Rewriting Life Chapter 171 – 180

Chapter 171

After leaving the billiard room, the group drove to MasonSpring Hotel.

At this moment, at MasonSpring Hotel

In the monitoring room, everyone was surprised to learn that **Harry** was MasonSpring H otel's owner.

"You are the boss" Quinella asked,

"Yes." Harry nodded.

Quinella looked surprised, but her eyes turned to the other side the next second, looking at Serena

Serena's face was pale. She didn't expect this at all,

Justin's face was

was similar to Serena's. He looked surprised and had a line fear in his heart.

Oh, no... Won't everything be over when we see the surveillance footage? Justin thoug ht.

Quinella and the others walked toward the monitoring room again. The head of the sec urity team inside saw them coming back, and his tone was the **same as** before, "Why ar e you back? Didn't I tell you that you can't check the monitoring?"

The head of the security team didn't have high status, and he didn't know Harry,

In addition, Harry didn't come to Dratora City often, so Harry quietly took our his phone and called the hotel manager

After a while, the lobby manager on duty today rushed to the monitoring room.

He immediately greeted Harry respectfully. "Mr. Xander"

Harry didn't answer but motioned him to do his job with his eyes,

The lobby manager directed the head of the security team. Hurry up and get the surveill ance footage in the terrace corridor.

The head of the security team was stunned for a mangient. When he heard the lobby m anager greet Harry respectfully, he knew this man **was** a big shot. After weighing in in hi s heart, **he** quickly turned his head and asked someone to get the surveillance footage to take a look.

The surveillance footage, which couldn't be accessed, was accessible in just a few seconds.

On the display screen, the scene of the terrace slowly appeared. Everyone saw Justin **t ake** the initiative to grab Quinella's hand. After Quinella brokoj free, he **still** shamelessly caught up and bugged Quinelli

"Oh!

The truth has come out

"He groped Quinella and then framed Quinella when he was

s caught"

"How shameless Latoya **and** the others discussed angrily.

Serena and her friends, standing outside the door, **also** saw the scene on the monitor.

Serena gritted her teeth. Justin's face flushed red and then turned white. He argued, "I was drunk before, so I didn't know what I did. I didn't mean

The faces of Serena's best friends changed, and they didn't know what to do.

They were still clamoring to ruin Quinella's reputation just now,

Now that the truth was out, there was nothing they could say.

Quinca turned to look **at** Serena. "Serena, it seems you haven't been doing well these p ast **few years**, huh?"

Quinella then swiftly took out her phone and chose to **call** the police.

"You're drunk, so go to the police station and explain yourself to the police. You attempt ed indecent assault and made false accusations. I will pursue this matter to the end," sai d Quinella.

Serena was utterly humiliated.

Unable to bear the sharne any longer, she turned and left.

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Justin hurried after her, and the others followed suit.

With the matter perfectly resolved. Quinella felt a **sense** of rebel. She nimed to Harry a nd **asked**, "Why didn't you tell me **you** were the owner of MasonSpring Hotel!"

Harry replied, "You didn't ask

Quinella retorted, "Even if I didn't **ask**, shouldn't you have taken the initiative to tell me

Harry smiled and said, "Okay, okay, It's my fault"

ted bicke

The two started bickering **in** the surveillance room

Latoya exchanged glances with Ramona, then pulled Eliana quietly out of the surveillan ce room.

They arrived on the first floor.

Eliana checked the time and said, "It's getting late. I have to go"

Latoya said, "**Yeah**, this dinner party is almost over. Let's watch Serena and her husban d get infamous together tomorrow"

Eliana smiled. "I feel so relaxed today. 1 was even going to ask my brother to come and check the surveillance footage"

Ramona said, "You don't say. None of us expected Harry to be **the boss**. **But** do you **th ink he** and Quinella are a good match?"

Latoya chuckled. "Quinella would be angry if she knew we were talking about this behind her back"

"Okay, then I'll leave first. Tell Quinella) said goodbye. The rematch is coming up, so I h ave to train these days," said Eliana, –

"Okay. Eliana, you go ahead," said Ramona.

Elana left the hotel.

The two inucks parked outside had driven away, but the scent of perfume roses lingered in the air, refreshing

Eliana stood at the bus stop on the side of the road, her shadow stretching long

She was about to call her family driver to pick her up

But before she could dial, she heard **the** sound of several motorcycles in the distance.

"Ekana, someone called her name

Eliana looked up and saw four people speeding toward her on

on motorcycles.

"Motorcycles? Eliana glanced at the black motorcycles they were riding and could cell at a glance that they were top–of–the–line models.

Eliana wouldn't be surprised if other people rode motorcycles, but Cameron riding one d id surprise her a line.

But then again, she knew most boys liked cars and motorcycles, so it was not strange th at Cameron did, too. **Besides**, he was rich enough to afford

them.

by are you here?" Eliana asked-

"Why are

Thomas took off his helmet. "We're here to watch the show. Looks like it's over. We're l ate."

"Yeah, you're late," said Eliana

Landon smelled the faint scent of roses on the street. "Why is there a scent

scent of roses here?"

Eliana sail lightly. "There were two large trucks filled with perfume roses parked here for over an hour?

Cameron asked, "Are you going back!"

Eliana replied, "Well, I was about to contact you on WhatsApp to ask you to play the ga mes together."

Adam said, "Since we're

we're already out, let's have more fun"

Thomas agreed. "Yeah, let's play a little longer.

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Eliana asked with interest, hands in her pockets, Play what?"

Thomas chuckled and said. "How about we take you out for a ride?

Eliana was surprised. "You take me for a ride! No speeding in the **city**. Do you want to make headlines tomorrow?"

There were clear regulations and speed limits in the city. Even if they had money, they c ouldn't do whatever they wanted. Moreover, with Cameron's special status, they couldn't act recklessly.

"We'll **co**

go to Moon **Bay**. That road is a paradise for motorcyclists, said Thomas.

Eliana had **heard** of Moon Bay but **had** never been there.

ad to fall thirty

thirty feet from the

In her previous life, when Eliana was a stuntwoman, she filmed a scene where she rode a motorcycle off

a cliff. Eliana had to green screen on one that weighed three times her weight,

The stunt director at the time was a motorcycle enthusiast.

Eliana had talked to him and heard him mention Moon Bay. **He also** said that Moon Bay was **a paradise** for motorcy cle enthusiasts.

However, because of the rigged mountain roads, one could easily pay the price of their I ife for this hobby,

Thaven't been there, but I'm very interested. Let's go!" Eliana walked over, ready to get on Thomas's motorcycle

But Thomas moved his butt back **and** said, "Eliana, go sit on Cameron's motorcycle. His motorcycle is more spacious than mine."

"Okay," Eliana could **only** change direction and sit on Cameron's motorcycle.

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Eliana sat behind Cameron with both hands on his shoulders

After she sat firmly, the four motorcycles drove side by side.

The night wind blow past her ears, messing up Eliana's sideburns. She **reached** out an d tucked them behind her ear. Then, she smelled a faint scent of menthol aftershave br ought by the wind.

Fluna's eyelashes flickered slightly, **and** then she lowered her eyes to look at Cameron i n front.

She and Cameron were too close.

The scent on Cameron's body was so faint that Eliana thought it was just her illusion.

Strictly speaking. Cameron had no smell on his body. It was the natural fragrance of toil etries, clean and refreshing.

It was just like lemonade in **the** scorching summer and made Eliana think of the sweet a nd refreshing juice of orange and grapefruit bursting open

at that moment.

Eliana suddenly had a strange thought. She said, "Cameron, you smell pretty good"

Cameron was shocked, and his body went stiff for a second when he heard t

that

His body stiffened. He didn't answer Eliana's words and pretended not to hear.

But his slender fingers gripping the handlebars tightened. He used so much strength tha t his knuckles turned white from the force

They soon arrived at Moon Bay,

There was no speed limit here because Moon **Bay** was an undeveloped barred mountai n. The **mountain** road was very rugged, with two mountains connected. They were the t wo mountains that connected Dratora City and **Lanure**.

Since it was undeveloped, there was naturally no speed limit

Motorcycle enthusiasts would often gather in this area.

Because the mountain road **was** so rugged, **fatalities** occurred every year. They were a II motorcycle **enthusiasts who** died here forever due to operational errors.

The relevant departments **had** tried to manage it before, but they couldn't **control** the **enthusiasm** of the motorcycle **gangs**. S o they just gave up and let them be **over** time.

Several people were preparing at the **entrance** to the mountains. When they saw **Elian a and** her group **arrive**, they glanced at their motorcycles and

whistled

They said. "Hey, your motorcycles are awesome!

Thomas laughed out loud and patted his seat. "It cost about over 200 thousand dollars"

"Awesome," one of these people said.

Needless to say, judging by their age. Thomas and the others must be rich second–generation.

Otherwise, how could they afford such expensive motorcycles?

"Are you going for a ride later! Why did you only bring one girl?" one of the motorcycle e nthusiasts asked.

Thomas replied carelessly, "Yeah, I'm just taking my sister for a ride.

But by sister, he meant cousin, not the girl he was trying to date.

The man **talking** to them thought they **didn't** have girlfriends, so he smiled **and** comfort ed them, ""It's **okay**. There will be plenty inside once you enter the mountain. You guys are so handsome. You won't be short of them. Aha, I'll go ahead first. See you inside lat er."

After speaking, the men got on their motorcycles and drove in.

According to the **man's** tone, there seemed to be a party inside. It should be lively, and they could even pick up girls there.

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Eliana patted Cameron on the shoulder and said, "Come on, let's go in. Smice we're alr eady here, why don't we go in?"

Landon agreed. "Yeah, that's night. Let's go in since we're already here:

The four of them drove into the mountains, navigating a nigged road before arriving at the motorcycle **gang's** headquarters.

There was indeed a party going on here.

As soon as they arrived, they saw the **man** who had spoken to them inside talking to a g roup of men and women, all wearing studded leather jackets.

"Hey! They're here. It's them." The man walked to them with his companions and pointe d at Thomas's motorcycle, saying. This motorcycle must be the one you told me you sa w at the international auto show. This man said it cost over 700 thousand dollars **in all**. We're in for a treat tonight"

Thomas got

off the motorcycle and said generously, "Bro, are you interested? Come on, give it a try!

They saw Thomas's **generosity** and soon started playing with them. It was easy for me n to become friends, after all

Eliana got off the motorcycle with them.

It was lively here, **and** the topics that men chanted about always revolved around motor cycles and girls-

After a while, a woman came over with a drink and chatted with Eliana.

"Sorry, but I don't drink," said Eliana.

"Okay, girl. Was that guy your boyfriend?"

"No." Eliana answered without thinking.

Hearing Eliana's answer, the woman laughed happily.

After exchanging **just a** few words with Eliana, she swayed to Camprou Eliana glanced at the woman's back and turned her head to continue visiting the base camp.

After **about** seven or eight minutes, the woman who **had** twisted her **waist** to find Came ros returned disappointed. "Were you fooling me around?"

Eliana was stunned. What **do** you mean"

The woman said. "Didn't **you** say he wasn't your boyfriend? Then why did he say you w ere his girlfriend when I asked him just now?"

Eliana was confused. "What?"

The woman

oman took

Elana over to confront Cameron. "Are you two dating or not!"

Eliana's eyes met Cameron's, and she seemed to understand something tacitly.

Cameron probably used me **as a** shield to reject this woman Elana thought

Anyway, this wornan **didn't know Eliana, so** Eliana cooperated with **Cameron and sai d**, "Yes"

The woman **was** even angrier after hearing Elana's words. "Are you fooling me around? You said you're not his girlfriend just now, and now **you're saying** you're!"

Eliana said, "I wasn't fooling you around."

The woman put her hands on her hips and shouted, "Somebody, come here!"

Her shout instantly attracted seven or eight strong men from the crowd, who immediatel y surrounded Eliana and Cameron.

Eliana was stunned. She didn't expect things to escalate to this point. She turned to loo k at Cameron

Landon and the others beside them noticed the commotion and hurried over. "What hap pened?"

The man who had talked to Thomas earlier told them, "That's Winnie Quanah, the daug hter of the motorcycle gang leader here. How did you

offend her?"

'Offended the motorcycle gang leader's daughter? Is he someone amazing? Thomas th ought furiously.

Thomas turned his back on him and walked over to protect Eliana. He said, "What? Are you going to light us!"

Landon and Adam also came over

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"Eliana, what's wrong" Landon asked.

Elana whispered, "This woman struck up **a** conversation with Cameron, and Cameron u sed me as a shield to reject her. Who knew she would be so angry.

and that's how it timed out"

Adamn glanced at Winnie and said in a relatively friendly tone, **Beauty**, you should like someone else. Cameron doesn't like to be hit on. Besides, how can you not allow others to reject you after you come up to hit on him? What kind of reason is thist We're here to have fun. Let's each take a step **back**. If things get out of hand, I guarantee that you wil I not get any benefit from it."

Winnie narrowed her

er eyes. Then, she said, "We won't get any benefit? Huh. You're taking me for a fool, rig ht? This woman said she's not his girlfriend, **and** this man said she is. Are you trying to f ool me?"

Eliana said, "This is just a misunderstanding."

Winnie said. "A misunderstanding? Then you drink the two boxes of wine over there, an d we'll call this a misunderstanding. You guys don't have a word of truth **in** your mouth when you go out to play. There's something wrong with **your** character

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Winnie pointed to several hoses of beer under the table and asked Eliana to drink them all, or she wouldn't spare

Eliana.

Eliana didn't expect Winnie to be so overbearing After one glance at the beer under the table, she said, "What if I say no!"

"No" Winnie seered. "Don't you know the news about Moon Bay? Do you really think yo u can leave **this** place safe and sound after offending me! Come on! When **your** corpse s are found under the cliff, the headlines will be your unexpected death from motor racin g.

Eliana feh speechless as she thought, "How arrogant she is! However, isn't she **sugges ting** something more?

Eliana smiled while Cameron's face darkened slightly

Adam said, "You overestimate yourself. Do you really think you and your men can kill u s?"

Winnie responded, "You will soon know! Go!"

Instantly, the burly men dashed forward to subdue the troublemakers.

Their first **target was** Eliana, the only woman among the troublemaker. To their surprise , Eliana kicked over the bench before her and kicked it toward their chests. The hit mad e them sprawl to the ground.

Bang!

The three burly men slumped to the ground, and their chests ached for the attack. They didn't expect the seemingly weak Eliana to be **so** strong. "Hell with her! Bros, catch herf

They lunged at Eliana again, but Thomas and the others blocked their way with the beer bottles.

"Where are you going?" Thomas shouted,

Then, tables were overturned, the beer bottles flew, shards of glass scattered, and seve ral lights broke down.....

The partygoers ran away and began their discussion,

"My God, the party is ruined""

"I didn't expect them to be so good at fighting"

"I thought that woman would hide behind her male friends. She seems delicate but is go od at fighting Hey, look, Winnie is calling for help"

They will be doomed. Winnie's rather is the head of the motorcycle gang. Their good **da ys** in Dratora City are over after they mess with the motorcycle **gang**."

Winnie had seen her troublemakers **as** pushovers, so it was shocking to her when her p arty was completely ruined. Angry, she walked aside and called **her** father.

"Hey, Dad! Please send Rufus **Reagan** over night away. **My** party is ruined. Yes. **hurry** up Right after the **call**, Winnie found a bench flying toward her. Startled, she quickly hid under the bar for her safety.

Silence pervaded after all her men were knocked down. She then slowly raised her hea d for observation

The party was in a mess, and Ehana was gone with her companions. What had happen ed? Had they left?

Winnic rose to

to her feet from behind the bar. Right then, she heard the sound of several cans being o pened behind her, **and it** struck her dumb

"You're up Eliana said.

Winne slowly turned her head at the que

question and then found Ehana sitting on the stool behind the har and watching her at e ase.

After the fight, Elana's clothes were **neat** as if Eliana were an onlooker of the fierce fight

Amused by Winnie's look, **Ellana** opened a can of beer with one hand, took a sip, and s aid, "Well, are your men coming or **not**? If not, we'll have to

leave now"

Winnie was shocked. Then, rage surged up from the bottom of her heart. This batch is I ooking down upon me! How dare she!' she thought

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Since Winnie remained silent, Eliana nodded to her companions and **said**, "The game is over, it seems. Let's go. It is getting late."

Thomas responded, "Exercise after dinner. Boring"

Winnie had called for help, so how could she let her troublemakers off easily? She must ered up her courage and shouted, "Stop right there!"

Eliana tumed her head and asked, "Yes"

Winnie forced herself to calm down and said, "You ruined my party. Do **you know** who **I am**? I won't s

spare you!"

This speech sounded hilarious to Landon. For the first time in his life, he was threatened by others with social identity. With the same tone as Winnie, be asked. "Do you know w ho we are? Let alone this party, we..."

Before Landon finished his speech, the noise of several motorcycles sounded outside.

The onlookers were quickly dispersed.

A man in his

thirties appeared with seven or eight young people in scramble suits. It was impressive when they marched forward.

The moment Winnie saw the **man** in the lead, the fear dissipated from her heart. She shouted happily, "Rufus! You're finally here! They are troublemakers! **Please** avenge m e. They ruined my party, so help me get back at them!"

The man called Rufus was bald, but he had a thick beard

Eliana and her companions turned their heads for a **glance** at Rufus. They didn't mind a nother round if the game wasn't over yet

Eliana **con**

na soon found the man called Rufus familiar. She racked her brains and then remember ed a bearded man in the stunt team. **Isn't** he a member of the motorcycle gang! Is ridin g **a** motorcycle his hobby? she wondered.

How did Rufus switch from a motorcyclist to a member of the stunt team? What a coinci dence for Eliana to meet with him **in** such a **place**! Could Winnie's father be the director Eliana had worked with several years **ago**?

What

abad surprise to Eliana that the steady director had such an overbearing daughter!

Eliana looked at **Rufus** with great interest.

Rufus walked over and asked. What are you guys **doing** here? How dare you make tro uble in Moon Bay!!

Landon said, "It sounds like Moon Bay is your territory."

Moon Bay **was an** undeveloped area without any developers, **so** it belonged to the publi c.

The motorcyclists loved to hang out in this district, but it didn't mean that Moon Bay belo nged to them

Cameron narrowed his eyes slightly, and his voice was cold. "What she said raises seri ous suspicion regarding the deaths in Moon Bay, Weren't the dead the victims of murde r? Do you know the consequences of holding an illegal gathering? Better management i s needed here.

SEND GIFT

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Cameron was imposing

ng when he made this speech. His vibe was authoritative **and** domineering

After one glance at the strangers, Rufas felt **that** their temperament was impressive, qui te different from that of the loafers, especially that of the man in a white jacket

Can it be that his family gets into politics? It would be too bad if the a

- answer was yes, Rufus thought. His expression became solemn.

Right then, Winnie shouted unwisely. "Rufus, teach them a good lesson. How outrageou s that they

they still talk nonsense in the face of death!"

Rufus teh speechless. He didn't act rashly before the whole situation was figured out; ot herwise, he might get himself into trouble.

subtle glance at the subordinate next to him **and** then said to Winnie, "Miss, I know you are angry, but take it easy,

"There is the law, so one shouldn't shoot off his mouths. There must be a misunderstan ding between you guys and Miss Quanah. Whatever. It undeniable that you guys ruined her party and broke the furniture here. Shouldn't you make compensation!"

Rufus shot one

Elina looked **around** the me out of this incident.

place. To her surprise, Rufus **was as** sophisticated as before. For old times sake, she di dn't intend to make a big deal.

She said. "The benches and tables here are cheap. Things would be worse if we didn't f ight back. She is so domineering and unreasonable that she resorted to detention after the failure of her flirtation. She even forced us to **drink** sever al boxes of wine. We ruined her party. It is even now, Thomas, let's go."

Thomas asked. "What? That is it"

Both Landon and Adam glanced at Cameron who remained expressionless and was sil ent

Because Cameron said nothing. Landon and **Adam** felt at a loss. Then, they took his silence as tacit consent to Eliana's words.

This was the best ending for everyone. For old times' sake, Eliana made **a** compromise.

However..

Winnie said stubbomly, "You want to leave? No way! What will others think of our gang i f you walk away safe and sound today? Won't they come to insal me at will

Eliana felt speechless.

Winnie

continued, "They are motorcyclists, so their legs **should** be **banken** according to the rul es."

Thomas couldn't help but laugh. "You don't know what is good for you."

Rufus remained silent.

Winnie turned to look at Rufus and ordered, "Rufus, say something

Right then, Rufus' subordinate returned with the result of his investigation based on the secretly taken photos of Eliana and her companions. He whispered something to Rufus

Rufus's expression drastically changed. "Miss Quanals, **no**, don't offend them" Rufus sa id.

Winnie responded, 1 beg **your** pardon? Didn't this advice come too late since the offens e **had** happened quite a while ago?

"Winne didn't end this mess as Eliana had **suggested**, so things went out of her **contro** I now,

Adam raised his **hand** and stroked his hair. "They must have found out who we are. Let' s leave after calling the police

Rufus hurried forward before he gave Winnie an explanation. "My friends, what happen ed today is a misunderstanding. Our bad."

With the leader of the motorcycle gang as her father, Winnie was arrogant Greatly humil iated by the **trick** and the ridicule from Eliana, she **was** expecting Rufus to avenge her. Her confusion arose when Rufus tried to make **peace** with the troublemakers. Rufus is s o unlike himself, she

thought.

"Rufus, what are

are you doing..." Winnie asked.

"Shut up," Rufus scolded when his patience ran out. "Come, take her away!"

Winnie's eyes became wide open. "You....

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Several men quickly went over and dragged Winnie away with her mouth covered.

Then, Rufus **politely** apologized to **Eliana and** her companions. Tim **sorry**. Miss **Quan ah is still** young, ignorant, and naive, I apologize to you on her behalf. Sorry for the me ss tonight. Our bad"

The mess tonight seemed to end with this apology from Rufus.

Cameron said nothing, but he might take revenge later. In his opinion, everyone should be responsible for what they did.

Cameron said. "Let's go"

"Okay, his companions responded.

Rufus quicily watched the five people leave while a bad feeling haunted him.

Eliana was escorted home by her friends.

"See you around

Cameron in the

the far

watched Eliana enter her hous

house before he

efore he drove an

away with his fr

friends.

Two days later, two pieces of breaking news were spread.

One piece was that Moon **Bay became part** of Central Park and wasn't **open** to the pu blic anymore. Without warning, the two mountains in Moon Bay would be developed. Th e entrance of Moon Bay was sealed off on the very day when the news made the headlines

The

largest stronghold of the motorcycle gang was destroyed, and Eliana firmly believed that it had something to do with Cameron. It wasn't a bad decision, given the death rate in Moon Bay. Several innocent men might be saved by this decision.

sexual harassment and was taken away by the policemen...

The other piece was that the husband of Serena, a well-known dancer, **was** accused of sex

Coincidentally. Eliana had gotten involved in these two pieces of **breaking** news as **thei r** witness

The quarter-finals would begin this weekend.

The quarter-

finals were held in the gymnasium in Drora City, and every team would have its new op ponents.

In **the** afternoon, the arrangement of the quarter– **finals** was published **on** the official website of the game.

Eliana checked the arrangement and saw Tigers VS Flowers.

Flowers **was a** team of women, and they were from the nursing school nearby.

It was rare to have a team of women in this competition, so Eliana felt happy for them.

This team proved that esports weren't just for men.

It was a pity that those flowers would be against Eliana who wouldn't go easy on them j ust because they **were** women. championship.

Willow and Wendy also checked the arrangement and found their strong opponents fro m the Sports Institute.

They couldn't help but ridicule **Eliana** whose opponents were all female. "She is so luck y"

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Most people thought a that Повсть з

was weak, but they were wrong

After the arrangement of the quarter–finals was published, the analysis of the participants began, especially about Tigers

In the first round, Tigers from Isonstead University gained the first victory with overwhel ming strength, which aroused the attention of the public.

There were investigations about Flowers, and several students even went to their colleg e for more information.

The investigation results were surprising.

The five women in Flowers turned out to be strong players, and each of them ranked hi gh on the list. The team leader, Ruby Grant, had served in an E– sports club and later built her studio about games. Her rich experience with games was solid evidence of her strength.

All members of her gaming **studio** were women, and they offered their gaming skills as a service.

The other members of Flowers came from her studio, and they were versatile players. I n short, Flowers was an army of women. It had gained **an** overwhelming **victory** in the fi rst round.

The information about Flowers caused **a** stir in the forum.

so awesome?]

[Damn, so av

[I once ordered the service **from that** studio, and I didn't know those players were from Flowers. Their gaming skills are excellent, and their **service** is expensive.

Because of rarity, female players charged higher fees for their services than male **playe rs**. Thanks to the outstanding service, Flowers had **many** regulars.

[How impressive!]

[Wow, the game must be exciting.]

looking forward to i

The forum buzzed with excitement, and those **posts** shocked Willow and her teammate s who had looked **down** upon Flowers

Each member **of** Flowers had earned money and honed their skills in the **thousands** of orders, so they must know the game very well.

Now, Tigers must be under pressure. Eliana is awesome, and there are five good player s like

her, Wendy thought. She felt a bit frustrated as she realized after the appearance of Elia na and Flowers that she had overestimated herself.

Willow wished that Flower would beat Eliana in the coming round

As for Eliana, she didn't get scared by the **strong** Flowers. Instead, she looked delighte d.

Stella asked, "Eliana, aren't you worried? Flowers is said to be awesome, and its leader is a retired player from the E–sports club"

e picked

Leaning against the wall, Eliana drank water, a little tired from the training. "Not a shame to be defeated by the strong. What's more.Shep up the tennis racket at h er feet, twirled it twice, and smiled. "I won't **lose**."

Her old memory told her the final winner would be Wendy, not Flowers. In other words, t here was still a long way to go. No rush.

Finally, the day for the quarter-finals arrived

In the morning, the driver working for the Davis family sent Eliana to the gymnasium

It was early, and the game hadn't begun yet. Therefore, Eliana had breakfast near the g ymnasium. Before she finished her breakfast, her teammates arrived one after another.

up chat, Thomas tagged Eliana. [Eliana, where are you?

In the group

Eliana: [The restaurant opposite the gymnasium.]

Thomas got out **of** the car, checked the new message, and then looked around in searc h of Eliana. At the sight of his target waving her hand at him, he strode over.

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"Eliana, you didn't have breakfast at home, did you?" Thomas asked.

Eliana responded, "No, I got up so early for fear that I would be late. What about your

"I dal" Thomas sat down beside Eliana. Before has butt warmed the chair, the other teammates gradually arrived and gathered in the food store.

Landon bought a cup of coffee.

After Eliana finished her breakfast, the whole team walked to the gymnasium together.

As soon as the team entered the gymnasium, a worker greeted them and asked. "Are y ou from Isonstead University?"

Elana responded, "Yeah, Tigers"

Hearing this, the stern worker instantly put a smile on his face.

was granted.

Tigers was a popular team in this competition, so special treatment was

The worker said, "Come with me. I'll take you to get your costumes. The competition will start at 6 pm. This afternoon, there will be a rehearsal for the shooting. You can leave after you are familiar with the procedure, but make sure to be back before 5pm

"Okay," Eliana sajd.

The members of Tigers got their costumes. They put the clashes on and checked thems elves before the mirror. Not **bad**.

Eliana took out her mobile phone to take a picture of herself for **Lucy**. When she presse d the shutter, Cameron and the others happened to look at her, and Thomas even mad e the victory sign. Therefore, the camera captured all five of them

Each team had its longue in the gymnasium.

Elana and her teammates familiarized themselves with the new environment and the pr ocedure of the game,

"You will appear on Polar Bear TV this afternoon. If you have any bos, tell me now,

Eliana asked. "Taboos?"

The worker nodded For example, you don't want to show your face to the public. If you need something like masks, we can prepare them in

advance"

Eliana thought, I came to make my name. With the mask on, who will know me" Moreov er, it is useless to wear a mask. Everyone at Isonstead University knows that we are Tig ers'

"I won't wear a **mask**. What abour you **guys**?" Eliana asked.

Thomas said. "Me neither.

Landon shrugged. "No."

Adum said. "No"

Cameron responded, "No."

The problem was solved.

The worker felt relieved. He felt it a pity if the the members of Tigers, whose appearanc e was outstanding, wore masks.

When Tigers was about to leave the gymnasium, five women in JK skirts came into view .

When the two teams brushed past each other, Eliana stopped and looked **back at** her o pponents.

Coincidentally, Ruby's eyes swept over Tigers.

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Their eyes met, and they could tell each other's lentities

Ruby asked, "Are you the "Tigers' team!"

Eliana replied, "Yes"

Ruby smiled. "You guys are impressive. I'm **looking** forward to the match this afternoon,

Elana said, "Likewise. See you this afternoon."

With a brief ex

exchange, both teams parted ways.

Outside the stadium, the sun shone brightly.

Eliana hailed a car. "Let's head to Jarrod's internet cafe. I heard the official site uploaded the preliminary match videos. Let's check them out."

The others replied, "Alright,"

Shortly after Eliana and her team left, Willow and Wendy's teams arrived at the stadium.

They came with a long list of demands, insisting on private lounges and perfectly positio ned **computer** setups for the **best camera** angles

Both Wendy and Willow were obsessed with appearing flawless on cantera.

They worried about looking bad on the live broadcast because the highdefinition lens didn't have a beauty filter.

While they were nupicking, the adjacent lounge belonged to "Flowers."

Team captain Ruby was verifying ID card numbers

One teammate adjusted her uniform's bow in front of **a** mirror, two others sipped milksh akes on the couch, and the short– haired girl stood by the window, smoking while replying to messages

Before long, a knock came at the door

Without turning around. Ruby called out. "Patricia, get the door,"

Patricia Morrow, the girl adjusting her how, nodded. "Got it

She opened **the** door to find a staff member standing awkwardly, with Wendy's team behind him.

Patricia asked, "Is there something you need?"

The staff member looked uneasy. "Sorry to bother you: May I speak to your captain?"

Patricia stepped aside. "Ruby, they're asking for you."

Ruby put down the ID cards and walked to the door. "What's the matter?"

The staff member apologized immediately "Ms. Grant, Fm so sorry.

Before the staff member could finish, Wendy boldly stepped around him, strutting into the lounge. She scanned the room, then declared, This room will do

The teammates inside were confused.

Ruby asked, "What's that supposed to mean!"

The staff member hesitated and said, "Ms. Grant, this is Ms. Hall from Flanes. She want s to switch lounges with your **team**

This lounge had windows and a nice view.

Wendy crossed her arms, casually inspecting her nails with her other hand. "Yep, I like t his room. Since **you're** only playing one match this afternoon, just let us have it

Ruby frowned. "What do you mean by

one match?

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Wendy chuckled. "Exactly what it sounds like."

In her mind, neither "Flowers" nor "Tigers" would make it to the finals, so she figured the y might as well give up the **more** spacious lounge.

Had Wendy asked politely, Ruby might have considered it.

But her rude, emuled aminade left no room for **discussion**.

Ruby said, "I'm not switching. Get out.

The staff member looked even more distressed

Wendy asked, "Not switching? Why not?"

Patricia replied, "No means no. Can't you understand rejection?"

Wendy glanced at Patricia, eyeing her up

and down with clear disdain. "Who are your if you're not the captain, you have no say. **Y ou're** all just here for the prize money anyway, right? How much would it take to trade r ooms?"

Ruby and her teammates were stunned.

Her words were downright insulting. This was outright bullying.

The **two** girls on the couch sprang to their feet. "What's that supposed **to** mean? Flaunti ng your little bit of cash? If you're that rich, why not just buy the whole stadium and pick any room you want!

Wendy ignored them entirely, **as** if dealing with them was beneath her. She sighed in an noyance.

She **looked** at Ruby and **asked**, "Enough with the nonsense. Seven thousand dollars. Deal or not

Ruby replied. "I'd give this room away for free to anyone but you. No deal?

Wendy let out a cold laugh, tumed, and left the lounge

But she wasn't giving up. She went straight to the event organizers to negotiate.

She wanted to pressure them until they relented and gave her another preferred room. No way was she getting this **one**.

After Wendy left, the staff member apologized profusely.

He was caught in a difficult position

Ruby said. "It's okay."

Once the door closed, the room erupted,

"What a piece of work! She used her wealth to insult people! Outrageous!"

"What

An

idiot! What team did she say she's from 'Flames? If we get the chance, we'll crush them !"

"Right? And offering 7000 dollars. Does she think that's a lot of money! HilariousTMTM

Despite being teenagers, the team members earned significant amounts from their gaming gus

am

They were far from impressed by a mere 7,000 dollars.

Ruby said. "Alright, enough about her. Let's focus

Meanwhile, Wendy's negotiations paid off. She secured her desired lounge.

But after this incident, animosity between "Flames" and "Flowers" was inevitable.

Eliana's team **headed** to Jaerod's internet cafe.

There, they reviewed several of "Flowers's previous matches. Their gameplay clearly followed a well– planned strategy, backed by solid technical

skills.

Eliana's team carefully analyzed the recordings

They broke down "Flowers's rhythm and identified **each** player's strengths and weaknes ses. They devised a strategy specifically targeting "Flowers."

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"Give me five""

"If we win this afternoon, let's have a barbecue tonight"

"Okay!"

After a **quick** lunch, they played a few more practice games.

Jaerod, aware that Eliana **had** been busy with the university toumament, knew she had n't visited the black market in a while.

news to share.

However, he had urgent news to sha

Discreetly, he approached Eliana as she was filling her water bottle.

He said, "Someone's put a bounty on you in the black market"

Eliana paused and frowned. "A bounty on me?"

Jarrod nodded. "Looks like someone traced your IP from that old post you made in the **b lack market** and figured out you're in Dratora City. The black market **higher**– ups put a 300–thousand– dollar bounty on you. A lot of people are digging for your info **now**. Be prepared."

The post **that Eliana** created using the alias "Six Noir," which was meant to draw out Ja rrod, proved to be the **critical** clue.

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Eliana said, 'It's fine. I've

e got this".

Jarrod remained silent.

Being wanted by the black market meant danger could strike **at** any moment. Yet, Elian a remained completely unfazed.

Then again, Jarrod **reconsidered**. **Eliana's** close friends Cameron and the others were n't prdinary people. If she could run in the same circles a them, she clearly wasn't average either.

He figured she probably had a way to handle it. He was just overthinking.

At 5 pm, the team arrived at the stadium, ready for the match

Audience tickets

had sold out early, so the team entered through the back entrance guided by event staff

With an hour to go, **Eliana** downloaded the Polar Bear TV app on her **phone** and saw t he university tournament's livestream featured prominently on the homepage.

Although the broadcast hadn't started, the prematch viewership had already hit six figures

And this was just the semi-finals. The viewership for the finals would only grow.

With such high exposure, it was no wonder Wendy **was** so desperate to win the champi onship

Winning the tournament title was a major career boost

At 5:50 pm, the staff came to the lounge to escort the team to the stage

As they walked past the lounge of "Flowers," Ruby and her teammates happened to exit at the **same** time.

Their eyes met briefly

Ruby offered Eliana a faint smile.

Eliana smirked back. The two teams walked to the stage, one behind the other, **ready** f or the match.

The stage equipment was standardized, except for specific adjustments requested by pl ayers like Wendy and Willow

As the

teams powered **up** their computers and launched the game, all the cameras and livestre am schups went live. One camera **roamed** the venue. while another focused on the big screen displying the march

Viewers flooded in. Within five minutes, nearly fifty thousand people were watching.

The host kicked things off with a brief opening speech and then introduced the teams. T he first match featured two fan favorites, Tigers vs. "Flowers."

While the host **was** introducing the teams, Wendy and Willow's teams waited backstage . Willow's match was third, and Wendy's fourth

They had to wait for the previous teams to finish before they could take the stage

Willow, knowing she couldn't play well, had practiced just enough to fake competence. Since she **mainly** played low– skill heroes, she wasn't concerned about her performance

Her top priority was her appearance. She kept checking her makeup in **a** handheld mirr or, **making** sure it could withstand the HD cameras.

Wendy, however, cared more about who would win between Fliana and Ruby

She crossed her arms and sat proudly on the bench, eyes fixed **on** the big screen.

With the host and the commentators energetic voices narrating, the **match** finally began

The big screen displayed the ten players entering the hero selection phase after murchu making.

Eliana had already predicted the opponents likely lineup from her research at the intern et cafe. During the hero-han phase, she banned the enemy's two best damage-dealers.

Rully instantly realized Eliana's team had studied their tactics

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was still on.

Still, it didn't matter. Their selected lineup wasn't too restrictive. The game was

With the heroes locked in, the match officially began

Amid the commentators thrilling play-by-

play, the livestream audience surged rapidly. Alongside random internet viewers, many students from Dratora City's universities tuned in, boosting the numbers,

The chat exploded with comments, the viewersup steadily climbing.

The sheer speed of messages highlighted Eliana's j

s popularity at school, with countless users praising her. Of course, Cameron and his te ammates

also garnered significant attention.

Backstage. Wendy and Willow watched the livestream on their phones

Seeing the endless praise for Eliana's beauty, **Willow** grew annoyed. She typed furiousl y: [Am I the only one who doesn't get **Eliana's looks**? She's not as stunning as the inter net hypes her up to be, Some people need to stop exaggerating!!

Her comment vanished into the flood of messages almost instantly.

Dismissive. Willow exited the app, unaware of the storm brewing. Moments later, her in box was flooded with private messages.

She opened **a** few and saw there were all hateful messages.

[Who asked for your opinion! Have some self-awareness!]

[Jealous much?

[Nobody asked, old lady. Stay quart!)

[What a **salty** hater]

[If I were you I'd just stop talking.]

There were many more messages

The incoming private messages were overwhelming, Panicked, Willow quickly disabled her private messaging feature, grateful she rarely used this app. Otherwise, internet sle uths might've exposed her identity,–

Meanwhile, Wendy focused intently on Eliana's gameplay. She had to admit that Eliana was genuinely skilled.

In a way, she was a formidable opponent

But defeating someone like Eliana would only make victory sweeter.

The game took thirty-seven minutes.

By the 30-minute mark, Ruby's team clearly fell behind.

Despite their strong players, Eliana's team was too familiar with their tactics, steadily cru shing them across all **lanes**. The first **to** collapse was the mid–lanc.

Eliana knew the mid–lane was Flowers's weakest link. Early tower falls opened the jungle for invades compounding their disadvai me

di contrast, Eliana's team held firm on all lanes. Thomas's mid– lane presence became nearly unstoppable with Eliana's support. Landon secured the b ottom line steadily, while Adam dominated the top lase

Their cooperation was impeccable,

When their base crystal shattered Ruby was still desperately split– pushing attempting **a** comeback. However, it was too late,

"Game over!" The commentators excitedly recapped the intense **match as** the chat eru pted with praise. (Tigers are awesome!]

Ruby's **team** felt dejected, having expected to breeze into the finals. They didn't expect to stop at this match.

Yet, despite the setback, they weren't sore losers.

As they exited the stage, Ruby warmly addressed Eliana, "I hope you make it to the final s. II be watching.

At that time, the host said, "Don't be discouraged, folks! There's still the resurrection bra cket ahead. We're all excited to see you and your teammates. light your way **back**!"

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Trams eliminated in the

fest round of the seminals would enter the resurrection bracket, giving "Flowers" another chance,

Hearing this, Ruby and bet tram brightened ups

They said, "We will be back?"

As both teams left the stage, they walked past Wendy, who couldn't resist a disdainful r emark.

Wendy said, "1ilwaght you were supposed to be strong. Tins out you're just trash."

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Ruby stopped in her tracks upon hearing Wendy's words,

Her eyes revealed a hint of fierceness as she stared at

at Wendy

Since only Ruby heard what Wendy said, the staff nearby were puzzled when they saw her pause. "Ruby, hurry down. The second team is about to

Her teammates looked at her, placing supportive lands on her shoulders, thinking she c ouldn't accept the loss

They said, "Come on, we still have the resurrection bracket."

However, **Eliana** noticed that Ruby's eyes remained fixed on Wendy.

Based on Eliana's understanding of Wendy, she **was** sure Wendy must have mocked R uby, causing her to glare angrily

Wendy wore an innocent expression as if nothing had happened.

Ruby held **back** her **anger**. This was a live broadcast, and she couldn't cause a scene.

She had no choice but to follow her teammates off the stage and head to the lounge.

On the way back, a teammate asked, "Ruby, what happened just now!"

Ruby revealed the truth. That woman just called us trash."

They all remembered how, earlier that afternoon, Wendy **had** tried to switch waiting roo ms, even saying that they'd be eliminated anyway,

And now, her aunt had unfortunately come true.

Ruby couldn't suppress her anger

But there was nothing they could do. They had indeed lost. Still, it was infuriating.

Eliana, walking behind them, overheard Ruby's words

She didn't doubt Ruby because she knew exactly what kind of person Wendy was.

What surprised Eliana, however, was that none of Ruby's teammates questioned her st ory.

Thomas couldn't help himself to staff out gossip.

Thomas stepped forward and asked, "Did Wendy insult you just now?

Ruby paused for a moment before **nodding** "Yes. As I passed by her, she called me us eless."

Patricia, standing nearby, added angrily. That wasn't all! This afternoon, she brought sta ff over and demanded to switch lounges, even offering us 7,000 **dollars**! How ridiculous ! She's so fake, pretending to be innocent but acting **so** disgustingly!"

Wendy had indeed

been to their lounge earlier. No wonder Ruby's teammates believed Wendy had **insulte d** them.

Eliana lowered her head thoughtfully. The biggest difference between Wendy and Willow was that Wendy acted arrogantly, relying on her family bac kground and Hannah's support. **Willow** was **a** clasit schemer, appearing sweet on the s urface but **ready** to **stab** one in the bark.

One was openly malicious, the other secretly vicious. They were a match made in heav en.

Eliana stepped forward, saying, "Don't worry. Only four teams will be selected from the r esurrection bracket. **If** you break through, you'll have the

chance to face her again.

Ruby nodded firmly. "That's what I'm **thinking**, too. We'll fight our way through the reviv al round and defeat her fair and square on stage! We'll bear

Their fighting spirit **was** reignited by Wendy's s provocation

Eliana thought to herself. In the past timeline, Wendy was the champion of the competiti on. By all rights, she should keep winning until the finals.

But she had crossed Ruby this time. She might just lose to Ruby. If that happened, the

outcome would change.

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After the "Tigerot vidory, homirad University's forum was fooded with congratulatory posts from netizens.

However, winning one match wasn't enough. They still had to wait for future competition arrangements

The live broad at unexpectedly boosted Eliana's popularity online. Many viewers, captiv ated by her stunning looks, took screenshots from the livestream and posted them on s ocial media.

Elana hadn't intentionally marketed herself as an "esports girl," but the narrative had alr eady taken off. Numerous fans were hyping |

g her as the m outstanding esports player in the university competition.

When Eliana's gaming II) was exposed, even more people checked her game records a nd sent her friend requests.

After Eliana's team won, Willow and Wendy's team also secured a victory

Seeing Eluna gain popularity after the competition, Willow hoped for similar attention. T o her disappointment, not only was she absent from **social** media discussions, but even the school for barely mentioned her.

The stark contrast triggered Willow's memories of bring overshadowed by Eliana in the past timeline, reigniting her sense of helplessness.

Desperate, she contacted the hacker Six Noir again, **asking** them to expose Eliana's dir t immediately and ruin her reputation.

When Eliana say Willow's **message** while eating in the cafeteria, she calmly replied: Thi s isn't her peak moment yet. **Aren't** you **worried about** facing her in the frak?]

Willow What do you mean]

Elians Have you considered whether you could even beat her if you two meet in the fina Is? Her skills are far superior to yours]

Willow pondered for a moment

She thought Six Noir's reminder was crucial.

Willow's

anger blinded her to the **fact** that exposing Eliana's dirt now would leave her with no opt ions if Eliana still made it to the finals.

Although Willow was reluctant, she had to admit that Eliana's gaming skills were formid able.

Willow had seen Eliana's performance during the **match** earlier. In terms of technical pr owess, Eliana was undoubtedly **a** powerhouse.

Morcover, Eliana's team had defeated the popular team "Flowers.

In fact, "Flowers" should **have** a more than 96% chance of winning **against** any team, u ntil they faced "Tigers"

Willow thought she only had one chance to run Eliana by exposing her dirt.

If she missed this chance, she would not have another one again

Willow realized that if Elana made it to the **finals** and her dirt was exposed by then, public outrage would destroy her reputation instantly.

Her soaring popularity would turn into universal wor

If Eliana failed **to** reach the final, **leaking** her dirt would still generate buzz around the c ompetition. If Willow won the championship, she could ride the wave of publicity and bo ost her own Dame.

No matter how Willow looked at it, the plan seemed flawless.

Willow dismissed her original idea. She replied: Fine, you're right. We'll wait and see if that wretch even **makes** it to the **finals**]

Eliana put down her phone and continued eating

Stella asked, "Eliana, who were you chatting with?"

Phara said, "Willow"

Siella was stunned. "What You're talking to Willow? Isn't she your sworn enemy?"

Eliana's eyes sparkled with amusement. "Stella, would you like to make a fortune?"

Everyone loved money– making opportunities. Stella nodded cagerly "Of course! How do we do it!"

Eliana beckoned her c

closer, and Stella leaned in to listen.

Chapter 179

Eliana toki Stella about Lara's situations.

After hearing about Lara's ordeal, Stella was furious.

Stella had **experienced** bullying **during** middle school. However, she fought back fierce ly. Later, when the teachers called her parents, they firmly supported her. As a result, th ose lule bullies never dared to cross her again.

Learning that Lara was beaten so badly by Willow that she developed nerverelated hearing loss and couldn't afford treatment was heartbreaking,

Stella asked. "Eliana, how did you find out about this?"

"I **came** across it by chance, Eliana replied.

Stella added. "What do you want me to do?"

Eliana's idea was simple

Exposing Willow's misdeeds later might ruin her reputation, but it wouldn't clunge **Lara' s** current condition.

Instead, it would be better to take advantage of the situation and extort a large sum of m oney from Willow. Using Willow's fear of being exposed, they could force her to pay for Lara's ear treatment.

After some discussion, Stella agreed to the plan.

The next day, during class. Willow's phone suddenly **received** a photo via Bluetooth transfer.

Curious, she opened it. It was an old class **photo** from Crestwood **Middle School**

Someone had drawn a big red Xover her face, making the image eerily threatening

And there was a text message, saying [Willow Foster, long time no see. How **have** you been?]

Willow was shocked

After reading this message, cold sweat prickled Willow's back.

She nervously scanned the classroom, searching for the sender.

But everyone seemed focused on the lecture, showing no signs of unpicion.

Her paranoid behavior annoyed Wendy, sitting beside her. "What's wrong with you?" W endy asked irritably.

"Nothing" Willow muttered, quickly flipping her phone face down

Crestwood Middle School was in Avragow, while she was now in Dratora City.

The two cities were far apart. No one from her past should know she was here, let alone recall her former surname,

She wondered if someone was messing with her.

Suppressing her anxiety, Willow Forced herself to focus on class

From the

hack **r**

row, Eliana and Stella exchanged amused glances and smiled.

Faster.

In the following days, Willow continued receiving messages and photos related to Crest wood Middle School, despite **disabling** her phone's Bluetooth transfer feature. Her inbo x and email were constantly flooded.

With the upcoming weekend competition approaching, Willow couldn't afford distraction s

That night, she contacted Six Noir

She wrote: I think my phone's been hacked. Someone keeps sending me harassing me ssages. Find out who's behind this!

Eliana paused while brushing her cat's fur and typed a reply: [That will cost you exira |

Willow was stunned.

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Despite paying Six Noir so much money before, this hacker still demanded more. She th ought Six Noir was really greedy.

But with no one else to turn to, she had to give in

Willow asked. [How much!]

Eliana replied Three thousand dollars!

Willow |Find it out. I want to know tonight who is behind this. If I find out who it is, I will ki II him!]

Bun

[I'm talking about Astral Dollar.]

At the current exchange rate, that amounted to **27** thousand dollars.

It would cost more than 27 thousand dollars to have Six Noir investigate this, nearly 30 t housand dollars when rounded up.

Willow was first shocked, then felt reluctant

Although the Garcia family was wealthy, she was still a s

a student with no personal income, relying **entirely** on her family's allowance.

She had 30 thousand dollars, but spending that much just to investigate one **piece** of inf ormation seemed too costly.

Willow started reconsidering.

At that moment a new message popped up on her phone. [Think it over carefully. You k now I'm absolutely worth the **price**.]

Willow kept thinking

She knew Six Noir was worth it. In the entire dark web market, only Six Noir **had** passed her previous stringent tests.

Willow actually wanted to maintain a long– term partnership with Six Noir. After all, she would need someone who could nevigate b oth legal and illegal worlds in the future.

After a moment's hesitation, she replied [Fine, investigate it. I'll transfer the money soon .

As soon as Willow transferred the money. Eliana sent her the preprepared information,

Eliana: [This maner seems to be related to one of your old high school classmates. Do y ou remember Lara']

Willow didn't expect results so quickly.

She frowned. Lara?"

Of course she remembered the **frail**, underdeveloped **class** monitor from Crestwood M iddle School

Willow: [What does this have to do with Lara!]

Eliana [She is in Dratora City now.]

Willow: What!]

Willow was shocked.

Elaina: [But don't worry. The person sending you those photos isn't Lara. Based on the I P address, **it's** someone from your currents who knows about Lara's past

Damn it! Willow **had** long suspected the person sending **those pictures** must be someo ne in her class.

[Who is it?] Willow asked impatiently.

Eliana (It's someone in your class. **Think** carefully. Do you have any enemies there! Th ey might be trying to mess with you before the competition.

"Enemies" Willow got along well with her classmates, always being generous and kind.

If she had any enemies, it would be Eliana.

Willow thought for a long time but still felt something was off

In the end, she decided to observe her classmates closely the next day.

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The next day, Eliana coordinated with Stella ahead i

Loftime

Thana left first, allowing Stella to deliberately **expose a** flaw in front of Willow, giving Wil low the chance to catch her red–handed.

Willow exclaimed. "So it was you! I knew you were the one sending me those creepy photos! What's your purpose!"

Stella was startled at first

the school forum?

I quickly recovered. She put away her phone and said coldly, "I know all about what you did! I'm going to expose you on

Willow panicked. She pretended to be calm and said, "What do you know? What are

are you trying **to** do?:

Stop pretending! You can't fool me!"

Stella replied, "I'm not pretending. You bullied a **classmate** at Crestwood Middle School in Aragow, causing them to suffer from nerve– **induced** hearing loss. That doesn't fit the innocent, kind– hearted persons you've built here, right?"

Willow's eyes widened in shock. Her dark past was her only stain

Ever since returning to the Garcia family, she had maintained the image of a kind girl. S he never mentioned her past and crafted the "wealthy, **beautiful**, and kind– hearted" persona. She thought changing cities would bury her dark secrets, but now.....

Stella said. "I know more than you think! Just wait for your reputation to be ruined!"

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putation and couldn't afford any Memishes.

terrat, she paisa ked for a momen

But the next moment. Willem quickly composed herself. She vorrred. If you really wante d to expose me, you would've done it already. Why wait

Sella was momentarily speechless

Willow knew she had hit the mark, relaxing inwardly.

She fel relieved it wasn't Elana behind this. If it were Elana, she would've exposed ever ything without hesitation. But Stella's hesitation revealed ber sellah motiura.

Willen rrahured there was room to negotiate.

She asked. "So, what do you want? And how did you even find out about this"

Frigning hesitation, Stella said, "If you want me to keep quiet, you'll have to buy my silen ce with money"

Villow ineered and thought, 1 knew you were just another greedy fool'

She thought that there was nothing in this world that money couldn't solve.

Willow said. "Impressive that you managed to come up with this way to threaten me."

Stella pressed on, "Well You don't have much time left. The competition starts this week end. If you refuse, I've got plenty ofevidence to ruin your reputation at Isonstead University!"

Willow crossed her arms and scoffed. Before asking for money, shouldn't you show me what so-called evidence you have?"

Stella pulled out half the evidence Eliana had prepared.

Seeing it. Willow fch a chill down her spine. Lara really came to Dratora City. She worke d at a nursing home rear sonstead University. Willow thought. Good thing this fool came to me first. If Lara caused a scene at school, I'd be completely blindsided!

She asked. These things. Did Lara give them to you?"

曲

Stella replied, "Yes. Give me the money, and I'll delete everythin

A flash of malice gleamed in Willow's eyes. This bitch!"

Willow asked, "How much do you want!"

Stella replied. "Thirty thousand dollars."

Willow became silent

Willow hesitated, recalling she had already paid nearly the same amount to Six Noir for t he investigation. It was **an** annoying **coincidence**

Stella said. Give me 30 thousand dollars, and I'll delete everything"

Willow asked, "Why should I trust you?"

Stella replied. "The stored everything on my phone. Give me the money, and I'll hand ov er the phone."

Willow pondered her options.

Befour Willow could decide, the class bell rang-

Eliana, who had been hiding upstairs, came down the **stairs** just then.

Sering Eluna, Willow lowered her voice. "Don't tell Eliana about this. I'll give you an answer after class"

She then **walked** into the classroom.

Eliana approached Stella, who f

flashed an "OK" hand gesture. Together, they entered the classroom.

After class, Willow agreed to Stella's demands after much consideration

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Willow gave Stella 30 thousand dollars. Stella, having already transferred the critical fil es elsewhere, handed her phone to Willow,

Willow thought she had secured the evidence, unaware that the entire situation was a tr ap orchestrated by Eliana and Stella.

Eliana pooled together the 27 thousand **dollars** she had previously obtained.

She **let** Stella keep seven thousand dollars from the 30 thousand dollars. It was enough to cover her tuition and fees at Isonstead University **for** the next few semesters, easing her family's financial burden.

The remaining 50 thousand dollars were all given to Lara for the treatment of her ears.

Eliana also arranged for Lara to leave Dratora City that very night

She knew that after giving up the money, Willow would inevitably target Lara at the nursi ng home.

Lara was utterly stunned when she saw the 50 thousand dollars transfer. To her, this was a huge amount.

It would **take** her a long time to earn this amount.

The treatment for her nerve-

related hearing loss **wasn't** that expensive, but her family's financial struggles left her u nable to afford it.

With this **sum**, she could **not** only get her ears treated but also attend **a** decent **univers ity.**

Lara muttered, "You guys."

Overwhelmed with emotion, **Lara** burst into tears. "You've been so good to me. I don't e ven know how to thank you.."

Eliana gently patted her shoulder. This money was always rightfully yours. Don't worry l' m not done with Willow yet. I make her pay for everything, including what she owes you. "

Wiping her tears, Lara asked, "Why do you want to take revenge op Willow too? Did she hurt you as well?

Eliana lowered her gaze, keeping her reasons to herself "Leave Drators City, Go to anot her city, grow stronger, and return only when you're ready"

Lara remained silent before saying, "Okay, I understand. Thank you

That night, Lara boarded a flight and left Dratora City.

Eliana and Stella accompanied her to the airport, watching the plane take off before leaving together.

Under the night sky, they walked out of the airport side by side.

Stella said. "Helping others feels pretty good. You're a good person, Eliana"

Eliana didn't consider herself a good person. Everything **she** did **was** aimed squarely at Willow.

She replied, "People have many sides, Stella. Right now, you're just seeing my good on e

Eliana's prediction was spot on.

The next **day**, Willow sent people to the nursing home looking for Lara, but the director informed them that she had resigned the day before and disap peared.

Willow was initially frustrated, thinking Lara had run off out of fear.

But something about the situation still felt off, though she didn't dwell on it

The weekend arrived. After the first elimination round, half the teams were cut. There would be a reshuffle in the competition

This weekend marked the start of the revival round, where eliminated teams could fight f or **a** spot back in the competition.

When Eliana and her teammates arrived at the stadium, they were unexpectedly surrou nded by several young fans at the entrance.

The enthusiastic high schoolers rushed over with "**Crossdoom**" merchandise, asking fo r autographs.

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Eliana was taken aback but quickly laughed. "You're raggerating. I'm not a celebrity"

With admiration in their eyes, one of the teens said, "We believe you'll be famous one **d ay**!"

It was the first tinse Eliana experienced being recognized by fans.

In the preving

timeline **as a** fringe figure in the entertainment industry, she never received such attenti on.

After signing autographs for them, two o taxis pulled up nearby, Willow and Wendy step ped out, just in time to witness the scene.

Jealousy **flashed** across Willow's face.

She couldn't believe that Eliana already had fans after just one competition.

Wendy was equally stunned. Eliana's **natural** ability to attract supporters was undeniabl e. If she successfully debuted, she could become a formidable **rival** in the future.

COMMENT