

Second Marriage to Mr. Rich

Chapter 201

"Did Mr. Lawson Senior ask you to help Lawson Global?" Xavier asked as he knew his mother always listened to Robert. "Mom, didn't you like working in the lab? Are you going to give up working in the lab?" Angeline touched Xavier's cheek. "Don't worry. I can handle both at the same time."

Just then, the doorbell rang.

Angeline heard the doorbell and thought it was Sean. She opened the door with Xavier in her hands.

It was Ned who stood outside the door. He saw Angeline carrying a pajama-clad Xavier and stared at him without moving or saying a single word.

"What do you want?" Angeline asked.

Ned came back to his senses. "I heard you were at the "

Ned stopped before saying casino because he shouldn't mention it in the presence of Xavier. Ned bit his lips before continuing, "Can we talk alone? I don't want to talk about it before the kid." Angeline put Xavier down and said, "I've turned off the heat for the milk. Go wait for me on the couch."

Xavier sized Ned up condescendingly before nodding and leaving toward the couch.

"If it's for the paternity test, I can give you a strand of Xavier's hair," Angeline said.

"No. I'm not here for that." Ned gave a credit card to Angeline from his pocket. "I heard you were at the casino. If you're short on money, just let me know."

Angeline looked at the card and chuckled. She didn't take the card and said, "Isn't Fletcher Corporation struggling right now? Why do you still have the money to spend on me, Mr. Fletcher?"

Ned replied, "It's hard to raise a kid by yourself, considering the money you have to spend-"

"I'm not short on money," Angeline interrupted.

"Could you stop being stubborn, Angeline?" Ned questioned. "Would you have the money to raise a kid by yourself? What can you do? You didn't graduate after transferring from Oceanford College to Cloudsville College, did you?"

"Do you think you're a genius just because the others said so? How are you going to make money to raise your kids?"

Ned couldn't control his temper and continued, "Are you going to make your kids suffer with you?"

Angeline raised her eyebrows and looked at Ned as if she was looking at an idiot.

She didn't want to entertain a fool,

so she smiled and said, "If you're not here for a paternity test, leave. The best way for you to help us is to stop disturbing us."

Ding!

The elevator arrived, and Sean came out of it in casual wear with a breakfast-filled thermal bag in his hands.

He drew his eyebrows together and gave a dull expression when he saw Ned.

"Why are you here? How did you find this place?" Sean asked. .

Ned clenched the card tightly and unwillingly greeted, "Hello, Uncle Sean."

"Since you're engaged to Ingrid, please cut off your ties with Angie! Didn't you realize how many

paparazzi are following you and

Ingrid? Please don't get Angie

involved in your news," Sean warned.

Although Sean sounded calm, his voice carried a sense of authority that even a higher-up wouldn't dare to disobey.

"Yes, Uncle Sean," Ned replied and turned to Angeline. "I know you don't want to see me, but what I owe you is more than a mere apology.

"I still want to try my best to make up for you if given a chance. If you need me, call me. Please accept this!"

Ned gave the credit card to Angeline again.

"Could you carry this inside first, Angie?" Sean gave the thermal bag to Angeline. He then entered the house and said, "Listen, Ned. Angie is not short on money. All you're trying to do is to alleviate the guilt in your heart, which is unnecessary."

"It was my fault, Uncle Sean. It's okay to blame it on me." Ned left the card on the shelf by the entrance.

"I'll just leave this here. It has no password. Consider it a token of apology from me."

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"Wait." Sean stopped Ned before turning around to confirm if Angeline and Xavier weren't looking.

"Angeline is a genius. She wasn't a genius because everyone said so," Sean whispered, "Although you lost part of your memory, you can look up Angeline's past."

"When Angeline was 13, she was recommended to Krontos University as a bachelor-straight-to-doctorate student. She gave up the recommendation because she chose to be with you. She wanted to grow with you."

"Let me get this straight, Ned. It's you who's holding a genius like Angeline back. She didn't assume she's a genius because everybody said so!" Sean said before closing the door, not even looking at the credit card Ned left.

Krontos University didn't recommend Angeline to pursue a bachelor-straight-to-doctorate program because she showed her talent when she was 13. It was because people found out she was a prodigy when she was 13.

Even the chancellor of Krontos University felt regret that they didn't discover Angeline's talent at an earlier age. If she had received an education from a younger age, she could've already made some achievements by age 13.

When Sean found out Angeline had rejected the offer, he thought it was because she was still young and didn't know the purpose of furthering her studies at Krontos University.

However, he knew Angeline was merely held back by Ned when he saw her calm, determined eyes.

This was one of the reasons Sean disliked Ned.

Ned stood outside the door with his mouth agape.

He didn't know Angeline was offered a bachelor-to-doctorate recommendation at Krontos University. "Mom, who's that guy?" Xavier asked.

"He's your mom's ex-classmate," Sean answered for Angeline while taking off his jacket.

Xavier looked unsatisfied with the answer. He gulped down his milk and ran back to his bedroom.

He took out his laptop and connected it to the surveillance camera at the entrance to screengrabbed Ned for investigation.

Sean and Angeline brought Xavier to the cemetery in the afternoon.

Xavier was wearing a black kid's suit. He put the flowers before Anne's and Henrietta's graves.

After cleaning the gravestones with a towel, Angeline crouched. Looking at the smiling Anne and Henrietta in the photo, she said, "Anne, Hafty, soon Tommy will experience the true hell. Today!"

That night everyone in Oceanford's casinos, especially the aristocrats who were close to Tommy, received nude videos of Tommy that were hard to the eyes.

Although his private parts were .

censored in the videos, Tommy's et

adulating face when he was crying and begging for forgiveness was clear as days.

Despite the pleading, all Tommy received were whippings and beatings.

Tommy had gone famous overnight, albeit in an unexpected way. Everyone was talking about Tommy everywhere.

"Damn, I can't believe Tommy was this flexible!"

"I'm surprised Tommy was this sexually open!"

"That Tommy sure is something! I never thought he likes men!"

"Does this mean Tommy has started his pornographic debut? How could he film such raunchy videos?"

Carmen was caring for Henry in the hospital when she watched the videos and fainted.

She bawled like a baby when she woke up. Tommy didn't pick up his phone, no matter how many times Carmen had tried to call him.

Instead, Tommy was hiding in his home, shivering while wrapping himself in a blanket.

He didn't want to remember the inhuman suffering he had experienced in the past three days.

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Nonetheless, Tommy had done everything of his own volition because he didn't want the loan shark to harvest his organs.

On his way back home, Tommy broke down when he saw his sex videos playing on the big LCD screen in front of the nightclub. The road was filled with crowds taking photos of the LCD screen, commenting on his moaning and flexibility.

Although some of the videos were censored, everyone could tell Tommy had sex with a man.

The worst part was he wasn't even gay.

Feeling sick as he thought about this, Tommy rushed toward the toilet and vomited.

Everyone saw his adulating look in front of the men. He was so embarrassed that he wished to vanish from the earth.

The thoughts of people worldwide talking about and mocking him flooded Tommy's mind. He curled up and hid between the gap between the toilet bowl and the basin while pulling his hair.

Tommy never thought that the method he had used to blackmail and torture the women had now inflicted upon himself.

Soon, news of Ingrid's cousin's pornography debut, Ingrid's cousin's sex tapes, and Ingrid's cousin having sex with seven men quickly flooded the Internet.

Ingrid almost dropped her phone when she saw the videos. .

She tried calling Tommy, but it didn't get through. And she only found out he had hidden himself in the bathroom after she called home to ask his whereabouts.

While Linda prevented Ingrid from having contact with Tommy to avoid scandals, Ingrid still went to the Yates residence to see him.

Ingrid knocked on the bathroom door. "Tommy, don't be scared. I've asked Ned for help to delete the video. You can come out now. We can settle everything together! "Did those people coerce you with the videos? We should call the police!"

"No!" Tommy yelled from the bathroom in panic. "Don't call the police! Please!"

Tommy knew the loan sharks had some raunchier videos. If Ingrid made a police report, they would post those videos, then Tommy's life would be over.

"Okay, okay! I won't call the police. So please, will you come out now?" Ingrid calmed Tommy down with a soft voice.

In just a moment, Ingrid heard a shuffling sound in the bathroom. Tommy then exited the bathroom in a bathrobe to cover his scars.

Tommy looked haggard and said with teary eyes, "I-Ingrid, I'm doomed!"

Ingrid reached to hug Tommy. "It's okay. I'll get you out of this!"

"It's no use. Those people have more videos with them. They said they won't give me the videos if I don't pay my debt! And I still owed them a lot Tommy sobbed. Content

"Is it people from the casino?" Ingrid said while grabbing tight on Tommy's arm.

Tommy kept sobbing without saying a word.

"How much do you still owe them?" Ingrid asked.

"I don't know." Tommy shook his head. "Their interest rates went up too quickly."

Ingrid suggested, "We should call the police. After all-"

yet

"No, don't call the police!" Tommy was frightened out of his skin and

turned toward the bathroom. "I won't

admit it! I'm not going to tell won't

anything to the police!" S

Tears ran down Ingrid's face as she saw Tommy's reaction.

Suddenly, Ingrid remembered the photos Sherryn had taken of Angeline. She then remembered Henrietta, who had taken her own

life after she was filmed with some

men.

Seeing Tommy's tragedy, Ingrid couldn't help but wonder if this was Angeline's revenge on Tommy.

"Hey, Tommy." Ingrid followed Tommy into the bathroom. Kneeling beside him, she asked, "Did you see Angie when you were in the casino?"

Tommy looked up at Ingrid with teary eyes.

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"You saw Angie, didn't you?" Ingrid asked firmly.

"That bitch Angeline... It was her fault!" Tommy shouted as if he suddenly remembered the day he gambled with Angeline. "I was winning until that bitch Angeline showed up, and then I kept losing, losing, and losing!"

Ingrid held Tommy's hand and said, "Just stay in the house for a couple of days. Don't look at your phone, and don't look at the news! Everything will be fine once the news subsided.

"The worst case scenario, we can just get you out of this country!"

"Out of this country, yes! Ingrid, please get me out of this country! I can't stay here any longer!" Tommy bawled.

Carmen heard Tommy's voice as she entered the house. She ran upstairs toward the bathroom and gave him a good thrashing.

"You little bastard! You're our only child. Whatever you wanted, we gave them to you! Why did you do such a nasty thing with those men? You've embarrassed our family!" Carmen yelled while hitting Tommy. Ingrid quickly pulled Carmen away. "Stop it, Aunt Carmen! Stop hitting him!"

"It's all your fault!" Carmen shouted hysterically as she pointed at Ingrid. "It's your fault for becoming an artist! Would Tommy have gone viral if not for your fame? If it wasn't for you, people wouldn't even know what Tommy looks like!

"What did I do to deserve this? My kindness had raised me an ungrateful wretch. Not only did you not help Yates Group, and it will soon be taken away by your fiancée, but now you've ruined my only son's life!"

"Aunt Carmen, how could you say that?" Carmen's words hurt Ingrid.

Ingrid had tried her best to make Carmen change her mind, but Carmen didn't listen. Hence, Fletcher Corporation's pursuit of Yates Group was justifiable.

As for Tommy's case, if Angeline was involved, all Ingrid could do was beg Angeline to be merciful and let Tommy go.

Ingrid found Angeline's house in Oceanford, but Angeline had already left.

Ned was also busy with his trouble, so Ingrid didn't ask him for help. Instead, she asked Linda to buy and publish scandals of other artists in the hope of diverting public attention so that people would soon forget about Tommy's incident.

At the same time, Angeline had returned to Krontos with Xavier and arrived before the old Lawson residence once more.

This time, Angeline was mentally prepared. She clenched the box with the charm bracelet she had gotten from the church for Jessica tightly in her hands. Sean's comfort calmed Angeline down.

Angeline saw Jessica holding

Yasmine's little hand as their car arrived at the residence's entrance. After taking a deep breath, Angeline

exited the car and stared at Jessica without looking away. Content .

Jessica had her hair tied into a ponytail. She wore a pink turtleneck sweater with jeans and a cloak over her body.

Although she was over 40 years old, she looked as young as someone in their 30s.

Their eyes met. Jessica smiled sweetly toward Angeline as a greeting.

Sandy was stunned when she saw Angeline. She had been taking care of Jessica since she was little.

Maybe it was because they were related, although Angeline's eyes were the only features that looked exactly like Jessica's, Sandy thought she had seen another Jessica when Angeline came out of the car.

"Mommy!" Yasmine let go of Jessica's hand and ran toward Angeline before hugging her legs.

Yasmine looked up and saw Angeline staring at Jessica, then tugged Angeline's hand and asked, "Mommy, don't you miss me?"

Chapter 205

Sean exited the car carrying Xavier.

"Xavier!" Jessica shouted as she saw Xavier. She smiled and squatted with her arms open.

The usually aloof Xavier ran toward Jessica's embrace like a happy puppy.

Robert stood by the side and watched with a cane in his hand. After he confirmed Jessica didn't have any unusual reaction, he felt relieved and smiled at Angeline. "Come! We'll talk inside!"

Angeline carried Yasmine and followed behind Jessica. Once they were seated in the living room, Angeline handed the sandalwood box in her hands to Jessica. "I got a gift for you. It's a charm bracelet from Fawnword Church. It helps in keeping you safe. I hope you like it!"

Jessica's bright eyes sparkled in surprise. She accepted the gift with both hands. "Thank you!"

"Why don't you put it on," Robert said with a smile.

Jessica opened the box and took out the bracelet. She happily wore it on her wrist, where hideous scars were slightly visible.

Yasmine clapped her hands. "That's so pretty! You look great in anything!"

Angeline touched Yasmine's cheek.

Jessica said, "I like Yasmine and Xavier. I felt a sense of kinship the first time I met them. The same goes for you, too."

Angeline's heart fluttered. She couldn't believe that Jessica felt a sense of kinship with her, and her eyes turned red in an instant.

Angeline was from the Emerson family. Before they sat down in the living room, she was worried that Jessica might remember something unpleasant from the past when she saw her.

After all, the last time they were at the Lawson residence, Jessica always wanted to kill Angeline because she was an Emerson.

"I guess that's fate." Sean smiled and looked at Angeline.

No one could tell if Jessica was sick if nobody mentioned it.

After a few chats with Angeline, Jessica took Yasmine and Xavier out to the sunroom in the garden to water the plants.

Robert noticed that Angeline had her eyes fixed on Jessica. He sipped his tea and said, "I'll hold a birthday banquet next month. Are you coming, Angie?"

"Of course. I must be there on your birthday," Angeline replied with a smile.

"Somebody help! Ms. Lawson has fainted!" Sandy shouted in panic from the sunroom.

Robert stood up in surprise while Angeline and Sean rushed toward the sunroom.

Robert followed behind and saw the bodyguard carry Jessica on his back, with a pale Sandy following behind him while holding the two kids. Robert raised his voice, "What happened? Tell me what happened!"

Sean helped the bodyguard and carried Jessica, who was thin as a bone. He walked inside the house and ordered, "Call Dr. Hoffman. Quickly!"

"Someone left a rope in the sunroom

when they delivered the flowers. Ms. Lawson screamed when she saw it and fainted!" Sandy said while holding the kids' hands tightly. If Xavier hadn't held Ms. Lawson in time, her head would've hit the flower pot!"

Xavier and Yasmine ran toward Angeline when they saw her. Both of them looked frightened as each of them hugged Angeline from both sides. Angeline followed behind Sean with the kids, but Robert stopped her.

"Angie, you should go home with the kids for now," Robert said. "Since Jessica was triggered, it might be bad for her condition if she saw you and remembered something when she woke up."

"Okay, Mr. Lawson Senior!" Angeline wasn't offended by Robert's request. She tightly held the kids' hands and said 'Please have Mr. Lawson call me when she wakes up.' .

Robert nodded, knowing Angeline was worried about Jessica. He then ordered the chauffeur to send her and the kids home.

Chapter 206

Before they arrived home, Angeline received a call from Sean telling her Jessica had woken up.

"She's currently mentally unstable. Probably because she was triggered earlier," Sean said. "She hid herself in a corner, not allowing anyone to go close to her, and she kept saying 'Don't hit me!'" Tears filled Angeline's eyes.

Emmerson Village had left a scar in Jessica's memory.

"Mommy," Yasmine said while snuggling into Angeline's embrace. "Was Beautiful Ms. Lawson bit by a snake before? Why was she so afraid of a rope?"

Jessica was afraid of a rope because it was her nightmare.

Since the day she was kidnapped into Emmerson Village, she had been tied with a rope even when she was giving birth.

Angeline hugged the kids tightly. "Everyone has a thing they fear. The same goes for Beautiful Ms. Lawson. So, Xavier and Yasmine should protect her in the future, okay?"

"Don't worry, Mommy. I'll do my best to protect Beautiful Ms. Lawson!" Yasmine reassured.

Once they had reached home, the kids dragged their luggage into their rooms to unpack.

Xavier looked at the data he found about Ned on his monitor. He even found some old information about Ned and Angeline's early romance.

Everyone called Xavier a genius, but now he knew his mother was once a genius, too.

Angeline gave up the opportunity to go straight to a doctorate from a bachelor's at Krontos University because of Ned. Yet he had the audacity to say that Angeline was a genius only because the others called her so. He even questioned how Angeline would raise Xavier and Yasmine.

Xavier wondered if Ned didn't know Angeline was the founder of Vitality Biotech Group.

"Looks like Mom's taste wasn't that good in the past, as she chose to be with a man with a brain problem. He's not even in the same league as Sean," Xavier thought.

It was the afternoon when the doorbell rang.

Angeline opened the door and saw Robert's assistant, Asher Millstone, standing outside.

"How was Jessica?" Angeline asked.

"Ms. Lawson felt better after waking up from the sedative," Asher replied. "She's looking for Yasmine and Xavier, so Mr. Lawson Senior asked me to bring the kids to her. Will that be okay?"

Angeline turned to look at Xavier and Yasmine, who were playing in the living room. She moved aside. "Come in and have a seat. I'll pack their stuff."

After a brief explanation to the kids,

Angeline handed Asher their

luggage. She knelt and kissed,

her

babies before she said, "Take good

care of Beautiful Ms. Lawson now."

"Don't worry, Mommy!" Yasmine hugged Angeline. "I'll take good care of Beautiful Ms. Lawson!"

After seeing the kids off, Angeline let out a long sigh.

She wondered if she was involved with Jessica's meltdown after seeing a rope.

She thought she shouldn't have shown up before Jessica.

Jessica had been doing well for so many years, but things changed when Angeline showed up.

Angeline wiped off the tears in the corner of her eyes and wished that the kids's company would make Jessica feel better. .

Tomorrow would be the promised deadline with Vitality Biotech Group as per their contract with Fletcher Corporation.

Ned had invited Danny to have fun at

his clubhouse. Although Danny's assistant, Wesley Bowman, had accepted the invite, Danny didn't show up that night.

Chapter 207

"I'm sorry, Mr. Fletcher. Our founder has just returned to Krontos. That's why Mr. Reilly had to cancel his appointment abruptly." Wesley smiled while taking off his suit and sat beside Ned.

"The founder of Vitality Biotech Group?" Ned passed the glass of wine to Wesley. "Are they here for our collaboration?"

Wesley shook his head. "I don't know. Mr. Reilly didn't say anything, but I guess so!"

"I wonder if I have the pleasure to have a meal with the founder of Vitality Biotech Group," Ned asked with a smile.

"I'll talk to Mr. Reilly about this!" Wesley replied. "But Mr. Reilly mentioned before the founder is obsessed with laboratory work. Mr. Reilly and Mr. Burns of the Yurope Division usually manage the company matters. I'm unsure if the founder would agree to meet with you."

Ned looked surprised. "Based on what you said, haven't you met the founder before?"

Wesley nodded. "Of course not! A small fry like me will never get the chance to meet them! I believe only Mr. Reilly and Mr. Burns have personally met the founder in all Vitality Biotech Group."

As if in deep thought, Ned slowly nodded before clinking his wine with Wesley.

After Ned took a sip of the wine, Wesley's phone rang. He quickly picked it up and said, "Hello, Mr. Reilly. Yes, I'm with Mr. Fletcher right now."

Ned heard his name and looked at Wesley.

"Yeah... What? Okay, I'll let Mr. Fletcher know!" Wesley hung up the phone.

"What's wrong?" Ned asked.

"Mr. Fletcher, did Fletcher Corporation work with Yates Group for our project?" Wesley asked.

"Yes, we did. We collaborated because the deadline of the project was too tight. Plus, the contract didn't mention we aren't allowed to collaborate with Yates Group!" Ned put down his wine glass. "But something went wrong with Yates Group. So in the end, Fletcher Corporation finished the project ourselves."

"Well, are you aware that Tommy of Yates Group sold Vitality Biotech Group's formula?" Wesley asked.

Ned clenched his fist, his gaze grew more intense. "Quit joking, Mr. Bowman."

Wesley handed his phone to Ned and showed him a video on WhatsApp where Tommy handed the formula to Billy.

Ned stood up in shock while clenching the phone. .

Wesley stood up and said, "Mr.

Fletcher, I'm sure you knew we had signed an NDA for Vitality Biotech Group's formula. But now that the formula has leaked, we must file a police report.

"Well, who knows if our founder had already called the police."

"I'll find out what happened, Mr. Bowman!" Ned returned the phone to Wesley and grabbed his suit before leaving the restaurant.

Ned tried calling Tommy as he got in his car, but no one picked up.

With trembling hands, Ned called Ingrid, and she answered the call not long after.

"Hello, Ned. How did you know I just finished filming? Did you call me because you missed me, babe?"

"Where's Tommy?" Ned asked in a deep tone.

Ingrid was stunned. "What's wrong, Ned? Did Tommy do something wrong again?"

"Did you know Tommy gave Vitality

Biotech Group's formula to the casino as a pledge?" Ned raised his voice. "They had signed an NDA with Fletcher Corporation! Did Tommy not know he's doomed our company?"

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Ingrid stuttered in terror, "H-How could this happen?"

"Where is Tommy?" Ned asked again, his voice filled with murderous intent.

Ingrid clenched her phone tightly and answered, "H-He's currently staying at my apartment in Krontos."

"Vitality Biotech Group had already

made a police report. Tommy better

be prepared to be jailed for his life Ned hung up the phone and

slammed the steering wheel,

causing a loud honk to echo in the car park.

Chapter 208

With one hand on the steering wheel, Ned pulled his necktie to calm himself before calling Trevor, the head of the legal department of Fletcher Corporation. "Mr. Marshall, Vitality Biotech Group's formula was accidentally leaked from us. Please look through the contract and see if there's any way we can deal with it." Ned threw his phone to the side after hanging up the phone. He then stepped on the accelerator and rushed toward Ingrid's apartment in Krontos.

Ned's phone call gathered everyone in the legal department, where they worked overnight to study the contract for any countermeasures.

The whole legal department was panicking. The contract stated if the collaboration with Vitality Biotech Group was successful, they would involve Fletcher Corporation in their next cancer treatment development project.

The legal department was happy for Fletcher Corporation because of this. They thought it was finally time for Fletcher Corporation to rise. No one would've thought Tommy had made a big mess and ruined their dreams.

If they couldn't find a way to settle this, all of them would lose their job.

For many years, they had covered up for Tommy, Ned's future cousin-in-law. However, this time, Tommy had leaked Vitality Biotech Group's formula.

Fletcher Corporation had signed a non-disclosure agreement with Vitality Biotech Group. Given the compensation was more than 30 billion dollars, they would be paying them their whole company.

Ned arrived and entered Ingrid's apartment after entering the password to the door. He saw Tommy drinking on the couch with a drunk look.

Tommy stood up wobbly as he saw Ned. "Hey, Ned..."

Ned walked toward Tommy with a bitter face and kicked him to the ground.

"Ned! What are you doing?" Tommy asked in surprise while holding onto the couch. .

"What the fuck have you done? How dare you steal Vitality Biotech Groups's formula?" Ned yelled.

Tommy sobered up as he heard Ned. With a pale look, Tommy knelt before Ned and said, "N-Ned! It was the people from the casino. They forced me to do it!

"They said if I don't steal the formula, they're going to harvest my organs! So I have no choice but to—"

Without waiting for Tommy to finish, Ned gave him another kick, causing Tommy to fall over and break the desk lamp on a corner table.

A broken shard of the desk lamp punctured Tommy's arm, causing him to scream in pain. He quickly endured the pain and got up, knees on the ground. "Ned, it was Angeline! She made me gamble with her! I can confirm she's an ally of the casino!"

Ned pulled Tommy's hair, forcing him to look up. "Did Angeline force you to steal the formula? Or did she force you to gamble? Do you think I'll let you go if you push the blame onto Angeline, Tommy?"

"Vitality Biotech Group has called the police. This time, I'm not going to bail you out. Get ready to spend the rest of your life in jail!"

"Ned! Please, Ned!" Tommy hugged Ned's leg. "Please, Ned! I've learned my lesson, and I was punished for this, too! I'm begging you, Ned. Please tell them to have mercy on me!"

Ingrid opened the door forcefully and was shocked to see Tommy's bleeding arm.

"Stop it, Ned!" Ingrid ran forward and hugged Ned from behind. "Please, Ned! Let go of Tommy! It was all my fault for spoiling Tommy!"

"I'll find a way for the money. I can try asking Simon for help! I'll not let Fletcher Corporation be in trouble, so please stop hitting Tommy!" Ned let go of Tommy's hair and closed his eyes. He pushed away Ingrid's hands on his waist and turned to look at her.

Chapter 209

"Please, Ned," Ingrid cried. "I'm sorry! I promise I'll find a way out!"

"You'll find a way?" Ned said furiously. "Fletcher Corporation signed the NDA, so we have to pay 30 billion dollars of compensation!"

"I'm sorry, Ned!" Ingrid held Ned's arm. "Please calm down. We'll figure out a way together, okay?"

Suddenly, Ned chuckled and thought this was his karma for treating Angeline the same four years ago.

Gritting his teeth, Ned stared at Tommy, who was kneeling and dared not to stand up. "I should've let you rot in jail back then!"

Four years ago, when Angeline insisted on getting Tommy punished by law, he shouldn't have used her relationship with Robert and Sean to threaten her, thus saving Tommy.

If Tommy had been sent to jail back then, he wouldn't have sold the formula today.

"Ned..." Ingrid kept crying. She tried grabbing Ned again, but he pushed her hands away.

"Ned! Wait! Don't leave!" Ingrid called for Ned, but he left without looking back.

As Ingrid was about to follow Ned, she heard Tommy calling from behind. With tears in her eyes, Ingrid turned back and helped Tommy up. "Are you okay, Tommy?" "Ingrid, my arm! It hurts!" Tommy bawled. Half of his arm was dyed red from the blood coming from the injury.

"Hang on! I'll send you to the hospital!" Ingrid held Tommy up and left the house.

When Ned was driving on the road, he had been on a call with Trevor.

"We've studied the contract," Trevor said. "If Vitality Biotech Group were to pursue this matter, we're the ones who exploited a loophole in the contract and worked with Yates Group.

"Also, we're the ones who signed the NDA with Vitality! They have all the proof to sue us! All we can do is hold Yates Group accountable."

Ned clenched onto the steering wheel. "So what's your advice, Mr. Marshall?"

"We should try to negotiate with

Vitality Biotech Group and ask if we could settle it privately. Do not bring this to court!" Trevor advised. "After" all, it wouldn't do Vitality any good to bring Fletcher Corporation into bankruptcy. I'll go to Krontos and meet with Vitality's legal department by tonight."

Ned kept a cool head after

himself and instructed, "Send someone to the casino and find Billy now don't care how much we pay. We must get the formula back from Kim. .

"Also, find out who else Billy sold the formula to and get them back! We have to control the loss as soon as possible!"

"Okay, Mr. Fletcher!" Trevor replied. "I'm on it!"

Ned stopped at the traffic light and pinched his eyebrows. "I'll try to contact Mr. Reilly. I heard Vitality's founder was back in Krontos. I'll see if I can meet them."

"That would be the best!" Trevor said. "Then we shall meet tomorrow, Mr. Fletcher. I got to go now!"

"Okay, bye!" Ned hung up the phone and rolled down the window. He looked out inadvertently and saw Angeline leaving a restaurant while holding onto a drunk man.

Ned's back stiffened as he stared at them.

The drunk man was stumbling while holding onto Angeline's waist. He was laughing while saying something to Angeline.

"Wait, isn't that Danny Reilly?" Ned thought as his eyes widened.

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Chapter 210

He wondered why Angeline was with Danny Reilly, the head of Vitality Biotech Group's Lonla Division.

Ned was brought back to his senses by the honk coming from behind. He turned the steering wheel, parked his car on the roadside, and headed toward Angeline and

Danny. "Could you walk properly, Danny?" Angeline struggled to help Danny down the stairs.

"Tell me, boss! Do you think I, Danny Reilly, look unflattering?" Danny said drunkenly. "When I was at Cantabrigiae University, many people were pursuing me! But why? Why doesn't she like me? Why wouldn't she like me?"

Danny waved a finger before Angeline while hugging Angeline's neck and continued, "I have never, ever in my life messed around in my relationship in my life. I've only liked one person. Just one! "Boss, tell me! Are all talented women like you this arrogant?"

"Danny, please! If you keep stumbling like this, I'm going to film your drunk look and show it to Heather!" Angeline warned. "Heather has always thought you look too young and childish for her. Do you think she'll dislike you more if she sees how immature you are and how you're acting crazily when you're drunk?"

"Mr. Reilly!" Ned took a quick look at Angeline and reached his hands to hold Danny. "Why are you alone, Mr. Reilly? I thought you were having dinner with Vitality Biotech Group's founder tonight?" "Oh, it's you, Mr. Fletcher!" Danny nodded with his remaining sobriety when he saw Ned. "Yes, I was having dinner with my boss..."

Danny pointed at Angeline with a drunk grin. "Let me introduce you to her. She is—"

"It's okay, Mr. Reilly. We've known each other," Angeline interrupted and pinched Danny on his waist. She didn't want Ned to know she was the founder of Vitality Biotech Group. "Mr. Fletcher is my ex- husband."

"Angeline!" Ned pulled Danny toward him, not allowing Danny to take advantage of Angeline.

Danny noticed Angeline pinching her

and understood she didn't want to expose herself to Ned yet. He played dumb and laughed. "Oh, Ms. .

Emmerson! You should've told me earlier he's your ex-husband!"

"Mr. Reilly, shall I call your chauffeur?" As Ned asked, Danny's chauffeur parked his car and jogged toward them.

"The car is here, Mr. Reilly," the chauffeur said while reaching out to help Danny.

Danny winked at Angeline and hugged her. "Come here, Ms. Emmerson. How about you send me home instead? Let's get wasted!"

"Your car's over here, Mr. Reilly." Ned tried not to offend Danny openly as he smiled while stealthily pulling Angeline away from Danny. "Here, let me help you."

But Danny grabbed onto Angeline tightly and pulled her back into his embrace. Ned put his hand on Angeline's shoulder and forcefully pushed her away, almost causing her to fall from stumbling.

"Watch out! Ned glared at Angeline as a warning. As if holding a hostage, Ned smiled while walking Danny to his car. Then Ned shoved Danny into the car and closed the door considerately.

After seeing Danny away, Ned turned around and saw Angeline going down the stairs, about to leave. With his forehead creased, Ned walked toward Angeline and blocked her path. "What's wrong, Mr. Fletcher?" Angeline raised her eyebrows.

"I thought Danny was a gentleman. Didn't you notice he was taking advantage of you when he was drunk?" Ned said in agitation.

