Chapter 351: Sudden Realization

Finn Taylor waved Josie Meyer off, not wanting to talk to her. 'Since she hates everything that I do and thinks that I bear no good intentions, there's no point in me staying any longer.'

Just as he was about to shut the door, Michelle Yeller rushed forward. "Hold on, Mr. Taylor."

The man turned back, and the young lady walked into his apartment. "I'm so sorry, Mr. Taylor. Josie..."

Finn Taylor waved her off. "It's alright. I know you want to say that she doesn't have any ill intentions, but I guess we just don't click."

Michelle Yeller shook her head. "No, I want to apologize on her behalf. Her words were a little harsh, but I hope you don't take them to heart."

Finn Taylor picked up a bottled beverage and handed it to the other. "That's not your fault. You don't have to apologize for her."

The young girl shrugged and placed the beverage down before tidying up the place a little.

"Michelle, did you move here for your studies or to get a job?" Finn Taylor thought well of the young girl and wanted to recommend her a job at the Larson Corporation. That way, he would be able to get news about the company through her. However, he wasn't sure if she would be willing to work in the company. After all, everyone knew that the Larson Corporation was on the verge of bankruptcy.

"Mr. Taylor, I'm here to get a job. I'm thinking of giving it a shot at the Larson Corporation."

What surprised Finn Taylor was that Michelle Yeller had brought up the matter before he could even ask her about it.

"The Larson Corporation? It's about to go under, so why would you want to work there?" Finn Taylor was curious about that.

"Actually, Josie was the one who suggested it. People like us who have no connections will be relegated to doing menial chores in other companies, and we'll never be able to rise up through the ranks. But if we join the Larson Corporation while they're on the brink of collapsing, we'll definitely become part of the higher management if the company pulls through."

These words made the man change his opinion toward Josie Meyer. He had never thought that the latter would have such insights. "What do you think? Do you want to work in the Larson Corporation too? What will you do if the company really goes under?"

The young lady shrugged. "We're nobodies anyway. What we're looking for are just jobs that will put food on the table. I don't mind taking this bet."

'Alright, you've convinced me.'

"All the best. You guys will definitely get the jobs."

Michelle Yeller glanced at the clock. "It's about time for us to leave and get ready for the interview. I won't disturb you anymore then, Mr. Taylor."

She waved goodbye to the man before leaving.

Once she left, Finn Taylor made a call to David Sullivan to inform him that two young ladies would be turning up for an interview. Michelle Yeller was to be assigned to Yvette Larson as her secretary, and Josie Meyer was to be assigned to the public relations department as a secretary.

Although Finn Taylor had already left the company, it was still within his control.

...

At the same time, Yvette Larson headed out to her best friend's house before driving to the Starbucks they had agreed to meet at.

By the time the two best friends arrived, Willow Stone was already there.

Clarine Landon wanted to rush up to confront her, but Yvette Larson held her back. The latter shook her head, and it was only then that the former tried to suppress her emotions.

The pair strolled over and took their seats.

"Two cups of cappuccino," Willow Stone ordered.

Clarine Landon sneered. "So you still remember what we like."

The other smiled. "Of course. You're my best friends."

"Best friends? Is this how you treat your best friend? By getting together with her husband?"

Willow Stone picked up her cup of coffee and smirked. "What can I do? You couldn't even handle your own husband."

On the other hand, Yvette Larson was calm. She said only one word: "Why?"

However, that word encapsulated so much. 'Why is your boyfriend Finn? Why do you have to like your best friend's husband? Why do you want to meet me since you're already with Finn?'

Willow Stone replied with a seemingly unrelated question. "Is your coffee bitter?"

The other replied, "Yes, so?"

Willow Stone downed her cup of coffee. "I've added loads of sugar in mine, so it's sweet. Don't be fooled by what's on the surface, Yvette."

She then stood up and turned to leave, but Clarine Landon caught up to her. "Willow, what are you trying to say?"

The third of the best friends was left sitting there in a daze. She seemed to be lost in thought.

After a long while, she came to a sudden realization. "So that's the case."

Her best friend was still lost.

"Clarine, we maligned Finn and Willow."

However, the other was still dazed. "Yvette, don't be taken in by her words. Didn't you catch her with Finn? What do you mean by maligning them?"

Yvette Larson replied in a low voice, "Let me tell you a secret."

Her best friend loved gossip and quickly rushed over.

"Finn offended the Taylor siblings, and they swore to break his family apart. Finn put on an act with Willow and pretended to get a divorce from me to protect me. Think about it. We have to submit those papers for the divorce to be legally recognized; otherwise, everything will be fake."

These words seemed to turn Clarine Landon's world upside down. She had been worried sick about her best friend, yet it seemed like it was all for naught.

"Clarine, you mustn't say a thing about this. Once word gets out, we'll be done for. We must fool the Taylor siblings. Maybe we'll be able to help Finn then."

Clarine Landon nodded seriously. She still liked Finn Taylor, so she would definitely do all she could to help him.

...

Levi Taylor held a photo out to his sister. "Sis, look. Is she pretty?"

Melanie Taylor merely glanced at it. "Isn't that the wife of that piece of trash? Why?"

Levi Taylor chuckled. "They got a divorce."

His sister was dumbfounded.. "A divorce? His wife chased him out?"

Chapter 352: Perfect

Melanie Taylor didn't care about Finn Taylor's personal life, and that was why she had only just found out about the latter's divorce. "Sis, what do you think that piece of trash will think if I manage to woo that woman?"

Melanie Taylor immediately retorted him, "You better not play around. This isn't South-East Asia. You don't have any elders protecting you."

Levi Taylor was used to doing as he pleased in South-East Asia. After all, there was nothing anyone could do to him.

However, this wasn't South-East Asia. Who knew what would happen to him if he were to fool around here?

"Don't worry, Sis. I don't like to force myself onto others. I'll win over her heart and then her body. That's how I roll."

Melanie Taylor wasn't going to interfere in her brother's affairs as long as he knew his limits and didn't do anything against the law. Besides, nobody could escape her brother's grasp once they caught his eye.

•••

Michelle Yeller and Josie Meyer arrived at the Larson Corporation. What shocked them was that they were led to the CEO—David Sullivan's office after reporting their names.

It was the CEO of the company who personally conducted their interview.

That naturally puzzled Michelle Yeller, but her best friend simply thought that they were exceptional talents whom the company wanted to cultivate.

"I have just one question. The Larson Corporation is facing an unprecedented crisis, so many companies have sent corporate spies over to try to take a share of the pie. How can you convince me that you guys aren't spies?" David Sullivan asked an acute question.

An average candidate wouldn't have been able to answer this question and might've even left immediately after hearing the question. It was no different from doubting one's loyalty. In that case, it was best not to work there.

However, Josie Meyer was different. She felt that she was being questioned exactly because she was a talent they wanted to groom. "I'm sorry, but I think your company is in such a bad state that there's no need for any spies to come here."

Her answer rendered her interviewer speechless. 'Who would tell the CEO of a company during an interview that the company sucks? Aren't you asking for a beating?'

Michelle Yeller was trembling inwardly, but to her surprise, the CEO said, "Congratulations. You're both hired."

'Am I hearing things? This... Hired? Wasn't Josie insulting them earlier? But they're still hiring us?' What the young girl didn't know was that David Sullivan had no way to reject them. Finn Taylor had called him earlier and had even instructed him on the designations for the two young ladies.

"You're Josie Meyer, right? You're quite eloquent, so I'll send you to the public relations department to be the secretary of the manager there. As for you, Michelle Yeller... You look rather obedient. I'm sure you know of Yvette Larson—our previous chairman and the only daughter of our current chairmen. You'll be her secretary."

'Why am I being sent to the public relations department while Michelle gets to stay in the chairman's office? Do I look like someone who will give myself up for the company's sake?' Needless to say, Josie Meyer was indignant. "I refuse. I'm not going to the public relations department."

David Sullivan chuckled. "That's not for you to decide. You can either go to the public relations department or leave."

He pointed at the door. There was no way he was going to compromise, even if Finn Taylor turned up. If he didn't even have the authority to make this decision as a CEO, the company would be doomed.

"I..." Josie Meyer clenched her fist, feeling injustice. Yet, there was nothing she could do.

She couldn't possibly leave the company. The Larson Corporation was her chance of turning her life around!

"Fine, I'll go to the public relations department. Will that do?" She stood up and asked, "How do I get there?"

The CEO turned to the man beside him. "Ken, bring the newcomers around the company and introduce them to everyone."

He then left and returned to his office to call his boss. "Mr. Taylor, the two ladies have been hired."

"How's it going? Is Josie Meyer difficult to deal with?"

"She isn't just difficult to deal with. She's a whole character. I asked her why she was here at our company and how I could be sure that she wasn't a spy. Guess what she said?"

"I'm sure I won't be able to guess the answer, but it must've been sharp."

"Yes, she said that the Larson Corporation is trash and that nobody would bother sending any spies here."

Finn Taylor burst out into laughter upon hearing that. "Find them later and tell them about their salaries. Josie Meyer will be paid 700 dollars a month, while Michelle Yeller will be paid 1,200 dollars a month."

"Huh?" David Sullivan was confused. 'Although Michelle Yeller works in the chairman's office, they are still secretaries all the same. Logically speaking, their salaries should be similar too. Why does Finn Taylor have to differentiate them?'

However, David Sullivan kept his questions to himself since it was the latter's company after all. He had the final say as to how much he wanted to pay his employees.

As David Sullivan walked out of the office, Ken happened to be walking past with the two new hires. "Mr. Sullivan."

"Oh, are you guys about done looking around the place?"

Michelle Yeller was polite. "Yes, we're about done, Mr. Sullivan."

"Alright, I'll tell you guys about your salaries. Josie Meyer, you'll be paid 700 dollars. Michelle Yeller, you'll be paid 1,200 dollars."

Josie Meyer was clearly agitated after hearing that. "We're both secretaries. Why is my salary so much lower than hers?"

Typically, David Sullivan wouldn't answer such questions. However, he faced Josie Meyer head-on. "We were only going to hire one new employee at 1,500 dollars a month. This young lady is more suitable for the job than you, but we need manpower now. Therefore, we decided to keep you. The sum of both of your salaries already exceeds our original budget."

David Sullivan made it clear that he had no intention of hiring her in the first place.

Josie Meyer was rendered speechless, but she couldn't possibly resign from the job. "Fine, 700 dollars it is. Can I ask if there's a chance for me to be promoted and get a salary raise if I do well?"

David Sullivan nodded. "Of course. Everyone has an equal chance of being promoted as long as they perform well."

That was all Josie Meyer needed to hear. She believed that she was perfect after all..

Chapter 353: Where Is She?

Diane Taylor realized that Yvette Larson's mood had improved after returning and that naturally pleased the former. She ran up to the latter and asked, "Ms. Larson, did Mr. Taylor call?"

Yvette Larson shook her head. "No, but I've thought it through. He got a divorce for my sake."

The young girl could only smile helplessly. 'How is it possible that a divorce would be good for you?'

...

In the evening, Finn Taylor was making himself dinner when he heard a knock on his door. 'It's probably Michelle. Nobody knows about this place other than Hunter Sullivan and those two ladies next door.'

As expected, it was Michelle Yeller standing outside the door. "Oh, you've made dinner?"

"Yes."

"I was thinking of treating you to a meal."

"Treating me to a meal?"

"Josie and I found a job. We're heading out to celebrate our new jobs, and I wanted to invite you along so that we can clear any misunderstandings you two may have."

The man chuckled. "If I go, she would probably say that I have something up my sleeves again."

"Come on. I've already made a reservation."

Finn Taylor glanced back at the kitchen before eventually nodding. "Alright."

When the trio headed out, Josie Meyer was still haughty as usual. However, Finn Taylor suddenly asked, "Michelle, congratulations on your new job. Oh right, how much are you getting paid?"

The talk of salaries angered her best friend. 'What's with David Sullivan? Why is Michelle getting paid 1,200 dollars while I'm only getting 700 dollars? When I questioned him about it, he even said that they only wanted to hire one person. If not for me, Michelle could've gotten a salary of 1,500 dollars. What does he even mean? He's making it sound like I put Michelle at a disadvantage.'

"Just over a thousand. It's alright; I'll take it slow." Michelle Yeller smiled, not going into detail for fear that she'd put her friend in an awkward position.

But Finn Taylor didn't let the matter go. "Over a thousand? How much exactly? If you don't earn much, I'll pay for today's meal. I don't want to burden you."

Finn Taylor's words sounded caring, but it annoyed Josie Meyer even more.

"She's getting 1,200 dollars, and I'm getting 700 dollars. Will that do?" Josie Meyer turned around without sparing the man a glance after saying so.

The elevator doors opened right at that moment, and the other two walked out of the elevator.

"Come on. Let's go."

Because Josie Meyer had turned around, she hadn't seen the doors open and was still standing foolishly in the elevator. Thankfully, her friend dragged her out.

When they arrived at the restaurant, Michelle Yeller asked Finn Taylor to order a few dishes, and he didn't stand on ceremony. He then passed the menu over to the two girls.

After Josie Meyer added on a few more dishes, she asked the man if he wanted any alcohol.

Finn Taylor shook his head.

She then asked if he abstained from alcohol, but he merely waved her off. "I'm done ordering. You can order whatever you want. You don't have to bother about me."

Michelle Yeller then added a couple more dishes.

Not long later, their food was served.

Perhaps it was because of what Finn Taylor had said in the elevator, but Josie Meyer was feeling annoyed and wanted to find her place again. As such, she started asking Finn Taylor about his job. "Timothy, what do you work as?"

"Oh, I don't have a job."

"You don't have a job?" Hearing that, Josie Meyer felt as though she had won. "Do you have a wife or children then?"

"Nope."

The young lady grew even more gleeful.

"Are you serious, Mr. Taylor?" Michelle Yeller was taken aback.

The man didn't hide anything and merely nodded.

This answer stunned the young girl. 'He carries himself so differently, but he doesn't have a job, a wife, or any children!'

"Oh, you don't look young anymore. Why don't you have anything?" Josie Meyer was over the moon and tried to grill Finn Taylor to satisfy herself.

"That's right, Mr. Taylor. We're here to look for jobs, so why are you here then?"

Finn Taylor sighed. "I just got a divorce from my wife and left with nothing. I didn't have anywhere to go, so I moved here."

This excited Josie Meyer even more. 'He's a divorcee who has nothing! Hahaha, that's the lowest rank in society!'

"Divorced? Mr. Taylor, you're such a good man. Why would you get divorced?" Michelle Yeller couldn't understand it. 'Through my interactions with him over the past few days, he feels like a good man. Why would someone like this get divorced?'

"What else? All men who get divorced and leave with nothing must've done something. I already told you that he isn't any good. I even told you to keep your distance from him, but you refused to believe me." Josie Meyer took the chance to insult Finn Taylor.

"Nonsense. Mr. Taylor isn't someone like that; I trust him."

"Trust him? What's the use of that? Come on, Timothy Taylor. Why don't you tell us why you got divorced?"

The man smiled bitterly. "I ran into some trouble, and they want to break my family apart. I was afraid of dragging my wife down, so I put on an act with her best friend to let my wife catch us together. I then proposed divorce and chose to leave everything to her."

The way Finn Taylor said it was as though it was nothing but a trivial matter. However, Michelle Yeller was scared stiff. 'What kind of trouble could he have gotten into that he'd choose to end their marriage like that?'

"Mr. Taylor, was there really no way of solving that trouble? I'm sure your wife would be sad to get divorced."

Finn Taylor smiled blandly. "Well, the likelihood of succeeding is no different from seeing snow in June."

Michelle Yeller was moved by Finn Taylor's love for his wife, but her friend was clearly not. "Did you hear that? I think he really was in a relationship with his wife's best friend and got caught red-handed, so he had no choice but to get divorced."

'There's nothing I can do if the other person doesn't want to believe me.' The man shook his head helplessly. "Oh right, I haven't congratulated you guys on getting jobs at the Larson Corporation. I'll drink this and treat it as wine."

"Haha, they're all the same."

"Oh right, how is the company doing now? I've heard a lot of rumors about it. What are you guys working as?"

Michelle Yeller didn't hide anything. "I'm the secretary to the previous chairman—Ms. Yvette Larson—and Josie is working in the public relations department as a secretary."

"Oh, you work in the chairman's office. That's not bad. Is the chairman nice?"

The young girl shook her head. "I didn't see her, but I heard them say that we have three chairmen now. Two are the current chairmen—Francis Larson and Linda James—but the one managing everything is their daughter, Yvette Larson. However, I didn't see any of them today."

Finn Taylor felt his heart twist up into knots. 'Yvette didn't go to work today.. Where did she go?'

Chapter 354: Chaos

This meal allowed Finn Taylor, Michelle Yeller, and Josie Meyer to get to know each other better. The former two thought that they suited each other as friends, while the meal only made the latter even more sure that Finn Taylor was a piece of trash.

'Not only is he useless, but he even cheated on his wife with her best friend and was forced to get divorced after getting caught! Even so, he made up a story to trick a young and innocent girl like Michelle!' Josie Meyer's impression of Finn Taylor was only getting worse by the minute.

...

Finn Taylor lay on his bed, looking at his phone. He was looking at his wedding photo with Yvette Larson.

Their relationship hadn't come easy, and looking at the photo caused all sorts of emotions to rise up within him.

At the same time, Yvette Larson was lying on her own bed in Number One Pacific Heights. In her hand was also a phone, and she was looking at the exact same wedding photo.

Perhaps they knew each other too well.

After what seemed like an eternity, the couple finally fell asleep.

...

The next day, Finn Taylor headed to Gentle Breeze Bar. It had been a while since he had come here, so he decided to pay the bar a visit since he was free.

The bar's main stage could be seen from the bar's VIP room.

Many young men and women were gathered there to dance. Around the stage were tables for those who preferred to just consume their drinks.

To Finn Taylor's surprise, he spotted two familiar faces when he peered down—his neighbors!

Michelle Yeller didn't take a fancy to a place like this, but her friend told her that they had to come to a place like this in order to socialize with rich second-generation heirs. This was to elevate their own social positions.

Those rich heirs were their hope. If they managed to convince those heirs to work with the Larson Corporation, they would be promoted from their lowly positions as secretaries.

Although Michelle Yeller was here with her friend, she had already told the latter that she would simply sit there. She wasn't going to try anything strange.

Josie Meyer tapped on her friend's nose and smiled. "What are you thinking about? Do you think I'd make you do those things? Just watch and see how I bring business in."

It couldn't be denied that the two young girls were indeed beautiful and attractive. One of them was innocent and sweet-looking, while the other was seductive and passionate.

Although they simply sat there drinking their wine, they attracted quite a lot of attention.

Finally, someone could no longer hold himself back. It was the young master of one of the companies in San Francisco, and his name was Melvin Lowe.

He walked up to Josie Meyer and asked, "Miss, can I treat you to a drink?"

The latter sized the man up, and her gaze landed on the Rolex on his wrist. 'It seems like he is indeed a rich man.'

"How should I address you?"

"Melvin Lowe."

"I only drink cocktails."

"Get me a Sex on the Beach." The man ordered a cocktail just as Josie Meyer had asked for.

He preferred Josie to the other girl beside her because he felt that it would be easier to get her. The girl beside her looked too naive, and it seemed like money wouldn't win her over.

Josie Meyer took a sip of the cocktail before Melvin Lowe invited her for a dance.

In the VIP room, Finn Taylor couldn't help but sneer.

"You know them?" Andre Cavill couldn't help but ask.

"She's my new neighbor."

"Do you need me to send someone to protect her?"

Finn Taylor shook his head. 'Josie Meyer had nothing to do with me. Why would I care if she gets bullied? The only one I think of as a friend is the young girl beside her.'

"Protect that girl."

"Is she your neighbor too?"

"They're roommates."

Andre Cavill could sort of guess the situation. "I think something's going to happen soon."

Andre Cavill had no sooner said that than a commotion broke out downstairs.

This was Andre Cavill's bar, and he couldn't be more familiar with the venue. He knew what each young master liked and what their gazes meant.

Earlier on, he had seen several men with their eyes set on Josie Meyer—Melvin Lowe was simply the one who had made the first move. That was why he had asked Finn Taylor if the latter wanted him to protect the young girl.

He had already expected chaos to ensue.

"We're dancing. Why are you trying to snatch her away from me?" Melvin Lowe was dancing with Josie Meyer when a bald man suddenly grabbed the latter's hand, asking her to dance with him. Of course, Melvin Lowe wasn't going to take this lying down. 'What are you trying to do?'

"Snatching? You invited her to dance with you. Can't I do the same?"

The bald man wasn't the slightest bit afraid of Melvin Lowe. One's status was nothing more than a joke in a place like this.

The latter was so weak that he'd probably knock him out in one blow.

"Invite her? She's mine. You can find someone else to dance with you."

"Yours? You're making it sound as though you two are married. Do you have a certificate to prove that?"

Melvin Lowe was incensed. 'The other man is obviously making a mountain out of a molehill. Doesn't he know the rules around this place? It's obvious why we're dancing together. Marriage certificate? Would you bring your wife to a place like this?'

"Hey, baldie. You better shut up, or I'll kill you."

"Hehe, kill me? You're so weak. Let's see how you're going to kill me." With that, the bald man stomped forward and snatched the girl away, wanting to leave.

With that, Josie Meyer was suddenly being dragged into the fiasco, and she flew into a frenzy. She glanced around for someone to save her, yet all she saw was Melvin Lowe's terrified gaze. Just then, she happened to see Timothy Taylor upstairs. 'Why is he here?'

Josie Meyer wanted to yell out for Finn Taylor to save her, yet she felt embarrassed. 'How can I ask for his help given our relationship?'

But just then, Michelle Yeller rushed forward. "Let go of my friend. She doesn't want to leave with you—let go."

Not only did the man not let go, but he even let out a sinister smile. "Stop acting innocent and naive. Everyone knows why women like you are here. Tell me—how much money do you guys want before you'll leave with me?"

Upstairs, Andre Cavill couldn't help but inwardly sigh as he watched the events pan out. 'That baldie is really tempting fate. He would've been fine, but he just had to say that. There's no way he's leaving like this today.'

Just as he expected, Finn Taylor had already headed downstairs.

Michelle Yeller had never been to a place like this, much less interact with people like this. Hence, she was at a total loss.. 'What should I do?'

Chapter 355: Leverage

But just as Josie Meyer was worrying about what to do, someone placed a hand on her shoulder. The young girl was frantic and worried that she had run into a bad guy, but her heart gradually calmed down when she lifted her head and saw Finn Taylor. For some reason, he put her at ease.

"Come on now. Let's not create a scene. Let the young ladies go." Finn Taylor gave the man one last chance. After all, he was benevolent.

"Who the f*ck are you? Are they your wives?"

'Wife? Are you insulting my wife? How interesting. In the past three years, I've never tolerated anyone who insulted my wife.'

"Are you done watching?" Finn Taylor said all of a sudden.

Following that, Andre Cavill whistled. Suddenly, dozens of bodyguards surrounded the bald man.

"A-Andre Cavill, what are you trying to do?"

Melvin Lowe had never seen such a sight and was starting to panic.

"You offended someone you shouldn't have." Andre Cavill was direct, and the bodyguards rushed up as soon as he finished his words.

As the bald man was dragged away by the bodyguards, the two young girls were left gawking, especially Josie Meyer.

She didn't know how to feel. After all, Finn Taylor had indeed saved her this time. Yet, she didn't want to admit to it because it would mean bowing down to him. 'I'm a goddess. There is no way I'll lower my pride to thank someone like this.'

"Mr. Taylor, thank you so much. If not for you, something might've happened to Josie and me."

Michelle Yeller thanked the man sincerely, but her friend grabbed her. "Why are you thanking him? Have you not gotten a clear picture of him by now? Look, this is where he spends his time. His friends are all so barbaric. You better not fall for him. You'll only be courting death if you do that."

Josie Meyer's words stumped her friend, as well as Finn Taylor. 'I saved her, yet she still says such things.'

Just then, Finn Taylor received a message on his phone. "Hello, Master Peregrine. I have the four guardians. Come to this address."

His brows furrowed into a frown. 'Is this a joke or a prank? But that's unlikely. Few people even know about my identity as Master Peregrine. Could they really be in trouble?'

Finn Taylor tried making a call to Hunter Sullivan, but he couldn't reach the latter. He then tried calling the others but was met with the same result.

He couldn't connect to a single one of them. 'It seems like something has really gone wrong.'

Finn Taylor turned to Andre Cavill. "Send this lady home. If you dare to send that one home, I'll make sure to break your leg."

With that, he turned to leave.

'This...' Andre Cavill felt slightly awkward. 'They are neighbors, and Finn Taylor had even said that the two ladies are roommates. However, he makes it seem as though one of them is a friend while the other is an enemy.'

"I'll send you home, Miss." Andre Cavill invited Michelle Yeller out.

"About that, Mr. Taylor must be kidding. Could you bring Josie along?"

Andre Cavill helplessly pointed at his own leg. "I think you had better spare my leg."

Michelle Yeller pretended to get angry. "Then, I'm not going either."

"That's not up to you, Miss. Mr. Taylor has already given me instructions. My head will roll if I don't do it well."

'His head will roll?' Both Josie Meyer and Michelle Yeller were shocked. 'Who is Finn Taylor? Why is he so impressive?'

"But..." Before Michelle Yeller could finish her sentence, Andre Cavill's men had already dragged her into the car.

Finn Taylor had asked him to send the young girl home safely.

As for Josie Meyer, she was left fuming. 'That b*stard Timothy Taylor! Is he a man? How could he just leave me in the lurch like this?'

...

However, Finn Taylor had no time to care about her at that moment because the four guardians had been kidnapped. He knew full well just how powerful all four of them were, so who could've possibly kidnapped them just like that?

Following the address he had been given, Finn Taylor arrived at a lake, only to see Levi Taylor sitting there.

Beside him was a Thai.

It looked like they were here to settle it with a duel.

"So you're the one who kidnapped Hunter Sullivan and the others."

Levi Taylor yawned. "You arrived earlier than I expected. I was even afraid that you wouldn't show up."

'It seems like Levi Taylor is indeed the one who kidnapped the four guardians.'

"Why did you kidnap them?"

"No reason really. I just want to get to know the so-called Master Peregrine. Tai, make him kneel."

The man beside Levi Taylor walked forward and prepared himself.

"Hold on. Let me see them."

Levi Taylor casually clapped, and the four guardians were dragged out. They were all bound and gagged, unable to speak or move.

"These are your four guardians—how weak. They wouldn't have even gotten a chance to train with me." Levi Taylor spoke arrogantly, trampling Finn Taylor under his feet.

"Levi Taylor, this is between us. Let them go."

"Hehe. Timothy Taylor, don't test your luck. Do you think I'll just do as you say? Go on, Tai."

The Thai man charged forward. Because he had been trained in Muay Thai since he was young, he was already used to numbing all senses so that he felt nothing.

"Argh!" The man charged forward as though he was ready to give up his life.

Finn Taylor simply dodged instead of returning any punches.

Since Muay Thai fighters loved to inflict the greatest amount of pain possible to their opponents, Finn Taylor was going to leverage that and use Tai's strategy against himself.

Tai was still throwing punches, and Finn Taylor continued dodging them.

The latter was trying to build up power. Given the amount of strength Tai was using, it wouldn't be enough to strike himself down..

Chapter 356: Mysterious Person

Tai was terribly impatient, and Finn Taylor dodging blow after blow made him annoyed.

Finally, he could no longer hold himself back. He gathered all his energy and threw a last punch toward his opponent.

He was sure that the latter would never be able to dodge this blow. In fact, Finn Taylor would probably die from this blow.

Seeing Tai's move, Levi Taylor was emotional. He knew that the former was finally making his move and wasn't going to hold back any longer. 'Finn Taylor is going to meet his death now.'

However, what he saw was Finn Taylor no longer dodging but waiting for Tai's punch instead.

Everyone was confused. 'Why is he suddenly not moving? However, that can't be bad news for us.'

As such, Tai charged forward viciously.

Finn Taylor fought back and used his opponent's blow against himself.

All of a sudden, Tai felt immense pressure on his body.

'This... It's my own energy.' He frowned, feeling something amiss. However, it was too late to stop himself.

Boom!

Tai was blasted out.

Seeing this, Levi Taylor was dumbfounded.

Finn Taylor then turned his fist toward his relative. *'Since the latter has already attacked me, I have every reason to return it.'*

But just then, a man appeared next to Levi Taylor—Gremlin!

Never in his life would Finn Taylor have expected Gremlin to be the one protecting Levi Taylor. "Gremlin, you're going to protect South-East Asia's Taylor family?"

'Gremlin grew up in Chicago's Taylor family, and it's obvious that the other family is here to topple us this time. What does Gremlin mean by this? No matter what I do to Donovan, it's between us brothers. But now, he's trying to bring outsiders into our fight for Donovan's benefit?'

"Gremlin, are you trying to sell yourself to South-East Asia's Taylor family and then beg them to let Donovan Taylor handle the matters here so that you'll achieve your goal in the end?" Finn Taylor was acute and understood the situation in no time at all. However, it was exactly because of this that he was in grave danger.

There was no way Gremlin was going to allow Master Peregrine to leave this place alive. Otherwise, his reputation would be ruined.

"I don't understand what you're saying." Gremlin stepped toward Finn Taylor as though he was prepared for a fight. But unlike Tai, Gremlin had both brawn and brains. He wouldn't be defeated so easily.

Finn Taylor steadied himself but knew that he didn't have much chance of winning.

Seeing this, Levi Taylor was delighted. 'Is Chicago's Taylor family going to kill each other off? Great! It's best you guys turn each other into enemies and kill each other!'

But just as Gremlin was about to attack, he felt a blast of wind. However, he saw nothing.

Then, he panicked. 'Run!'

Without thinking much, he dragged Levi Taylor and ran for his life.

It wasn't just Finn Taylor who was stunned—even Levi Taylor was as well.

'What is going on?' Finn Taylor glanced around, trying to figure out what had happened, but he didn't see anything.

He quickly stepped forward to untie the ropes around the four guardians, who finally felt more comfortable after they were released.

"Hunter, did you see what just happened?"

"Not really, but I think someone who's more powerful than Gremlin must've appeared nearby."

That was what Finn Taylor thought as well, so he had looked around. Unfortunately, he hadn't seen anything.

"Are you out there? Could you show yourself?" Finn Taylor tried his luck at seeking out the person who just saved him. However, silence returned once he finished his sentence.

Nothing seemed out of the ordinary.

'I guess they don't want to be seen, and I shouldn't force them either. They probably don't have any ill intentions since they're willing to help me scare Gremlin away.'

...

San Francisco, the rooftop of an unknown skyscraper.

Two people were overlooking the city.

"Did you do something?"

"I just went to take a look."

Finn Taylor knew both of the people who were standing there—his mother and his master, Wendy Jensen and Maximus Brugel.

It was the latter who had scared Gremlin away.

Maximus Brugel was the strategist of Chicago's Taylor family, and rumor had it that he didn't just have exceptional intellect but exceptional martial arts skills as well.

However, he rarely used them. As such, hardly anyone knew about just how powerful he truly was.

But everyone knew one thing—anyone who had personally witnessed Maximus Brugel's prowess lived in fear.

"You shouldn't have."

Maximus Brugel had saved her son, yet she was saying that he shouldn't have interfered! Who knew what she was thinking?

"You're no different from Frida Cameron. Both of you are so ruthless and are willing to do anything to achieve your goals."

Wendy Jensen frowned. She hated being compared to her mother-in-law, whom she felt was the cause of this entire situation. 'I'm nowhere as bad as Frida Cameron.'

"They're both your children. If you don't know how to control yourself, you never should've given birth to him."

Finally, Wendy Jensen could no longer hold it in and retorted, "Do you really think so badly of me?"

The other chuckled. "Well... You're not evil, but I don't agree with your actions. You want to take control of Chicago's Taylor family, so why don't you face South-East Asia's Taylor family yourself? Why did you have to make him do it? I was wondering why you wanted him to know that Brian Taylor could still be alive, but it seems like you had everything planned."

Wendy Jensen lamented. "Of course not. I didn't know anything about that. Gremlin was the one who planned everything."

Maximus Brugel merely smiled. "I have my eyes on him. I'm warning you not to hurt him."

With that, he left.

Wendy Jensen was left alone on the rooftop. "No, I'm his mother. Everything I've done is for the Taylor family's sake. Since he's Master Peregrine, it's his responsibility to handle this.. What has it got to do with me?"

Chapter 357: Unreasonable

Wendy Jensen thought for a long time before finding an excuse for herself. She naturally wouldn't admit to treating her son in this manner to satisfy her own selfish desires.

She had to find an excuse—everything she had done was for the Taylor family's sake.

Finn Taylor was a Taylor, while she was a Jensen. That made her feel much better about herself as though she was working for the family's sake.

She sighed before heading down. However, she had no sooner walked out of the elevator than several people surrounded her.

A young lady then walked out. "Don't worry. We won't hurt you. Our mistress would like to meet you."

Wendy Jensen observed the men without moving before eventually chuckling. "Melanie Taylor?"

The young lady didn't answer Wendy Jensen and simply made a gesture.

Since she wasn't going to reply, the latter wasn't going to force her either.

Wendy Jensen was brought to a room in the hotel, where she saw two young people—a man and a woman. 'If I'm not wrong, this must be Melanie Taylor and Levi Taylor."

The pair stood up as she walked in. "Should I address you as Auntie? But since we're such distant relatives, I won't force myself. I'll just call you by your name, Wendy Jensen."

Wendy Jensen frowned. "Are you Melanie Taylor and Levi Taylor?"

The young lady nodded. "Not bad. It seems like we've heard about each other—that will make things easier. I won't beat around the bush. Persuade your son to give up the title of Master Peregrine. If he does, I assure you that I won't do anything to your family."

Wendy Jensen wasn't a fool. In fact, she was a talent.

It was obvious just how impressive she was by how she had managed to consolidate her power in the family so quickly after Frida Cameron's death. However, Melanie Taylor treated her as a fool, wanting to convince her with these words.

"We're relatives, and I obviously don't want us to get into a tussle either. If possible, I'll try to persuade my son to get on good terms with your family. But since you've done your investigations, I'm sure you know that I don't have a very good relationship with my son. He's basically been abandoned by the family, and I can't exert any authority over him." Wendy Jensen simply shirked all responsibility.

"Don't try to play tricks with me. You're his mother. Can't you make him do what you want?"

"If I could, we'd be meeting in Chicago, not San Francisco."

Melanie Taylor agreed.

Since Finn Taylor refused to return to Chicago, it could only mean that he still held a grudge against the family.

"Why did you hand the position of Master Peregrine over to him since you guys don't get along?"

Wendy Jensen shrugged. "What else would I do? My husband is dead, and my younger son is locked up. Someone from the family has to take over. Who else would fit those criteria?"

She wasn't lying. That was what she had thought at first, yet fate played tricks on people.

She had only planned on finding a puppet she could control, but who would've thought that this puppet would grow to be so powerful?

"I don't believe that you guys would hate each other so much. Let's see what he picks between the position of Master Peregrine and his own mother." Melanie Taylor then instructed her men to tie Wendy Jensen up before she took a photo and sent it over to the latter's son.

She was giving him three days to think it through. In three days' time, he had better give up the position of Master Peregrine or wait to collect his mother's dead body.

That day, Finn Taylor busied himself with household chores as usual. Then, he received a notification that a parcel had arrived. 'That's strange. I don't think I bought anything, but it's true that I have bought quite a few things since moving here. Maybe it's a free gift from one of those stores.'

He didn't take the matter to heart and headed out to collect his parcel after arranging his things. When he arrived at the security post, he spotted Josie Meyer there too.

She was there to collect her parcel as well.

The world was small when one had enemies.

Josie Meyer didn't hesitate to lash out. "How unlucky! I'm bumping into a tortoise as soon as I get out of the house."

She was naturally referring to none other than Finn Taylor.

Her words were truly vicious, and the latter could no longer hold himself back. "I'm your savior. Don't you feel bad for saying that about me?"

Josie Meyer knew that he was going to mention the event. "You just did what a man should. I didn't think you would be so calculative and always talk about it."

Finn Taylor shrugged indifferently. 'It's impossible to convince an unreasonable person. Although it was a trivial matter, and I don't have to use it against the other all the time, I did save her after all. Even if you don't thank me, the least you could do is not denigrate me. But listen to what you're saying. It's like I owe you something.'

"So you hate me for asking Andre Cavill not to send you back."

"Who cares about that?" Although she said so, that was exactly what bothered her.

Both the roommates had just gotten to know Finn Taylor. In fact, she was better-looking than her roommate.

So why did Finn Taylor share such a good relationship with her roommate while treating her like an enemy?

She had been injured that night and needed someone to send her back. However, Finn Taylor had instructed his friend to send only Michelle Yeller back and not her.

Yes, he had made a special request as though it would be great trouble.

Yet, Josie Meyer had never considered how she had treated the man that day. Every word was an attack against Finn Taylor.

Since that was the case, it was perfectly fine for the latter to do the same.

'Do you really think you're so pretty that the world revolves around you? Do you mean that everyone who doesn't do as you wish is a bad person? Why? Everyone leads difficult lives.'

"Tch, what did you buy? Why is the box so small?"

'Sigh, Josie Meyer is starting to kick up a huge fuss over nothing again.. How can she tell how good my things are just by the size of the box?'

Chapter 358: Meeting Willow Stone

Finn Taylor didn't want to say much to the lady in front. She was filled with too many prejudices against him, so there was no way of communicating with her even after she calmed down.

When Finn Taylor returned home, he opened the box to see its contents. But when he caught sight of the content, all sorts of emotions surged up in his heart.

It was a photo of Wendy Jensen being kidnapped. That mother of his—who had always been biased toward his younger brother—had been kidnapped.

Finn Taylor wasn't sad, nor was he worried. He didn't even know how he was feeling.

Ding-dong!

Right then, the doorbell rang.

He put away the box and opened the door to find Michelle Yeller standing outside.

"Thank you for your help last time, Mr. Taylor. This is for you." Michelle Yeller handed a mug to him. It was blue and looked like a couple's mug.

'If I'm not wrong, she probably has a pink one at home. Sigh.' Finn Taylor sighed inwardly. 'It's obvious that she likes me. Unfortunately, I can't give her anything. There's only one person in my heart, and I'll never forget about her.'

"That..."

Finn Taylor didn't want to accept it, but the young girl let out a pitiful expression. "What, do you not like it because it's too cheap?"

Now that she had already said so, Finn Taylor couldn't refuse her and could only accept the gift.

"Mr. Taylor, Josie bumped into you again earlier. She..."

"Forget it. I don't hold grudges with women."

"Haha. You're so magnanimous, Mr. Taylor."

'Magnanimous? I've never thought of myself as magnanimous. It's just that I can't be bothered with such trivial matters. If I did, so many people would've died in the past three years.'

"I made some barbecued ribs tonight. I'd like you to have some," said the young girl shyly.

Finn Taylor knew that he couldn't give the other any more hope. "I'm busy tonight."

"Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know. Go ahead and do whatever you need to do then."

Finn Taylor wasn't lying. Although he didn't like Wendy Jensen, she was still his mother after all.

He had to save her.

"I won't disturb you then, Mr. Taylor. I'll leave," Michelle Yeller said before leaving.

Finn Taylor sighed and packed up the place before heading out too.

What he didn't know was that Michelle Yeller was leaning against the door, observing him through the peephole.

When she returned home earlier, her roommate had seen how dejected she was. Therefore, she told the latter about everything that had happened.

Josie Meyer couldn't help but chide the other again. "Michelle, have you really gone mad? Why do you like that man? Don't you see that he's a cheater? Do you really think he was telling you the truth? I'm sure he was just lying to you."

But Michelle Yeller didn't believe her friend. 'Finn Taylor is probably busy.'

She peered through the peephole and saw Finn Taylor leaving the house.

"He's leaving the house. He didn't lie to me!" Michelle Yeller was obviously excited as she pointed outside. "He's going out. See, I told you that Mr. Taylor wouldn't lie to me. He's really leaving the house."

"Tch." No matter how Josie Meyer looked at Finn Taylor, the latter seemed like a bad guy to her. Hence, nothing her friend said mattered.

After Finn Taylor left his apartment, he headed for Andre Cavill's bar.

The latter had already cleared the place in advance, and the four guardians had already arrived as well.

Finn Taylor had initially wanted to meet the four guardians at Hunter Sullivan's residence, but the latter lived at Pacific Heights.

It was better to stay away from the area for the time being, so the group ended up meeting at Andre Cavill's bar.

Finn Taylor took the photo out as they gathered around to analyze it.

"Wendy Jensen has been kidnapped?" Hunter Sullivan could hardly believe his eyes.

"That's right. They've only given me this photo without any other requests. What do you think I should do?" Finn Taylor threw the venue into silence.

Everyone knew that the mother-son duo didn't get along. However, Wendy Jensen was indeed Finn Taylor's mother.

That was an undeniable fact. As such, neither decision seemed right.

The only solution was to listen to Finn Taylor and do whatever he wanted them to do.

Master Peregrine had naturally already expected the silence, and he wouldn't put them in a difficult spot. "Why don't we talk about how to save her?"

Hearing this, the group had an idea of their boss's choice.

Horned Serpent was the first to speak up. "If we want to come up with a plan, we first have to be sure about who kidnapped her."

Horned Serpent was right.

Hunter Sullivan spoke up too. "Actually, there are only those few families that can do it. Given Quince Larson's abilities, there's no way he'd be able to kidnap Wendy Jensen. Gremlin is powerful enough, but I doubt he'd dare to do it. After all, he grew up in the Taylor family. He wouldn't dare to do anything to the matriarch of the family. That leaves us with only one person—Melanie Taylor."

Logan Yeats shook his head in disagreement. "There's one more—Willow Stone."

"Willow Stone?" Everyone turned to Logan Yeats. 'Why would he suddenly bring Willow Stone up?'

"I've gotten some leads on her. Her family in Europe is powerful and has vast connections. She's probably capable of doing this. Besides, I think she is plotting something against Master Peregrine. It's possible that she's using this to threaten him."

Finn Taylor couldn't deny that they made sense.

Eventually, they narrowed their suspects down to two women—Melanie Taylor and Willow Stone.

"Go investigate Melanie Taylor. I'll go look for Willow Stone." With that, he left.

He arrived at Rocky Hills Hotel, where Willow Stone was staying.

She had previously been staying in the same hotel as the Taylor siblings but didn't want to be recognized, so she moved out.

Finn Taylor knocked on the room door.

He heard a voice coming from inside. "Who's that?"

"Me." He said only one word, but it was enough to make the woman's jaw drop.

Willow Stone was in a daze, wondering if she was dreaming. It seemed as though she had heard something she shouldn't have. 'Is he here?'

She pushed the door open, and just as expected, it was Finn Taylor.

"W-why are you here?"

Finn Taylor walked into her room.

Willow Stone was clearly shaken and swallowed her saliva before shutting the door. The next second, she was pinned to the wall by the man..

Chapter 359: Five-Billion-Dollar Compensation

"You..." Willow Stone could hardly breathe with the man strangling her neck. She felt as though she was about to die. 'Why is he doing this to me? I don't think I did anything to offend him!'

Finally, Finn Taylor let go of her.

Willow Stone gasped, and her face was flushed. Only after several minutes did she finally catch her breath. "A-are you crazy, Finn Taylor?"

The man glared at her before asking, "Did you kidnap someone?"

"Kidnap someone? Did Yvette get kidnapped?"

Seeing Finn Taylor so worked up, her first thought was that her best friend had been kidnapped and that he thought that she was the culprit.

But she wasn't!

"Look in my eyes and tell me if you've kidnapped anyone."

Willow Stone was confused. 'Is it not Yvette Larson? Who else would get Finn Taylor so worked up?'

"It's not me. I didn't kidnap anyone."

From her gaze, Finn Taylor was certain that she wasn't the culprit. "I guess it really isn't you."

Phew!

The woman let out a great sigh of relief. "You nearly killed me earlier. Hurry up and tell me who you care so much about."

"Wendy Jensen."

"Who's Wendy Jensen?" Very obviously, Willow Stone didn't recognize the name.

"Go search it up yourself." With that, Finn Taylor turned to leave.

Willow Stone was still in a daze. 'Wendy Jensen must be a woman. I never thought that there would be another woman that Finn Taylor cared so much about apart from Yvette.'

Once the man left, she quickly made a call to her subordinates, instructing them to find out who Wendy Jensen was.

This would definitely keep her up if she didn't get an answer today.

Very quickly, she got her answer.

When Willow Stone heard that the woman was Finn Taylor's mother, a bitter smile spread across her face. 'I... was jealous of my mother-in-law? I thought there were new beauties around Finn.'

But reality struck her—Wendy Jensen had been kidnapped!

'Who could've done so?' Unlike Finn Taylor, Willow Stone had only one person in mind—Melanie Taylor. 'Wendy Jensen was kidnapped at such a critical moment. Melanie Taylor has to be involved in this.'

...

The next day, Yvette Larson heard her mother yelling at the top of her lungs the moment she woke up.

"What?"

Linda James rushed up to her daughter's side. "Take a look at the company's financial report. The company is going under!"

Yvette Larson took the report from her mother and glanced at it. "Yes, I guess the company is going to lose all its assets by next week at this rate."

"Next week? Do you mean that we're going bankrupt next week?" Linda James couldn't believe it. 'I'm the chairman of the Larson Corporation! It feels good to be on top of everyone else, yet I'm going to lose everything very soon.'

Yvette Larson had already expected this result. After all, she had come up with this plan with her husband to let the company go bankrupt before selling it to Quince Larson.

But no amount of planning would've prepared them for what was to come. Who would've expected them to get divorced?

That was why they were faced with such an awkward scenario. If they were to continue with their original plan to let the company go bankrupt, she had no idea what to do since her husband had never told her anything.

But if they were to rebuild the company now, they would've wasted all that money.

Things were getting awkward now.

Just as Yvette Larson was contemplating what to do, Linda James slammed a bank card onto the desk.

Francis Larson—who had been sitting by the side—rushed forward as he stared at his wife. "Are you sure you want to tell her about it now?"

"What, didn't you want to tell her about it? Are you reluctant to do it now?"

Francis Larson had indeed intended on telling his daughter about it, but that was because he was afraid that his wife would waste the money away. But after some observation, he realized that the latter had no intention of doing so.

Besides, he thought of Finn Taylor as his son-in-law. It would be good if the couple could get back together, and this could remain a secret forever.

However, Linda James insisted on telling their daughter about the matter now. What would happen to Yvette then?

"What's that?"

But it was too late to do anything since Linda James had already taken the card out. There was nothing he could do.

"This is compensation from Finn Taylor. There are five billion dollars in it. Is it enough to save the company?"

'Five billion dollars!' Linda James had been dumbfounded when she first heard the number, and so had her husband. Now, Yvette Larson was equally taken aback.

That was an incredible sum of money—it was beyond one's imagination.

Five billion dollars—that was a few times more than what the Larson Corporation was worth.

She would probably have enough to save a dozen Larson Corporations, but she wasn't going to use the money to do that.

She picked up the bank card and turned to her mother. "I'll take control of the company from now on. No matter what happens, don't interfere."

Linda James got a little frenzied. "What's going on? I'm asking if you can use the money to save the company. Yvette, I'm the chairman of the company, not you."

"Oh, you're the chairman? Alright then. You can go manage the company. Didn't Finn give me this sum of money? What does it have to do with you?"

Linda James had no way of rebutting her daughter, but she was never one to reason things out logically. Since she couldn't convince her daughter, she tried to snatch the bank card away.

However, Yvette Larson wasn't going to let her mother have her way since she had already made a decision.

She took a few steps back. "Mom, you better not make a fuss. If the company goes under, you'll have to rely on the money in this account to live. Otherwise, you can move back to our old house. After all, your name isn't on this property deed.."

Chapter 360: Selling the Company

Yvette Larson's words stunned her mother.

The latter was already used to leading a luxurious lifestyle, so there was no way she'd be willing to go back to her previous lifestyle.

Eventually, she relented. "Fine. I'll give up my rights to care about the company, but you have to give me a monthly allowance of 150,000 dollars."

Yvette Larson acted as though she couldn't hear her mother. "What did you say? Repeat that."

"150,000."

That number shocked her husband and daughter. '150,000 a month? She must be mad!'

"What, you have five billion dollars. Is 150,000 too much to ask for? I'm already so old. How many more years do you think I have to enjoy this?" Linda James finally found a reason.

However, her daughter wasn't going to indulge her mother in her fantasies. "1,500 dollars—just 1,500."

Linda James was annoyed. "Just 1,500? What can I do with that?"

"Do you want it or not?"

"Can I have a little more? 1,500 dollars isn't enough."

"You don't want it? Alright, you won't get a single cent then."

"No, 1,500 dollars it is." Linda James eventually chose to compromise. Given her daughter's character, she probably wouldn't even get that 1,500 dollars if she refused.

"Sigh, Finn Taylor is really something. Look at what's become of the company. It's on the verge of bankruptcy. Wasn't it doing just fine with you managing it? Why did he have to rearrange the shareholdings?"

Yvette Larson crossed her arms and stared at her mom. "If I'm not wrong, you were over the moon when he first gave you those shares."

"But I didn't expect this to happen to the company."

"So you're not even taking responsibility as a chairman now that the company is going down, but you're even trying to find somebody to blame? Besides, you should reflect on yourself. As a chairman, how many days have you even spent in the company?"

In fact, Linda James had never even been to the office, much less spent any time there. Because she had gotten that sum of money, she had spent her days having fun.

"Alright, sit down and don't say anything. I want to talk to Dad." Yvette Larson sat her father down and asked seriously, "Dad, will you agree to me selling the company?"

The question shocked both her parents.

Seeing that her mother was about to speak, Yvette Larson shot a glance over, scaring the former so much that she swallowed her words.

"What do you think, Dad?"

"Who do you want to sell that company to?" Francis Larson wasn't as brainless as his wife. He knew that his daughter had her own reasons.

"Quince Larson."

"What?" Linda James couldn't hold herself back. "You want to sell the company to Quince Larson? What are you thinking, Yvette?"

"Did you come to this decision after thinking it through?" Francis Larson only asked one question.

Yvette Larson merely nodded.

"Alright. If you've thought this decision through, I'll support you." Francis Larson had no idea why his daughter wanted to sell the company to her cousin, but he chose to trust her.

As for Yvette Larson, she had made this decision only because of Finn Taylor. She believed in him and trusted that he would return.

Since he had made that decision, she would simply go through with it.

"No, what do you mean that you guys can make the decision? Aren't my shares worth anything?"

Francis Larson turned to his wife. "I have 51% of the shares, so I call the final shots. Your shares don't mean a thing."

Linda James had never had her husband speak to her in this manner throughout her entire life, and his tone made her fly into a rage. "What the hell are you saying? I'm going to kill you!"

But her husband turned away, ignoring her.

...

That day, Yvette Larson approached her cousin.

At a coffee shop.

Yvette Larson, Quince Larson, and Eleanor Larson were seated at a table.

Eleanor Larson glanced out of the window and smiled. "I never thought that the three of us would still have the chance to sit around the same table for coffee together."

Yvette Larson replied, "Nobody will stay enemies forever. Only benefits matter in the long term. You want to buy the company, and I want to sell it. It only makes sense for us to sit and have a chat with each other. There's no need to go against each other like we did in the past."

"Are you afraid I'll bring up your divorce?"

Quince Larson shushed her. "Eleanor, don't bring that up."

"Eleanor, everyone has a dark past. Do you want me to talk about your history before we discuss business?"

Compared to her cousin, Eleanor Larson had a much darker history. As such, that threat was enough to shut her up.

"Yvette Larson, didn't you refuse my offer last time? What, have you come to your senses and decided to sell the company?"

Yvette Larson smiled. "Why would you bother asking since you know the answer? I'm sure you know that the company is going to go bankrupt in my hands by next week. Since that's the case, I might as well sell it and get some money for it."

"That's true. I already said that you don't have the brains for business, and I was right. The company is going to go bankrupt in your hands. Name a price."

Yvette Larson nearly rolled her eyes. 'Quince Larson makes it sound nice, but doesn't he know how he managed the company in the past too? Besides, does he really think that it was due to incompetence that the company is going under?'

It was clearly a show, yet Yvette Larson didn't expose him.

"A billion dollars," she offered.

Eleanor Larson spat her tea out. "A billion dollars? Yvette Larson, you're really daring. What are you going to do with so much money?"

"What, can't I have a billion dollars?"

"Yvette Larson, shouldn't you look at the state the company is in now? I have to admit that the company might've been worth a billion at its peak, but now? Forget it."

"What's your price then?"

"10 million."

"I guess we don't have a deal then. 10 million is way too little. I'll get much more if I sell the company to someone else."

"We can always discuss the price.. Why don't we both make a compromise? What do you think about 20 million?"