

Trapped 621

Chapter 621 Success Is Imminent

Ten minutes passed, and the orchestra's music came to a halt.

The masked host ascended the stage, ready to recount the remarkable achievements of the Xander

Group. Then, the host declared commandingly. "Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming our chairman, Mr. Grayson Xander, for his speech!"

The audience responded with enthusiastic applause.

Clad in a sleek black suit, Grayson approached the stage with a beaming smile. He positioned himself in front of the microphone and expressed his gratitude to the attendees. Today marks the 100th

anniversary of the Xander Group. I have an important announcement to make on this joyous occasion."

He gazed affectionately toward the audience and continued. Allow me to introduce my granddaughter, who will be joining us on stage."

In hushed tones, attendees around Caroline speculated, "Is Mr. Xander planning to pass his shares to his granddaughter?"

"It certainly seems that way. I've heard he holds a deep affection for her."

Upon hearing their discussion, Caroline rose slowly from her seat.

The room fell into astonished silence as people turned their gaze toward her. Evan, in particular, fixed his

attention on her, only shifting his eyes back to the stage's screen after a prolonged look.

Evan narrowed his eyes, contemplating the evidence Caroline might present on the screen.

Will she succeed? It won't be that straightforward, but I need a contingency plan in place. I can't just stand by and watch Caroline fail,' he thought.

With determination, Evan sent a text message to someone.

"Who's that woman?"

"I have no idea. Who could recognize her with that mask on?"

"What's she doing? Is she trying to get on stage?"

"Isn't it supposed to be Mr. Xander's granddaughter taking the stage now? What's she up to?"

"I don't know where she came from, but she's going to get kicked out."

Despite the growing murmurs, the bodyguards made no move to stop Caroline.

+15 BONUS

Daniella carried her dress gracefully and joined Grayson on stage, embracing him warmly. Then, she

began addressing the audience through the microphone, saying, "I want to express my heartfelt gratitude

for your presence at the Xander Group's 100th-anniversary celebration today and for your unwavering

support of the Xander--"

However, Daniella's speech abruptly stopped as her gaze fell upon a woman in a striking red gown. She

couldn't believe her eyes. It was Caroline!

Daniella was utterly shocked. "What is she doing here?"

A sense of foreboding washed over her, leaving her with a lump in her throat.

Grayson lightly tapped Daniella's arm and urged, "Please continue, Ella."

Daniella managed to recover from her surprise and stammered, "I apologize. I'm feeling a bit nervous."

Caroline couldn't help but sneer at Daniella's response. She locked eyes with her rival and calmly made

her way to the center of the stage.

In the surveillance room.

Kenny eagerly rubbed his palms together. “Neil, we’re on the verge of success!”

Neil replied calmly. “Why are you more emotional than I am?”

“How can I not be emotional? But why is Caroline delaying?”

“Stay calm. Caroline is waiting for the perfect moment,” Neil reassured him.

Just as Grayson took the microphone to continue, Caroline suddenly spoke. “Mr. Xander Sr.”

Daniella and Grayson turned to look at Caroline, their expressions shifting.

Grayson’s demeanor turned icy as he demanded, “Who are you? Please return to your seat.”

Caroline responded with a sly chuckle. “Do you honestly believe that Daniella Love, standing beside is your biological granddaughter?”

The audience erupted in astonishment.

“What does she mean?”

you,

“Is Daniella not Mr. Xander’s biological granddaughter?*

“Why didn’t he get a DNA test for something so crucial?”

Chapter 622 Kick Her Out

+15 BONUS

Grayson glared at Caroline as he listened to her speech. "Who on earth are you? And why are you ruining

my party?"

Caroline approached Grayson with deliberate steps. "Considering your age, you might not be aware that results can be manipulated. Daniella isn't your biological granddaughter. Are you absolutely sure about

transferring all your shares to an outsider?"

"What nonsense are you spouting? Where are the bodyguards? Remove this insane woman at once!" Grayson thundered.

Daniella's heart sank when she noticed the unmoving bodyguards. 'Neil... It's Neil who assigned the bodyguards! Are they trying to expose my identity?

Fear gripped Daniella, and she quivered as she stared at Caroline. "Why haven't you left the stage yet?"

Caroline sneered and retorted, "What are you so afraid of? Are you trying to get evidence from me?"

Daniella was utterly terrified. "What proof do you have that I'm not Grandpa's granddaughter? If you're lying, you'll go against the Xander family!"

Caroline inched closer to Daniella. "Let's see the evidence."

Caroline glanced at the surveillance room and nodded.

The audience held their breaths, their eyes fixed on the stage in disbelief.

Moments passed, but the screen behind Caroline remained unchanged.

Her expression stiffened. What are Kenny and Neil doing?

“This is absurd! It’s just an unhinged woman causing a scene here!”

The audience burst into mocking laughter.

“I thought there was something serious happening, but it’s all a charade!”

“Get off the stage! You should be ashamed!”

“Do you really think you’re some kind of bigshot?”

“You’re doomed if you cross the Xanders!”

The audience’s discussion and Caroline’s pale face helped ease Daniella’s anxiety. She had assumed Caroline could create a spectacle, but all she did was talk.

+15 BONUS

Daniella chuckled. “You’re embarrassing yourself, Caroline! How do you have the audacity to create a scene here when you’re a murderer?”

“Murderer?” Gasps filled the audience.

“I know who Caroline Shenton is. She’s the secretary who previously slept with MK’s CEO for money!”

“Isn’t she supposed to be dead?”

“She probably faked her death to escape prison. It’s terrifying that she’s here!”

Caroline’s body turned cold, and despair filled her eyes. She had endured humiliation and suffering for so long, only to end up with nothing?

“Why? Why do I keep facing hardship and irony when seeking revenge?”

Daniella approached Caroline with a sneer and whispered, “I truly admire your courage, Caroline. Since you seem so eager to be the center of attention, I’ll grant your wish today.”

Daniella smirked and addressed the audience, “I don’t know what I did to earn Caroline’s resentment. She

despised me when I was engaged to Evan. In fact, she repeatedly threatened me to leave Evan.

Maybe she’s jealous and wants to ruin me because I have a better life than her this time. Please ignore this drama. I’ll have her removed.”

“Yes, Ms. Love is right! Kick the murderer out!”

“Remove her!”

“A murderer doesn’t belong here!”

Insults and jeers rained down on Caroline, making her feel sick and causing her legs to give way. Caroline closed her eyes in despair, reflecting. What a joke... Everything is so absurd and ironic!

Chapter 623 Murder Charge

“Hello, testing. Can you hear me?”

Suddenly, a childlike and familiar voice echoed through the room.

Instantly, the scene fell silent, and everyone’s attention turned to the screen.

Caroline’s eyes widened in surprise, and her body tensed when she saw Tyler’s face on the screen.

Ty

“You’re not talking, so I assume you can hear me, right?” Tyler smiled,

“Who is this child?”

“He looks a lot like Mr. Jordan! Is he Mr. Jordan’s son?”

“I’ve never seen Mr. Jordan’s child, but I know he has a son.”

“That must be him! What does he want to tell us?”

“I don’t know. Let’s listen!”

Tyler cleared his throat. “Allow me to introduce myself. I’m Tyler Shenton, and I’m here because of this

unexpected situation. Frankly, bullying my mother is not something to be proud of.”

The audience erupted in response to Tyler’s sarcasm.

Evan smirked, thinking. 'He's acting like my son, having the courage to scold these high-ranking individuals. He's bold'

Tyler continued. "Don't you dare defame my mother, Love. Are you sure she was the murderer in that incident years ago? You were at the scene, too. If you want to argue, watch this video clip first."

Suddenly, the scene changed, and a video clip showed Caroline and Daniella sitting in a cafe.

The video had no sound but depicted Caroline losing consciousness after drinking the lemon-infused water the waitress served.

The scene quickly shifted as two bodyguards carried the unconscious Caroline into an apartment, followed by Daniella.

Soon, a blonde-haired man entered the building.

"I'll speed up the process," Tyler said as he fast-forwarded the video.

+15 BONUS

After a while, Daniella rushed outside, covered in blood. She spoke briefly with the bodyguards before re-

entering the building.

Subsequently, the police arrived and took Caroline and the deceased blonde-haired man away.

When the video paused, Daniella collapsed to the ground, visibly shaken.

Tyler's face reappeared on the screen.

"I believe everyone can see that my mother couldn't have been the murderer by now, right? How can an unconscious person kill someone? My mother was pregnant with me at the time, and I believe she was lucky not to be a victim herself!

"But this isn't the end. Love, you asked for evidence earlier, right? I'll present it on behalf of my mother."

Tyler changed the scene, displaying two DNA test reports on the screen.

"One shows the DNA comparison between Uncle Neil and my mother, while the other compares Love's DNA with Uncle Neil's. It's clear that Love and Uncle Neil aren't related by blood.

"I know this evidence alone might not be enough to gain your trust. How about we bring Uncle Neil on stage to confirm? Oh, I almost forgot about the photos. Here are pictures of my mother, Love, and my grandmother."

Tyler displayed the photos, leaving the audience in shock.

"Caroline looks remarkably similar to the late Eleanor Xander! How did you not notice that, Mr. Xander?"

“Daniella is despicable for stealing Caroline’s identity and framing her for murder!”

“Daniella is probably the real culprit, and she made Caroline a scapegoat!”

“Just the thought of it terrifies me!”

“I’m not a murderer! It was that man who tried to kill us!” Daniella shouted.

Caroline glanced at Daniella, thinking, ‘How else are you going to defend yourself at this point?’

Chapter 624 Good to Me for Five Years

Daniella’s face turned pale, and she looked at Grayson in panic.

“Grandpa, please save me. I didn’t do it!” Daniella crawled toward Grayson.

Grayson gazed at Daniella, lost in thought. He felt deeply disappointed upon hearing those vulgar

remarks. It had taken him five years to realize that his beloved granddaughter was a fraud.

In pain, Grayson closed his eyes and took a deep breath. “Leave.”

Daniella was terrified. “Grandpa-”

“I’m not your grandfather.” Weakly, Grayson staggered backward. “The Xanders’ reputation has been

completely tarnished.”

“Grandpa! Don’t believe Caroline! She’s lying!” Daniella begged Grayson through tears.

Caroline stood before Grayson, but he couldn't muster the courage to meet her eyes. Ignoring Daniella's cries and despair, he remained silent.

Soon, Neil swiftly took the stage. He locked eyes with Caroline and nodded. Then, he approached Daniella and said coldly, "Now that the truth is out, you have no reason to stay."

Daniella clenched her fists and glared at him. "You're all in cahoots to push Grandpa to get rid of me, aren't you? Neil, you're my brother. How could you aid an outsider?"

"You must be out of your mind. Guards, remove her!" Neil ordered.

The bodyguards rushed onto the stage upon Neil's command and carried Daniella away, dragging her outside.

Daniella shrieked, "You'll regret this! I'm the Xanders' heiress!"

Grayson's body swayed, and Neil caught him before he fell.

Holding his chest, Grayson croaked, "Let her go, even if she did kill someone."

Neil frowned. "Why are you still helping her at this point, Grandpa?!"

"She was good to me for at least five years. Consider it a debt I owe her!" Grayson shouted.

Neil remained silent but was disappointed in Grayson. "Noted."

Kenny rushed to Caroline and exited the hotel with her.

+15 BONUS

Caroline breathed a sigh of relief when they were outside. "It's over."

Kenny opened the car door for Caroline, wearing a serious expression. "Get in the car first. I'll tell you something later."

Caroline looked at him in astonishment.

Inside the car, Kenny revealed, "Daniella had help."

Caroline had suspected as much. "Possibly. Otherwise, we would have been able to present the evidence sooner."

Kenny gnashed his teeth. "Exactly! The systems were all locked just when we were about to play the evidence. It could have been disastrous if Ty hadn't intervened."

Caroline was puzzled. "In theory, Ty wouldn't know my plan. Did you inform him about it?"

"No, we received Ty's call only after the systems were locked, and he asked for the evidence. We're not sure who tipped off Ty," Kenny replied.

Caroline was shocked. "It must be Evan..."

Kenny had an epiphany. "You're right! Ty has been with Evan all this time. So, it was Evan who helped you,

wasn't it?"

Caroline looked out the window and whispered, "I can never repay him..."

At 9:30 p.m., Caroline returned to Bayview Villa.

Chapter 625 See Mommy

The yard was filled with trash and filth, assaulting Caroline's senses with a nauseating stench the

moment she stepped out of the car. She instinctively covered her mouth and nose, surveying the

shattered windows and the injured bodyguards posted at the door.

She offered, "Please, take some rest and a refreshing shower tonight. I appreciate your hard work."

One of the bodyguards replied, "We've already arranged for cleaning staff, Ms. Shenton. They'll be here

shortly."

Caroline nodded and proceeded into the villa.

Eira and Paige rushed downstairs upon hearing Caroline's arrival. Tears welled up in Paige's eyes as she

embraced Caroline,

"Carol..." Paige clung to her and said, "I saw the news! That villain Daniella finally got what she deserved,

Carol!"

Caroline gently patted Paige's back and asked, "Have you been frightened these past few days?"

Paige shook her head. "I knew you could handle this. You can finally let go of the five-year-old grudge, Carol."

Caroline couldn't bring herself to reveal Daniella's accomplice. She replied with a smile, "Yes, it's all finally

over."

Paige released her hug and turned to Eira. "Eira, please give me the list."

Eira nodded and handed Paige a piece of paper. Paige passed it to Caroline. "This is a list of people who caused disturbances at the villa in the past days."

Caroline glanced at the list and then back at Paige. "That's not important right now."

Paige was surprised. "Huh? What do you mean?"

Caroline explained, "We have a hospital check-up scheduled for tomorrow morning."

Once Evan returned to Villa Rosa, the bodyguard promptly brought Tyler and Liora over.

Tyler studied Evan with a raised chin. "I think you owe me something."

Evan raised an eyebrow. "Considering it's about your mother, I don't see the need for compensation."

+15 BONUS

Tyler locked eyes with Evan. “True, it’s about Mommy, but it was you who asked me for help. That’s different from me volunteering.”

Evan was not displeased—he admired Tyler’s assertiveness.

‘My child is indeed exceptional, just as I expected. He’ll dominate the business world one day,’ he thought.

Evan asked, “How much are you asking for?”

Tyler held up a finger. “This much.”

*100,000 dollars?” Evan guessed, following the typical hacker’s rate.

Tyler grinned. “No, 10,000,000 dollars.”

Evan narrowed his eyes. “Do you even comprehend what 10,000,000 dollars means?”

Tyler sipped his milk nonchalantly. “Of course. Given Mommy’s current net worth, 10,000,000 dollars is a

small amount.”

Evan was surprised. “How do you know her net worth?”

Tyler explained, “I saw online discussions during my journey here. Based on my estimation, MK and TYC’s order volume will likely surpass the sales revenue of past seasons in just two days.”

Evan's eyelid twitched. He wondered where Tyler had learned all this. He chuckled and agreed, "Alright, I'll give you 10,000,000 dollars."

Liora chimed in. "Ty, why ask for money when you already have so much in your account?"

Tyler nearly choked on his milk. He thought, 'Liora has really turned against me these past few days. What's wrong with asking for 10,000,000 dollars from the wealthy scumbag Daddy?'

Seeing Tyler's displeasure, Liora turned to Evan and asked, "When can Tyler and I see Mommy?"

Chapter 626 Talk to Him

+15 BONUS

"Wait for her to come and get you. Finish your drink, then take a shower. Evan handed a glass of milk to

Liora.

"Alright!"

The next day, Caroline woke up and immediately checked her phone online. Upon seeing the positive comments and apologies that had accumulated overnight, she smiled with relief. She was about to put

her phone down when Josie called.

After ensuring Paige was sleeping soundly, Caroline left the room and answered the call in the bathroom.

She asked, "Josie, what's the early morning urgency?"

“Ms. Shenton! The company..um... Josie began, excitement causing her to choke on her words.

Caroline chuckled. “Have the pre–sale orders increased again?”

“Yes! It’s three times higher than the previous pre–order! Ms. Shenton, we’ve pulled through!”

Caroline said, “This is the result of everyone’s unwavering support and hard work.”

Josie eagerly asked, “So, are we still having the annual party?”

Caroline replied, “No. Please create a survey to determine where everyone wants to go for a trip. I’ll cover

all the travel expenses.”

Josie was taken aback. “Really?”

Caroline smiled. “Yes. Complete the survey today and send it to me later.”

“Of course, Ms. Shenton! Thank you, you’re the best!” Josie exclaimed.

Caroline was preparing to wash up after ending the call.

Paige walked in, drowsy, and asked, “Who were you on the phone with, Carol?”

“My secretary. I’m taking you to the hospital for a check–up. Remember to fast.” Caroline placed the

phone on the basin.

“Oh, yeah.”

At 8:00a.m., Caroline and Paige headed to the hospital.

After a series of examinations, Paige handed the test result to the doctor.

The female doctor checked the result and said, “You’re pregnant.”

Pregnant, huh? I was wondering why I get so drowsy and hungry so easily...” Paige muttered.

Wait... I’m pregnant?!” Paige exclaimed.

The doctor glanced at Paige. “Why are you so surprised? Where’s your husband? You’re quite far along in your pregnancy. It’s time to discuss this with him.”

“My husband... He’s on a business trip!” Paige explained.

Caroline looked at Paige and sighed.

After a brief conversation with the doctor, Paige went for an ultrasound and learned she was almost three months pregnant.

Leaving the hospital, Paige muttered to herself, “I’m pregnant... I’m actually pregnant?”

Caroline advised, “Paige, you should tell Alex about this.”

“I know. I just don’t know how to bring it up,” Paige admitted.

They got into the car, and Caroline said, “Let’s meet up first and discuss this later.”

Paige nodded. "Yes, this is a serious matter."

Caroline added, "It's too late for an abortion. It could harm your health."

"I understand. I just feel extremely anxious right now," Paige said, curled up in her seat.

Caroline empathized with Paige, having been through a similar situation before. She urged, "Don't hide it from Alex like I did with Evan because Alex has feelings for you."

Paige agreed, "You're right. I talk to him."

After lunch, Caroline headed to the company while Paige went home. She contemplated for a while and

decided to call Alex.

Paige dialed Alex's number and anxiously waited for him to answer.

Alex picked up the call immediately and asked in astonishment, "Paige? Is that you?"

Chapter 627 Come Over to Wait for Them

Paige licked her lips, trying to calm her anxiety. "It's me. Can we meet up now?"

"Yes, where are you? I'll give you a ride!" Alex replied promptly.

"I'm at home."

"I'll be there in 10 minutes."

+15 BONUS

Ten minutes later, Paige waited downstairs until Alex arrived. They both felt too nervous to speak.

Unable to bear the silence any longer, Alex gripped the steering wheel and asked, "Is there something on

your mind?"

Paige swallowed and gazed out the window. "Let's get some coff-juice."

Alex was surprised. Paige had never shown interest in juice before, so he wondered why she wanted it today.

At the juice bar.

Alex ordered two sugar-free juices and handed one to Paige.

"Thank you," she said as she took it.

Sitting across from her, Alex studied her expression. He noticed the weariness in her eyes and gently asked, "Have you been having trouble sleeping lately?"

Paige took a sip of her juice. "Yes. The chaos at Carol's place has kept me up."

"Ah, so are you meeting me because you're facing difficulties? Alex asked softly.

Paige put down her juice and took a deep breath. Then, she handed him the sonogram. "Look at this."

Alex glanced at Paige in shock before taking the paper and unfolding it. His expression froze as soon as he saw it.

"Is this yours?" Alex asked, astounded.

Alex's reactio

reaction slightly angered Paige. "Can't you see my name on it? Why are you asking if it's mine?"

1/2

Alex quickly explained, "No, I just can't believe that... you're actually pregnant with my child!"

+15 BONUS

Paige snatched the sonogram. "If you don't want to take responsibility, I'll get an abortion tomorrow!"

Alex panicked. "No, no! That's not what I mean. I didn't expect it, and I'm just emotional!"

Paige glared at him. "Compose yourself before speaking!"

Alex nodded repeatedly and took a few deep breaths. Then, he said, "I'm really happy, Paige! If not for the

child, I might never have seen you again. I'm grateful for it, for bringing you back to me. I'm thankful you

didn't decide to abort it selfishly!"

Paige's tone softened. "I didn't expect to be pregnant, either. I'm almost three months along, but I didn't

feel a thing..."

"That's not important! I'm going to take good care of you from now on!" Alex exclaimed excitedly.

Paige glanced at him. "You still haven't dealt with your mother."

"I'll talk to her. I'll cut ties with them if they don't accept us!" Alex said firmly.

Paige replied, "You're exaggerating..."

However, she felt relieved to hear Alex's commitment. She smiled secretly, holding her cup of juice.

At 3:00 p.m., Caroline finished signing the documents at work and planned to pick up the children. She

called Evan as she got into her car.

Evan answered, "Hello."

Caroline asked, "Where are you? I need to pick up the kids."

Evan walked to the villa's open door. "I'm at Villa Rosa. They're out shopping for toys with the maid. It

might take a while."

'Got it. Thanks for doing this. I'll head over to wait for them," Caroline replied.

Just as Caroline was about to end the call, she heard a muffled explosion. The car swayed, and Caroline gasped in shock.

Evan's hand shook as he heard Caroline's exclamation. He anxiously called out, "Caroline?"

Chapter 628 Pointless Trip

Caroline sat up straight, her face ghostly pale as the car came to a gradual stop. "I'm fine," she muttered.

She turned to the bodyguard and asked, "What's happening?"

The bodyguard replied, "I believe we have a flat tire, Ms. Shenton. I'll check it out."

"Alright." Caroline nodded and continued speaking to Evan. "I have a flat tire. Can you please take the children back to Bayview Villa later?"

Evan asked anxiously, "Where are you?"

Caroline replied, "I'm on the coastal highway, not far from the office."

"Got it." Evan said before ending the call.

Caroline stepped out of the car and bent down beside the bodyguard, inspecting the flat tire. She asked,

"Is it indeed a flat tire?"

The bodyguard stood up and confirmed, "Yes, Ms. Shenton. We'll need to get it towed. Please wait in the

car."

Caroline reminded him, "Make sure to set up a warning sign."

"Of course," he replied.

Caroline returned to the car and patiently waited for the tow truck.

While waiting, Caroline received a call from Scott. His warm voice came through, saying, "

Congratulations, Carol."

She smiled and teased, "You're a bit slow on the uptake."

Scott chuckled and explained, "I don't frequent online forums, you know. I only found out because the

hospital called me in."

Caroline was surprised. "You're allowed back?"

"Yes, and that's also why I'm calling. You don't need to compensate me anymore," Scott said.

Caroline blushed and replied, "Scott, your return to work and my compensation are separate matters."

Scott said, "I did get a two-day break thanks to you. I saw Ty's video clip. He really came through for

you

this time.”

+15 BONUS

Caroline sighed. “Yes, but it was Evan who helped by informing Ty. It wouldn’t have been so easy without

him.”

Scott fell silent for a moment. “In that case, he did you a big favor once again. What do you plan to do?”

Caroline looked down, uncertain about whether she would reconcile with Evan. Still, she knew she couldn’t treat him harshly—she owed him too much.

Scott advised, “Take your time to think it over. I’m heading to the hospital.”

Caroline suggested, “Lundi Gras is the day after tomorrow. Join us for dinner.”

Scott chuckled. “No worries. I promised the kids I’d get them masks for the parade.”

Caroline waited in the car for a while, and Evan arrived before the tow car. Surprised, she rolled down her

window and asked, “Why did you come here?”

Evan opened the door and said, “I’m here to pick you up. It’s cold out here. Don’t wait.”

Caroline protested, "There's heating in the car. I'm not cold!"

Evan stopped and turned to her, saying, "If you're not cold, I am. Do you want me to make a pointless trip?"

Caroline was rendered speechless by the flimsy excuse.

After getting into Evan's car, Reuben turned and greeted her, "It's been a while, Ms. Shenton."

Caroline nodded gratefully. "Thank you for your help, Reuben."

Reuben felt a shiver down his spine at the word 'help'. Taking care of Liora had almost driven him mad, especially when she tried to put makeup on him.

He smiled awkwardly and replied, "No problem. It's my pleasure."

Sensing a stern gaze from behind, he quickly focused on driving them to Villa Rosa.

Chapter 629 Still a Member of the Xanders

Evan informed Caroline, "Your grandfather has been hospitalized."

Caroline tightened her lips. "He got what was coming to him."

Evan asked, "Aren't you considering returning to the family?"

Caroline smiled bitterly and retorted, "Why would I want to go back? Have you forgotten how he nearly

killed me?"

Evan smirked, saying, "It's probably for the best not to return. Especially since Neil has resigned, and the Xanders' future is uncertain."

Caroline raised an eyebrow in surprise. "Resigned?"

Evan asked, "Didn't your brother tell you anything?"

Caroline frowned. "What do you mean?"

Evan explained, "Neil secretly transferred many crucial contracts, leaving the Xander Group a mere shell."

Caroline's heart sank. "Grayson would be livid if he knew about Neil's actions. It would be fine if Grayson were to berate him, but he would be sent to prison if Grayson were to sue him!"

Caroline hurriedly reached for her phone to call Neil.

Evan questioned, "Are you trying to call him? Are you concerned that your grandfather will have him jailed?"

Caroline stated firmly, "Yes."

Evan reassured, "Your worry is unnecessary. Your grandfather depends on Neil entirely. Sending him to

prison would leave the Xander Group in ruins.”

Caroline worriedly said, “But my brother has resigned. How can he still rely on him?”

Evan scoffed. “Do you underestimate your grandfather? If he lost his composure over something trivial

like this, he couldn’t have made the Xanders one of Angelbay’s three most powerful families.”

Caroline asked, “So what do you mean by “future is unknown’ then?”

Evan glanced at her and explained, “If your grandfather approaches you, It’s a different story.”

“I don’t understand,” Caroline said.

+15 BONUS

Evan clarified, “Your grandfather has only two options now. First, he can use your brother as leverage to persuade you to join the Xander Group. Second, he can transfer all his shares to you.”

Caroline stated firmly, “Neither option is viable!”

Evan said nonchalantly, “In that case, your grandfather may resort to threatening you.”

Caroline finally grasped Evan’s intention.

“Are you suggesting I stick to my principles to make him repent?” Caroline asked.

Evan nodded. “If I’m not mistaken, that has been Neil’s plan all along.”

Caroline remained silent. "He must assume that I'll transfer all the acquired shares to Neil."

Evan smirked. "Yes, because you have no intention of returning to the Xander family. He should understand that you don't care about them."

Caroline questioned, "But what if he's wrong?"

Evan looked away. "You're still a Xander."

Caroline pressed on, "What if I reject all his proposals?"

Evan's expression darkened. "Then you should consider how the Xanders will fare in Angelbay's future."

Caroline panicked at the thought.

The Xanders had amassed many enemies to reach their current position. Those enemies only feared them because the family had not completely fallen.

However, if the Xanders were to collapse, her uncle, aunt, brother, and she would face relentless opposition.

'Do I have the power to stand against the other families united against us? Can I safeguard my family?'

Caroline laughed bitterly at that thought.

Even without returning to the family, she still had Xander blood in her veins.

For that reason alone, she couldn't avoid getting involved in the Xanders' family matters.

Chapter 630 Blackmailed for 10,000,000 Dollars

The maid promptly returned with the children as Caroline and Evan reached Villa Rosa,

Caroline stepped out of the car. She was taken aback by the sight of Liora in a pale yellow gown draped with a vibrant red scarf.

Liora usually dressed casually, but she looked like a princess today, a striking transformation after just a few days as

The children noticed Caroline's gaze and beamed at her, exclaiming, "Mommy!"

"Mommy, you're here!"

Liora rushed to Caroline and nestled in her arms. "I missed you, Mommy."

Caroline leaned over to pick up Liora, but Evan interjected, "Your clavicle injury isn't fully healed."

Caroline's arms hung in uncertainty as she apologized, "I'm sorry, Lia, I can't carry you yet."

"It's okay, Mommy. Do you like my outfit?" Liora asked, her head held high, eyes sparkling.

"It's beau-"

"Quit being so vain. You check yourself in the mirror every morning," Tyler quipped from behind.

Liora glared at Tyler and retorted, "I'm just vain, but you blackmailed him for 10,000,000 dollars!"

"10,000,000 dollars? What's going on, Ty?" Caroline asked sternly, looking at Tyler,

Tyler's eye twitched. 'Liora...'

"Mommy, I did receive a payment of 10,000,000 dollars, and it came from him."

Tyler raised an eyebrow at Evan, unwilling to be left alone in this awkward situation.

Caroline turned, her tone stern. "You paid Ty 10,000,000 dollars?"

Evan casually explained, "Yes, I found his request reasonable."

Caroline countered, 'Regardless of the reason, you shouldn't give my son so much money.'

Evan shot back, "Perhaps you don't know your son well enough."

Caroline was momentarily stunned, then turned to Tyler. "Do you have a lot of money, Ty?"

Tyler was rendered speechless, realizing that his plan had backfired.

Evan smirked.

+15 BONUS

Caroline continued. "Ty, I won't meddle with your money, but I hope you won't earn it through improper

means."

Tyler hung his head in dejection. "Mommy, I use my skills to search for missing people."

Caroline was astonished. “Is that how you make your money? How much have you made?”

Tyler grinned, avoiding mention of his earnings from hacking advanced firewalls. “Not much, really.”

Tyler showed his phone to Caroline. “Check the account, Mommy.”

Caroline took the phone and tapped on the account, her eyes widening at the numerous zeros.

As she recovered from her surprise, Caroline realized she didn’t know her children as well as she thought.

Caroline was invited to stay for dinner at Villa Rosa. After the meal, the two children went off to play with

their new toys.

Caroline thanked Evan sincerely. “I want to apologize for my behavior during the MK incident a few days

ago. On the other hand, I’m deeply grateful to you for informing Ty at the 100th–anniversary celebration. I

can’t thank you enough.”

Since the incident, Evan had noticed a change in Caroline’s attitude toward him.

Setting aside his utensils, Evan replied, “I’m not concerned about MK’s minor losses, and this incident has

significantly boosted the clothing department’s seasonal sales revenue. You can retract your apology.”

Caroline insisted, "These are two different matters."