

Unfinished 611

Chapter 611

"As a member of the Nolan Family, Eugene's father as well as a senior employee of the company, I think there's no one more suitable than myself. I've already spoken to the chairman, and he isn't against this idea. Now, we would just like to listen to what the shareholders have to say."

As the shareholders were already bribed by Edward, they would speak up for him as expected. One of them took the lead and said, "Master Nolan, your leadership is clear for all to see. I have no opinions about it."

After he said that, someone else immediately chirped along, "I don't have any opinions, too."

"As President Nolan's father, no one else is more suited for the post than you, Master Nolan!"

All of a sudden, almost half of the shareholders in the conference room had voiced their opinion, except for Amos, who was seated across from him.

Amos snorted before he said, "You do seem a little anxious to take over your son's position as the president of the company while he's still hospitalized, don't you?"

Edward's face fell. Previously, Amos was the only one who didn't want to join their side, but it wasn't because he was siding with Eugene; it was because he wanted this position as well.

"I'm not trying to take up the president position, and anyone who is capable can take up the post. It's all for the sake of the company's development. Furthermore, we can't be leaving such a huge corporation without a leader, can we? I just think that I'm more suitable, but if you think there's someone else more capable, you can recommend them, Amos!"

"How are you suitable for this position?" Amos sneered. "It's true that you're Eugene's father, but are you that close with him? Everyone knows what happened back then. I'm also a shareholder of the company and a member of the Nolan Family. When it comes to ability, I'm just as capable as you, if not better."

Knitting his brows tightly together, Edward said, "Isn't this the reason we're having a meeting this time? So many shareholders are here, and even our father is here. You don't have to think that you're better than me, and neither do I have to justify why I'm more suitable. Everyone present can see it for themselves, so let Dad and the shareholders decide on this matter!"

"Do you think I don't know you?" Amos snapped. "All these years, you've been active, and almost all the shareholders here have been bought over by you."

Slamming the table, Edward sprang up from his seat. "Amos, that's too much. When have I been active?"

"That's enough, you don't have to put up an act. Even if you're not active, what about your wife? She personally went to my house, but was chased away by me because I don't want to be in cahoots with you!"

"Amos Nolan!" A furious Edward shouted, "Aren't you active as well? The people seated here are either on your side or mine. We're just the pots calling the kettle black, but do you have to spell it out?"

Amos snorted. "Don't throw accusations at me. I didn't do anything like that. Did I visit your house?"

After she patted Edward with assurance, Lara then stood up slowly. With a smile, she said, "What's to hide about this? Is it worth it that you're so angry over it? It's true that we visited the shareholders, but only because we would like to hear their opinions so that we can have their support and conform to the people's views. We didn't force our ideas on anyone at all, just like when I visited your place. It's great if

you'd support us, but did we say anything when you didn't? However, I can't leave you out of this because what if you pick on my fairness? I just didn't think that you would put it so harshly about why we visited the shareholders. Should we live with our doors closed then? Going by your way, can the company continue to grow?"

Chuckling sarcastically, Amos responded, "I must hand it to you, Lara. No wonder you're able to keep a tight watch over Edward all these years. That's because of that glib tongue of yours! So, it's just a regular visit even if you promise them some things and give them some assurance?"

Lara giggled. "Even during the election period, the candidates are given the chance to speak. In order to receive support, of course you have to do what you promised to. Not only did I make promises, I'll even go through with them. In contrast, do you only speak and not mean it?"

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A snigger escaped Amos' mouth. "I didn't visit any of the shareholders like you did. The people who support me are doing so willingly. I guess there's a scale in those shareholders' hearts, and they know who will do best for the company's development as the president, unlike you, who tries to get things done by saying a few words!"

"Don't you have any shame at all?" Edward hollered in anger. "So, you didn't visit them and they're willingly supporting you? Aren't you boasting a little too much? Who was the one who walked out of Richard's house last night? Say Richard, wasn't Amos at your place last night?"

"I was just dropping by to say hi. What's the problem if I went to his place for a drink? Do I need your permission?" Amos snapped.

"Do you even believe the things you said yourself?" Edward retorted. "According to your saying, then what I did was also dropping by to say hi."

Wearing a helpless expression, Richard tried to intervene. "Stop arguing. As long as it's for the good of the company, it doesn't make a difference who the president is!"

"I just didn't think that he could say something so heartless," Edward grumbled. "The shareholders who are supporting you must be blind!"

Then, Amos slammed the table and sprang up as well. "How can you say that? The ones supporting you are blind too! For your whole life, you've been a wimp, and besides this woman in your heart, who else is there? Don't forget that your son is still in the hospital!"

As Merlin watched his sons argue, he was glad that he was living in modern times and not in ancient times. Otherwise, he might end up witnessing a scene of his sons fighting over a throne.

Just for the sake of a mere company president position, they were willing to throw their brotherhood out the window along with the relationship that they had as father and son.

What a sad situation it is, he thought, his eyes staring into the distance with a touch of melancholy. If their mother is still alive, will she be heartbroken to see this?

Suddenly, Amos turned to Merlin. "Dad, are you going to support a person like Edward?"

"Do you think he'll support you instead of me? You still have no idea about this at your age now?" Edward argued.

The shareholders in the room shifted their gaze from one man to the other as though they were watching an interesting debate.

Sure enough, there were a lot of arguments within an influential family! The Nolan Family was really complicated with its load of dark secrets. Eugene was still alive, but they were already arguing with each other so badly.

If he had really passed away, there would be more people involved and fury would probably send Merlin to an earlier death!

In fact, that wasn't so far from the truth now. Livid from the anger, Merlin slammed the table and roared, "Stop arguing!"

In an instant, Edward and Amos shut their mouths and the conference room fell silent.

Merlin took deep, heavy breaths as his chest rose and fell with the rhythm. Even though Eugene had warned him about this and he knew that the situation was within his control, he was still so mad that he had no words to say for a long while!

Curtis hurriedly stroked his back and assured him in a soft voice, "Take care of your health, Master Merlin. The doctor has advised you not to get too worked up."

Hearing that, Merlin gradually calmed himself down. That's right! Both of them are ingrates, and I shouldn't waste my time getting angry at them.

Lifting his eyes, he scanned the faces bearing different expressions before he finally fixed his gaze on Edward. "Is it really worth it for the position of the company's president? Is this a throne where you can disregard your brotherhood, ignore your sick child and nephew, and embarrass yourselves in front of so many shareholders? Is it really worth it?"

Sitting down sheepishly, Edward answered, "Dad, I'm just being kind, but I didn't know that Amos has so many opinions about me."

Richard threw him an indifferent look. "Shut up. You sound so rhetoric, saying that it's for the sake of the company and that you're being kind. If you're really thinking for the company, you should just do the job as it's supposed to be done. Why do you need to fight for the position of the president?"

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As he spoke, he turned to Amos. "And you, too! As his elder brother, you even have the cheek to call him out when you're just the same as him! The president of the company is merely hospitalized and the doctor didn't announce anything yet, but the both of you are already fishing in troubled waters. Who has my support, you ask? None of you! The likes of you are not fit to take this position! The people seated here are either Eugene's uncles or cousins, all of whom are the closest to him. How could you bring yourselves to scheme and fight for his position as the president when his life and death is still uncertain?"

Although Merlin was in his twilight years, every word he said had an influential impact!

Everyone was either glancing at each other or lowering their heads in deep contemplation as none of them dared to disrespect Merlin. After all, he held twenty-five percent of the shares in Nolan Group, and this was enough to control the entire group!

Taking the initiative to stand up, Lara then placed a glass of water in front of Merlin and said gently, "Don't be mad, Dad. Both you and Edward have seen Eugene, and we all know clearly about his situation in our hearts. I know you're unwilling to accept this reality, but the shareholders seated here are all

thinking for the sake of the company's development. While we are able to do our jobs, the direction of the company's future development in addition to the stock market which is falling frequently needs someone from the family to stabilize the situation in the Nolan Group. After all, this concerns everyone's pockets, and yet, Eugene is lying in the hospital. Just as you said, we're his closest kin, so of course we're upset as well, but we have to continue living our lives, don't we?"

After she finished speaking, she received a lot of agreement as the shareholders nodded.

Looking at her, Merlin no longer had a nonchalant look as before. Today, his eyes seemed inexplicably fierce, and his voice was also cold. "If it was not for you, Edward wouldn't have turned out like this today!"

An astonished Lara gawked at Merlin with an aggrieved expression.

Meanwhile, Edward furrowed his brows tightly and pulled her into his arms instinctively. "Dad, what are you saying? What about me?"

"Shut your mouth!" Merlin scowled.

"Dad, I know you have opinions against me because Edward married me back then, and you keep thinking that I destroyed him. However, what you think is right may not be the right thing and what you think is good may not necessarily be good either. All these years, Edward and I have been loving to each other and I've served you attentively. I think I've done everything a daughter-in-law should do, but you shouldn't keep picking on me!"

Despite her humble choice of words, her tone was rather aggressive!

While maintaining his gaze at her with eyes as sharp as blades, he spat, "That's because Edward has no idea of your true colors!"

Knitting her brows tightly, Lara somehow had a hunch that some things were slipping out of her control and she stared at Merlin's composed face with confusion. Then, she watched as he whispered something to Curtis next to him, after which Curtis stood up to open the door of the conference room.

Everyone else was equally baffled, thinking that the things Merlin had just said was very profound, and they all turned to look in the direction of the door.

The door of the conference room was pulled open by Curtis, and the person appearing at the door was the same person whose life and death they were discussing earlier—Eugene!

Dressed in a dark-colored suit which was ironed so smoothly that it clung tightly to his sturdy figure, he showed no emotion on his stunning face as his entire being was encapsulated in a layer of cold air. When his icy eyes slowly scanned across the room, the noisy conference room suddenly became so silent that a pin drop could be heard.

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He was holding a beautiful woman with his left hand while his right hand was clutching an adorable child.

They walked into the conference room under everyone's shocked gazes. Besides the ground-stepping sound coming from this family of three, there were no other noises heard in the room.

At that moment, everyone had different thoughts. Some became onlookers and were ready to witness the family drama unfold while others silently lamented for the two people who just fought for the president's position. In fact, there were some who were already worried about their precarious position.

Glancing at Eugene, Merlin asked aloud, "Are you alright?"

Eugene replied, "I'm fine!"

With a puzzling look on his face, Edward stared at Eugene, who was slowly approaching him. The doubts in his heart were more than his regrets for not gaining the position of president. Edward was fine with it since he did not have much interest in the position in the first place. He fought for it mainly because he did not want to disappoint Lara. Nonetheless, Eugene still naturally would be the company's president now that he had returned.

In comparison to the fight for the position, Edward was more puzzled when he saw that Eugene was really fine.

Judging from his state that day, I really thought he was going to die soon. Now, he stands here looking fine. Although Edward was not very delighted, he was still considerably relieved anyway. With that, his mood was still inexplicably more relaxed.

However, Lara squinted her eyes in a fierce manner as she looked at Eugene's high-spirited appearance. He doesn't look like someone who's about to die soon. Could it be that he arranged everything on purpose?

At once, Curtis immediately ordered someone to move three chairs over. Then, he placed them beside Merlin sequentially.

Eugene first pulled out the chair and allowed Olivia to sit down before North followed. Finally, he took his own seat. After that, he scanned the people in the room without saying a word. Even the shareholders were too afraid to meet his eyes. They avoided his gaze when Eugene looked over.

After a long time, Eugene gradually started speaking, "Turn off your phone during my meeting. Keep quiet, and don't let me hear things that are non-related to the meeting. Is everyone clear?"

In a swift, everyone obeyed and switched off their phones. Then, they sat properly and quietly in their seats, fearing that their names would be called out.

Looking at everyone, Eugene held a pen in his hand, spinning it leisurely.

Secretly observing Eugene, North followed him and spun the pen in his hand. However, the pen fell off without spinning a full circle.

In the quiet conference room, only the sound of North's pen falling on the table was heard. Olivia angrily glared at the mischievous little fellow.

In the meantime, Eugene also glanced at North with a soft expression. Holding the pen in front of him, Eugene demonstrated his pen-spinning action in slow motion.

And thus, North followed Eugene's example and did it again. However, he still failed.

Seeing that, Merlin laughed heartily. Then, he said, "North, come and sit down at my side. I'll teach you."

Upon hearing that, North responded by saying, "Okay!" Hence, he took the pen, took his computer, and slipped his butt off the chair.

Since Curtis was very sensible, he helped North move his chair to Merlin's side.

At the same time, Eugene also stood up to make room for him. As such, his seat position was no longer in the middle.

This whole tender act completely shocked everyone, making their jaws drop. Is this our stern-faced president? How can he actually be so considerate and pampering? Wasn't he just ordering us to keep quiet a while ago?

In an instant, everyone's gazes landed on Olivia and North again. How much love does he have for them to the point that he can pamper other people's children like his own? No! We're afraid that we can't even pamper our own children to this extent. Not only does he bring them along with him to the meeting, but he even humbled himself in front of them!

Disregarding the emotional turmoil in everyone's heart, Eugene said again, "All the shareholders are here, am I right? What sort of a mega-scaled project to discuss that it was necessary to alert my aging Grandpa to this state?"

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Eugene's voice was flat, and his facial expression looked like he was engaging in a small talk. However, no one thought he was actually chit-chatting with them.

Wasn't he just calculating what we have done? Everyone lowered their heads, wishing they could hide like quails. As of this moment, they all secretly regretted their decisions. Why did we believe Edward and Amos' words? They said Eugene is dying soon. If so, who's that sitting here?

"Why aren't you all saying something? Didn't you all rave just now?" Eugene spoke again.

Even after his voice fell, no one made a sound. The entire conference room was silent.

We know what we're doing. We're trying to turn Eugene into a mere figurehead, but who dares to say this out? One is Eugene's father while the other is his uncle. They're closely-knit kinsmen. Regardless, they're still a family until the end of life. What's the point of us shareholders getting involved in this matter?

Seeing that no one still dared to utter a word, Eugene shifted his gaze to Amos. "Amos, speak!"

Amos' heart jolted instantly as he looked at Eugene in astonishment. Why does he demand me to speak? It wasn't me who egged on this matter!

However, he did not dare to have any complaints when his eyes met Eugene's sharp gazes. This nephew of mine is not mediocre. One can imagine how terrifying he is, considering he can stay alive until today and survive from Edward and Lara's torments since his teens.

Amos stuttered, "T-This... I-It's your Dad. H-He thought you were critically ill, so he wanted to elect a new president. We even visited you last time, but we couldn't see you in person. Didn't I ask Master

Merlin about your condition earlier? I told them we should wait for your return. The company will only be able to thrive well in your hands."

After Amos' voice fell, Edward glanced at him with contempt. "Amos, are you not ashamed at all to say this?"

Hearing that, Amos refuted, "What's the matter? It's a fact! Do you dare to say that you don't want to be the head of the Nolan Family? Do you dare to say that you don't wish to claim the position of president? Everyone sitting here heard every word you spat!"

Edward retorted against Amos, "And do you dare to say that you didn't? Do you dare to say you have no thoughts of claiming the position? I wonder who was the one who said that he was better than me a while ago?"

Even though they saw the two engaged in an argument, no one dared to get involved this time. What was more, no one even dared to speak in a whisper.

In the meantime, Eugene leaned back lazily against the back of the chair and listened to their words.

"Who said I was critically ill?" As soon as Eugene spoke, both Edward and Amos immediately fell silent. Then, they looked at Lara. Wasn't Lara the one who said Eugene couldn't make it at the beginning? She also said that Eugene was not suffering from allergy at all. She said he was poisoned. The doctor said Eugene would be saved if he woke up within 72 hours. If he couldn't wake up within that time period, he would die. We even saw the medical note!

At this moment, Lara increasingly felt that she had been deceived. I took Eugene's bait! I don't believe that my assistant would dare to lie to me. In all likelihood, everything she inquired about was arranged by Eugene in advance.

At the thought of that, an inexplicable panic surged in her heart. How much does Eugene know?

Looking at Olivia, Eugene asked, "Olivia, didn't you tell my family that I was fine?"

Olivia responded, "I did. I also don't know from whom they heard that you're critically ill."

As if he was not aware of anything, he looked at Richard. "Uncle Richard, who was the one telling you guys that I was critically ill?"

Glancing at Lara and Edward, Richard explained, "At first, Lara called us saying that you were critically ill. Then, we also saw reports about you on the Internet at that time. Hence, we went to the hospital to visit you together, but Doctor Maxwell didn't let us in because she was afraid we would disturb you. And thus, we let your dad in to check on you. When he came out, he also said that you were not in a good state. He said that you were very haggard. Later, Lara asked her assistant to disguise as a patient and inquired with the doctor about your condition. The doctor said you were actually poisoned and not allergic at all. Furthermore, with the uproar on the Internet, we all thought you were critically ill."

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Hearing that, Eugene sneered. Then, he suddenly turned his head and looked at Lara. "How did you know that I was poisoned?"

At once, Lara felt her heart sink. Immediately afterward, she explained herself by saying, "I was also deeply concerned about you. We couldn't see you, and your dad was thinking about you. So, I asked my assistant to inquire about your condition. I have no idea who she inquired from and let us think you were critically ill, but it's better now that you're fine. It saves us the time and effort in worrying that the company has no leader and figuring out who to elect as the new president."

Listening to Lara's watertight statement, Eugene scoffed. "Deeply concerned about me? When I was critically ill, you guys convened all the shareholders together to fight for my current position. You guys even bothered my aging Grandpa to make a trip to the company and fight with his own brothers to the point that his face turned purple with rage. And you dare to call this concern?!!!"

At this moment, Edward frowned slightly as he was a little dissatisfied with Eugene's attitude toward Lara. "You were lying in the hospital for a few days and didn't come to the company. Do you know how messed up the situation in the company was? Do you know how panicked the company's employees were? Lara and I were simply discussing how to help you stabilize the situation. So, how is that not regarded as our concern about you?"

There was no ounce of expression on Eugene's face while his pair of sharp eyes stared at Edward. Eugene then retorted with a cold and deep voice, "So, the solution that you guys discussed was to take over my position while I was critically ill? Not to mention, Doctor Maxwell had already made it clear to you all that I was fine. Even if I was really critically ill, shouldn't you guys keep a tight lid on my illness and look for Grandpa to figure out a way to make the company operate normally? Yet, you guys still allowed the news to continue circulating around and let the company fall into such a mess. Panicked?"

Instead of finding a way to solve the problem, you guys looked for someone to inquire whether I was really critically ill. Just like this, you guys still have the nerve to speak or fight."

After he spoke, he paused for a while. His eyes blinked lazily. "From what I see, you simply wish for the company to be as chaotic as possible. That way, you can take advantage and gain profit from this chaos. For someone as selfish as you, do you think how long can you stay in position even if I give it to you?"

Eugene's words sounded fairly rude. Although there were only positions and no father-and-son relationship in the company, everyone clearly knew that they were a father and son.

Aren't his words the equivalent of slapping Edward in the face?

At that moment, the atmosphere in the conference room seemed to have dropped to a freezing point. Everyone was having butterflies in their stomach. He's not being lenient even to his own father. At this point, we can't even tell who will be the next to face Eugene's wrath.

Edward still instinctively choked when his eyes met Eugene's icy gaze. He quibbled, "What profit can I gain? And why do I wish the company to be as chaotic as possible?"

After that, Lara also added, "Eugene, you carry your words too far! Edward did this to stabilize the situation. You can say that his approach isn't rigorous enough, but you can't say that he's acquiring profit in times of trouble. You can't say he wishes the company to be as chaotic as possible. He is your biological father! He even told us that he would return the position of president to you once you have recovered. Do you know how much it hurts his feelings to think that you doubt him so much?"

In a swift, Eugene shifted his gaze to Lara. "Well, he probably didn't think that far, but he has you, hasn't he?"

At once, Edward was anxious again. He pointed at Eugene and scolded out loud, "Eugene! Speak properly and stop this insulting behavior! These are all my ideas! They have nothing to do with Lara! Stop implicating her in this!"

Eugene's aura changed drastically when he heard that. He was most annoyed whenever Edward defended Lara. At that moment, his entire body was no longer indifferently idle like how it was from a

while ago. Resembling a shadow that suddenly shrouded him, there were tints of inexplicable hatred in his gaze as he looked at Edward.

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"Why do you keep standing up for such a woman? For her sake, you didn't even hesitate to set Mom up to have an affair and forced her to leave the Nolan Family! You even found someone to kill her, but you were still unwilling to give up. You ask someone to pick on Brian, wishing that you never had this son. If it wasn't for Grandpa's protection, I probably wouldn't have made it until today. I really don't understand. Is your heart made of stone? Who else do you have in your heart besides this woman?"

The moment Eugene said those words, the conference room fell into an odd silence where no one spoke for a long time. Everyone looked at each other and exchanged hinting gazes with their eyes. What's the situation? Eugene has actually spilled out all the scandals from that year?

Meanwhile, Edward was simply angered to the point that he did not know how to refute. He slammed his hand on the table. "Eugene! Don't you dare say whatever you want just because you're the president! You say I did all those villainy acts, right? Then, tell me: when did I kill your mom and was still unwilling to give up? You say I wish I never had a son like Brian, but when did I pick on him? And you, if I really want to act against you, do you think you can still make it alive to this day, considering that you were a teenager back then? Do you think I can still let you point fingers at me?"

Hearing that, Eugene retorted, "If it's not you, ask your wife then!"

Edward frowned fiercely and he glanced at Lara in a daze. Then, he immediately said, "I know you have issues with Lara, but don't blame her for everything. Even if she doesn't like you, she won't argue with you out of her respect for me. Stop making slanderous charges against her!"

However, Eugene snorted, "How much is your dignity worth?"

Feeling the panic in her rising, Lara pulled Edward and advised sensibly, "Hubby, forget it! Don't get into an argument with Eugene for my sake. Since Eugene is fine now, the company can also get back

on the right track. Let's just leave!"

Edward still wanted to say something, but only gave Eugene a stern look when he received Lara's hinting gaze. Then, they rose to their feet and planned to leave.

Eugene sneered when he saw them leaving. Then, he threw the pen in his hand on the table with a snap.

How loud would the sound of a pen dropping on a table be? Yet, it managed to cause everyone's hearts to tighten. North also stopped spinning the pen in his hand as he had already mastered the pen spinning skill a little bit under Merlin's patient guidance.

Seeing Eugene throwing the pen, North instinctively glanced at his face. Daddy's expression is considerably quite relaxed.

Then, North secretly winked at Olivia again, to which she smiled.

Everyone had a tacit understanding. This is a whole set of traps for Lara? How can he let them leave just like this?

Even so, the shareholders in the conference were clueless about it since they still thought that Edward and Lara had really left.

One after another, everyone stared at the two. However, they saw that the people standing outside were all bodyguards when Edward and Lara opened the door of the conference room. It was like a layer of dense mass.

At the same time, everyone's facial expression was like they had already expected this situation. Told you so! How can Eugene possibly let them leave so easily?

An enraged Edward yelled, "Eugene! What's the meaning of this? I didn't even mess with you, but you're so enthusiastic about it!"

Sitting on the swivel chair, Eugene turned around. The curvature of his lips when he looked at Edward and Lara was a total mockery. "Remember what I said to you in the office?"

Edward frowned upon hearing that. He was unable to recall which sentence Eugene was referring to for a while.

However, Eugene did not really let him think hard about it. Looking at Edward, he curled the corner of his lips into a faint smile. "I said I hope you won't have a day that you come to regret. Otherwise, I will let you be so overwhelmed with grief that you hardly wished to live. Initially, since it's almost New Year, I was thinking of letting you have a joyful New Year, but your wife was discounted with her lot. So, I have no choice but to act beforehand!"

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Edward turned to Lara in puzzlement with a completely lost look on his face. Even though he could hear everything that he was saying, he was unable to understand a single word of it.

Shaking her head out of instinct, she forced herself to calm down, but her face, which was losing its color with every passing second, had already betrayed her emotions.

She shakily felt that maybe Eugene knew much more than she thought!

"Aren't you coming back to take a seat and listen?" Eugene asked.

Now that he was baffled by Eugene's actions, Edward returned to their seats while holding Lara's hand. Since they couldn't leave anyway, standing there would just make things more awkward for them.

Also, he would like to know just exactly what Eugene was up to.

Seeing that Edward had taken his seat, Eugene then shifted his gaze to the higher management of the company and began, "Actually, it's true that I was hospitalized this time because of poisoning. Someone placed an hourglass on my desk, claiming that it can help with calming the nerves, but the scent emitting from it contains cyanide. However, because of the scent, we couldn't tell anything unusual about it. As everyone knows at the time, North was with me every day at the office. Not only that, a candy found in his pocket one day also contained that component, but with a much higher dose. Luckily, he didn't take the candy, but he was still poisoned and suddenly passed out a few days ago. After a checkup by Dr.

Maxwell, we found out that he's poisoned, and I have symptoms of poisoning as well after a test. That's why we were hurriedly hospitalized. In spite of that, North's condition is worse than mine, and the doctor said that he might have lost his life if we were just a little later with the treatment."

As he spoke, he turned to Lara with a murderous look in his eyes. "I would like to ask, just how much do you hate me that not only would you want to kill me, you would even involve an innocent child?"

A dumbstruck Edward glanced at Lara out of reflex before he pointed at Eugene and angrily shouted, "What nonsense are you spouting, Eugene? Why do you say this is Lara's doing? Why would she harm you?"

Casting a glance at Edward, Eugene answered, "You're always speaking up and clarifying for her. Sometimes I really wonder whether you're really that dumb or it's just a pretense. Otherwise, how can you not know whether the person sharing a bed with you is a mortal or a devil?"

A stunned Edward gawked at him with doubt in his eyes as he wondered, What does he mean by that?

At this point, Lara feigned anger as well. "What other accusations are you going to throw at me, Eugene? When did I ever place an hourglass on your desk? Everyone knows that I haven't been to the company for a very long time!"

Eugene sneered. "Do you think I'll stop you two from leaving without any proof? It's true that you didn't do that, but you ordered Anna Maxwell to place it."

When she heard that, Lara's expression changed. Oh no, he really knows everything, she realized. But how?

After Anna's plastic surgery, even she couldn't recognize Anna, so how did he recognize the woman? If he knows that Samantha is, in fact, Anna, does he also know that I'm a shareholder of Kanesh Corporation? Then, did he already find out about me and Gerald?

At the thought of this, a chill ran down her spine all the way to her toes and she could distinctively feel her hairs on her back standing on its end.

However, she couldn't just be a sitting duck, so she turned to him and asked angrily, "I don't know anyone named Anna Maxwell, so what did I order her to place?"

Eugene gave a cold smile before he uttered, "You haven't even learned, do you?"

Meanwhile, Edward looked from one person to the other with the feeling that he had been left out of the conversation. Why couldn't he understand a single thing they were speaking about? Who was Anna Maxwell?

"Bring her in!" Eugene ordered.

After he said that, the conference door opened to reveal Anna being brought in by a bodyguard. On the surface, she appeared to be alright.

Chapter 619

Even though the people in the conference room were shareholders, more than half of them were working in the company as well and were familiar with Anna Maxwell. However, they were confused when they saw her because this wasn't Anna, but Samantha Yapp, whom Eugene had kept by his side with her stunning resume and managed to ace an important cooperation case right after she started working.

How did she become Anna Maxwell now?

Despite the questions in their heads, they didn't dare to ask anything, especially at a time like this!

After entering the room, Anna first took a glance at Olivia and North seated at the main seats of the conference desk. While both of them looked very relaxed, Anna was inexplicably nervous because even she thought that little brat resembled slightly like Eugene.

Was Eugene telling the truth? she wondered. So, Olivia didn't sleep with a homeless man but Eugene instead?

For two whole days, she couldn't figure this out. If Olivia slept with Eugene, then who did the homeless guy sleep with that night?

Seeing that Anna was silent after coming into the room, Eugene barked a single word, "Speak!"

The startled Anna swallowed and stole a glance at Lara before saying in a resigned manner, "I'm Anna Maxwell, and Lara knows about my feud with Olivia and Eugene from before, so she used me against them because I would definitely do my best. Even though President Nolan has always been cautious and surrounds himself with his own people, he admires talents. Thus, Lara had me undergo plastic surgery to look like Samantha Yapp and fabricated a resume which would obtain President Nolan's

appraisal. With that, I successfully joined the Nolan Group and stayed by his side. Because of the cooperation case, I could temporarily go in and out of his office, and I used this opportunity to place the hourglass on his desk. The candy in North's pocket was placed afterward."

When the last word left her lips, Olivia couldn't help but raise her eyes to look at her. Although she knew that she couldn't get even with Anna in a situation like this, she was simply exasperated. After Anna had harmed her man and hurt her child, she could still speak about it so breezily. Was there no end to her deeds?

Inexplicably, Olivia's eyes turned icy cold as she tried to suppress the fury within her.

On the other hand, Lara's eyes were fixed on Anna. When she saw Anna coming in, she was hopeful, thinking that even if Anna didn't plan to repay her kindness, she wouldn't rat out on her, at least for the sake of revenge. What did Olivia and Eugene do to her? How can she be so forgetful?

However, the light in Lara's eyes died instantly after Anna finished speaking. Indeed, one cannot rely on others to get everything done.

Wearing a vicious expression, she pointed at Anna and berated, "You're setting me up! Say it, who instigated you to tell those things?"

Anna was helpless as well. For the past few days, the torture she went through made her clearly understand how terrifying Eugene could be and it wasn't something that could be simply summed up

with words such as emotionless, heartless, and cruel. Those who hadn't experienced it had no right to denounce and criticize!

"Don't try to deny it anymore, Miss Lara. Eugene knows everything, and he found the director of the psychiatric department in Trinity Hospital. He also knows that you're the one who bailed me out, so even if I speak more or less, it doesn't make much difference at all to the situation!"

At that, Lara was paralyzed on the spot in stunned silence, but she argued instinctively, "I have no idea what you're speaking about at all. What about the psychiatric department of Trinity Hospital?" After that, she spun her head to Eugene. "Your so-called evidence is searching for a mad woman to throw accusations at me?"

"Can a mad woman be a secretary in the Nolan Group?" Eugene asked instead.

"Didn't you hear her say that she came out from the psychiatric department? How would I know how she ended up as your secretary? In order to set me up, you have really resorted to all methods!"

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A smirk appeared on Eugene's face. "I would like to ask you about that as well. Why did you bail her out of the psychiatric department?"

Lara asked in adamant denial, "Who said that I was the one who bailed her out? I don't know her at all!"

The expression on his face turned solemn. "Fine, so this is not enough, huh? I'll have you thoroughly convinced today!" Then, he glanced at Curtis again. "Bring Brian in as well!"

Curtis responded and directly went out of the conference room to look for a sleepy and incredibly relaxed Brian on the couch outside.

Pacing to Brian, Curtis called him softly, "Young Master Brian, President Nolan wants you to go in now."

Hearing that, Brian woke up instantly and ordered his men to bring Tres into the conference room.

After hearing that, everyone turned their heads over; they had only seen this second young master when he was still young, and they had lost count of the years that they hadn't seen Brian, but he had grown up to be such a dashing young man now.

The most agitated person was Merlin and his hollowed eyes were fixed on Brian. Reaching out his hand, he uttered, "Brian..."

At first, Brian felt awkward toward the Nolan Family, but after Eugene told him the truth about what happened back then, he was a little grateful toward Merlin instead.

Thus, with all eyes on Brian, he paced over to Merlin, crouched down and greeted with a chuckle, "Grandpa."

A delightful Merlin answered, "It's great that you're back. Come here, let me take a look. You're getting more handsome now, rascal!"

With a bright smile, Brian replied, "And you're looking younger, Grandpa!"

The smile on Merlin's face couldn't be any wider. "Let's get you a seat."

While Curtis went to get a chair, Brian said, "That's alright, Grandpa. I'm just here to drop someone."

After that, he faced everyone in the room and explained, "Maybe everyone is unfamiliar with Tres. A member of The Quintets and the third oldest, he goes by the name Tres. All these years, they've been my enemy, and would always stick their noses into my businesses and my men. If they could win me in a fight, they would do it, but they will resort to stealing if they can't. What I would like to say, though, is not only are they targeting me, they're also targeting Dr. Maxwell. The last time, they sent fifteen men to rob her, but luckily, she managed to escape with the help of the bodyguards who were watching her in secret and a friend. Before that, he hired someone to run over Olivia and the car overturned a few times. It was also with a stroke of luck that she didn't die in the crash."

He elaborated, "However, Dr. Maxwell had just returned to the country and shouldn't have any feud with anyone. I thought that she was dragged into the situation by The Quintets because they have a problem with me and Eugene. Later, after interrogation, I found out that The Quintets have been working for Lara Roberts secretly the whole time, and everything they did to Dr. Maxwell was following her instructions."

"That's nonsense!" Lara cried out in anger. "You're no longer a member of the Nolan Family, so stay out of our affairs!"

Brian cast a glance at her and smirked indifferently. "Seeing that your life is almost over, I'll let you off for a little longer."

His words almost made her suffer a stroke from the anger and she tugged at Edward's arm. "Aren't you going to say something? He was the one who chose Ellen McCarthy without hesitation at that time, and now, he's running back to the Nolan Family to throw his weight around. Who does he think he is?"

Hearing that, Edward turned to Brian and roared, "Shut up! Back then, I already told you that you're not allowed to come back after stepping out of the doors. You have no right to stick your nose into our family affairs!"

Shifting his eyes toward Edward, Brian probed breezily, "Who... are you?"

Edward was mad with fury as he pointed at him and yelled, "Don't you know who I am?"

"Oh, you're that jerk!" Brian answered.

"I'm your father. Is this how you're speaking with me?"