

## **Zillionaire 531**

### Chapter 531 Just Give Me A Little More Time

"CR Corporation has always prioritized charity. Remember that auction where their founder paid a billion for a single necklace? All of that money eventually went toward sponsorship programs and charitable causes!"

"It seems CR Corporation spotted Lawson Group's problems early, which explains why they abruptly ended

their partnership."

"Wait, it just hit me-if CR Corporation was aware of Lawson Group's scandals all along, instead of publicly shaming them, they quietly accepted paying the contractual penalty. That's incredibly generous on their part

"This is exactly why CR Corporation is on a different level altogether. They're in a league of their own. I'm definitely applying there in the future!"

"Meanwhile, Lawson Group had the audacity to boast about decades of stability, only to collapse under a heap

of internal scandals."

"Let's give credit again where it's due-CR Corporation consistently excels in everything, from fashion to real estate. Their factories maintain transparency, and the safety standards they uphold are unmatched. Their founder truly spares no expense on quality!"

"Even more impressive is how modest CR Corporation remains, despite their immense success. They never flaunt their status; instead, they concentrate on delivering high-quality goods and services. That sincerity is truly commendable!"

"And talk about humility-the CR founder stays completely out of the public eye. To this day, no one even knows his face because he's too busy genuinely building the brand. Such a mysterious yet admirable leader!"

"Guys, don't wait-get your hands on CR Corporation stocks right now! They're booming again, and profits are

soaring!"

"Lucky me-I invested early, and now my returns have multiplied!"

"I've gone a step further-I logged onto CR Corporation's website and stocked up

on their products. Their quality and reliability never disappoint!"

Within mere hours, social media was buzzing with admiration for CR Corporation's extensive charitable record and flawless business reputation.

This sudden wave of praise sent CR Corporation's earnings soaring, bringing significant profits even to their new

partner, Burke Group.

At the same time, Lawson Group continued its downward spiral as internal scandals relentlessly drove its stock price into the ground.

Inside Lawson Group's meeting room, Jeffery faced the board during an emergency session. Questions fired from every direction, making his mood increasingly grim.

"Jeffery, the company's survival is at stake. Have you still not devised any solutions?"

"You completely ruined the promising deal with CR Corporation!"

"Jeffery, I'm seriously doubting your capabilities at this point. When Cruz returns, we'll need to reevaluate your

position."

Unable to endure the criticism any longer, Jeffery said sharply, "I promise, I will resolve this! Just give me a little more time, please!"

"You'd better keep your word, Cruz. Your father-and all of us-worked too hard building Lawson Group to watch it crumble because of your mistakes!"

Frustration hung heavily as the meeting abruptly ended.

Jeffery clenched his fists tightly, overwhelmed by stress and anxiety.

Initially confident in managing the crisis, he now realized things had spiraled far beyond his control.

Desperation forced him to consider reaching out once more to the founder of CR Corporation for forgiveness.

Back at home, Linsey was quietly resting and recuperating.

Out of nowhere, her phone rang-it was Dolores calling.

Linsey barely got out a greeting before Dolores' concerned voice filled her ear. "Linsey! I just heard people talking about what happened at Carol Lawson's birthday party! Are you okay? Were you badly hurt? Where are you right now?"

Chapter 532 We're Both Pretty Good At Hiding...

Linsey chuckled at Dolores' rapid-fire questions. "slow down, Dolores. I'll answer everything one at a time."

Dolores let out a heavy sigh, slightly easing her pace, though the worry in her voice remained. "How can I not be anxious with everything that's happened? Tell me, how are you?"

Linsey reassured her without hesitation. "It's nothing serious-just a minor injury. I've been resting at home for

a few days."

Dolores clenched her jaw in frustration. "That damn Carol! I knew she was up to no good."

She then sighed regretfully. "I've been so busy lately that I haven't kept up with online news. I only just saw the replay of your live stream from that night."

Linsey's voice was gentle. "It's okay, Dolores. We talk every day, don't we? If something serious had happened, I would've told you."

After a brief pause, she added sincerely, "I know you've been swamped, so I didn't want to burden you."

Dolores sighed, exasperated. "You always sound so cheerful when we text-I can't tell how you feel

"You're one to talk! You always act happy, too. If I hadn't noticed you replying slower than usual, I wouldn't have realized how busy you were. We're both pretty good at hiding things, aren't we?" Linsey chuckled.

Since they were only speaking over the phone, Linsey couldn't see the flicker of sadness that crossed Dolores

'face.

Dolores quickly changed the subject. "By the way, have you seen the news lately?"

Linsey raised an eyebrow. "Not really. After that night's livestream, I was bombarded with messages- some supportive, some not. I didn't want them to affect my mood, so I stayed off social media."

Dolores immediately spoke up. "Something big happened! I just found out myself." Linsey's curiosity piqued. "Oh? What is it?"

"It involves you, too." Dolores hesitated, pretending to be mysterious.

Linsey pouted playfully. "Dolores, if you don't tell me right now, I'm looking it up myself."

Dolores, always one to tease, chuckled before finally revealing, "CR Corporation and Lawson Group have officially terminated their contract."

Linsey barely reacted. "I already knew about that."

Dolores wasn't finished. "But did you know CR Corporation is now working with Burke Group?" she asked

slowly, emphasizing every word.

That caught Linsey off guard. Her eyes widened. "Wait, what? Since when?"

CR Corporation and Burke Group? How did that happen?

Burke Group was Millie's family business, wasn't it?

Linsey's mind drifted back to the night of Carol's birthday party. She remembered how Collin had come to the hospital to take her home-and how Dustin had left with Millie.

Had they discussed the deal that night?

She wasn't sure, but either way, the news excited her.

CR Corporation was a major player in Grester. Burke Group would definitely benefit a lot from partnering with

them.

Millie had helped her a lot that night, and knowing that her family had landed such

a big collaboration made Linsey genuinely happy for her.

Chapter 533 Linsey, We

Need To Meet

"Of course, it's true. CR Corporation has already made an official announcement. I skimmed through the latest news before calling you," Dolores said confidently.

It was clear to her now-Linsey genuinely had no idea about the latest developments.

"There's more. Scandals broke out right after CR Corporation cut ties with Lawson Group. Regulatory agencies are all over it. The situation looks serious. It's only been two days, and Lawson Group's stock has already plummeted."

Linsey was stunned. "How could this happen to Lawson Group?"

Dolores sighed. "Word is, things have been going downhill since Jeffery took over as acting CEO. Now, all the underlying issues are finally coming to light."

"I never saw this coming," Linsey murmured.

Lawson Group might not have been on the same level as CR Corporation, but it had always been one of the top enterprises in Grester. How did it fall apart so quickly?

Then again, no one else was to blame. The company's downfall was a direct result of its negligence. It wouldn't have come to this if they had managed things well.

As the acting CEO, Jeffery must be going through hell right now.

Dolores added, "With Lawson Group in shambles, other companies in town- especially CR Corporation. Lately, people have been praising CR Corporation and its founder non-stop."

Linsey couldn't help but smile. "Well, our company is top-notch."

Dolores chuckled. "No wonder the founder of CR Corporation ended the partnership. It's obvious they saw this

coming!"

Linsey had to agree.

Whoever was behind CR Corporation's decisions must have sensed Lawson Group's internal problems long ago. By cutting ties early, they avoided unnecessary risks.

That was probably why the founder was ready to pay a two-billion penalty to sever ties immediately.

It wasn't until then that Linsey realized what Collin and Dustin had told her that night wasn't just empty

reassurance.

The corporate world was ruthless. Most employees never saw the hidden battles playing out behind the scenes.

The two continued chatting for a while.

Then, Linsey's phone buzzed with an incoming call.

She glanced at the screen, her brows knitting together.

It was an unfamiliar number.

"I just got a call, but I don't recognize the number," she said, puzzled

Dolores mused aloud, "Maybe it's a client looking for your designs? With Lawson Group collapsing, any smart client would know CR Corporation is the better choice. I should let you go. Take the call-you don't want to miss out on a big deal because of me."

Linsey thought it was a possibility. "Alright, let's talk again soon," she said before hanging up.

She looked at the number again, and it was still unfamiliar. She didn't overthink and picked up the call. "Hello,

who's this?"

A smug voice came through the line. "Jeffery Lawson. Linsey, we need to meet."

Chapter 534 And Why Exactly Would I Help You

Jeffery?



Linsey's voice was laced with pure confusion. "How did you get my number?"

Jeffery let out a smug chuckle, laced with sarcasm. "Who in town wouldn't have the contact details of the great

designer Linsey?"

Linsey's brows furrowed, her tone turning ice-cold. "Mr. Lawson, what do you want from me?"

His blunt demand to meet, paired with that arrogant tone, made his intentions unclear.

She hadn't forgotten his behavior at Carol's birthday party when he had tried to intimidate her with a five-million-dollar check. That alone was enough for her to have zero patience for him.

"Linsey, I heard you haven't been to the office these past few days. Are you just avoiding me?"

His presumptuous words sent a spark

of

irritation through her.

"This is ridiculous. Do you seriously not understand why I've been on leave?" She let out a sharp laugh.

"Thanks to your dear sister, I've sprained both my hand and foot. And if that wasn't enough, she stomped on my already injured hand, leaving it a bloody mess. I can barely hold a fork, yet here you are, acting like my absence is some personal slight against you. It's laughable."

"Linsey..." Jeffery faltered, momentarily at a loss.

Linsey didn't give him a chance to recover. "Jeffery, I'm not your employee, nor am I your family's servant. So don't talk to me like you have any authority over me. You might be the privileged eldest son of the Lawson family, but that doesn't mean you can order everyone around."

Jeffery seethed with rage at her words.

Even through the phone, Linsey could sense his barely restrained anger. She waited a few seconds before calmly saying, "If you have nothing else to say, I'll hang up now."

"Wait," Jeffery cut in quickly.

Linsey arched a brow, amused.

For someone as arrogant as Jeffery to call her, he must have had something important to say, or rather, something he wanted from her.

After a brief pause, his voice came heavy with forced restraint. "Linsey, I don't know what kind of relationship you have with the founder of CR Corporation, and frankly, I don't care. I'm calling because I need you to convince him to reverse the decision to cancel our partnership."

Linsey's eyes narrowed slightly in surprise.

She wasn't shocked that Jeffery wanted to salvage the deal-given Lawson Group's current crisis, losing CR Corporation's support only worsened the situation.

What surprised her was that he was asking her for help.

It didn't take long to figure out why.

Jeffery also believed she had ties to CR Corporation's founder.

Linsey nearly laughed out loud at its absurdity. Why did everyone assume she had some connection to him?

She had never even met the man.

Still, amusement aside, her response was firm. "And why exactly would I help you?"

Chapter 535 I Can't Today, Carol

Linsey found the situation absurdly funny.

She was not naive. After the Lawson siblings had left her injured and humiliated, they were now expecting her

help?

What was Jeffrey thinking?

"Your firm just ended our partnership unexpectedly. Are you telling me you're unaware?" Jeffrey asked, his irritation was evident.

Linsey dismissed his concerns with indifference. "What's next?"

Jeffrey was taken aback. "Our current crisis wouldn't have happened if not for you!"

Linsey was mildly entertained by his illogical blame. "Mr. Lawson, could you enlighten me on how my role as a designer at CR Corporation intersects with the internal challenges of Lawson Group? Are you truly attempting to shift the blame for your company's failures onto me?"

She took a moment before continuing, "Jeffrey, that kind of logic is laughable. I'd suggest you sort out your thoughts before engaging in such discussions."

With that, Linsey hung up the phone, not giving Jeffrey any opportunity to retort. What an irritation!

She regretted even answering the call. As someone who valued rational

discourse, she found it impossible to communicate with someone as irrational as Jeffrey.

Back on his end, Jeffrey was left speechless.

It took him some time to grasp the full extent of what had just transpired.

Linsey had actually had the audacity to hang up on him!

Jeffery's cheeks flushed with fury.

When he attempted to redial Linsey, he discovered she had already blocked his number.

So be it!

In a fit of rage, Jeffrey thumped the back of the passenger seat, causing the driver to flinch.

"Mr. Lawson, is everything okay?" the driver inquired, his voice tinged with concern. Recently, Jeffery's behavior had become increasingly erratic, a reflection of the turmoil within his company.

Jeffery dismissed the driver's question, clenching his teeth in sheer frustration.

His plan had been to leverage Linsey to gain an audience with the head of CR Corporation, but Linsey had staunchly refused.

Not only did she rebuff him, but she also left him simmering with rage.

It was an unprecedented level of humiliation for him!

Jeffery's gaze then shifted towards the grand CR Corporation building looming in the distance.

Just thirty minutes earlier, he had been inside that very building.

Yesterday, they had allowed him to at least present his case.

Today, however, they denied him entry, stating that CR Corporation was severing all contacts associated with the Lawson Group staff.

Jeffery was at a loss. He couldn't gain access to CR Corporation, and now Linsey was refusing to assist as well. He pondered whether his only recourse was to ask his parents to intervene.

Unaware of Jeffery's predicament, Carol was eagerly looking forward to some retail therapy after her hospital

stay.

Eager to roam the mall, she found herself missing the usual company of her friends. Typically surrounded by her circle, she reached out to them.

Yet, they each declined one after another.

"Oh, I can't today, Carol. I've missed too many dance classes already. My mom would freak out if I missed

another."

"Sorry, Carol, I'm actually down with a cold. Maybe try someone else?"

Chapter 536 Speaking To

Me Like That Is...

"Shopping? After our family face huge losses from the new venture with your family, I'm tiptoeing around at home. I'm not even thinking about asking for money, much less spending it frivolously. It's astonishing you're still in the mood for shopping. Perhaps you should think about assisting your brother with the company's

troubles instead."

With those words, Carol's friend ended the call decisively,

Carol, wide-eyed with shock, hadn't anticipated such a universal decline from her circle, especially the typically compliant friend who now scolded her!

This was outrageous!

As a Lawson, it was unthinkable that her friends would rebuff her so boldly!

Her irritation mounting, Carol resolved not to let these rejections spoil her day.

She could still indulge in a delightful shopping spree, flanked by bodyguards to handle her purchases and store employees eager to please her.

The suggestion to fret over Lawson Group's problems was dismissible.

Jeffery had downplayed the company's predicaments, promising a swift resolution.

Her interest in the Lawson Group's affairs was minimal; her primary concern had always been her allowance.

Even if she wanted to help, she doubted she would have any useful advice for Jeffery.

So, Carol proceeded to her favorite jewelry store, escorted by her imposing bodyguards, ready to indulge in some retail therapy.

"Where is everyone?" Carol inquired, perplexed by the lack of greeting as she lingered in the store.

Upon her entrance, the clerk behind the counter immediately recognized her.

Yet, the clerk merely offered a quick glance and made no move to approach.

Irritation washed over Carol's face as she said, "I'm speaking to you! Is this how you treat a customer?"

Her raised voice quickly drew the attention of other store employees, with the manager quickly stepping forward to address the situation.

"What seems to be the problem here?" the manager questioned sharply.

Carol retorted, "I should be the one asking that. I've shopped here frequently, yet your clerk ignored me completely today. Is she trying to get fired?"

The manager glanced at Carol, then turned to the clerk and instructed, "Please go

to the back and sort the inventory. I'll take care of this."

"Sure," replied the clerk, flashing the manager a smile before heading off.

Carol's disbelief grew as she watched the clerk leave unscathed.

The manager's lack of action stunned her, and the surrounding clerks couldn't suppress their chuckles. "Manager, you just talked about her, yet here she is. Talk about perfect timing."

"Indeed, it's quite amusing. It appears someone hasn't quite caught on to the reality of her situation," another

added.

It dawned on Carol that she was being deliberately ostracized by the staff.

"Are you out of your minds? Speaking to me like that is unacceptable!" Carol snapped.

The manager let the clerks' laughter continue, then responded in a mocking tone, "Miss Lawson, are you not aware of recent events? Just today, numerous factories of the Lawson Group were closed, and there's a comprehensive investigation underway into your firm's activities. It's likely that your family's assets will be frozen soon. Regrettably, we're unable to serve you under these circumstances."

Chapter 537 You've Finally

Come To Save Me!

"Ridiculous!" exclaimed Carol sharply. "My name is Carol! How dare you treat me like this? Your store will be closed by tomorrow, mark my words!"

A store clerk, who had lost patience with Carol's arrogant attitude, retorted, "Have some shame! It's not our

store that will shut down, but the Lawson Group! Fool."

Fuming with rage at the insult, Carol twisted her features in anger and instructed her bodyguards, "Destroy everything in this store!"



"Yes, Miss Lawson." The bodyguards immediately set to work, wreaking havoc in the store.

As the sound of breaking glass and crashing shelves filled the air, Carol felt a flicker of satisfaction

She sneered at the store manager and the clerks, her eyes gleaming with vindictive pleasure. "That's the cost of disrespecting me!"

Carol anticipated their fear and pleas for mercy.

However, their calm and unflinching faces caught her off guard.

She had a bad vibe.

The manager reached for the phone and said, "Hello, police? We're experiencing vandalism..."

Carol's reaction was immediate when she heard the manager's intent to call the police. She darted forward, pleading, "Please, don't call the police!"

But the manager sidestepped her smoothly, and the clerks didn't hesitate to form

a barrier, saying "Miss Lawson, thinking of making a scene? The police can handle that too once they're here."

At the police station, an officer's voice came from outside the room.

"Carol, your brother is here."

Her face brightened at the news, and she saw Jeffery walking towards her with determination. "Jeffery! You're finally come to save me!"

It wasn't until Jeffery stopped right in front of her that Carol noticed how dark his expression had turned. Her chest tightened, and the bold front she'd kept slipped just a little. "Jeffery.."

"Carol!" Jeffery's voice was tight, and he paused, struggling to control his emotions. "What were you thinking

Tears welled up in Carol's eyes as she stammered, "It was a mistake, I swear!"

Jeffery's frustration only grew as he saw her tears, not out of sympathy, but from sheer exasperation. "Carol, can you please refrain from causing more chaos? I'm already buried under the weight of the company's problems, and now you've decided to heighten my stress at the worst possible time?"

Carol attempted to explain herself, saying, "I didn't mean to..."

Jeffery interjected sharply, "Stop, I'm not interested in your excuses right now."

His dismissal stung Carol deeply, her eyes widening in shock.

Excuses? Was that how he saw her now?

When had Jeffery, once so loving and supportive, turned so cold towards her?

Confusion and distress swirled in Carol's mind as she struggled to comprehend the shift in her brother's demeanor, her emotions a mix of bewilderment and despair.

Chapter 538 You've Never Hit Me Before

A police officer approached them and said, "Both of you, follow me. The jewelry store manager has submitted

a report of the damages. You are expected to arrange for compensation."

Jeffery, visibly agitated, nodded grimly and replied, "Understood."

The officer paused, taking in Jeffery's appearance with a look of surprise.

Could this really be Jeffery Lawson, the heir to the Lawson Group?

The fall of the Lawson Group seemed inevitable.

The burdens of such a sister, who had sparked significant chaos today, weighed heavily on Jeffery.

Carol, tearful and with a trembling voice, pleaded, "Jeffery, do I really have to go? I can't bear to face those people again..."

"Carol!" Jeffery reprimanded sharply, his disbelief apparent as he stared at her. "Now is not the time to act spoiled. You must go and offer your apologies."

Carol's opposition grew stronger. "No! I will not apologize to them, Jeffery! I simply cannot..."

Before she could continue, Jeffery struck her cheek with a swift motion.

A stunned silence enveloped the space around them momentarily.

Jeffery was overwhelmed by the surge of emotions as his breath was heavy. It took him a few seconds to realize what he had done.

He looked down at his hand, the redness on his palm slowly fading yet still evident from the force of the slap.

Carol recoiled from the impact, her hand trembling as she reached up to touch her stinging cheek.

The pain radiated sharply across her face.

Disbelief and pain filled Carol's eyes as she stared back at Jeffery, tears welling up.

"Jeffery... you've never hit me before..." Her voice was shaky, barely above a whisper.

Jeffery's hand tightened into a fist, the skin across his knuckles whitening.

Faced with her tears, he felt an unsettling lack of remorse.

Somewhere within, he believed that the slap was justified, perhaps even overdue.

He looked away from her, his voice cold as he addressed her, saying, "Carol, your self-centeredness and arrogance have contributed to the company's downfall. It's time you faced some consequences to prevent

further recklessness."

Carol's lips quivered as she suppressed a sob, then she laughed scornfully, tears streaking down her cheeks.

"I've never worked at the company. Its fate is not my concern. Why are you projecting your failures onto me?"

Jeffery's rage was evident; he couldn't grasp how Carol remained shameless. Was this really the beloved sister he thought he knew?

Jeffery, chilled to his very soul, pointed accusingly at Carol and delivered each word with precision, saying, "The way you treated Linsey at your birthday event cost us our partnership with CR Corporation! If we had retained the support of CR's founder, any issues within our company could have been mitigated."

He was worked up as he continued, "Carol, you ruined my final chance! Your behavior caused Linsey to reject any plea for help when I reached out to her personally!"

Drawing a sharp breath and sneering, Jeffery said, "As your brother, did I ever fail to spoil you? And yet, now that I've criticized you just a bit, you're quick to shift the blame to me. Bravo. I've never known such heartlessness."

Chapter 539 I Won't Apologize

Carol stared in disbelief.

Again, it was Linsey at the center of the issue.

Jeffery's harsh treatment was because of her, Carol realized.

Tightening her grip, Carol felt her injured cheek throb painfully.

"Come with me! You're going to apologize now!" Jeffery's voice rose, his anger no longer contained, making his commands increasingly severe.

"I won't apologize!" Carol's voice cracked as she yelled, pushing Jeffery away unexpectedly and bolting from the

room.

"Carol!" Jeffery was caught off guard by her sudden escape.

She sprinted out of the police station swiftly.

Jeffery got to the door just in time to see Carol disappearing from view.

"Damn it!" He swore softly, agitated by her defiance. "She's just making everything harder."

A police officer approached Jeffery, attempting to calm the situation. "Mr. Lawson, let her be for now. You can resolve things with Miss Lawson at home."

Frustration was written all over Jeffery's face. He had no clue how much the jewelry store might ask for in damages. The company was already in a rough spot, and he had sunk his savings into key projects, counting on a last-minute turnaround.

If the payout ended up being huge, he honestly had no idea how he would handle it.

Despite the looming financial threats, Jeffery maintained his composure, unwilling to let the public see the Lawson family's weakness.

Meanwhile, Carol continued her frantic dash, colliding with passersby without pausing to apologize.

"Watch your step! Can't you see?"

"People these days!"

Flinging her arms, Carol yelled, "Out of my way! Everyone, just move!"

Without realizing, she stumbled onto the street.

A car horn screamed, shattering the air.

Carol stood paralyzed.

"Carol!"

In an instant, a strong pull yanked her from impending danger.

She gasped as both bodies hit the pavement.

Instead of the sharp sting of asphalt, Carol felt only a soft thud beneath her.

Bewildered, she looked down and found Alexa crushed under her weight.

Alexa's face was ghostly white as she winced from the impact, her breaths sharp with pain.

"You saved me!" Carol recognized her, startled.

Regaining her senses, Alexa asked, "Carol, are you okay? Did you get hurt?"

Carol brushed off Alexa's concern, rising to her feet with an indifferent look on her face, intent on leaving

Alexa, not ready to give up, quickly got to her feet and reached for Carol's hand. "Please, just stay safe. Don't rush off into danger again!"

"Get your hands off me!" Carol shouted, jerking her arm away sharply.

Recoiling, Alexa felt a sharp twinge from her earlier injuries.

She couldn't pause

assess her own pain as she watched Carol storm off, her heart pounding with worry.

"Carol, wait! There's something you need to hear!"

around, her face set in a harsh scowl. Closing the distance again, she hissed,

"What could say that matters? Don't think saving me entitles you to meddle in my affairs. You have no

Carol halted and you possibly have

spun

place in my life."

Standing her ground, Alexa straightened, catching her breath to speak. It was

then that she caught sight of the bruising on Carol's face.

Chapter 540 I'll Assist You

Alexa's eyes widened in shock as she instinctively reached out to caress Carol's cheek.

"Why are you touching me?" Carol exclaimed, slapping Alexa's hand away with a look of disgust. "Keep your

filthy hands to yourself!"



Despite Carol's harsh rejection, Alexa's expression remained one of deep concern.

"What's wrong with your face?" Alexa's voice trembled with anxiety as she quickly pieced things together, her voice growing sharp. "Did someone hit you?"

Carol opened her mouth to respond but paused, catching the deep concern in Alexa's gaze—a look reminiscent of those worn by Jeffery and her parents.

For a brief moment, Carol was overwhelmed with disgust.

How dare Alexa, merely a servant, assume a maternal role towards her?

What gave her the right?

Angered by these thoughts, Carol's response grew harsher, asking, "Why should you care?"

She must keep the secret that Jeffery had struck her.

Struggling to control her feelings, Alexa pleaded, "Someone has hurt you badly. Your face is all swollen. Please, let me get some ointment for it right away."

Carol's face twisted with a flicker of rage as she hissed, "This is all Linsey's fault! I swear she'll pay for this!"

Alexa, taken aback, hadn't expected Linsey to be implicated in this affair.

Just as she was about to respond, Carol fixed her gaze on her and swiftly instructed, "You used to shadow Linsey, right? Join me for the next scheme." Hesitating, Alexa remembered their prior failures in dealing with Linsey, each attempt rebounding disastrously. Yet, confronted with the sight of her daughter's bruised face, Alexa found it impossible to decline. "Okay, I'll assist you. I'll do whatever you need, just to see you smile again."

Linsey had been recovering at home, her wounds slowly mending.

She had hoped to reveal her pregnancy to Collin once he returned from his trip.

But Collin had been unexpectedly tied up lately, as if preoccupied with a significant issue.

Reluctant to bother him, Linsey decided to wait for an opportune moment to deliver her news.

That night, as she awaited Collin's return for dinner, Linsey surfed the Internet in the living room.

Over the past few days, the shares of CR Corporation had surged, attracting a flurry of eager partners.

The dealings alone had surged to a staggering five billion in local currency, aside from the profits accruing from CR Corporation's ventures in production and investments.

Linsey's surprise grew with each article she read.

Meanwhile, the Lawson Group had faced a series of losses from emerging scandals, which starkly contrasted the two billion in compensation they had received from CR Corporation.

Linsey pondered the results had CR Corporation not severed ties with Lawson Group. Would they now be caught in the fallout?

Collin entered quietly, shedding his coat and settling next to Linsey. "What's caught your interest?"

"You're home!" A smile lit up Linsey's face as she responded, "Just catching up on the latest about CR Corporation and Lawson Group. They've been all over the news lately."

Collin quirked an eyebrow and said, "I was worried you might be bored stuck here, but you seem quite captivated."

