didn’t believe it was nothing anyway.

It was an insult to the Sawyer Group more than ever!

“There’s more.” Hannah said.

Rose was rendered speechless.

Entering the detention house, Hannah saw Wayne through formal procedures.

Seeing her, Wayne became suddenly excited. Perhaps he was frightened after such a long stay in the cell, although it was only half a day.

He hurried to say, "Hannah, get me out of here quickly! Get me out of here! I can't stay in this place. I have an allergy! I have a systemic allergy!"

Hannah looked at him with a po-faced look, not saying a word.

"Hannah, what are you doing? You are here to save me, aren't you? Let them send me out! Right now!" Wayne shouted, overwhelmed.

"I just come to mock you." Hannah said, sounding cold and distant.

Wayne suddenly froze in disbelief, standing stock-still in a daze like a simpleton. After a few seconds of silence, Wayne became more agitated, "Hannah, no matter what happens, we are relatives. We are related by blood. You cannot turn me away like this. Don't you turn me away..."

"I can do this to your father. Why can't I do this to you?" Hannah cut him short.

"Hannah!" Wayne's face turned green because of her interruption and shouted at her, "You are so merciless! You will be dying pointless!"

"So you believe that you will have a happy life since you framed me up viciously?"

"I..."

"You stole our plan to sell to the the Sawyer Group. What the hell have you got to say? Wayne Cooper, I just come to inform you that Sandra Stein has been arrested, not Charles! That is, you and the woman you love most, Sandra, are the scapegoats. However, the ringleader is still at large." said Hannah, emphasizing every word.

"Sandra has been arrested?" Wayne looked at her in disbelief.

"Feel distressed? You really love her! Shall I tell you that Sandra has been Charles's mistress all along? She approached you and seduced you so that you will follow Charles. Tell me you're not thinking she loves you."