

Second Marriage to Mr. Rich

Chapter 181

Billy paused for a moment. "There is another solution..."

"What is it?"

"Doesn't the casino have a rule that allows you to put yourself as the stake? Why don't you do that, Mr. Yates?"

"The other party refused!" Tommy furrowed his brows. Ten minutes was almost up. He said, "Why don't I sign a contract with you that makes myself the stake? After all, you believe that I'll be able to pay, right? Yates Group is so big. We're not going to owe you. Besides, my cousin's lover, Ned, is the president of Fletcher Corporation!"

"Mr. Yates, it's not that I don't believe you! But the department that's in charge of lending money has never signed any contract with a person as collateral!" Billy smiled and said, "Why don't you try and discuss this further with the other party?"

"I don't care! No matter what method you use today, I insist on borrowing this money!" Tommy put his foot down. "Otherwise, don't blame me then!"

Billy pondered for a moment and said, "Let's do this then! We've worked together for such a long time, after all... I'll be your sponsor this time, and you can sign a contract with yourself as collateral. However, Mr. Yates, once this contract is signed, you'll be at our mercy if you're unable to pay today! At that time, even I won't be able to save you!"

"Okay!" Tommy answered.

Tommy got the new chips and sat down at the gaming table.

He couldn't hide the glee in his eyes when he got his cards.

"I don't believe that you'll have such good luck every single time... You can't get the best hand every time!" Tommy said, smiling.

The onlookers nodded. That was true. Getting the best hand was already a very unlikely occurrence.

Angeline had gotten it the first time, but she may not be as lucky this time.

"Is that so?" She smiled and spread her cards on the table.

It was the best hand again!

"Oh my goodness! It's the best hand again!"

"Her luck is amazing!"

"That's impossible!" Tommy stood up and seemed like he was ready to flip the table. His eyes were red with anger as he pointed at Angeline and shouted, "You cheated!"

"There are surveillance cameras everywhere in this casino. Do you think I could cheat under so many eyes? Are you doubting the casino?" Angeline asked, smiling. "Are you just a sore loser, Tommy?"

"I don't believe it! You must have cheated!" Tommy was furious. He was about to climb over the table to lunge at Angeline. Nonetheless, before he could do so, the casino

bouncers restrained him and

he

pressed him down hard on the table.

The chips scattered. Content

Angeline adjusted her sleeves and looked impassively at Tommy, who was being held against the table. Grinning, she got up so that the casino staff could tidy up her chips. Then she turned to leave. .

"Angeline! I want to play against you again! Do you dare to bet against me one more time?" Tommy struggled.

There was a smile playing about her lips as she strode off without looking back.

She thought, "Tommy, prepare to go to hell this time!"

Tommy was quickly brought down to Billy's office.

"Billy, lend me another million. No! 500 thousand! I can change my luck with just 500 thousand!" Tommy tried to get up from the couch, but he was pressed firmly down again by the bouncers.

"Mr. Yates, we made things very clear when gave you the money just now. If you can't pay for all of it today, you'll be at our mercy." Billy smiled as he walked out from

behind the table and waved the

contract that Tommy had signed.

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Tommy stared at Billy with widened eyes. "You... What do you want?"

"How about this? We'll take this document that you've signed and stamped to the Yates residence and ask to see Mr. Yates Senior..."

"No! If you take this to my father, he'll kill me!" Tommy looked frightened.

"Well, then you can only pay with your organs, Mr. Yates!" Billy was still grinning.

"You... That's illegal!" Tommy cried out in fear, his eyes widening.

"You don't have to worry about that, Mr. Yates! We're such a big casino... We often meet people who can't pay back the money they borrowed from us, but we can't just let them go. If we did, we'd be making a huge loss!"

"No! No!" Tommy gulped, feeling terrified. "I'll pay this money back!" .

"By today?" Billy asked.

"Can you spare me a few days?" Tommy's voice was trembling imperceptibly. "Half a month! I'll get the money within half a month!"

"I'm afraid not! If you can't pay by today, you won't be allowed to leave this room!" Billy sighed.

"Mr. Yates, it's not that I want to make things difficult for you. I'm just an employee, and I'm only working for the company!"

"I can increase the interest! Give me half a month... Ten days! Just ten days!" Tommy was panicking.

Billy rubbed his chin. "I have a suggestion for you, Mr. Yates, but I'm not sure if you would take it."

"Tell me about it!" Tommy seemed as though he had clutched at a straw.

"The casino has a time limit for payment! So you can transfer about ten million to me from Yates Group first! When you win in the casino next time, you can just put it back! That's a good idea, right?" "I can't!" Tommy refused firmly.

If he used the company's money, Henry would kill him once he found out.

"Then there's only one solution left! Yates Group has a pharmaceutical order from Fletcher Corporation, right? We want the formula ratio. you can get us that formula ratio," we'll waive your debt!" Billy smiled and said, "This is the only way I have for you, Mr. Yates!"

Tommy fell silent.

Billy saw that he was wavering, so he said, "I'm trying to help you think of a solution, Mr. Yates. Our casino wants the prescription, as that's the

only thing worth a bit of money.

as long as you take a picture of it secretly, no one will find out. Even if something were to happen later, no one would suspect you."

"Okay!" Tommy agreed.

"Alright! Before night falls tomorrow, we want to see that prescription! As long as we see it, we'll waive all former debts!" Billy said decisively. "S-So soon?" Tommy was a little anxious.

"I delayed it personally for you, or else you wouldn't be able to leave the casino today!" Billy continued, "Of course, your family owns a big corporation. We aren't afraid of you running off. After all, we can always goto Mr. Yates Senior with this document you've signed right?"

Tommy walked out of the casino in a daze. Dawn had come.

His eyes were bloodshot from not sleeping at all.

When he thought of the money he owed the casino, he gritted his teeth and drove straight to the office.

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That afternoon, Tommy handed the prescription to Billy. .

After he had ascertained that the prescription was correct, Billy happily burned up all the documents that Tommy had signed.

Tommy finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"Are you going to borrow money and win back your pride at the gaming table this time?" Billy asked, smiling.

Tommy hesitated for a few seconds and said, "Give me a million then!"

"I like signing contracts with people like you, Tommy! You get straight to the point!" Billy printed out a loan contract for Tommy to sign.

After Tommy reentered the casino, he lost that one million before dawn. He rushed into Billy's office and borrowed another million, then rushed back into the casino again.

When Angeline received the news, Tommy had already been at the casino for seven days.

"Have you saved the video of Tommy handing you the prescription that he stole?" she asked. "Don't worry, Ms. Emmerson. It's been saved. I'll send it to you shortly," Billy said in a low voice.

"It's about time!" Angeline smiled and said, "Remember to take a good video."

"Alright! Don't worry!"

After hanging up the phone, Angeline picked up the photo of Henrietta from the table, and the corners of her mouth curled up. "That brute, Tommy, made you go through so much suffering. Soon, what he did will be rebounded upon him, and it'll be much worse! Don't worry!"

Angeline had just finished speaking when her phone rang.

She saw that the call was from Paul, so she picked up.

"Hello, Mr. Danvers."

"Ms. Angeline, Mr. Xavier has disappeared!" Paul sounded anxious. "Mr. Xavier said he was feeling unwell, so the family doctor checked him and gave him some medicine. I told the servants not to disturb him so that he could have a good sleep, but after three hours when he still hadn't come out, I went up to check and saw that he was gone! There was only a note that said he's gone to look for you. I sent people to the airport to stop him but I didn't manage to. Then I received a scheduled message from him, and according to the flight information in the message, he's due to arrive in Krontos in an hour!"

"Krontos?" Angeline's heart skipped a beat.

One hour? It wouldn't be enough time for her to rush back to Krontos, even if she set off right away.

"I'm sorry, Ms. Angeline. I didn't watch Mr. Xavier closely enough!" Paul sounded guilty.

"It's not your fault, Mr. Danvers.

Xavier has always been precocious.

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He'll make sure to do it once he sets his mind on doing something." Angeline frowned.
"I'll send someone

to pick him up. When I get him one

I'll

call you. Don't be too anxious. Just send the flight information to me!"

After ending the call, Angeline saw that it was too late. Hence, she didn't bother Robert and called Sean right away.

"Angeline..." Sean had just come out of the office and was surprised to get a call from her. There was a hint of a smile in his voice.

"Xavier has sneaked back home

without letting Mr. Danvers know. Mr. Danvers said that according to the flight information Xavier sent in a scheduled message, he'll reach Krontos in an hour. I'm currently still in Oceanford-"

"Send me the flight information and everything about him! I'll go and get him!" Sean said before she could finish.

"Okay! Sorry to trouble you..."

"Angeline, Xavier is my child too. This is my duty. You don't need to be so polite to me," replied Sean.

"Okay, I understand."

After hanging up the phone, Angeline sent the information about the flight and Xavier to Sean. She sent a couple of photos as well.

She pressed the recording key on WhatsApp to send a voice message and said, "Xavier and Yasmine look exactly alike. You should recognize him right away."

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Soon, there was a notification from her phone. Sean had sent a voice message.

"Alright! Don't worry, I'll send you a video once I have him."

Sean looked at the photo, where a fair, chubby-looking child was looking sternly at the camera. His finger brushed against the photo gently, and a smile appeared involuntarily on his face. While he was driving to the airport, Sean called Taylor.

"Buy some daily necessities that a four-year-old boy would need, and get some toys and snacks that children would like sent to the house. Hurry!"

"A boy?" Taylor was confused but agreed, "Okay, I'm on it!"

"Wait! There needs to be a children's potty, a children's showerhead, and a stool for him to stand on while brushing his teeth. Prepare all these!" Sean hurriedly instructed after he thought about what Yasmine had said that day about the house not having these things.

"Okay! Don't worry!" Taylor answered.

It only took Sean 50 minutes to drive to the airport. He followed the information he had and went to the arrivals gate to wait for Xavier to come out.

Very soon, Sean saw a child walk out, pushing his little suitcase. He wore white shoes, jeans, and a black hoodie.

The little boy had put up his hood and was carrying a backpack. Just like the photo, his chubby little face looked stern, and he had one hand stuck in his pocket while he pushed the little suitcase with the other. He appeared cool in front of the crowd.

A young lady, who had come to pick up someone like Sean, felt her heart melting when she saw Xavier.

"Whose child is that? He's adorable!"

Xavier was different from Yasmine,

and he didn't flash the young lady a friendly smile when he heard her. He continued pushing his suitcase coolly, and almost immediately, he caught sight of Sean. Content

Their eyes met, and Xavier walked toward him, pushing his suitcase. He looked up at Sean. "Where's my mom?"

Sean bent down and looked at the serious-looking little boy. "Your mom's still in Oceanford, and she asked me to come and get you."

Then Sean picked him up and pulled his suitcase along as they walked out.

Sean was extremely attractive with his chiseled features and long legs. He was dressed in a tailored suit and gave off an authoritative vibe. .

It was rather comical to watch him carrying a child with one arm while dragging along a cartoonish suitcase with the other. The stark contrast of the scene drew a lot of attention.

"Aargh! He's so handsome! I can't believe that such a professional-looking man is a dad!"

"Oh! No wonder the child is so cute. His father is so handsome!"

Xavier hooked his arm around Sean's neck and looked rather unhappy. "This doesn't mean that I'm going to acknowledge you like that silly Yasmine did!" Sean couldn't help chuckling.

"Okay, I know! But... Yasmine isn't silly. Yasmine is the most adorable sunshine in the world because she's protected by your mom and a good brother like you!" Xavier's arm tightened around Sean's neck and the tips of his ears reddened.

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"Y-You'd better not think that I'd be pleased because of those words!" Xavier warned. "I'm going to watch you, and if I think you're inadequate, I definitely won't allow Mom to be with you. I won't let silly Yasmine caffyou Daddy either!"

"Okay. From today onward, you'll live with me and observe me... Let's see if I'm suitable to be the father of you and Yasmine." Sean took the elevator down to the airport's underground garage.

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Xavier opened the car door and saw the pink car seat inside. He raised his eyebrows. "Pink?"

"You arrived too suddenly. This car seat was prepared for Yasmine. Just sit in it for now, and we'll go and buy one in a color you like tomorrow," explained Sean.

Xavier had already investigated Sean thoroughly. He knew from the license plate that it was his car for real.

Xavier felt happier when he saw that Sean had prepared a car seat for Yasmine. He maintained a poker face as he nodded.

Sean put Xavier's safety belt on for him and sent a video to Angeline.

Angeline called very quickly after that.

When she saw Xavier sitting in the car seat with his arms crossed, Angeline scolded him, "You're getting too big for your boots! You just left a note and then got on a plane home? Don't you know that you're a four-year-old child? What if you meet bad people on the way?"

"I'm not four yet! I'm young and don't know any better!" Xavier turned his head away, still sulking at Angeline. He muttered to himself, "Meeting bad people... I think bad people would wish that they could run away from me."

Angeline knew that he was holding a grudge against her because she had scolded him. She breathed out slowly and said in a softer tone, "Alright. Xavier, don't be mad at me. Send a video to Mr. Danvers later. He's worried sick! I shouldn't have spoken so harshly... I'm sorry. It was my fault! Xavier, you're the best and most understanding little boy! You're our little genius."

The tips of Xavier's ears turned even redder when he heard Angeline. However, he stubbornly refused to turn and look directly at the camera.

When Angeline saw how red his ears were, she knew that he was no longer furious. .

"I'll have to trouble you, Mr. Lawson. Please send Xavier to Mr. Lawson Senior's place tomorrow," Angeline said to Sean.

Sean turned the camera to himself and said to her, "We'll let Xavier decide. He wants to monitor me, and I can look after him during this time." Angeline was slightly startled. "Do you have any experience with children?"

"I can learn even if I have no experience. Xavier is so smart that he'll teach me, right?" Sean turned to look at Xavier in the back seat. "Right, Xavier?"

Xavier's ears had turned completely red, and he replied reluctantly, "Yes!"

Angeline was surprised at how cooperative Xavier was when he was with Sean. She didn't insist on sending Xavier to the old Lawson

Sean

residence and just said to you for

"Alright. Xavier can stay with now. If you're busy, send him to the old Lawson residence. Mr.Lawson Senior misses him very much too."

"Okay!" Sean nodded. "Don't worry. It's getting late, so rest early! Come back as soon as you've settled things in Oceanford! If... I mean if there's anything you need my help with, you have to tell me!"

"Alright!" Angeline answered with a smile. "It's almost over."

Although Angeline had assented, she didn't need Sean's help.

She had to avenge Henrietta on her own.

"Okay. Rest early." Sean hung up and looked at Xavier before saying, "Let's go."

The little boy still looked stern, and he answered coolly, "Okay!"

Sean drove back home. When they arrived, he turned and saw Xavier tapping on a laptop with his chubby little fingers. When Xavier saw that the car had stopped, he put his laptop back into his backpack.

"It's not good for your eyes if you

stare at your laptop in the car." Sean opened the back door and undid Xavier's safety belt. He carried him out and held him in one arm while he went to get Xavier's suitcase from the trunk.

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Xavier pinched Sean's arm tentatively and thought that Yasmine was right. Sean had very strong arms.

When they got home, Xavier looked around and was fairly satisfied with what he saw.

"Mr. Lawson..." Taylor had just done arranging the children's things when he saw Sean taking his shoes off in the foyer, still with Xavier in his arms. He smiled and greeted Xavier, "Good evening, little Yasmine!"

Xavier raised his eyebrows. He looked adorably stern as he said, "I'm Xavier! Yasmine is my little sister."

Taylor was surprised, his eyes widened.

Xavier was the elder brother, and Yasmine was the younger sister.

They were twins.

This meant that Angeline's children had been fine from the start.

When Taylor saw Angeline with a little girl at the airport previously, he had suspected that she had adopted a child.

Now that he had seen Yasmine's twin older brother, Taylor immediately grasped the situation. They were both the children of Angeline and Sean.

When Xavier saw Taylor's expression, he tugged at the hem of Sean's shirt and said in an extremely disdainful manner, "Is your assistant kind of dumb?" Xavier had investigated Sean, and he had often seen Taylor with him, so he knew that Taylor was Sean's assistant.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Xavier! I'm just too surprised..."

Taylor had a nephew and was very good with children. He squatted down and reached out a hand to Xavier. "We met before you were born."

Xavier shook hands imperiously with Taylor.

Sean stood beside them with a benevolent look as he watched Xavier put on the cartoon slippers that Taylor had bought. He said to Taylor, "Thank you! You can go home!" "Okay, you and Mr. Xavier should rest soon."

Taylor had just left when Xavier pushed his suitcase into the house and opened it in the middle of the living room.

"Which room will I be staying in?" Xavier took out his toiletries and a huge towel, looking like an adult. "I want to shower now!"

Sean took off his coat and draped it over the back of a chair. He then removed his watch. Smiling, he asked, "Does a boy, who isn't four yet, know how to shower himself?" "Ha..." Xavier laughed contemptuously. "Do you think I'm like those useless lumps? Which room am I staying in?"

"You'll stay in the master bedroom with me." Sean pointed toward the master bedroom without giving Xavier a chance to protest. He said, "Since you want to monitor me to

check if I'm qualified, then you'll have to keep me under surveillance at all times for it to count

"That sounds reasonable!" Xavier said and entered the master bedroom.

When he pushed open the bathroom door, Xavier saw the children's stool

placed beneath the sink, as well as the children's potty placed beside the actual toilet bowl. Through the glass door of the shower, he could see a children's showerhead. His lips curved up slightly.

He stood on tiptoe to put on his clothes in the bathroom vanity. Then he pushed the glass door open and went in. He saw bottles of shower gel and shampoo for children placed next to the children's showerhead, and his smile deepened.

He pulled on the hem of his hoodie and wriggled out of it. Then he stripped quickly. .

Sean knocked on the door. "Xavier, should I come in and give you a scrub?"

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"No." Xavier turned on the tap.

Sean heard the sound of water running and stood uncertainly in the doorway.

Then he heard the water stop, and there was the sound of Xavier pushing the stool across the floor inside. He knocked again. "Can I come in?"

"Yes."

Sean pushed the door open and entered. He saw Xavier, who looked damp and soft, rather like a tiny marshmallow. He had wrapped himself up in a little hooded bath towel printed with bears and had a matching hat. He looked like a newborn bear cub but with a cool expression.

"Can I help you?" asked Sean.

"It's dangerous for children to use hairdryers by themselves. I'll dry your hair," said Sean. He plugged the hairdryer in and began to blow Xavier's hair.

Xavier's hair was a mess. He looked up and watched the man in the mirror, who had his head lowered as he turned Xavier's head around with his large, powerful hands. His grip was firm but not too strong, and it felt rather comfortable.

When Xavier's hair was dry and he had brushed his teeth, he carried his pajamas out. "I'm going out to change. You should hurry up and shower!"

"Okay!" Sean beamed as he watched Xavier's retreating figure.

When Sean came out of the shower, Xavier was already asleep.

The little boy looked exactly like Yasmine when he was sleeping. The only difference was that Xavier had thicker eyebrows. Both of them looked as delicate as dolls, but one could easily tell Xavier was a boy. Sean kissed Xavier's soft, chubby cheeks and pulled the blanket over him. Then he lay down beside him and cuddled him carefully, just like what he had done with Yasmine.

Both Xavier and Yasmine were treasures to Sean.

On the 29th, Vitality Biotech Group's hearing in Marvonian started punctually. Eric, the president of the Yurope-Marvonian region, was present. The event was broadcast live worldwide.

Angeline stood in front of the juicer

and watched Eric on the TV screen. He was dressed in a smart suit and had just taken his seat. She picked up her juice and took a sip, but she was not very concerned about the hearing.

However, the news had spread rapidly across Marvonian. The public was organizing protests voluntarily. They gathered in large groups outside the Marvonian House of Parliament to support Vitality Biotech Group.

The reason was simple. It was because the technology of Vitality Biotech Group had saved many people's lives.

Angeline had begun releasing the news slowly half a month before. If Vitality Biotech Group couldn't get fair treatment in Marvonian, they would withdraw completely from the Marvonian market and terminate all their collaborations with university hospitals and hospitals. Even if they had to pay a high amount of liquidated damages, they were firm in their decision.

This would affect everyone's life, so the public naturally wouldn't just sit by and watch.

After all, no one could be sure that

they would never get a terminal disease. At this time, only Vitality Biotech Group had drugs that could treat cancer and Alzheimer's

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disease. Not only that, the drugs that helped to manage ALS were already in clinical trials.

If Vitality Biotech Group withdrew from the Marvonian market, what would the people do if they were sick and lacked drugs? .

Perhaps, even if Vitality Biotech Group withdrew, the people would be able to develop new drugs eventually. However, no one could guarantee that they or their families wouldn't get sick before those drugs were developed.

The public was supporting Vitality Biotech Group, but they were also ensuring their chances of survival.

Angeline drank all the juice in her glass. When she saw an incoming call on her phone, she muted the TV and answered the call.

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"Ms. Emmerson, Tommy has paid back the money he owed this time. I don't know where he got so much money, but he borrowed again..." Billy's voice traveled over the phone. Angeline wasn't surprised. Tommy must have used the funds that were meant for the production of that batch of drugs.

After all, she had specially instructed Billy to remind Tommy to use those funds first and return the money when he won it back from gambling. No one would know.

Tommy hadn't had the guts to do so the last time, so he had chosen to steal the prescription.

Angeline hadn't made a fuss out of that because she wanted Tommy to feel that he was safe whilst in the grip of his gambling addiction. That way, he could be forced into a corner again.

As long as Tommy was in a desperate situation, he would think about using that money even without Billy mentioning it. He would think that he would be able to win it back at gambling and just return the money quietly.

That was the typical gambler's mindset.

Angeline wanted to use this mindset of Tommy's and leave no way out for both him and Yates Group. At the same time, she wanted to drag Ned and Fletcher Corporation down, too.

When she thought of how Ned had saved Tommy, who was the instigator behind Henrietta's murder, she was determined to make them feel the same rage and helplessness that she had felt. "Alright. Thank you for your help over this period, Billy!" said Angeline, smiling.

"Don't mention it, Ms. Emmerson. It's the least I can do! I offended you because I was ignorant, but you begged for leniency for me in front of Mr. Swenson. That's the only reason I'm alive, and I won't forget that I'm indebted to you," Billy said hurriedly.

After hanging up, Angeline waited quietly for Ned to realize that the money in Yates Group's account had been embezzled by Tommy.

She wanted to see how Ned would try to mend this hole for Yates Group, for Fletcher Corporation was also in a difficult financial situation.

And there was Ingrid.

Angeline wondered if Ingrid would help her uncle's family.

Just as Angeline had expected, Yates Group soon discovered that the money in their account was gone.

Tommy had transferred the money in several batches.

When Henry caught him, he realized that Tommy had lost close to one hundred million at the casino.

Upon hearing the news, Henry fainted in rage and was sent to hospital.

Ingrid immediately applied for leave from her production team and rushed back to Oceanford. The moment she arrived at the hospital, Tommy went down on his knees in front of her.

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"Ingrid! You have to save me this time! I... I just felt that I could win it all back at the gaming table. That was why was bold enough to embezzle the money. My dad... My dad said that he's sending me to prison, or he'll never be able to face Ned! Ingrid, you have to save me!"

Ingrid had already found out about everything on her way there. She was trembling with anger.

"How could you gamble? When you called me to ask for money, was that for gambling too?"

Tommy nodded hesitantly. "Yes..."

"Tommy!" Ingrid clutched her chest.

"Are you nuts? One hundred million! How could you? You know that Fletcher Corporation gave Yates Group this order to help us and to share the profits with us! Ned signed a contract with Vitality Biotech Group! If we can't manufacture this batch of drugs, we'll have to pay an enormous sum of liquidated damages!"

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"Please, Ingrid!" Carmen said while tugging Ingrid's hand. "Your uncle is still in the hospital undergoing surgery. I know Tommy had botched things up this time, but... the money is gone now, thanks to this idiot. "Could you call Mr. Fletcher and see if he has any idea how to escape this sticky situation?"

Ingrid bit her lips. She thought she could use this opportunity to contribute to Fletcher Corporation so the Fletchers would view the Yates in a new light. After all, Sherryn had always looked down on Ingrid and the Yates family, believing they only brought trouble to Ned.

However, Ingrid never expected that they somehow managed to cause trouble to Ned. If Sherryn found out about this, she would be more disappointed in her.

"Please, Ingrid. Just call Ned. It's the only way we can get out of this! I'm begging you," Tommy pleaded and raised his right hand. "I swear that I'm never going to gamble again! I promise! So please, Ingrid, save our family!"

Seeing Tommy beg this persistently, Ingrid had no choice but to nod. "L-Let me check how much money I have left first, then I'll call Ned."

Since what was done couldn't be undone, Ingrid would have to let Ned know eventually. The important thing was to think of a way to salvage this.

After checking her bank account, Ingrid asked Linda if she could get advance payment for her upcoming endorsements, movies, and shows.

Linda got mad when she found out Ingrid was asking money for the Yates family. "Ingie, didn't you learn from your mistake? The Yates family isn't your family. Why do you care so much about them? Didn't you give them all your savings last time you helped them?"

"I grew up with the Yates family. I'm obligated to help them!" Ingrid said. "Please, Ms. Davis. All you have to do is ask them for me, please."

"That's going to make you sound so low!" Linda exclaimed. "Besides, if I do ask them, what would the people from the film and brand think if they know you're short of money? They'll probably think something happened to you, like if you've gambled all your money or someone is blackmailing you."

"Ingie, do you know what the people from the brand and film industry are afraid of? Tainted celebrities! Who knows if they're going to swap you out? You're playing with fire with your future, Ingie!"

Seeing how determined Linda was in opposing her request, Ingrid sold some of her stocks to raise more money. But all she could raise was less than ten million dollars.

Ingrid had no choice but to ask Ned for help. She called him and explained that Tommy had embezzled the company fund for gambling.

Anger quickly rose to Ned's head. He walked toward the floor-to-ceiling window and leaned against it to maintain his composure.

"Is it enough to manufacture the batch of medicine with the Yates Group's current working capital?" Ned asked while massaging his temples.

Tears of guilt flooded Ingrid's eyes as she said, "I've asked them earlier. It's not going to be enough. I've sold all my stocks, and I'll try to attend more events. I should get 15 million dollars in a week."

"I'm sorry, Ned. I didn't know Tommy would cause so much trouble to you."

Ned straightened up and covered his face with his hand. He couldn't hold his anger and shouted, "Do Tommy not know that both of our companies had signed the contract? The Yates family will go bankrupt if we can't manufacture the promised medicine by the deadline."

"I'm sorry, Ned!" Ingrid cried. "It's all my fault. I don't care what will happen to the Yates family. I'm more worried that you can't fulfill Vitality Biotech Group's contract."

"It has only been ten days since you've signed the contract with them, Ned. How about you inject capital into Yates Group?"

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The fuming Ned hung up and quickly called the company executives for an emergency meeting.

Ned sat at the center of the meeting table with a stoic face, not saying a word.

The executives, on the other hand, were debating non-stop on this sudden occurrence.

"Great, what did I say? We shouldn't have eyed Vitality Biotech Group's cure for cancer or whatever medicines they're trying to make. We shouldn't have signed the contract with them." "The ship had already sailed. It's pointless for you to still talk about this right now. What we should do right now is to find someone to take over this order!"

"It's no use regardless of who we find to take over the order. There's no time to buy new equipment."

"We can just use the equipment from Yates Group. Since they're the ones who used up the fund and breached the contract! Can they even compensate the loss according to the contract?" "According to the contract, we can't afford to compensate Vitality Biotech Group too! So, how about we discuss with Yates Group to remit the compensation by using their equipment as repayment?"

"Yates Group is not going to agree to it! Those are the most advanced equipment from Vitality Biotech Group."

The executives turned to Ned, who was silent, and asked, "What do you think, Mr. Fletcher?"

"Get in contact with Eastern Pharmaceutical. See if they're interested in a collaboration," Ned finally said.

"Eastern Pharmaceutical? The one that competed with us to get Vitality Biotech Group?" said one of the executives. "There's no way Eastern Pharmaceutical would consider collaborating with us. They would rather watch us fail!"

"I know!" Ned said with a frown. "I'm only sharing part of the profit with Eastern Pharmaceutical. We just need to make sure the business deal is completed."

"I guess that's our only way out!" replied the executive. "I'll go talk with Eastern Pharmaceutical. But what if they don't accept our offer?"

"Just get in touch with them first. We'll think about that in the meantime," Ned answered.

As he left the meeting room, Ned felt his heart aching when he thought about Yates Group's empty capital.

When Angeline heard about Henry's hospitalization, she knew that he had found out about Tommy gambling all Yates Group's working capitals away.

She didn't care about how Ned would deal with this issue. She knew that if any of Vitality Biotech Group's formulas were leaked, she could sue Fletcher Corporation to the point of bankruptcy. Angeline was only curious about how Ned could get Tommy out of this problem.

At the same time, the hearings were coming to an end.

Eric gave his confession. "If I recall

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you asking, and I quote, 'Vitality Biotech Group is a self-proclaimed tech company aiming to benefit humanity, but why is the price given for other collaborating countries much cheaper than Marvonia?' I

"For this, all I can say is that we once spent a fortune to get a patent from your country, which cost way cheaper in your country. I'll call this a knowledge dividend since we paid too much because we didn't know its cost in your country!" S .

Eric then continued with a sonorous and confident voice, "Now that the tables have turned, you're saying it's unfair now that you're the one paying? Plus, you mentioned benefiting humanity. Aren't our medical breakthroughs benefiting humanity? Do they not save the lives of people out there?"