Zillionaire 581

Chapter 581 Is My Baby Okay
Linsey's heart raced as she quickly asked, "Is my baby okay?"
Her earlier collapse had raised concerns about the safety of her unborn child.
Gorman observed the worry on her face; it was clear she had been aware of her pregnancy.
In a calm tone, he reassured her, "You fainted because of strong emotions. It's important for expectant mothers to avoid stress, as it can impact the baby's health."
In that moment, the doctor mistakenly assumed that Gorman was Linsey's husband and the father of her baby.
However, that wasn't the case.
However, that wasn't the case. The father of Linsey's child was none other than the deceitful Collin.
The father of Linsey's child was none other than the deceitful Collin.
The father of Linsey's child was none other than the deceitful Collin. Linsey murmured softly, her hand resting gently on her stomach. "Thank goodness the baby is fine." Gorman had thought about bringing up her future plans and whether she was considering returning to

Linsey assumed he must be busy with other duties and nodded, deciding to let the matter go.

At that moment, her phone suddenly rang. As Gorman stood to leave, his eyes briefly caught the caller ID-Dear Husband. He stopped suddenly in his tracks. Linsey saw who it was and it was Collin calling. She maintained her composure as she picked up the phone. As Gorman was about to leave, he caught Linsey cutting off her call with Collin decisively. A surge of joy washed over him. Linsey had actually dismissed Collin's call! Trying to mask his glee, Gorman maintained a composed face. "Have some rest." "Okay," Linsey responded faintly, just as her phone started ringing once more. It was Collin, calling again. For a moment, Gorman hesitated, but his earlier statement meant he could not stay. He acted as if he didn't care while leaving, but his mind remained fixed on Linsey's situation. Linsey let the phone ring, choosing silence over answering. After the ringing had stopped, she found numerous messages from her colleagues.

"Linsey, everyone's at the annual party. Where are you?"



Her connection to CR Corporation was becoming a burden.
Each time she thought of the company or Collin, the painful memories of his words in the hotel echoed in her
mind.
As she spoke, tears began to stream down Linsey's cheeks.
She had a deep, lasting affection for her job.
She could still vividly remember the joy she had experienced when she secured her position at CR Corporation. Now, she found herself struggling to face the consequences of her past decisions.
Chapter 582 What's This About Resigning Out Of
The superior stared blankly for a moment before finally speaking. "Linsey, what's this about resigning out of nowhere? Did something unpleasant happen? If there's a problem, let me know-I can speak with management
on your behalf."
Such an abrupt announcement immediately made the superior suspect Linsey might be unhappy with her pay
or working conditions.
Yet, given her exceptional talent, it was clear to everyone she was more than deserving of better compensation.

After a moment's hesitation, Linsey calmly replied, "There's nothing troubling me. I've thought carefully about
this, and I would appreciate your approval."
A thoughtful silence followed from the superior, who eventually sighed, recognizing her resolve.
"I genuinely believe your gift for design is unmatched, Linsey. But since you sound certain, I'll respect your wishes. Just come by the office when you have time, bring your resignation letter,. and we'll sort out the
handover details."
"Okay, thank you," Linsey said softly.
The rapid approval of her sudden resignation request was unexpectedly considerate and understanding.
A few polite exchanges later, the call ended quietly.
Linsey stared at the phone screen, letting out a slow breath like she was releasing a weight.
Once her breathing steadied, she reluctantly opened Collin's unanswered messages.
"Babe, why aren't you picking up? Where are you right now?".
"Were you at your firm's annual gathering tonight?"
"Please, sweetheart, let me know as soon as you get this. I'm genuinely worried."
With every message she read, Linsey felt her heart clench tighter.

As CR Corporation's founder, Collin was undoubtedly attending tonight's grand party.
Clearly, he had noticed her absence and was becoming increasingly concerned.
Yet she remained uncertain about the sincerity behind Collin's apparent care and affection.
If his kindness was genuine, then why would he hide secrets from her, speaking those hurtful words behind
her back?
But if all this affection was merely an elaborate show
A bitter laugh escaped Linsey's lips.
Right now, she couldn't even trust her own instincts.
Should she admire Collin's masterful deception or scold herself for being naive enough to believe him?
She had boldly defended Collin in front of Carol, only to face a harsh betrayal that crushed her spirit completely.
Everything had gone horribly wrong.
What had she done to deserve this situation?
Silent tears gave way to uncontrollable sobbing.

Standing quietly in the shadows by the hospital room entrance, Gorman overheard Linsey's muffled cries, and his heart twisted painfully.
All this agony, all this sorrow-Collin was responsible for every bit of it.
Remembering Linsey's recent call, Gorman felt an unexpected surge of hope.
Her decision to quit CR Corporation hinted strongly that she might finally break leave Collin.
If she still believed in Collin, why would she willingly abandon her prestigious role in fashion design?
As that thought lingered, a cautious smile slowly spread across Gorman's lips.
Finally, fate was giving him the chance he had longed for.
This time, he promised himself, he wouldn't let the opportunity slip away.
At that very moment, seated high above the dazzling banquet hall in a private suite, Collin frowned deeply, glaring impatiently at his phone.
Over a dozen unanswered calls, countless texts, and still no word from Linsey. Never once had she behaved like this before.
Earlier today, around noon, he had texted Linsey about sending her a special dress, and she had responded
warmly.
But since then, silence had taken over their conversation.

Initially, Collin feared that something dreadful had happened. Later, however, word reached him that Linsey had already messaged colleagues from her department to reassure them she was safe. Clearly, she was deliberately choosing to ignore him. Chapter 583 That Leaves Just One Possibility Collin felt utterly lost, struggling to understand why Linsey had suddenly chosen to shut him out. Next to him, Dustin studied Collin's troubled expression before cautiously asking, "Listen, Collin, we're your friends-you don't have to pretend things are fine. Did something happen between you and Linsey? If everything was okay, why else would she suddenly cut you off?" Dominic and Dilan traded a glance, then looked curiously at Collin. Of all the moments to hit a rough patch, it had to be tonight-when everything was arranged perfectly for the proposal. Collin rubbed at his temple in frustration, a shadow crossing his face. "We didn't fight." Earlier that day, he had kissed Linsey warmly before she left for work, the memory still fresh in his mind. Both had been cheerful, excited about the surprises they had each prepared. An argument just didn't fit into the puzzle of their day. If Linsey was truly angry, she would usually confront him directly, unless something had occurred that

left her deeply hurt or betrayed.

A sudden chill crept into Collin's chest, gripping his heart with dread. Uncertainty gnawed at his nerves, making his pulse quicken with worry. Everything felt like it was spiraling out of control. Noticing Collin's expression darkening further, Dustin opened his mouth but hesitated. Desperate for backup, Dustin glanced toward Dominic and Dilan, silently begging them to step in. They needed a quick fix to prevent disaster. Dominic broke the awkward silence first, gently saying, "Collin, your proposal is scheduled for exactly eight o'clock, and the crew is fully prepared to kick things off on time. But it's already seven thirty. The party's been rolling for over an hour. If we don't track Linsey down soon, postponing will become inevitable." Collin didn't need the reminder-he was aware of this. Exhaling deeply, he closed his eyes for a brief moment before opening them again. "Linsey last spoke to me around noon. Something must've happened between then and now-someone either said or showed her something that made her reluctant to see me." Dustin's eyes widened as a realization struck him. "Wait-could it be someone finally revealed to her that you're the owner of CR Corporation?"

Dominic shook his head, skepticism evident in his expression. "If that was all, she wouldn't ignore you

completely. She'd confront you immediately."

Dominic studied Collin carefully, his voice lowering meaningfully. "That leaves just one possibility..." Collin quickly understood the implication, his brows tightening sharply. "She might have asked me something, and whatever answer she received left her deeply hurt." After pausing briefly, he considered another possibility. "Or perhaps my actions unintentionally made her lose faith in me." Dilan, confused by their speculation, finally cut in, "Why waste time guessing? Why not send someone to find her and ask directly?" "Absolutely not," Collin instantly replied. "Forcing Linsey to return will only worsen her feelings." Dilan looked genuinely baffled. Perhaps being single prevented him from grasping the delicate nature of Collin's relationship issues.

"Let's first find out discreetly what we can," Collin suggested after a moment's consideration. "Her coworkers said she left the Fashion Design Department around noon and didn't return. Let's quietly check the surveillance footage from this afternoon and see exactly when she left the building."

Chapter 584 Could Gorman

Be Behind This

With a firm nod, Dustin chimed in immediately, "Checking whether Linsey left alone or with someone might give us a clue about what's troubling her."

Acting quickly, Dustin contacted his team, instructing them to urgently pull the company's surveillance tapes tracing Linsey's movements throughout the day.

The lounge became tense with anticipation as they awaited the news. Within minutes, Dustin's phone buzzed, signaling an incoming call from his subordinate. Hearing the frantic voice on the other end, Dustin abruptly shot up, panic flooding his expression. "Waitrepeat that clearly. You're telling me Linsey was abducted earlier today?" Collin froze instantly, his expression darkening into intense focus. Without a moment's hesitation, he snatched Dustin's phone, switching it hastily to speaker mode. "That's right, Mr. Wade," the subordinate said nervously. "The footage clearly shows Linsey stepping outside after a courier called her name. As soon as she approached the delivery vehicle, someone knocked her unconscious and dragged her inside. Everything happened swiftly at the company entrance, but hardly anyone passed by due to working hours. Even the security guard was occupied elsewhere, completely missing the incident." Confusion creased Dustin's forehead. "She stepped outside just because a courier called for her? That doesn't sound like Linsey-could she have known him?" Collin's breathing grew strained, his voice coming out rough and tense. "Tell me the exact time this happened." The subordinate paused briefly, then hesitantly relayed the timing. Every muscle in Collin's body tightened in response.

That precise time matched exactly when he had messaged Linsey about the special dress delivery.

Linsey had innocently believed the courier was there on his
Collin's fists tightened in self-blame, each breath heavy with regret.
Sensing the turmoil gripping Collin, Dustin swiftly intervened, hoping to ease his
worry. "Collin, remember, Linsey later sent voice messages reassuring her coworkers that she was fine. That means she must have been
rescued."
"Someone stepped in," Collin murmured quietly, barely audible.
Dustin quickly redirected his subordinate, voice stern. "Dig into that delivery van immediately. Find out exactly
who dared to stduct Linsey"
"Right away, Mi Wade'
As soon as the call ended, Dustin spoke spain, piering clues together "Whoever took her might've intentionally fed Linsey lies about you, Collin."
An unsettling thought flashed scross Dustin's mind. "Wait-Collin, could Gorman be behind this?
Collin instantly shot Dustin a hard stare, eyes narrowing in skepticism.

Yet Dustin pressed further, convinced by his theory. "When I handed Corman the invitation, I might've let slip that the founder was proposing tonight. He probably guessed your identity from that conversation and abducted Linsey today to reveal everything"

"Dustin, looks like you're the one who stirred up this mess." Dilan immediately accused him bluntly.

Feeling wronged, Dustin defended himself, exasperated. "How was I supposed to know things would spiral out of control? I only meant to help Collin get rid of his love rival!*

Collin exhaled slowly, forcing himself to remain clear-headed. "Gorman has no concrete proof. Linsey wouldn't trust mere hearsay so easily."

Pausing thoughtfully, Collin eventually added, "Besides, Gorman wouldn't bear to force Linsey against her will or let anyone harm her. He cares for her deeply."

Chapter 585 Collin, What Are You Planning To Do

Dustin froze in shock upon hearing Collin's words.

Could this really be the same Collin he thought he knew?

He had always known about Collin's tight grip on Linsey.

Now, Collin had openly recognized Gorman's affection for Linsey....

To Dustin, this revelation was staggering.

This admission also served as a stark indicator of the depth of Collin's fixation with Linsey, which was alarmingly deep.

As the agonizing wait for news continued, they finally received the investigation results.

Dustin glanced at his phone. "I've got it! Carol orchestrated Linsey's kidnapping!" He then turned to Collin, disbelief in his voice. "The goons hired by Carol confessed they hadn't touched Linsey before she was saved by the founder of CR Corporation." "The founder of CR Corporation?" Dilan responded in shock, his eyes shifting towards Collin, "You mean Collin, right here?" After a brief pause, Collin responded coldly, "Tell them I'm not proposing tonight. I'm heading to the Lawson family's residence." Carol's audacity to target Linsey once more was clear. Collin was determined to make the Lawson family pay for Carol's actions. Meanwhile, Linsey was restless in her hospital bed. Her eyes were fixed on a corner, her heart filled with an unceasing pain. Her phone on the bedside table buzzed intermittently. It was likely Collin trying to reach out. Yet, Linsey was not ready to confront him. Should she let out her sorrow in tears or confront him with fiery questions about his actions? Neither approach seemed fitting to Linsey.

If she chose to leave, she would do so with dignity, not showing any signs of desperation.

Then, Linsey's attention was drawn to her phone again.
This time, the vibration was more persistent.
Linsey adjusted her position and grabbed her phone.
The caller ID surprised her; it was Myla.
Without a second thought, Linsey took the call. "Myla, what can I do for you?"
On the other side, Myla shared a look of complexity with Collin.
Hearing Linsey's voice stirred a deep pain within Collin.
He wondered what had Linsey discovered that kept her from reaching out?
Collin inhaled deeply and gave Myla a confirming nod.
With a slight tension in her voice, Myla asked softly, "Linsey, do you have a moment right now?"
Linsey, feeling a surge of concern, sat up straighter. "Is everything alright? Please, feel free to speak openly."
Myla felt a wave of guilt hearing the kindness in Linsey's voice.
She found it difficult to deceive Linsey.

With a fleeting look at Collin, Myla hurriedly said, "Linsey, the founder of CR Corporation has come to our house demanding that we hand you over"
Before she could explain further, one of Collin's men intervened, grabbing the phone from her hand.
"Enough!" he snapped at Myla.
Linsey's demeanor shifted to one of urgency. "What's going on, Myla?"
The demand from the founder of CR Corporation to surrender her?
The moment the thought crossed her mind, Linsey's expression shifted, and she suddenly understood
something.
Collin was the founder of CR Corporation.
She was still grappling with this revelation.
As the call was abruptly cut off, Linsey's gaze sharpened, her voice cold. "Collin, what are you planning to do?"
Chapter 586 I Need To See
You, Linsey
A heavy silence hung on the line, thick with tension.
Though Linsey was desperate to end the call, the thought of Myla possibly being cornered by Collin made her resist the urge.

"If calling you Collin doesn't provoke a response, perhaps I should address you as the mysterious founder of CR Corporation instead?" At once, a shaky breath escaped through the speaker, tense and unmistakably familiar. It felt odd; she had barely spent a year truly knowing Collin. Yet, his subtle breaths, pauses, and silences were etched in her memory, clear as day. Right then, Linsey knew without a doubt that Collin was silently listening on the other side. A rush of emotion welled inside her chest, tightening her throat painfully. She tried to speak, but found herself unable to make a sound. 1 She struggled against her own silence, feeling choked by what she couldn't express. After an unbearably long pause, Collin's low, strained voice broke through. "Baby." Hearing that endearment instantly reignited Linsey's anger, and she retorted coldly, "Don't call me that." Even uttering those words drained Linsey, leaving her nearly breathless. Fighting tears, she managed to speak, her voice trembling with suppressed pain. "Tell me, Collin, why exactly did you visit the Lawson family? Why did you threaten Myla? I'm warning you-"

Collin cut her off, saying firmly, "Linsey, I would never intentionally hurt you. The only reason I visited

the Lawson family was to ask Carol about your whereabouts."

He paused, breathing deeply, then softly yet deliberately added, "I'm genuinely concerned about you."

Though her instincts screamed to say something cutting, Linsey held back, mindful that Collin remained with the Lawsons, capable of harming Myla at any moment.

"I'm perfectly fine, Collin. Your concern isn't needed. Just leave Myla's house right now."

However, Collin didn't comply. "I need to see you, Linsey."

Linsey clutched the phone tightly, her voice resolute as she said, "I have no interest in seeing you."

"Then I'll stay right here and wait until you do," Collin replied calmly, his voice stubborn and unyielding.

"You!" Linsey was furious.

He was clearly using emotional blackmail to corner her.

"Linsey, if you just give me the chance, I promise I'll clear things up," Collin continued, his tone earnest.

Without waiting for her reply, Collin ended the call abruptly, leaving Linsey stunned by the quiet click.

Staring numbly at the disconnected phone, Linsey felt her emotions spiral out of control once more.

What exactly was Collin planning?

Though every fiber of her being resisted, she found herself hurriedly changing out of her hospital attire, preparing to rush over to the Lawson family's house.

Carol's cruelty had left her injured and shaken-Linsey would never forgive her.

Yet Myla had done nothing to deserve Collin's threats, and Linsey couldn't bear the thought of anyone suffering

because of her.

Fully dressed and determined, Linsey moved toward the door.

At precisely that moment, Gorman entered the room, dinner tray in hand, accompanied by Danny.

Gorman's steps faltered as he noticed Linsey in her outdoor clothing. "Linsey, where are you heading?"

Disapproval clouded Gorman's face immediately. "The doctor clearly stated you're not fully healed yet. You really need to stay here under observation for at least a couple more days."

Chapter 587 I Respect Linsey's Decisions

Linsey bit her lower lip, deciding honesty was the best course. "Collin went to confront the Lawsons. He's using Myla to force me into showing up."

Gorman's face darkened noticeably at the mention of Collin, but he quickly masked his reaction, casually asking, "Myla? Who's she?"

Taking a breath, Linsey explained clearly, "Cruz Lawson's wife. I met her once before, and oddly enough, we look quite alike. I suppose that's why I've felt an instant connection with her and grown fond of her."

She hesitated briefly, worry evident in her eyes. "Right now, Collin is at their home, and I'm afraid he might do something drastic. With the kind of power he has as CR Corporation's founder, Myla could easily be hurt. I have no choice-1 must go there immediately."

A thoughtful silence settled over Gorman.

Danny was desperate to prompt his boss into action. Linsey clearly resented Collin already, so if Gorman stopped their meeting, wouldn't that be his best chance to prevent their reconciliation? So why wasn't Gorman saying something-anything-to stop Linsey from leaving? Unexpectedly, Gorman simply nodded, saying softly, "Alright." Danny nearly choked in disbelief, convinced he had misheard him. Seriously? Missing this opportunity, there would be no chance for him to be with Linsey in the future! Ignoring the shocked glance behind him, Gorman turned to Linsey and smiled reassuringly. "But you shouldn't go alone. Let me take you there to make sure you're safe." Linsey hesitated, caught off guard by his offer. Gorman added, "Don't worry, I'll stay outside. I won't disturb your conversation with Collin." Actually, Linsey's hesitation wasn't due to that at all; rather, she was concerned about interrupting Gorman's own affairs. Moreover, she was aware that Gorman still carried lingering feelings for her.

Instead of clarifying things now and possibly hurting him, perhaps it was better to let him hold onto a

Friendship and gratitude were all she could truly offer Gorman at this point.

harmless misunderstanding.

"Alright, thank you." Linsey nodded in agreement.

In no time, Gorman's car pulled smoothly to a stop outside the Lawsons' residence.

"Remember, I'm right here. Call me if you need anything." Gorman reminded gently before Linsey stepped out.

They had only recently reconnected and had re-exchanged their contact details.

"I will," Linsey said quietly, offering him a brief smile before leaving the vehicle.

Inside the car, Gorman watched Linsey carefully, his eyes following her until she vanished through the Lawson family's front door.

Seeing his boss so attentive toward Linsey, Danny grew even more perplexed. "Mr. Green, why'd you let Linsey meet Collin so easily? You even drove her here yourself."

As he heard this, Gorman's lips curled into a knowing smile, his mood seemingly unaffected.

"I respect Linsey's decisions. In fact, no matter what she chooses, I'll support her."

After a deliberate pause, his smile turned subtly confident. "Besides, letting her see Collin tonight might actually work in my favor. Why should I stand in the way?"

Danny was more confused. "Mr. Green, what are you planning?"

Relaxed and patient, Gorman didn't hesitate to clarify his thoughts to Danny.

Chapter 588 Linsey's Disdain For Collin Must...

"Linsey is seen as gentle and kind, but she's also incredibly stubborn and resilient," Gorman explained. "This time, she's been utterly fooled by Collin. Regardless of the truthfulness of what he said in the hotel room, to Linsey, it all rang as betrayal,"

He glanced at Danny, continuing, "You know, the individuals you questioned earlier said that Carol had been feeding Linsey stories about Collin's deceit as the founder of CR Corporation, even showing her some purported evidence. By the time Collin spoke, Linsey was already doubtful, and those words just confirmed her suspicions." Danny, still puzzled, furrowed his brow and replied, "Even though Linsey is aware of Collin's deceit, now that she's confronting him, surely he'll clarify everything."

Gorman let out a derisive laugh, his face betraying his certainty. "He might try to explain, but Linsey is beyond listening. The real issue here is Collin's impulsive tactics; his coercive methods have only fueled her disdain for him."

With a sarcastic expression, Gorman muttered, "It's likely Collin panicked after hearing about Linsey's abduction by Carol. In his haste, he neglected the smarter approach-giving Linsey space to process everything and then carefully explaining the situation."

Danny nodded in understanding. "Now I get it. Linsey's disdain for Collin must be solidifying, especially with his recent threats making him appear even less trustworthy."

Linsey's growing resentment suggested that no matter Collin's reasoning, changing her mind might now be impossible.

Danny, reflecting deeper, admired Gorman's strategic thinking. "That's why you allowed Linsey to go ahead. Any attempt to stop her could have just upset her more, given her emotional state."

"I might as well thank Collin for this chance to appear empathetic and supportive

in Linsey's eyes," Gorman said with a slow, knowing chuckle.

His gaze then shifted towards the Lawson family's estate as he anticipated the intensifying drama within.

The silence was noticeable as Linsey entered the Lawson family's estate.
It wasn't until she reached the living room that she encountered several people.
Linsey immediately noticed Collin seated on the couch.
Their eyes met simultaneously.
Collin stood abruptly, his intense gaze locked on Linsey.
He walked towards her determinedly.
In moments, Collin nearly closed the distance between them.
Linsey, feeling a rush of discomfort, instinctively retreated a few steps.
Her retreat made Collin pause, his previously hopeful expression now marked by uncertainty.
"Linsey" Collin's voice trailed as his hands slowly curled into fists.
His eyes never left her face.
Suddenly, he noticed the bandages on her right hand, his eyes registering shock.
Reaching out instinctively, Collin murmured, "Your hand"
With a frosty demeanor, Linsey quickly withdrew her hand behind her back, clearly indicating she didn't want

staying."
At these words, Linsey visibly relaxed, tension leaving her shoulders.
"Cruz has been by Jeffery's bedside all day. Myla is there now; they'll return home together shortly," Collin continued casually. "And as for Carol-my men have her under control."
Linsey's relief quickly turned into suspicion, and she shot him an incredulous stare. "What else are you plotting, Collin? Why involve Jeffery and his father? Are you aware Jeffery has a serious blood disorder and shouldn't leave the hospital?"
His expression grew colder as he returned her gaze intently, asking sharply, "Jeffery's illness is no concern of yours. Why are you defending someone who once treated you so poorly?"
Linsey instantly caught the bitter jealousy behind his words.
She laughed bitterly, disdain coloring her voice. "Any decent person would object
to forcibly removing a critically ill patient from medical care."
A moment later, she added with quiet resignation, "Honestly, whatever your schemes are, leave me out of them. Your feud with the Lawson family isn't my concern. If you won't release Myla immediately, we have nothing more to discuss."
With that, Linsey turned to leave.
Collin moved swiftly, catching hold of her left arm firmly but gently.
"Release me!" Linsey pulled away violently, her expression filled with contempt rather than affection. "Collin,

I've said clearly-I refuse to get entangled in your vendettas. Let me go."

Pain flickered across Collin's features; witnessing her disgust felt unbearable.

Finally, he forced words past the lump in his throat, whispering roughly, "I know everything Carol did to you

today, Linsey."

His eyes drifted to her injured hand, sympathy clouding his gaze. "She reopened your wound. The reason I came here tonight was to make sure she'd pay for hurting you."

Collin locked eyes with Linsey, like he feared she would disappear if he looked away. "Let me take you home. Once we're there, I'll explain everything. Just please, hear me out."

But Linsey had no desire for his explanations; after a tense silence, she finally met his gaze head-on.

"Did Carol target me just this once? Where was your righteous anger before now?"

Her voice dripped with bitter sarcasm as she continued, "Oh, right-how could I forget? After that infamous party Carol threw, you conveniently canceled your partnership with the Lawson Group, crippling their finances to think of it, perhaps you owe me gratitude. Without my livestream exposing her, you wouldn't have had a valid excuse to end your business ties with them, especially when they were already crumbling from within."

while enhancing your public image. Come

Chapter 590 I Can't Trust Anything You Say Anym...

Collin listened intently, his steady gaze revealing a brief moment of surprise.

"Linsey, why would you even suggest that? Back then, I was trying to..."

Linsey interrupted him firmly. "Stop. Don't claim it's for my benefit. I can't trust anything you say anymore."

Her gaze bore into him. "As the head of CR Corporation, dealing with someone like Carol should be simple for

welfare." you, shouldn't it? So why haven't you acted? You seem to prioritize your secrets over my

Linsey's accusations were sharp, silencing Collin, who was normally so composed in the cutthroat business

world.

"Do you understand that Carol goes after me because she's infatuated with the man behind CR Corporation?" Linsey's eyes began to fill with tears, her voice cracking with evident pain. "How ironic is it that an outsider knows about your role, yet I, your partner, was left in the shadows? And I've paid dearly for your secrets."

Collin felt a profound pain grip his chest at her words.

He inhaled deeply, attempting to express his sincerity. "Linsey, I intended to reveal everything to you. Tonight was supposed to be the night."

For a moment, Linsey's eyes showed a flicker of comprehension, but her face soon became expressionless. "Was revealing your secret supposed to be a surprise for me tonight?"

Collin was momentarily speechless.

Linsey managed a scornful smile. "Did you really think revealing you're the founder would make me happy? You've hidden this from me for so long, sharing it only now as if it were some kind of revelation. Is this supposed to be a surprise?" Tears streamed down Linsey's cheeks, marking her face with their bitterness.

At that moment, Linsey was torn between crying and laughing bitterly.

"Really, Collin? You think I'd be thrilled to learn you're the founder of CR Corporation? That I'd desire the ever-expanding CR Corporation or hang onto you, the wealthiest man in town?" Each word was a struggle, her voice raw with pain. "Don't kid yourself, Collin. The identity of the company you founded, or your wealth, means nothing to me!"

Collin contemplated mentioning his proposal plans but decided against it. Sharing it now would only escalate her fury and further diminish any chance of her understanding his true intentions.

"Release me this instant! I demand that you let me go!"

Just then, a disturbance broke out outside.

Linsey's attention was diverted as she saw a group leading Carol and Alexa into the room.

"This is my residence! Who are you?" Carol shouted indignantly. "How dare you stir up trouble in my own home! Do you think I won't call the police?"

Collin's men escorting Carol showed no leniency, shoving her to the floor. Carol let out a sharp cry of pain.

Alexa quickly moved to assist her, asking, "Carol, are you hurt?"

"Back off! Don't touch me!" Carol snapped, jerking her hand away in irritation.

She then raised her eyes and noticed Linsey standing a short distance away.