

# Trading My Ex for His Uncle

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As soon as Darcy finished speaking, dozens of men in black suddenly surrounded Emerald and her people, cutting off any escape.

Emerald's expression darkened, her eyes burning with anger and frustration as she glared at Darcy. "Darcy, do you have to go against me at every turn?"

Darcy sneered. "Emerald, you and I have always been on opposite sides. If you want to take Edward, fine—just as long as the people you brought can defeat mine."

His tone dripped with contempt, his confidence unmistakable—he had no doubt that Emerald's men were no match for his own.

The standoff stretched on until Emerald clenched her teeth and said coldly, "Darcy, you're going to regret this."

Darcy smirked. "Instead of wasting time threatening me, you should focus on keeping your position as the head of the Nixons. Once Edward recovers, you won't have a say in the family's affairs anymore."

With that, he turned and left with Mary and Edward.

As their car merged into traffic, the men in black swiftly dispersed.

On the drive back, Emerald's expression remained grim. If she had her way, she would get rid of Darcy and Mary this instant.

Mary glanced at Darcy, her face clouded with worry. "Edward's condition is getting worse. We have to move up our plan. If he dies, Emerald will come after my son and me first."

When Edward was in good health, Mary had relied on his favor to disregard Emerald and her children.

But she knew all too well—her power came solely from Edward's presence. Once he was gone, she would have nothing.

She had to ensure her son became the next head of the Nixons before Edward died. That was the only way she and her child would survive.

Seeing the fear in her eyes, Darcy reassured her, "Don't worry, Mary I've already made arrangements. I'm not just doing this because I've served Edward for years. There's another reason. I-" swnovel

Mary cut him off immediately, "Darcy, don't say it. Right now, all I care about is staying by Edward's side for whatever time he has left."

Darcy nodded. "I understand. I just hope that... if one day you decide to be with someone else, you'll give me a chance."

Mary turned to look out the window without responding.

She didn't like Darcy. If not for Edward's illness, she wouldn't have had anything to do with him.

Yet right now, he was the only person she could rely on.

Back at Emerald's estate, Nyla strolled through the garden for a while before feeling tired. She found a pavilion and sat down to rest.

Not long after, a man with blond hair and deep-set blue eyes, dressed in a tailcoat, entered the pavilion.

He seemed slightly surprised to find someone there, but then recognition flashed in his eyes.

Smiling, he stepped forward and greeted Nyla in her native language, "Hello, Ms. Kinsey."

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Nyla was caught off guard. If not for the man's foreign features, she would have never guessed he wasn't a native speaker. She greeted him back. "Hello. And you are?" swnovel

"My name is Andre Quinnett. It's a pleasure to meet you," he replied.

His friendly demeanor put Nyla slightly on edge, but she responded politely. "I'm

Nyla Kinsey. Nice to meet you too."

After exchanging names, Andre

studied her curiously. "Ms. Kinsey, you're the guest of honor at tonight's

banquet. Why are you sitting here alone?"

Swnovel

Nyla wasn't sure of Andre's connection to Emerald and the others, so she remained cautious.

"I prefer quiet places," she answered.

Andre nodded. "Same here. The banquet is a bit too lively for me. I don't quite fit in."

Nyla observed him discreetly. Anyone with an invitation to the estate had to be part of Emerald's social circle, which meant Andre was either incredibly wealthy or influential.

Still, she had no intention of getting to know him further. She stood up. "Mr. Quinnett, I have something to do. Excuse me."

Andre chuckled. "Alright, Ms. Kinsey. I have a feeling we'll meet again."

Nyla didn't take his words seriously and left.

When she returned to the main hall, the banquet was still in full swing.

The room was packed with high-profile business figures she had only seen in news reports, as well as internationally renowned musicians and actors.

Emerald's social standing was exceptional-otherwise, such an elite crowd wouldn't have attended.

None of it interested Nyla, nor did she have any desire to mingle. She headed straight to her bedroom instead.

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Emerald had just arrived back at the estate when she received a call from Brian.

"Mom, I've confirmed it. The day Nyla disappeared, she was with Darcy," Brian reported.

At the mention of Darcy's name, Emerald's barely suppressed rage flared up. Her expression turned ice-cold. "Got it. I want you to investigate Darcy further. I remember he recently invested in a new project-I want it to fail."

Brian hesitated. "But that project involves the Nixons' interests. If it collapses, we will lose billions."

"I don't care how much is lost. What matters is that I get him out of the Nixons!" Emerald hissed.

As long as Darcy remained in the family, she would never have peace of mind or security in her position.

As for his claims about Edward recovering, she didn't believe them for a second- nor did she care.

She knew Edward's health better than anyone. The best he could do was maintain his current state. There was no chance of him getting better.

"Understood, Mom," Brian replied.

After Emerald hung up, she slipped her phone into her bag, stepped out of the car, and put on a smile as she walked into the grand hall.

The moment she entered, guests flocked to her. Some were seeking investments,

others wanted to discuss potential business collaborations.

By the time she finally found a moment to rest, over an hour had passed.

She scanned the room and noticed Nyla was nowhere to be seen. Her brows furrowed as she turned to the butler.

Upon hearing that Nyla had gone

back to her room, her face darkened.

"Go get her. She is not allowed to leave the banquet hall until the event is over." swnovel

The primary purpose of this banquet was to introduce Nyla to everyone—

to make them believe she truly intended to pass the Nixon legacy to her. swnovel

Only by convincing them of this could she ensure Delia and Brian's safety while buying them time to strengthen themselves and learn how to manage the family swnovel

The butler bowed. "Yes, Madam. I'll go right away."

Ten minutes later, he returned, looking uneasy. "Madam... Ms. Kinsey has locked

her door and refuses to come out."

Emerald's expression grew even colder. She lowered her voice. "Use the spare key. If she won't come willingly, drag her here if you have to."

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Filipe Gable, the butler, hesitated before speaking. "Madam, isn't this a little inappropriate?"

After all, Nyla was still Emerald's daughter and, technically, one of the masters of the estate. It wasn't proper for a service staff to unlock the door to Nyla's room with a spare key.

Emerald hadn't originally intended to take things this far, but Nyla was being uncooperative—so she only had herself to blame.

"Just do as I say!"

Filipe let out a quiet sigh before nodding. "Understood."

Filipe left the hall, taking a few staff members with him. He stopped outside Nyla's bedroom and knocked lightly before speaking through the door. "Ms. Kinsey, please come out. If you refuse, I will have no choice but to unlock the door with the spare key. Please don't make things difficult for me."

Behind him, one of the maids frowned in confusion. "Why are you treating her with so much respect? It's obvious Madam doesn't care about her at all. Anyone can see that she despises her."

Filipe shot the servant a glance before answering, "No matter how Madam feels about her, she is still our master. And how do you know Madam won't change her mind one day? Or what if she really does take over the Nixons?"

The maid wrinkled her nose, clearly disagreeing, but said nothing further.

Noticing her dissatisfaction, Filipe smiled and let the matter drop.

Inside the bedroom, Nyla furrowed her brow at Filipe's warning. After a moment's hesitation, she got up and unlocked the door.

As soon as it opened, Filipe lowered his head slightly in deference. "Ms. Kinsey, Madam has asked me to bring you to the hall. There are still many guests who would like to meet you."

"Alright, let's go." Nyla didn't resist.

If Emerald was willing to go so far as

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to have Filipe threaten to open her door with a key, she would undoubtedly find other ways to deal with her if she continued to refuse. swnovel

Besides, she had already accomplished her goal of upsetting Emerald. Going out now wouldn't make a difference.

When they reached the main hall, Filipe led Nyla to Emerald's side. "Madam, Ms. Kinsey is here."

Emerald turned to look at Nyla, then told Filipe, "Good. You can go now."

After Filipe left, Emerald smiled at Nyla-but the disdain in her eyes was impossible to hide.

"Nyla, this entire banquet was organized for you. I won't question where you went the other day, but don't push your luck and test my patience," Emerald warned.

Nyla raised an eyebrow with a

mocking smile. "Ms. Kinsey, are you

sure you're not investigating in secret? And saying this banquet was organized for me- isn't that a bit

hypocritical? It's not about me at all. It's about your precious children and securing the position of the Nixons' successor." swnovel

Emerald's gaze darkened instantly, though the smile on her face remained unchanged. "No matter the reason, you have no choice but to behave yourself.

"I've assigned plenty of people to keep an eye on Damon and Buddy. Do you really think the person behind you can watch over them at all times, without a single lapse?"

"If you dare lay a finger on them, I promise you'll regret it," Nyla threatened.

Emerald reached out, seemingly to

brush a stray lock of hair from Nyla's

face, and whispered in her ear, "Whether do or don't depends on you. Oh, by the way, I also had your father brought here. Once the banquet is over, I'll arrange for you to meet him." swnovel

Nyla's eyes widened in shock. "What did you just say?"

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Had Emerald actually kidnapped Harrison and brought him here?!

Emerald's smile deepened. "Don't look so horrified. He's not in great health, so I simply brought him here to recuperate. Don't worry-so long as you behave, he'll be just fine."

A buzzing filled Nyla's mind. She hadn't expected Emerald to be so utterly ruthless.

She wanted to explode right then and there and rip off Emerald's mask before everyone but she couldn't.

The only reason Emerald hadn't harmed Harrison yet was that Nyla hadn't made a scene. If she exposed everything now, she would lose her value as a pawn, and Harrison would become disposable.

At this point, Emerald didn't even see her as her own daughter anymore. Why would she spare an ex-husband she'd divorced years ago?

Not only could Nyla not fight back, but she had to suppress her disgust and play along with Emerald's act of motherly love.

She clenched and loosened her fists at her sides. After a few seconds, she forced a smile. "If anything happens to my dad, don't expect me to cooperate anymore." Emerald wrapped an arm around her and whispered in a gentle voice, "Relax. As long as you behave, your father, Damon, and Buddy will all be safe."

Her voice was soft, but it sent chills down Nyla's spine. It was like a venomous snake coiled beside her, hissing threats into her ear, ready to strike at any moment.

"How am I supposed to trust you?" Nyla asked.

"You don't have a choice," Emerald replied.

Nyla trembled slightly. It took everything she had to resist the urge to shove Emerald away.

From a distance, the banquet guests saw the two whispering intimately, assuming they were simply sharing a mother-daughter moment.

In the corner of the hall, Delia watched with growing jealousy, her resentment toward Emerald's favoritism deepening.

For the next two hours, Nyla was forced to meet countless people as Emerald paraded her around. By the time the banquet ended, her legs were so sore she could barely walk. swnovel

But she hadn't forgotten Emerald's threat. The moment the last guest left, she blocked Emerald's path. "I want to see my dad."

Emerald didn't hesitate. She immediately instructed Filipe to prepare a car. Now that she had Nyla's weakness in her grasp, the girl wouldn't dare disobey her again.

"Go ahead, but I'm only giving you half an hour. Originally, I planned to give you an hour, but since you were so defiant tonight, I cut it down." With that, Emerald turned and headed toward her study. swnovel

A cold glint flashed in Nyla's eyes as she watched her retreating figure.



Filipe stepped forward. "Ms. Kinsey, the car is ready and waiting at the front."

Nyla glanced at him before nodding. "Thank you."

Out of everyone in the estate, the other service staff either sneered at her or ignored her entirely, following Emerald's lead. Only Filipe treated her the same way he treated Bryan and Delia with polite, professional

respect. ŝn novel

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Nyla had a good impression of Filipe.

Filipe quickly waved his hand. "It's just my duty, Ms. Kinsey. You should go now."

Nyla said nothing more and turned toward the estate's entrance.

Filipe sighed quietly as he watched her disappear into the distance.

They were all Emerald's children, yet while Brian and Delia could act spoiled and willful around their mother, Nyla was met with nothing but disdain, forced into things she never wanted.

The contrast was striking, and Filipe couldn't help but feel a twinge of sympathy for her.

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More than half an hour later, the car pulled up in front of a private nursing home.

Because prior arrangements had already been made, someone was waiting the moment Nyla stepped out, ready to lead her to Harrison's ward.

When she pushed open the door and saw him lying in bed, she subconsciously tightened her grip on the doorknob.

She had wanted to believe Emerald was lying. But seeing Harrison here, weak and confined, she could no longer deceive herself.

To threaten her, Emerald had actually gone so far as to have him kidnapped from his own home and brought here.

Hearing the door open, Harrison looked up. His eyes widened in shock, and he immediately sat up. "Nyla... you're here..."

Nyla's eyes turned red as she slowly approached the bed, holding back tears. "Dad... I'm so sorry..."

If it weren't for her, Harrison wouldn't have been taken to Meristate by force. He would still be living freely in his own home instead of being trapped in this small room.

Seeing the guilt written all over her face, Harrison spoke gently. "Nyla, I've never blamed you. I know your life must be even harder than mine right now.

"Actually, your mother has been treating me quite well. She arranged for me to stay in a high-end ward, with more than a dozen people' tending to my meals, daily needs, and health. swnovel

"To be honest, it almost feels like a vacation. You don't need to worry about me."

The more he spoke, the worse Nyla felt. She knew he was only saying this to comfort her.

Who would want to be taken to a foreign country against their will, locked up in a ward every day?

She wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes and forced a smile as she sat down beside him. "Dad, don't worry. I'll definitely take you home."

Harrison nodded. "Mm. At my age it doesn't really matter where I am, but I can't stop worrying about you. By the way, how has your mother been treating you?" swnovel

"She's been great. She even held a banquet for me tonight, announcing to everyone that I'm her daughter. She also said she plans to hand over the family business to me," Nyla answered. swnovel

"As long as she's treating you well, that's all that matters. You don't have to visit me all the time-only if you have the time.

"You must be busy learning new things now. If you ever get a chance, just drop

by. Otherwise, don't worry about it," Harrison assured her.

"Mm, I'll come see you often," Nyla promised.

They talked for a while. Soon, Nyla noticed how tired Harrison looked-he was clearly forcing himself to stay awake for her sake.

She quickly said, "Dad, it's getting late. I should head back now. I'll visit you again soon."

"Alright," Harrison replied.

As he watched Nyla disappear through the door, his eyes turned red.

He could tell-Emerald didn't treat Nyla well at all.

If she did, Nyla would have shared plenty of details about her kindness instead of brushing off the topic with vague statements.

The more he thought about it, the more bitter he felt.

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Now, Harrison was nothing more than a bargaining chip for Emerald to use against Nyla. He couldn't even die if he wanted to.

He lifted the blanket and glared at the restraints tying him to the hospital bed. If he could, he would have cut through the ropes and jumped out the window right then and there.

Back at the estate, Nyla had regained her composure.

As soon as she stepped into the main hall, Filipe approached her. "Ms. Kinsey, Madam has asked you to go to the study."

She had been planning to see Emerald anyway, so she nodded. "Alright, I understand."

When she reached the study, she didn't bother knocking. She simply pushed the door open and walked in.

Emerald was on the phone.

Hearing the noise, she looked up at Nyla with clear displeasure, quickly saying a few final words before hanging up. "What do you want? When are you going to fix your bad habit of barging into people's rooms without knocking?"

"You could always lock the door," Nyla said flatly. "That way, I wouldn't be able to walk in."

They spoke at the same time. Their eyes met, both filled with cold hostility.

Emerald let out a sharp laugh. "If you don't fix that habit, you can forget about seeing your father again."

Disgust flickered across Nyla's face. "Do you not find it revolting to use my father to threaten me?"

"You have no right to ask me that. I called you here for something important." With that, Emerald slid a document across the desk toward her. "Sign this."

Nyla picked up the file and skimmed through it. It was a stock transfer agreement for a well-known tech company in Meristate.

According to the document, Emerald was voluntarily transferring all her shares in the company to Nyla, free of charge.

Suspicion flashed in Nyla's eyes. "Why are you giving this to me?"

Emerald scoffed. "I'm offering you a company, and you're questioning it? If I were you, I'd sign before I change my mind."

"Save it for your son and your other daughter. I don't want it," Nyla said, placing the document back on the table without hesitation.

She knew Emerald's deep-seated disdain for her, so there was no way she would just hand over a massive tech company without ulterior motives.

Mockery flashed in Emerald's eyes as she observed Nyla's reluctance. "I don't need to play tricks over something like this. And do you even realize how much this company is worth? It's worth more than several

Prospectus Technologies combined." swnovel

Nyla rejected it flatly, "It has nothing to do with me. I don't want it."

"Want it or not, you're signing that paper today." Emerald's tone left no room for argument. She wasn't asking for Nyla's opinion—she was simply informing her of the decision.

If Nyla refused, she had plenty of ways to force her.

Slowly, Nyla clenched her fists at her

sides and locked eyes with Emerald.

"Fine. I'll sign it. But I want to know

what you're doing to me. I don't want to go down without knowing anything." swnovel

Emerald frowned, her patience thinning. "I wouldn't need to use a small company against you. If I want to do anything to you, I have means for it. Just sign the document and leave my study. I don't want to see you."

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Nyla stared at the agreement for a while before speaking. "I have one condition."

"What condition?" Emerald asked.

"From now on, I want to be able to visit my father whenever I want," Nyla stated.

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Emerald raised an eyebrow and leaned back in her chair, a mocking glint in her eyes as she looked at Nyla. "I thought you'd make some outrageous demand, but this is it?"

Her tone dripped with disdain, as if ridiculing Nyla for not seizing the opportunity to ask for more.

Nyla remained expressionless. "Yes, that's my only condition."

"Fine, I agree. Now, will you sign it?" Emerald asked.

Without another word, Nyla picked up the pen and signed her name at the bottom of the document. She clicked the pen shut, placed it atop the papers, turned, and walked out.

Emerald narrowed her eyes as she watched Nyla leave.

After confirming the signature, she immediately called her assistant to take the document and begin the legal process.

Word quickly spread through Meristate's high society-Emerald had transferred all her shares in Kajer Tech to Nyla.

Some saw it as a clear sign that Emerald was grooming Nyla to take over the Nixons. After all, Kajer Tech generated billions in revenue each year, making it one of the family's most profitable businesses.

Even Brian and Delia, who had grown up under Emerald's care, had only received moderately successful companies. Emerald had never shown any intention of making them her successors.

However, while some accepted this shift, others remained skeptical, watching closely to see what would happen next.

Then there were those who outright refused to believe it.

To them, it made no sense. Emerald had spent years apart from Nyla-why would she suddenly hand over control of such a critical company to a daughter she barely knew?

When they imagined themselves in Emerald's position, they simply couldn't fathom doing the same.

The next morning, a maid knocked on Nyla's door.

The persistent knocking roused Nyla from her sleep. She checked the time. It was barely 6:30 a.m., and the sun hadn't even risen yet.

She frowned, debating whether to ignore it. But the knocking continued, steady and relentless, as though the person outside had all the time in the world to wait. swnovel

Her sleep had always been light, and now that she was fully awake, she had no choice but to get up and answer the door.

The maid stood there, expressionless. "Ms. Kinsey, Madam has ordered you to wake up. You must wash up, get dressed, and be in the study before 7:00 a.m."

Nyla furrowed her brow. "Is this her latest way of tormenting me?"

"I'm only relaying Madam's instructions. I have other tasks to attend to." With that, the maid turned and left.

Shutting the door, Nyla gave up on going back to sleep. She freshened up, changed her clothes, and made her way to the study.

When she arrived, she simply pushed the door open and walked in.

Emerald frowned, clearly displeased with her lack of manners. But instead of scolding her, she let go perhaps realizing it wouldn't

make a difference. fo swnovel

"Ms. Kinsey," Nyla began. "You had someone wake me up at the crack of dawn and drag me here. I assume this must be something urgent?"

There was a biting sarcasm in her voice, and Emerald's expression darkened. "Of course it's imponet

Starting tomorrow, you'll wake 6:30 a.m. every day. swnovel

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"By 7:00 a.m., you must be washed, dressed, and have finished breakfast. Then,

you'll begin your business management training.

"Mornings will be spent learning at home, and in the afternoons, you'll go to the company to handle affairs."

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Nyla let out a short laugh. "Wow, I really did come here to serve a sentence, didn't I? A strict wake-up time, a rigid schedule-should I get a sewing machine while I'm at it?"

Emerald's eyes hardened. "I'm not joking. You signed that agreement last night. As of today, you are the owner of Kajer Tech. You have one month to learn how to run it."

"Sorry, not interested," Nyla said, refusing.

"If you refuse, you'll never see Harrison again," Emerald threatened.

Nyla's expression changed, her jaw tightening. "I knew I shouldn't have trusted you. You have no integrity whatsoever."

Emerald sneered. "Did you really think you could just sign a piece of paper and be done with it? You have three minutes to decide. Either follow my orders, or forget about seeing Harrison ever again."

Taking a deep breath, Nyla clenched her fists. "Fine. I'll do it."

Emerald didn't look surprised. This was the outcome she had expected.

"You can go eat breakfast now," she said. "Since today is your first day, your lessons will start at 8:00 a.m. But starting tomorrow, they'll begin at 7:00 a.m. If you're late, you won't be allowed to see Harrison for a week. So if you're planning to pull any stunts, I suggest you think about the consequences first."

Nyla turned and left without responding.

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After breakfast, it was nearly 7:40 a.m.

A maid led her to a study next to the main hall.

Inside, there was a desk with two chairs and a full wall of bookshelves filled with business-related books. One glance at them was enough to make her lose interest.

"Ms. Kinsey, Madam said you are to wait here for your instructor," the maid reminded.

"Got it," Nyla replied.

Once the maid left, Nyla sat down and started counting the books on the first shelf out of sheer boredom.

Business didn't interest her in the slightest, and waking up so early had left her exhausted. Before long, she had dozed off, her head resting on the desk.

Meanwhile, Brian had stormed into Emerald's study, demanding an explanation: "Mom, you told me Kajer Tech would go to me or Delia! Why did you go back on your word and give all the shares to Nyla? You know how much Kajer means to me!" swnovel

Among all the companies under the Nixons, Kajer Tech was the one Brian wanted most. He firmly believed the future belonged to AI and Kajer Tech was famous for its GPUs an essential component for Almodel computations. swnovel.net

He had always assumed that even if Emerald wanted to put on a show and give

Nyla a company, it would never be Kajer Tech.

Today's news had been a slap in the face.

Worse, he hadn't even heard it from his mother-his friends had told him. Was he really the last to know?

Emerald set her papers aside and

looked at Brian, reading the

resentment and frustration in his

eyes. "Brian, I've told you

before-everything in the Nixons belongs to you in the future. But not

yet. swnovel



"I don't need to explain my decisions to you. Just know that one day, Kajer Tech will be yours. For now, all you need to do is follow my instructions."

Brian's expression darkened, his voice turning cold. "One day? When? In a year? Two years? Ten?"

"Mom, I know you want people to believe you're grooming Nyla to take over the family, but there are other companies you could've given her. Why Kajer Tech?"

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"I'm starting to wonder if you really intend to hand the Nixons over to Nyla. Is that why you gave her Kajer Technologies?" Brian asked.

The moment his words left his mouth, the atmosphere in the study grew tense.

Emerald's gaze hardened, anger simmering beneath the surface. "Brian, I've spent years planning everything for you, and this is how you see me?"

Brian stood his ground. "Mom, it's not about what I think. It's about what you did. There are plenty of companies on par with Kajer Tech—why did you have to give her that one? Why Kajer?"

Emerald took a steadying breath, forcing down her irritation. "I told you—I don't owe you an explanation. And even if I did, with your current understanding, you wouldn't get it."

"If you don't explain this to me, I won't do anything for you anymore," Brian shot back.

Emerald slammed her palm on the desk. "Say that again?!"

Brian clenched his jaw, silent but visibly seething.

The room fell into a heavy silence as mother and son stared each other down. The tension in the air was palpable.

After what seemed like an eternity, Emerald exhaled sharply and waved a dismissive hand. "Get out. If you don't want to listen to me anymore, fine. But don't expect to inherit the Nixons, either."

She had always considered Brian her heir, but today, he had deeply disappointed her.

A future leader of the Nixons needed a sharp mind and a strategic vision.

But Brian? He was too focused on

강 his immediate desires, unable to see

the bigger picture. If the Nixons were left in his hands, it wouldn't last ten years before it began to decline. swnovel

She would only entrust the family to someone truly capable. If Brian didn't change, she'd have no choice but to reconsider her choice of successor.

Brian's face paled slightly at her words, but his first reaction wasn't fear-it was anger.

"Mom, what right do you have to deny me? I'm your only son. If not me, then who? Nyla? Or Delia? Don't forget-one of them hates you, and the other is a useless fool, he spat. swnovel

"Shut your mouth!" Emerald shot up from her chair, her chest rising and falling with fury as she pointed at him. "Get out!"

Brian scoffed and stormed out, slamming the study door so hard the walls trembled.

Emerald collapsed back into her chair, a flicker of uncertainty crossing her face.

The moment passed, and she quickly composed herself, picking up her documents and resuming her work.

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Meanwhile, Brian stormed down the hallway, heading straight for Delia to tell her about Emerald giving Kajer Tech to Nyla.

Delia's face twisted with fury. "Why would she do that?! Didn't she say you?

she was going to give it

she Seriously planning to let that bitch inherit the Nixons?!" swnovel

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Brian's expression darkened, his eyes flashing with something almost sinister. "No matter what, I won't let Nyla inherit the Nixons."

Emerald better be using Nyla as a mere pawn. If he found out she was seriously considering making Nyla the successor, he wouldn't hesitate to take action-even if it meant turning against his own mother.

Delia failed to notice the change in Brian's demeanor and nodded vigorously. "I'm with you. There's no way we can let Nyla take over!"

She had never hated anyone as much as she hated Nyla. Just thinking about the way men—especially the one man she had secretly admired for years—had looked at Nyla at last night's banquet made her seethe with jealousy. She wished Nyla would just disappear.

Brian smirked. "Good. That's what I wanted to hear. From now on, she's our common enemy, and we need to work together against her."

Delia huffed. "Agreed."

Brian, seeing no real plan forming in Delia's mind, inwardly sneered-idiot.

Outwardly, he simply said, "I heard Mom hired a private tutor to teach her how to run a business. She never did that for you, did she?"

Delia's expression darkened further, her jealousy flaring. "Mom is so biased!"

"Exactly. So, you need to sabotage her lessons. If she actually learns how to manage the company, Kajer Tech will truly be hers," Brian instigated.

He had initially believed Emerald was only using Nyla as a shield. But after handing over Kajer Tech, doubt crept into his mind.

What if she really did intend to make her the successor?

Maybe everything she'd told him before-about using Nyla as a placeholder-had been a lie.

Delia was quiet for a moment, then said, "Fine. I'll handle it. But what about you? Are you really going to just sit back and do nothing?"

Brian stiffened for half a second before covering it up. "I have bigger things to take care of. I can't waste my time on something this small. This is your responsibility." "Got it," Delia replied.

As the siblings plotted against

she was fast asleep at the desk in the study, lost in a beautiful dream. Content belongs to swnovel

In her dream, she was back in Saintornia, reunited with Damon n and

Mason. The three of them were living happily together, a real family at last. Swnovel

The dream was so perfect, so warm, she never wanted to wake up.

But then a rhythmic tapping echoed in her ears, like someone drumming their fingers on a table.

Nyla jolted awake, blinking groggily. As her surroundings came into focus, her heart sank.

She was still in the estate's study.

For a brief moment, she had truly believed she was home again.

A deep voice sounded above her. "Ms. Kinsey, we meet again. What a coincidence."

The voice was familiar. Nyla looked up, and her eyes widened in surprise. "Andre?"

Andre smiled. "It's me."

He was dressed casually today, exuding a relaxed, almost lazy charm.

Nyla glanced around, expecting to see someone else. "You're my private tutor?" Andre nodded. "That's right."

"So... you knew last night that I was going to be your student?" Nyla asked.

"That question is personal," Andre replied

You've wasted half. hour . Let's get started

8.othly. "And it's already belongs to swe