

Reborn 471

Chapter 471 The Game (14) Charles' Tricks

There was another piece of news popping up on the phone in the afternoon. It read that "Charles's new girlfriend is Sarah Collins-the daughter of the Collins family."

Hannah found a photo of Sarah. The photo was taken secretly at Charles' private apartment when Sarah was flirting with Charles in Charles' clothes yesterday. The intimate interaction confirmed their relationship in every respect. Hannah stared at the photo for a while. She was not feeling bad or what, instead, she was thinking that Charles was so good at playing tricks. He succeeded to find shelter from the Collins family when he was to fail, and the Collins family must give him a helping hand once his relationship with Sarah was exposed to the public. Nobody could be as cunning as Charles was.

The sweet smile on Sarah's face demonstrated that she was captivated entirely by Charles. Hannah could not deny that Charles was indeed skilled at capturing girls' hearts, or how would her previous life be so miserable after being cheated on by him?

Thinking of it, her feeling was written on her face. Even Rose didn't dare to give the work report to her. Rose had heard of the news about Charles and Sarah as well. She was not sure whether Hannah still had a feeling for Charles. But it didn't make sense, since Oscar was undoubtedly much better than Charles.

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Charles felt awful when he received a phone call from Rowan who started pitching into him immediately regarding the exposure of his love affair with Sarah as soon as he picked it up.

All of those annoying words made him suffer so deeply. However, what he could do was only bear them.

"Charles Sawyer, I know clearly what you're up to. How dare you set me up! You deliberately broke the news at such a period because you wanted me to help you out!"

"No Mr Collins, I didn't. My love for Sarah is true, and so is hers. If you think I am not worthy of her, I could leave her."

"Stop your pretension! Now that your relationship has been confirmed to the public, do you planning to tell them that I'm a wicked father who is to ruthlessly break a couple up when you offer to leave? Or tell them that Sarah has given you her body and soul? You are ruining her future marriage!" Rowan shouted angrily. "Charles Sawyer, I do want to kill you!"

"I'm so sorry, Mr Collins. But I'm not lying, I love Sarah so much."

"Shout up!" Rowan couldn't bear him anymore. He had no choice but to accept Charles as a member of his family once his relationship with Sarah was exposed to the public. He never thought of assisting him to clean up the mess, and he even intended to give him up. However, the exposure of the news now made him suppressed by Charles.

Charles didn't dare to say more to him, so he was holding the phone patiently as if waiting for Rowan to calm down.

Rowan said after a long time, "I'll give you one last chance. If you ruined it, I will give you up no matter what your relationship is with Sarah."

"Thank you for admitting my love for Sarah, Mr Collins." Charles was so crafty that he kept showing his love for Sarah was pure and out of any commercial benefit.

"You'd better give up defending your rights against the crime of fraudulent use of loan. It's a fact and you will only make the situation worse by chicanery." Said Rowan, "So a member of your family has to carry the can, and I deem your father, Lee Sawyer, would be the best choice."

He had the same idea. Though Lee didn't know what happened, the best way for Charles to get away

was to make his father a scapegoat.

“But my father will face legal sanctions if doing so. I have consulted a lawyer and he said that people who committed such crimes will be imprisoned for one to three years for the crime of fraud, even though we have compensated for all the loss! My father is not young anymore...”

“The great things are achieved from not obsessing on small details. Talk to your father about your situation patiently, and he will not turn down you if he knows what’s more important.” Rowan appeared to be a bit impatient.

“I see.” Charles didn’t say more.

“Now the most important thing is to return the 1 billion to settle the problem, otherwise the international e-commerce project could never start. I know it. This project has great potential for development in the future. I have to say it is an important key for the future development of your family.”

“I know. But the problem is that we have no 1 billion to pay the bank loan, or never would we attempt to take risks to cheat the loan. We have invested a great amount of money in the South Bay New Town project but now there is a capital chain rupture. We have mortgaged all we have except for the shares of my father, which is just 50%. Despite if there was any bank that would take the shares as loans, I’m still worried others would take the advantage to play tricks on us in such circumstances to ruin my company.”

“What made the fall of your family?” Rowan gnashed his teeth and asked.

“It’s all because of Hannah who...”

“Stop blaming others every time you did a bad job! It’s all because you are a loser!”

“Yes,” Charles admitted. “It’s my problem. I’ll do better next time.”

“I don’t want to listen to your yakety-yak!” Rowan said in a cold voice. “I’ll try to give you 1 billion. But remember Charles, this is your last chance. If there is something wrong, I won’t butt in again!”

“Thank you, Mr Collins. I promise it’s the last time.” Charles promised with excitement.

“You must handle this problem. As for Sarah, you are not allowed to see her again until all is figured out.” Rowan continued, “My men will pick up Sarah immediately.”

“Yes.” Charles didn’t dare to say no. Then, the phone was hung up at once. At that moment, an evil smile appeared on Charles’ face. The Collins family was being played around by him in the end.

All of a sudden, he changed another feeling on his face and called Sarah at once. “Sarah, your father just called me up and said that he’s gonna take you home. I don’t want you to do.”

Sarah also didn’t feel well. She didn’t want to go, either, for they just stayed for one day.

“Wait for me. I’ll be back soon.” Charles said. He put down his phone and headed to the private apartment immediately. Now he changed his plan. The best way to get the assistance of the Collins family was to get the whole heart of Sarah Collins!

Chapter 472 The Game (15) The Tragic Fate of Lee

Charles rushed back to his apartment, only to find Sarah in bad mood. The fact that she would be taken back home soon ticked her off. Sarah kept silent in a sulk. Upon seeing this, Charles started to pamper her and cheer her up promptly, showing his favour to Sarah. However, Sarah seemed untouched. She had been spoiled since she was just a little girl, consequently, no one could please her once someone was against her will, including her dad.

Charles knew it well because he once had to take the trouble to win her heart. Realizing those sweet words could not make her happy, Charles carried her up from the sofa to their bed in the bedroom.

Sarah had met various people who always attempted to ingratiate themselves with her as long as she was not in high spirits since childhood, and no one would dare to disobey her will. As a result, she almost got sick of those Blarney stones. Therefore, the best option for Charles now was to conquer her in bed. In the beginning, Sarah didn't show much high interest in it, but not for a while she succumbed to temptation and started to enjoy it. No one could control her except for Charles.

Sarah lay on Charles' chest after sex, and said to him in a sweet sound, "You are bad!"

Charles sneered in his heart. Sarah was such a scheming bitch who acted innocent while dying for a man in her heart, and that was also why he succeed in getting her heart.

Charles said, "I can't control my desire at the sight of your face... I'm so sorry to hurt you." He seemed fairly guilty. Sarah pretended to be angry, and said, "Well, I won't talk to you if you hurt me again."

"I won't. I promise I will control myself next time." Charles swore to her while believing that he would act more fiercely next time because he knew Sarah loved him being bad in bed.

Sarah didn't get up from bed till she got a phone call from her father. Then, she left with the man waiting outside Charles' apartment. Charles seemed unwilling to let her go with red-rimmed eyes. They got it bad and Sarah didn't want to go either, and she said, "Come and pick me up when everything is done."

"Sure" Charles nodded his head. "Wait for me."

"I'll." Then, Sarah left here. Charles saw her off to the car downstairs, and he even caught up with the car for a few steps as the car drove away. It seemed that Charles was desperate for her stay. Sarah was so moved that she couldn't help weeping.

Charles wore an indifferent face and sneered once the car disappeared from his view. No woman could escape his attraction except for Hannah, which messed with his mood! He turned around to the garage and drove to the lockup immediately.

He called Leon while driving. "Leon."

"Mr Sawyer." Leon greeted in a polite voice.

"Have you obtained the guarantor and pending trail for my father?"

"No, but your father is expected to be released today."

"You can stop it now," Charles said.

"What does it mean?"

"Do what I said."

"... Yes."

Then, Charles hung up the phone. It was disturbing. He didn't want his father to be put into prison while his father was the only choice. He pulled over near the lockup and managed to Lee.

His father was held in solitary confinement, in a poor condition but free of conflicts with others. Lee thought his son was to take him out at the sight of his arrival, so he complained to him in an unpleasant voice. "Why you came so late? I cannot stay here any longer!"

Then, he was about to leave till the door was locked by a police officer. Lee's face fell into shock and he looked at Charles. "What's up?"

"You need to stay here for the time being, dad."

"What the fuck are you talking about?"

"I had a negotiation with Rowan and he agreed to give us 1 billion for assistance as long as someone could carry the can. He required us to settle this problem since it has been exposed to the public. We have to figure it out." Charles said.

"What do you mean?" Lee seemed to be provoked.

"I mean, it's you who masterminded the fraud of obtaining loans with a fake real estate certificate. Nobody knows it except for you."

"Are you crazy? Do you want me to be put in jail?" Lee was enraged.

"You have to carry it if you wish our company a promising future. I also thought of Martina taking this but she was not capable of building a business relationship with Phillips Bank. It doesn't make sense if it were her. Besides, you have signed with Phillips Bank on the loan agreement!"

"Charles, you have planned everything well in advance including having me carry the can once you fail, haven't you?" Lee couldn't listen to a word Charles said. He was only thinking that he was cheated on by his son!

"Dad, this is the only choice for our family. You know, it is not easy to have the Collins family trust me again and I don't want this problem to get in the way of our business. You have to know what's more important now. I know I'm sorry for you but I've consulted with my lawyer and you are expected to be set free within years as long as you conduct well in prison. I'll also compensate the bank."

Lee was in great anger. He still couldn't accept it though he knew it was the best choice! People would laugh at him after his release from prison as a master of the Sawyer family!

"Don't worry, I'll make effort to the development of our company. You will be able to see our success on the day you are free!"

Lee sneered at him. Though he was reluctant to do so, his fate had already been settled. Charles didn't say more because he didn't want to waste more time on this. He had to deal with the crisis of public relations of the Sawyer Group for the development of the international e-commerce project, so he could succeed in making up for the huge loss.

Therefore, Charles turned around and left at once. Watching his back, Lee was purple with rage. He couldn't believe his son was the one who led to his miserable fate today! What a galling shame it was in his life!

Chapter 473 The Game (16) The Crushing Defeat of Henry

Charles started his action after he left the lockup. First of all, he organized a press conference with Martina and Loretta, confessing the crime of loan fraud of the Sawyer Group while passing the buck to Lee. They behaved so repentantly that everyone present had a strong belief that they were innocent of the crime.

At last, they succeed in getting away with it when the media reported that the Sawyer Group felt deeply guilty for what they had done as well as the negative impact on society. They were willing to bear the responsibility for this wrongdoing and would take legal sanctions. Their honesty is worthy of a better future. Hannah read the report and noticed that there were a paid Internet squad leaving positive comments on it. It was fairly interesting that a crime was distorted into a model.

Afterwards, she got a phone call from Manuel.

"Hannah, Charles just called Edward and said that he would pay all the money off to Phillips Bank at around 3 pm today in person."

"I see," Hannah said.

"I want to know how he managed to collect the money. Did they take another illegal action?" said Manuel.

"No, I don't think so. They probably got the money from the Collins family."

"You mean he got the help from Sarah?" Manuel had the same idea.

"Yes. Charles is a sly fox who can achieve his goal by all means." Hannah sneered, "He is an excellent girl

hunter after all.”

“But he never succeeds in hunting your heart.”

“Did you forget how I was able to bring you back to life?” Hannah asked.

Her words reminded Manuel that she once said she got a rebirth. Manuel was not doubting it though he still thought her story was somehow funny, making him laugh out with an attractive smile.

All of a sudden, the door was open. At the sight of Susan, Manuel’s smile disappeared. Susan knitted the brows about it.

Why he acted so cold to her?

Susan said to him in a bad tone, “My father is waiting for you at his office.”

“I see,” Manuel replied.

Then Susan left immediately. She was thinking why her father asked her to do this. She was not his secretary anyway! Susan went off in a huff.

Later, Manuel said on his phone, “Edward is calling me to his office now and he probably wants to discuss Charles’ action. You can come here later.”

“Okay.”

Then Manuel hung up and left. He was surprised to see Susan outside of his office. He thought she had left.

“I had to take you to his office in person,” Susan explained. Manuel didn’t respond and they got into the elevator together. “Whom you were talking to? You looked quite delighted.” Susan couldn’t help asking.

“It’s a friend.” Manuel didn’t intend to hold it back, but he couldn’t let her know that Hannah was coming. Since Susan was now in a relationship with Henry, he wouldn’t disclose any information to him which would otherwise put them in danger.

Susan glanced at Manuel. “Is it Martina?”

Manuel didn’t respond.

“Isn’t she coming here for the loan in the afternoon?” Susan seemed calm.

Manuel still didn’t respond to her questions which irritated Susan. She was like taking to the air. Manuel replied in a plain voice when she was about to lose her temper. “Please knock at the door next time.”

“...” Susan was at a loss for words for a long time.

When doors opened, Manuel went off indifferently. Staring at his back, Susan felt he was still attractive though he was crippled.

Shit. Who the hell did he think he was? There was no such thing as a good man in this world! He used to be so nice to her when he was wooing her, while now he acted so awfully after they broke up!

Though Susan was out of sorts, she still followed Manuel to the office.

Henry had been there waiting for them, and Manuel and Susan sat opposite him. Edward said, “I have something to tell you before the Sawyer family’s arrival.”

“May I leave?” Susan asked. She was not in charge of this business.

“You can’t.” Edward seemed fairly serious about this.

“But it’s out of my business.”

“You have to participate in every stage of the operation of Phillips Bank as you are the only child of its chairperson!”

Susan felt annoyed.

“You may leave if you don’t want to take charge of our bank, and I’ll have Manuel take your place.”

“Are you crazy? You even want our company to be taken the charge of Manuel!” Susan was angry.

“It all depends on your choice.” Edward didn’t want to waste more time.

It was like a red rag to a bull, and Susan compromised reluctantly. "I'll stay!"

"Then shout up and listen to me!" Edward said coldly without showing any respect to Susan.

Then he turned to Manuel and Henry. "Though we achieved success at last, we can't deny the fact that we once made a mistake which was caused by your oversight, Henry. Fortunately, the bank didn't suffer any loss and you handled the problem in time. But still, I need to give you a warning without punishment. You should spare some time for soul-searching of your mistake."

"Yes," Henry replied in a polite tone.

"And Manuel, you are also responsible for Henry's mistake as his immediate superior. However, since you just took office and didn't get involved, and you also reported the project to me, I'm not worried about you. But I need to clarify your responsibility today. You have to be responsible for Henry's every project. In other words, you are the one to whom Henry needs to report his project first, Henry can report to me only when the project is not within Manuel's sphere. Remember what I said, Henry."

Henry changed color. What Edward said meant he had to ask for Manuel's permission to do anything. Henry felt bitter about this decision, but he had no choice but to accept it. "Yes, I'll follow it."

Chapter 474 The Game (17) A New Crisis

Manuel, Susan and Henry left the office after the meeting. Leaving Susan and Henry behind, Manuel left first without hesitation, which annoyed both Susan and Henry.

Susan got angry at his indifference while Henry was mad at being surpassed by Manuel on the day he came to the company, as well as the deprived rights. He literally couldn't believe it!

"Henry," Susan called his name.

Henry immediately changed his face. "Let's go back to our office. The representatives of the Sawyer family are coming."

"Okay." Susan nodded her head, and asked, "Are you frustrated?" She wanted to know whether Henry was frustrated at being defeated by Manuel.

"Nope," Henry answered calmly. "Nothing is more important than my duty and responsibility for our company."

"I'll be the next chairperson of Phillips Bank when my father got retired, and I won't let you down at that time."

"My darling." Henry lightly touched her face, "Don't worry about me. I'll be fine. I've been on the top of the world to be able to be by your side."

"Thank you." Susan nodded her head and said, "Manuel has changed a lot. I never knew his ambition was so high."

"Nothing is changeless." Henry said, "But some people are good at masking themselves."

Susan looked at Henry, and he knew he had to stop now since it was suspicious to speak ill of Manuel.

Henry said, "We'd just mind our own business and keep a clear conscience about ourselves."

Susan agreed. Somehow it seemed that Henry also changed a bit, but she was not sure.

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Charles arrived at Phillips Bank at 3 pm, with Martina and two senior executives of the Sawyer Group. They were received at the conference room by Edward, Manuel, Susan and Henry.

They chatted for a while, and then Charles said, "Mr Phillips, I'm so sorry for what my father has done and we apologize for any inconvenience caused to your company. Today, I'm here to make up for our mistakes."

"We understand your father." Edward seemed polite, "We also hope you can understand our choice

since it is related to the interests of all the employees of Phillips Bank.”

“Sure, it’s our fault after all,” said Charles. “We paid back to your company with interest. Please have a check.”

A check was passed to Edwards. As he was about to check the amount someone knocked on the door of the room. Edward frowned. Manuel had the staff inside open the door, only to see Hannah, Tan and Rose there.

Charles put a long face at the sight of Hannah.

Why she was involved in every business?

Charles kept silent and heard Hannah apologizing, “I’m sorry I didn’t intend to bother you.”

“Not a problem. What’s up, Hannah?” Edward replied politely.

Susan was delighted to see her come. She smiled and winked at Hannah as a greeting sign, however, Hannah ignored her. Susan felt a bit upset.

Hannah walked to Edwards and said, “I heard that the Sawyer Group is going to pay their bills today.”

“Yes, it’s true.” Said Edward, “This is their check. Is there any problem?”

“Nope. It’s their responsibility to pay the bills.” Hannah smiled and seated herself in a chair. “I just want to take this chance to suggest Mr Sawyer pay back the 2 billion bill to the Cooper Group altogether.”

Hearing about this, Charles’ mood was destroyed completely. They even forgot about the 2 billion since they believed it was gifted by the Cooper family. Hannah was about to marry him at that time, so he thought all of the possessions of the Cooper family would finally be his, including the 2 billion!

Since their engagement had been broken off, they hadn’t cared about it till today Hannah asked them to pay the bill. Martina was irritated and shouted at her, “Are you crazy? We never owe you such a bill. You are crazy for money!”

Hannah glanced at Martina with her sharp eyes. Martina was startled.

Hannah put the bill on the desk casually and said, “This is the bill you signed and the time limit for you has exceeded 10 days. According to the terms, you will have to transfer your shares then if you failed to pay off the bill. So I’m taking this chance to remind Mr Sawyer to pay your bill as soon as possible! Otherwise, we will go through legal procedures to take your shares of the Sawyer Group.”

“Hannah!” Charles couldn’t help shouting out.

She set a trap for him when he had fallen into a well! He stared at her with bloodshot eyes. Martina rushed to the bill and was about to tear it apart, upon seeing this, Hannah took the bill away at once. Martina failed and gave her a hard look instead.

“Well, well. The cameras are everywhere. Do you think you can get away with it once the bill was torn apart?” Hannah sneered, and she warned, “I can prosecute your case!”

“You bitch!” Martina let loose a torrent of abuse.

“It’s you and your family! You are all bitches!” Susan shouted back at Martina since she couldn’t stand Hannah being abused.

“Fuck you, Susan!” Martina turned her target to Susan.

“Shit! You asked for it! I can kick your ass in my place!” Then Susan was about to start a fight with Martina. All of a sudden, Manuel grasped her arm and stopped her.

Susan was annoyed. “Let go of me, Manuel.”

“Calm down.” Manuel didn’t let her go.

“Let go of me!”

Manuel insisted.

“Hannah is your friend, how could you just stand by when she was insulted? Are you her true friend? You abandoned your friendship because of a woman!”

Chapter 475 The Game (18) Hannah’s Turn

Susan started shouting at Manuel.

Manuel wore a disapproving look on his face while Edward seemed to be in anger. He was hoping that Susan could grow up at her age. When he was to stop Susan, Manuel let her go, walked to Martina instead and took her out.

Everyone in the room was astonished by their leave. Susan felt sick to her stomach about Manuel who she believed was helping Martina to cover up for her mistake. He seemed undisturbed by Martina’s insult to Hannah. She almost blew her top every time she thought of this.

To avoid more troubles Susan brought, Edward shouted at her, “You can go out!”

Susan’s eyes were like saucers when she heard it and she goggled at Edward-she didn’t want to leave. A great show for Hannah to destroy Charles was waiting for her!

“Susan!” Edwards warned in a cold voice. Then Susan left with anger. She swore in her heart that she wouldn’t give any helping hand in business to him in the future.

Susan freaked out and rushed out. She even wanted to leave here immediately. Her father would regret scolding her in front of so many people today!

When she passed by the exit nearby the elevator, she heard someone crying inside. Curiously, Susan stopped her step and walked closer to have a check, only to find Martina broken down in Manuel’s arms. Martina was hugging him tightly as if she couldn’t live without him. Her hands clutched at Manuel’s clothes which indicated possessiveness about him, while Manuel appeared to be fairly cold about her with a poker face. He was standing beside her with no more words and actions. All at once, he seemed to have noticed Susan outside of the door and looked back.

Susan’s heart missed a beat when their eyes met as if she was caught on the spot when she was about to play tricks. She was not a peeping maniac and she didn’t mean to do it! She couldn’t get why her attention was attracted by them.

The sight of Martina crying in Manuel’s arms just made her somehow angry.

Why did Manuel back Martina up in the conference room when Hannah was insulted? She had no idea why their friendship built from childhood meant nothing to him. So many thoughts were popping up that she even didn’t realize she should run away now since she has been caught by Manuel. She just kept staring at them, particularly looking at Manuel’s eyes for a while, and then she looked away.

Manuel turned around. He didn’t even touch Martina before, but now he was putting his arms around her shoulder and was back to Susan. All his actions were telling Susan that he didn’t want to see her. Fuck!

Susan freaked out.

Did he think she was enjoying peeping at them? She didn’t care whom Manuel was flirting with. She just felt betrayed by Manuel in their friendship. All at once, Susan left away.

Upon seeing her leave, Manuel pushed Martina away. He took Martina out because he didn’t want her to interrupt Hannah’s negotiation. But he didn’t expect Martina would hug him and burst into a cry. However, his thought of pushing her away disappeared when Susan came. He allowed Martina to continue since he didn’t want Susan to get his thought. And that was also why he now pushed Martina away immediately once Susan left.

At the same time, Martina was at a loss since she was surprised that Manuel would treat her so

indifferently now. She once thought that her success in getting his hug back was a sign of Manuel's pity on her.

"Please keep your distance," Manuel said in a cold voice which disappointed Martina.

"What should I do to get your heart? What should I do to have your love!" Martina shouted desperately.

She was on the edge of a nervous breakdown because of the messes of her family, the provocations from Hannah, and now the indifference of Manuel. The tears welled up in her eyes.

Looking somewhere else, Manuel said coldly, "I'll never have any feelings for you no matter how wonderful you will be. So stop wasting time on me."

"Manuel! Susan doesn't like you. Why can't you start a new relationship?"

"It has nothing to do with Susan. It's my choice."

"Pfff." Manuel sneered. She looked horrible when crying with laughs.

"Manuel, let's face it!" Martina cried, "You are still loving Susan! You just can't forget her!"

"It still has nothing to do with you."

Martina was defeated by his cold words. The man she deeply loved for so many years had no interest in her, not even for once.

"I suggest you not look for trouble again in the conference room. You will never win Hannah." Manuel lost his patience with her, and his cold voice raised again, "You'd better shape up." And then he stood up and left.

Looking at him leaving, Martina couldn't help screaming.

Manuel! I will get your heart one day, I swear!

...

The conference room turned silent without Martina and Susan. Hannah had to say that she felt honestly grateful for Manuel since she had no more time to deal with others at this moment.

Hannah said to Charles, "You see, the bill is real and I've informed you of the time limit. I'm not stopping you from paying off your bill to Phillips Bank since it's closely related to the judgement of your father's crime. Your father can be in jail for fewer years if you succeeded in making up for the loan by law. At that time, your father would still be healthy and strong as he is now. However, if you failed, Lee would probably stay there for more than eight years. Well, then I'm not sure whether he would live long enough to the day he was released."

"Shout up Hannah!" Gnashing his teeth, Charles felt irritated by her sharp words.

She was undoubtedly a pain in the neck at the time when every trouble was about to be settled down. Charles could bet his bottom that the Collins family won't do him another favor by giving him another 2 billion, so the only option for him now was to pay his bill by shares, after which his family would only hold less than 50% shares of the Sawyer group!

Chapter 476 The Game (19) Revenge Herself

That meant the company would be easily taken away once there was someone else conspiring since the Sawyer Group had lost half of its shares.

No! He couldn't afford to lose his family business lasting for generations. The more Charles contemplated it, the more worried he grew. He had no idea how to protect both the Sawyer Group and his interests.

"Charles, I don't want to get you into a difficult situation. After all, we've been acquainted with each other for years. You got three days to think about your decision. If you can't pay it off in three days, I will resort to the legal procedure to have it paid." Hannah smiled complacently.

Charles couldn't help clenching his fists with his body taut. He almost blasted out of rage. However, he struggled to strangle his anger. Hannah didn't even care. She found it quite amusing to push him to the edge. Charles used to believe that he could get it through safely with the help of the Collins after he hooked up with Sarah. But now Hannah was telling him a hard truth-no matter how powerful backup he got, she could still push him to the edge of collapse. Of course, it wasn't out of kindness that she spared him three more days. Instead, she wanted to see him suffer for a bit longer. It would be the greatest mercy for him if she were to destroy him shortly.

After that, Hannah simply turned away to look at Edward, "Edward, sorry to bother you. I have finished my talk. I gotta go."

"Let me give you a ride." Said Edward nicely. From the bottom of his heart, he truly hoped that Susan could learn something from Hannah. Compared with Hannah's composure when she was dealing with some important matters, he couldn't help feeling disappointed about Susan's frivolous temperament. Needless to say, Hannah was much better a daughter for him than Susan.

"Thanks, Edward. But I think you have something more important to deal with. I can go on my own."

Smiled Hannah friendly. She appeared completely different when talking to Charles, which rendered him even more confused-he couldn't help wondering what made her change so much.

She looked so proud and dominant right now.

What happened to her?

As Hannah walked out of the conference room, Edward sighed while watching her back, "It must be the greatest blessing for a man to marry such a perfect girl."

Charles looked even sulkier. If his scandal hadn't been exposed, he would have married her and Oscar would have never bumped into such a great fortune. He kept telling himself to calm down. Then Edward turned to smile at him, "May we continue?"

Charles hesitated for seconds. He didn't want to pay. However, he still failed to pay off that two billion for Hannah even if he didn't pay this time. Gritting his teeth, he still decided to pay the Phillips Bank the money. Then he walked away in anger.

As soon as he reached the portal, a group of journalists surrounded him. Not until then did he recall that he especially noticed a lot of media about his decision to correct his misdoing of loan fraud. However, under the two billion debt he owed the Cooper Group and the risk that his family business was about to collapse, he had no mood to put on an act in front of them.

He simply walked past them.

"Mr Sawyer, it's said that you owed the Cooper Group two billion, for which Hannah just came here to ask you to pay off the debt!" one of the journalists said loudly.

Charles sulked and then coldly glanced at his assistant following behind. None of them expected that the journalists would talk about this topic. Even his assistant was confused. Charles should have bribed all those journalists, he reckoned.

"When Hannah walked past here a moment ago, she told us all that the Sawyer Group owed them two billion. She hoped that you can pay off the debt as soon as possible after you pay off the loan from the Phillips Bank." The journalists hurried to continue.

Sulky and trembling out of madness, Charles couldn't help clenching his fists again.

Hannah! Hannah again!

She was trying to ruin him by spreading the news around, after which he would be bombarded by questions and difficulties when he had no idea how to bail himself out. Amid the anger, he continued to walk ahead.

“Mr Sawyer!” the journalists insisted on his response.

Though self-possessed Charles had always pretended to be, he finally lost his temper. He suddenly pushed away the journalist. The journalist was pushed down to the ground. The crowd got into an uproar when seeing that. Charles simply walked past them. Driven by madness, he walked away with a livid expression regardless of his reputation of being a gentleman. As soon as he returned to his car, he got a call from Rowan.

Rowan seemed too disappointed to reproach him. He simply said, “I will make the one billion a lesson for myself. Charles, from now on, leave Sarah alone and mind your own business. If you dare to come to her again, I will cripple you! I mean it!”

After that, he hung up the phone before Charles could respond. Burning with anger, Charles smashed his phone onto the window. After the loud noise, the air seemed to be frozen. Both the two senior executives sharing the same car fell into dead silence.

Charles wished he could tear Hannah apart! She pushed him to the edge this time.

Meanwhile, inside the building of the Phillips Bank, Henry looked outside the window from the conference room and watched Charles getting into this embarrassing situation. He used to believe that he could mount to the top with the help of Charles. But today, he saw how embarrassed and powerless Charles appeared under Hannah’s aggressiveness. Luckily, it wasn’t too late for him to get away from Charles before he was gonna fall into an abyss together with him. Now that his backup had gone, Henry made up his mind to fight on his own. Now Manuel turned out to be his prior target.

...

‘Breaking News: pressed by the debt of two billion, Sawyer is facing a great financial crisis.’

‘The Gentle Charles has gone-a journalist beaten by Charles in public has called the police!’

‘The Sawyer Group’s e-commerce business is stagnating, with Bills Group allegedly claiming to terminate the cooperation.’

All kinds of negative news about the Sawyer Group were going viral. Sitting inside the office, Hannah found herself quite joyful as soon as she thought about Charles’s mad face. She couldn’t help smiling. How wonderful to revenge herself!

Chapter 477 The Game (20) Hannah’s Plan

Hannah then dialled Bills’ number.

“Ms Hannah, what’s going on with the Sawyer Group? How came they owed you two billion and Charles beat the journalist in public? Is he going crazy?” Bills sounded anxious because of Sawyer’s scandal.

“Sawyer does face a serious financial situation. Their share prices have been declining. If it were to continue, they would be likely to go into bankruptcy.” Said Hannah frankly.

“I should have quit the cooperation with them earlier. Cooper appears to be a much better choice. Even though your market share is much smaller, I believe it will grow even larger than that of Sawyer under your lead.” Bills regretted his choice.

Hannah smiled, “Mr Jones, actually you don’t need to regret it.”

“Come on, of course, I gotta regret it! The board of directors is now criticizing me as much as they could. For all these years of service, I have never been reproached like that. I have never failed in any investment in e-commerce. If I fall because of Charles this time, that will be the greatest dishonour of my lifetime.”

“Mr Jones, don’t be worried. I got a nice solution for you.” Said Hannah frankly.

“A solution?” Bills appeared somewhat interested.

“The e-commerce project for the international market is going quite well, right?”

“If it weren’t for the Sawyer Group’s scandal, we should have been making a profit.” Bills replied angrily. The project was postponed because of the Sawyer Group.

“So if the project can continue, we can make up for the loss.”

“How to continue? The bad news about Sawyer has flooded social media. What if the public boycott my business if I continue to carry on the project? If so, all the investment and my efforts would be gone! I can’t risk it.”

“Neither can I. But I mean you can turn to a third party to take over the project from the Sawyer Group.” Hannah suggested.

“You mean?” Bills was stunned. It never occurred to him that there could be a solution in such a short time.

Hannah continued, “Frankly speaking, we, the Cooper Group, want to take the place of the Sawyer Group and then continue with the project with you.”

“That’s a good idea I yearn for. But how?”

“Mr Jones, now we need your aid.” Said Hannah.

“Go ahead.” Bills agreed without hesitation.

“Sawyer owes us two billion. As far as I know about their financial situation, they couldn’t afford it. Of course, I never will Charles pay it with the shares. Their only solution is to turn to an auction of their property. Among all the projects I have investigated, their international e-commerce business is the only valuable one. Thus, Charles will make it auctioned. However, he will never let me win the auction. After such a feud happening between me and him, he won’t let me win.”

“So?”

“So I need you to announce that this project is exclusively open for the Cooper Group. That means if Sawyer is to sell the project to others, the project will be automatically ended. Based on the basic knowledge of commerce, the only value of this project lies in the international part of e-commerce because they didn’t do well in the domestic market. Without your aid, the international part will lose its value. Thus, no businessperson will be willing to take it over. If that happens, Charles will have no choice but to sell it to me.”

Amazed by her thorough plan, Bills nodded. Now he believed that the reason why Hannah handled the operation of the e-commerce project was to win his trust so that he could offer her aid at this moment. It turned out that everything she had done was in her best interest. What was more, she could come up with this plan perfectly at the very beginning. Undoubtedly, a capable lady like her must be promising. Hannah was a bit worried when noticing Bills showing no response. Of course, she started her planning on the very first day of the project. And now here came the time she had been waiting for. She wasn’t sure if Bills would find it repulsive because she was like taking advantage of him.

After a few seconds of silence, Bills suddenly uttered, “Okay.”

He agreed. Hannah breathed out a sigh of relief. But still, she pretended to be surprised, “Oh, thank you so much, Mr Jones. Wish a nice cooperation between us!”

“I bet it’s gonna be a nice cooperation with you.” Bills thought highly of her.

“I won’t let you down. Mr Jones, according to the contract, the Sawyer Group will ask for your consent before they have the project auctioned. When he mentions this to you, please make sure to announce your exclusive intention for your next partner.” Said Hannah.

“Okay.”

“Thank you, Mr Jones.”

After a few seconds of formality, Hannah put down her phone. Her smile widened a lot. Now everything was going on as she had planned. Suddenly, an idea came across her mind. She hurried to make an internal call to Rose, "Rose, notice the Sawyer Group that we will resort to a lawsuit if they can't pay off the debt before 10 AM tomorrow."

"Yes, Ms Hannah." Rose replied respectfully.

After a while, Rose walked into the office, "Ms Hannah, the Sawyer Group promises to pay off the debt on time as you wish."

"Okay."

But Rose frowned, "Ms Hannah, don't you think it sounds weird? How do they get enough money to pay off the debt? If they were financially sufficient, they wouldn't have committed loan fraud."

"That's because Charles makes a hard decision to sacrifice something important." Hannah sneered.

When facing a dilemma, Charles had his way to make decisions.

"Alright, you may continue with your work."

"Okay." Then Rose left.

After a while, Hannah got a call from Bills.

"Charles has talked to me personally. He said he would have the project auctioned to raise funds to get through the crisis this time. Thus, he asked for my consent. And I agreed."

"Okay, Mr Jones, please prepare the announcement."

"The announcement will be publicized after scrutiny."

"Thank you."

After hanging up the phone, Hannah made a call to Charles.

As soon as he noticed who was calling, he sneered with sulkiness, "Hannah, do you think you can destroy us with these tricks? Listen, I have plenty of ways to bail us out without any losses. Don't you gloat over it! I never fear your threat!"

Chapter 478 The Game (21)

Hannah couldn't help smirking since Charles was trying to feign a tough look at this moment.

She then went straight into the topic, "I heard that you are gonna transfer the e-commerce project."

"Not your concern! It's you who is gonna pay for the project. I suffer no financial losses!" Charles sneered and then continued, "The project is worth four billion. It's valuable enough to cover the two billion in my investment plus the one billion added afterwards and it can still generate a profit worth one billion. Hannah, do you think you can destroy me after all these tricks you have played? I made such a great profit without any extra investment. I gotta say this time, I win!"

"Oh, really?" Hannah said casually.

"Don't ever try to gloat over my mistake these days! Listen up, you are still too naive to fight against me! You will soon regret making me your enemy!" Charles continued to brag about himself. The more confidence he lost, the more he needed to play tough. But Hannah didn't seem to care. In her eyes, Charles was nobody but a moron.

"To whom are you gonna sell your project?"

"You want it?" Charles sneered.

Hannah showed no response.

"Hannah, from the very beginning, I can tell that you are targeting this project. You are clever enough to make the right choice-you would never spend so much effort working on my project unless you could gain from it. After all, if the project flourishes, it will make me the greatest winner though you can also

win yourself a better reputation. There was a moment when I almost believed that you made such a mistake without any awareness of this. I gotta say you do surprise me when I notice you have set up this trap waiting for me at the early beginning. But Hannah, I bet it never occurs to you that I will let go of the project on my initiative at the end. You never expect that I will sell the project to others, don't you?"

Charles sneered and continued, "Let me tell you. I would rather lose everything than let you gain a penny! You want the project? Just daydream about it!"

"Charles, back in the old days, I thought you should be a clever one." Compared with his conspicuous anger, Hannah appeared rather composed.

"A stupid guy like you will never be my match." She mocked sharply.

"Hannah!" Charles was outrageous.

"If you can tell that the project has been my very target at the beginning, you should have noticed that this project would turn out to be exclusive for me only." Hannah said coldly.

"Are you threatening me?"

"You will soon find out." Hannah sneered and added, "Charles, now I suggest you should think about how to please me so I may show a bit of mercy to help you out."

"Nonsense!" Charles didn't believe what else Hannah could do to conspire against him.

"Just wait and see."

Then Hannah hung up the phone. This time, she would expect Charles to kneel in front of her to implore for mercy, just like the way she once did to beg for survival back in her previous life.

Clenching her fists, she was expecting the moment of revenge. Then, she noticed a piece of news on the screen of her phone.

'Big announcement from Bills Group: They have officially proclaimed that they will cooperate with the Cooper Group once the Sawyer Group decides to quit.'

Soon, the news jarred the business world. All those groups, who once preyed on the project, started to flinch.

Chapter 479 The Game (22) Stand in the Way

Never did Charles expect such a hideous move from Hannah-she conspired with Bills to push him into a compromise in which he had to transfer the project to the Cooper Group.

Ever since the news was published, the group he once convinced to take over the project had refused his proposal because of Bills Group's announcement. After that, he managed to get in touch with other groups. But as expected, none of them agreed to take over the project.

The reason was obvious-they were afraid the business would stagnate. However hard he tried to promise under his analysis of the current situation, claiming that the announcement was nothing but a conspiracy between Hannah and Bills, none of them dared to risk a deal worth four billion. They insisted to refuse even though Charles promised to sell the project at a deducted price of three billion.

Charles was pushed to the edge. He could hardly fall asleep for the whole night. Unlike his usual patronizing appearance, he condescended to talk to those groups he once looked down upon just to sell the project as he wished. However, he was turned down again and again. What was worse, some of those groups whom he once humiliated paid him mockery and humiliation as payback.

It had been the worst day of his life. His office was filled with smoke. Cigarette stubs scattered all over the ground. As soon as Martina pushed the door open, she was stunned when seeing his eyes bloodshot and his face dispirited. Tears welled up in her eyes. She felt so sorry for her brother, "Charles, what's going on?"

Sitting on his chair, Charles remained silent.

"You are scaring me!" Martina looked nervous. She had never seen him so awkward. No matter what happened, Charles always managed to get it through even by dirty means.

Was it gonna be a huge trouble?

As privileged as her life had been, Martina could never afford to accept the fact that her family was facing the risk of bankruptcy.

"Why do you come to me?" Charles asked coldly, without any concern about Martina's emotion.

"The Cooper Group called again. They said they will be here at 10 AM and resort to the legal procedure to ask for the debt." Martina replied.

Charles turned livid as soon as he heard about the name of the Cooper Group. He wished he could skin Hannah alive. Martina noticed every hatred shown on his face. She hurried to say, "Charles, can we do something to that bitch? I hate it when she puts on that complacent look while we could do nothing about it!"

"Enough!" Charles was distraught. No one hated Hannah more than he did.

"Tell me when she arrives. Now get out!"

Before Martina was about to continue, she noticed his expression was getting worse. So she left with her teeth gritting. As soon as she returned to her own office, she got outrageous. After some consideration, she called her mother, "Mom!"

"What's going on with the group?" though Loretta never took part in the family business, she could tell from the overwhelming news that they were facing danger.

"Really bad. Charles is pushed to the edge because of Hannah!"

"What did the bitch do?"

"I don't know. Mom, the Group is struggling. After dad was put into prison, it has been Charles and me who try our best to maintain the operation. Mom, can you do something to kill that bitch?" asked Martina.

But Loretta had no idea what to do either. After some consideration, she replied, "Give me some time. I will figure out how to make her suffer!"

"Okay."

"Stay with your brother and help him to get through the crisis. Let me handle that bitch."

"Okay."

Gloom lingered on Martina's face. She swore to God she would never allow Hannah to take away everything from them.

At 10 AM, Hannah, together with Rose, Tan and Jimmy following behind, arrived at the Sawyer Group. However, no one showed up for reception after half an hour had passed. Hannah remained composed, while Rose seemed a bit displeased by their lack of courtesy. Before she was about to talk to one of their staff, Hannah stopped her, "Just stay."

Then she stood up, "Tell the lawyer to handle it." After that, she turned around to leave.

Rose was amazed by her decisiveness. It seemed that there was no need to waste any time negotiating with them. However, as soon as they walked out of the door, Martina suddenly stopped them, "Where are you going?"

"Get out of my way, moron." Hannah huffed coldly.

"Watch your language!" Martina snarled and was about to slap her.

"Get out of my way!" Hannah repeated seriously. Her voice sounded deterrent enough to stun Martina. But the next second, Martina recollected herself and shouted at Hannah fearlessly, "Here is my place!"

How dare you be so rude to me!”

Hannah cast her a cold stare.

Seeing that, Martina couldn't help getting goosebumps. She gotta admit that she was frightened. But still, she swallowed and mustered up courage again, “Why are you looking at me like that? Are you insane?”

“Get out of my way! This is your last chance!” Hannah's voice sounded chilling and threatening.

“No, I...” before Martina finished, Hannah dropped a hint to Jimmy. Then he walked over to pin her down on the ground. As Hannah had told him, those who tried to stand in their way should be punished. But of course, they couldn't be disabled or badly hurt. A bit of pain would be enough for a lesson. Though it sounded loud when Martina hit the ground, she wasn't injured. But still, it hurt so much that she found herself unable to scream. When those staff in the Sawyer Group witnessed that, none of them dared to utter. Every one of them seemed to be frozen on spot, deadly silent.

Only Martina's scream echoed in the air, “Hannah, you fucking bitch! How dare you! I am gonna charge you!”

Hannah coldly glanced at her lying on the ground and writhing to struggle up. She simply strode over her body from above.

How humiliating!

Chapter 480 The Game (23) Powerless

It was Martina's very first time being humiliated ever since she was born. At the edge of a breakdown, she screamed while lying on the ground, regardless of maintaining a decent look, “Stop right here! Why the hell are you standing still? Call the cops, right now!”

Her snarl of anger broke the silence. Finally, an employee was about to call the police.

“Try it.” Hannah walked over to her front.

The employee dropped her phone out of fear, trembling all over, looking frightened and going to scuttle.

“But I...” she was too scared to utter.

Hannah simply turned around to leave.

Martina kept shouting from behind, “Hannah, I am gonna charge you of intentional injury! I am gonna put you in prison!”

Hannah simply ignored her and led her companions to the elevator.

“Hannah!” Charles's voice suddenly came from behind.

But still, Hannah turned a deaf ear to it.

“Hannah!” Charles approached. Before he was about to grab her arm, Jimmy suddenly stopped him.

Charles then spoke to Hannah coldly, “Aren't you here for the debt? Why are you leaving?”

With her back on him, she replied, “I have offered you a chance and you lost it. Such being the case, I will resort to a lawsuit as I said. You will soon receive a letter from my lawyer. I will take away the shares of the Sawyer Group according to the legal procedure. Mr Sawyer, please make sure to conform to the rules.”

“Hannah!” Charles looked awkwardly panicked.

As the elevator arrived, she walked inside. So did Rose, Tan and Jimmy. Charles saw the door close.

Driven by madness, he kicked on the door hard. The loud noise frightened every staff around. Soon, they hurried to dismiss themselves before he shifted his anger to any one of them.

Martina finally managed to stand up herself. She cried pitifully when seeing her brother, “Charles, she got me pinned down on the ground! It hurts so much! You gotta revenge me!”

“Shut up!” Charles was burning with anger.

“Charles?” Martina looked at him with great disbelief. She had been carefully tended to by her family. Never had she been snarled at like that.

“Why didn’t you tell me she had arrived?” Charles questioned angrily.

Martina was getting a bit annoyed, “If she wanna meet you, do I have to bring her to you? All she wants is nothing but the project. I was just trying to waste her time and embarrass her! Can’t you see how aggressive she appears when talking to us? Shouldn’t we teach her a lesson?”

“Enough! No wonder our family declines so fast! That’s all because of a moron like you!”

“How can you blame me for this? Am I the one to be blamed for the current situation? From family to business, you have been fully in charge! Now you’re trying to let me take the blame when everything goes wrong? Charles, are you out of your mind?”

“Martina!” Charles was trembling with fury. A fierce quarrel then started between them under the gaze of the staff. He seemed to discard the appearance of a leader of the Sawyer Group.

“Enough. From now on, you’d better behave yourself. If anything like that happens again, you will have to expect the worst consequence.” Charles didn’t want to waste any time arguing with her.

“How could you...” her eyes were filled with tears.

But Charles simply turned around to leave. Then he drove himself to the Cooper Group. Now it was Charles who implored Hannah to buy the project. That was a decision he had just made last night. However, he didn’t want to show a bit of his intention-he knew Hannah’s arrival although Martina had not informed him. He wanted to maintain a proud look instead of looking inferior to Hannah. Besides, he believed Hannah wouldn’t be likely to give up on this project.

He hated to be looked down upon, especially by Hannah.

However, judging from how determined she looked when she walked away just now, he was aware that Hannah would afford to give up on the project while the Sawyer Group would have to face heavy damage. Or perhaps she would leave the project behind while taking away the shares. That was to say, if Hannah decided to give up on the project, Charles would face the worst consequence in which he would lose both the project and his shares. That would be the last thing he wanted to see.

At the thought of this, his car sped up a bit. As soon as he arrived at the Cooper building, he rushed through the portal.

“Excuse me, sir. Do you have an appointment?” the front desk lady stopped him.

“I gotta talk to Hannah.” He looked sulky.

“Sir, you need to make an appointment first if you wanna talk to Ms Hannah.”

“My name is Charles Sawyer, from the Sawyer Group!”

“No matter who you are, you need an appointment if you want to talk to Ms Hannah. If you don’t, I am sorry you have to make it another day.”

Charles stared at the front desk lady coldly.

“Sir, this way.” She showed him the way out.

Charles simply pushed her away and strode forward.

“Hey, stop!” she shouted.

Meanwhile, a group of security guards rushed over to take him under control. Then Charles was driven out of the building. He hurt all over but he couldn’t go away like that. He couldn’t afford to meet the consequence happening to the Sawyer Group once Hannah refused any negotiation with him. So, he made up his mind to dial her number.

Meanwhile, Hannah was standing at the window while looking down at his anxious expression. She

sneered.

He deserved it!

Hannah then hung up the phone and blacklisted Charles' number. Pissed, Charles smashed his phone on the ground. That was the very first time he had been so powerless.