

After Divorce, She Becomes the Billionaire Heiress (Sylvia and Cyril) Chapter 151-160

Chapter 151: Chance Encounter

These days have been so hectic for the ladies, barely any time to breathe, let alone worry about other matters. Sylvia had sorted out the issues with the subsidiary company, thanks to the valuable information provided by Ingrid. Sylvia kept her end of the deal and didn't give Ingrid a hard time.

But the losses caused by Ingrid to the company needed compensation, something no one else could help her with. Sylvia agreed that if Ingrid made up for those losses, she could stay at the subsidiary company, but returning to the headquarters was out of the question.

However, everyone knew that even if she stayed at the subsidiary, Sylvia wouldn't make it easy for her. She'd find ways to dismiss her, but without taking direct responsibility.

"The matters at the subsidiary are nearly wrapped up. How about we grab a bite to eat together? Listen, I've found this fantastic restaurant recently, perfect for a romantic date. And I was thinking, maybe next time."

Juliet burst in excitedly, interrupting Sylvia's work chatter about dinner plans. But as she spoke, she realized it might sound off and quickly stopped.

Sylvia glanced up from her files, amused. "Who else are you planning to dine with besides me? Planning to use me as a test audience this time?"

Juliet blushed, trying to cover up her slip. "Oh, I was just saying. What if I meet a handsome guy next time? It'd be nice to have a companion who won't lead me to bad food, right?" Juliet's attempt at diversion was evident. She couldn't believe she had blurted out her inner thoughts so quickly.

"A handsome guy, huh?" Sylvia chuckled. "I wonder if that handsome guy you're talking about is my big brother. If it is, I might just arrange for you two to meet. Oh, by the way, next time my brother comes around, I doubt you'll be tagging along. How about this? I'll call my brother now and tell him I'm swamped here and need his help. Then we can go eat together. How does that sound?"

Juliet stomped her foot in frustration, her face burning red. Since Sylvia already knew what she was thinking, why did she have to say it out loud?

"oh, I didn't mean it like that. Forget what I said. Are you coming to dinner with me or not? If you want to eat, I'll make a reservation. Otherwise, I'll go alone"

“Of course, I’m coming. It’ll be a chance for me to see what kind of dare my brother will be having next. Helps me plan better to persuade him,” Sylvia said with a laugh, scribbling her name on the document and tossing it aside before grabbing Juliet’s hand, pulling her out the door.

During their journey, Sylvia teased Juliet from time to time.

But it takes two to tango in matters like these. So far, Bruce hadn’t shown any interest in Juliet.

Juliet, on the other hand, hadn’t mustered the courage to make a move yet. She was afraid of making things worse if she did.

Sylvia had no say in this matter, considering her own disastrous love life didn’t offer much advice

However, pursuing love boldly wasn’t wrong. Sylvia just didn’t want to see Juliet hurt. So, in the car, she spoke earnestly to Juliet

“I know you like my brother, but I don’t think he’s aware of it yet. Regardless, I don’t want you to end up on the same miserable path I did. If my brother doesn’t like you, don’t force yourself. Don’t force him. In the end, the unhappy one will be you.”

“I understand. My feelings for him are my own business. If he doesn’t like me, it’s normal. I haven’t said anything yet. Let’s pretend I don’t know anything. If one day I can’t control myself and want to tell him how I feel, that’s probably my last effort. If my efforts don’t yield the desired result, it’s okay,” Juliet said with a nonchalant tone, though Sylvia knew deep down it wouldn’t be that easy when the time came

But since Juliet said so, Sylvia didn’t press further.

When they arrived at the restaurant, Juliet had already made reservations, so a waiter escorted them to their table.

As they settled in, another person joined them unexpectedly. Sylvia instinctively looked over and found Benjamin.

Benjamin had a perfectly timed smile on his face, as if their meeting was purely coincidental.

But Sylvia felt a pang of annoyance deep down. Although she hadn’t received any messages from Benjamin these past few days, his appearance here at this moment made it hard to believe he wasn’t informed beforehand and didn’t come here intentionally.

Thinking this, Sylvia turned to Juliet, but Juliet was busy looking at the menu with excitement, asking Sylvia what she wanted to eat.

Seeing Juliet's obliviousness, Sylvia wondered who else knew about this besides her. Was it really just a coincidence?

"Our family's restaurant has excellent food. If you need recommendations, I can suggest a few dishes for both of you," Benjamin suddenly spoke up, startling Juliet, who widened her eyes and looked between Benjamin and Sylvia, as if discovering a new continent.

"Are you two meeting up here? Am I intruding? Should I leave?" Benjamin asked with a smile.

"Stop imagining things. Just order your food," Sylvia sighed, a headache building up. Juliet chuckled but kept stealing glances at both of them, though she remembered to order her food and didn't say much more.

Turning to Benjamin, Sylvia said, "We don't need recommendations. She had it all planned out before you came. And why are you here? Don't you think it's odd to be here alone

alone

"Well, that's true, but the food here is still good. Besides, besides couples, some people come here

Chapter 152: Roses

Sylvia hadn't dined here before, so she wasn't sure how the food tasted. But seeing Benjamin looking so comfortable, she figured the food here must be decent.

While they were chatting, the waiter had already placed the order with the waiter and started chatting with Benjamin.

"You're dining alone, right? Why don't you join us? It would be fun to have a little trio," Juliet suggested.

Benjamin was tempted to accept, but he knew if he did, Sylvia might not be too pleased. So, he politely declined, saying he had other plans and would leave right after dinner.

Hearing Benjamin's response, Juliet didn't push further. However, she seemed more excited talking to Benjamin than she did with Sylvia, as if trying to build a rapport with him,

"I heard from her brother that you've been working here for a long time. Have you ever thought about going back to your country for opportunities? Juliet's question intrigued Sylvia, but she didn't dare ask herself, fearing it might seem suspicious, especially considering Benjamin's not so innocent intentions towards her.

Benjamin glanced at Sylvia, his smile gentle. "I have considered going back and have been preparing for it lately. But to fully rebar, it might take about half a year."

"That's great! If you come back, we could explore the possibility of collaborating. There are plenty of projects at headquarters," Juliet chimed in, extending the invitation Sylvia felt a headache coming on. They had no connection whatsoever, yet they were already talking about collaboration. What were they going to collaborate on? Was she supposed to commit her life to it?

"Let's eat, dishes are served," Sylvia quickly interrupted Juliet, spooning some fruit into her mouth. She couldn't continue this conversation. The longer it went on, the more they might think she had ulterior motives.

Benjamin remained silent, watching Sylvia with a warm, non-threatening smile.

Honestly, Sylvia had no idea Benjamin had other intentions towards her. If they had met earlier, before Cyril, things might have been different. But now, she didn't dare touch the subject of relationships, let alone get involved with Benjamin.

Benjamin grabbed a chair, and

As they ate, Benjamin indeed had somewhere to be, so he left soon after finishing dinner. However, just as he took a few steps away, he suddenly turned and placed it next to Sylvia.

Both Sylvia and Juliet were puzzled, not understanding why Benjamin did this. Then they saw someone approaching – Cyril.

Cyril held a bouquet of roses, heading straight for Sylvia.

Now, both Sylvia and Juliet understood why Benjamin had returned and sat next to Sylvia.

Besides Benjamin's affection for Sylvia, there was also competition between him and Cyril. So, seizing the opportunity to inconvenience Cyril, Benjamin wouldn't miss it.

As Cyril approached, Benjamin leaned close to Sylvia and whispered in her ear, "I heard you two are divorced. I guess you don't want to be bothered by him. So, I took the liberty to come over. You wouldn't refuse, would you?"

Benjamin wasn't wrong. Syhda indeed didn't want to be bothered by Cyril. Thus, she didn't object to Benjamin sitting next to her, remaining calm.

As Cyril approached, he saw Benjamin leaning in and talking to Sylvia, and Sylvia didn't move away

Feeling a bit hurt, was he too late?

"Why did you c

ome over?" Sylvia asked, somewhat unfriendly.

Cyril placed the bouquet of roses on the table. Sylvia subtly moved away from t

"What's wrong with you? Are you trying to make me sick? Couldn't you just ask if it's okay? Why bring flowers when you know she's allergic to pollen? And don't you know roses are the last thing she likes? Who are you trying to disgust?" Juliet's reaction was strong as she moved the bouquet to another table.

"Are you sick? You obviously know I dislike roses and have pollen allergies. Yet, you brought this bouquet. Besides, you should know roses are the last thing I like. Who are you trying to disgust?" Sylva calmly interrupted Cyril's apology. Cyril didn't understand her dislikes about flowers and was trying to impress her. But up to now, everything he had done only made Sylvia more irritated..

"I'm sorry, L."

"I know. You didn't know I disliked roses or had pollen allergies. After all these years, you didn't know much about me. So, you brought this bouquet, which I detest, just as you detest me. Since you now know, could you leave with that in mind?" Sylvia calmly interrupted Cyril again. Cyril didn't understand her dislikes about flowers and was trying to impress her. But up to now, everything he had done only made Sylvia more irritated.

Silenced, Cyril had nothing more to say.

Indeed, whether it's love or hate, sometimes, there's no reason. If there had to be a reason for love or hate, then the reason Sybda hated roses was simply because Cyril had given

them to her.

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"I remember when we were in middle school, your brother attended your awards ceremony and brought you a bouquet of tulips. You loved tulips, Benjamin suddenly spoke up.

Chapter 153: Frank's Sincerity

Chapter 153: Frank's Sincerity

Sylvia was taken aback for a moment. The fact that Benjamin knew about her love for tulips was something her close friends knew, but she never expected Benjamin to know as well.

Comparing this, Cyril's gesture seemed utterly insincere. After all these years of marriage, he seemed to know nothing about her, while even someone she hadn't seen in knew her favorite flower

"It's really tough on Cyril to hate what you like," Sylvia mused.

"Yeah, I really like tulips. It's just that when my brother gave me tulips, they were artificial I'm allergic to pollen, after all," she explained.

"I know. Do you remember when you graduated from junior high, someone gave you a jar of tulips? That was me. I turned the tulips into dried flowers and put them in a bottle for

Benjamin nodded. While others thought Sylvia received artificial flowers because her family couldn't afford real ones, he sensed there was a special reason behind it. Buying real flowers wasn't that expensive, after all.

So, he observed carefully and found out about Sylvia's pollen allergy. When she graduated, he made dried flowers and put them in a bottle as a gift. He just wasn't sure if Sylvia remembered it

Sylvia quickly searched her memories and indeed recalled the tulips. She loved them and still kept them in her room.

"It was you who gave them to me? I thought it was my brother's doing. But I guess my brother wouldn't have the patience to turn a flower into a dried one. You must have put a lot of effort into it. Thank you," Sylvia said with a smile. The memory seemed to soften her attitude towards Benjamin.

As these two reminisced, they completely ignored Cyril

Cyril felt thoroughly aggrieved at being ignored. He didn't know what to say. It seemed like Sylvia had been subjected to such disregard many times before, whereas he had only experienced a fraction of it. What right did he have to feel aggrieved?

Benjamin and Sylvia found common ground in their conversation, completely ignoring Cyril.

Juliet was in a good mood and ate a little more. When she noticed Cyril staring blankly at Sylvia, she rolled her eyes in exasperation.

“Why are you still here, Cyril? Can’t you see they’re having a good time? Why do you keep bothering them? Don’t you find yourself annoying?” she scolded.

“I didn’t mean to.” Cyril’s throat felt dry, struggling to express his emotions.

Juliet rolled her eyes again. “You didn’t mean to? Then take your roses and leave. If Sylvia has an allergic reaction later, she’ll have to find you. Is that your plan? Make Sylvia allergic to pollen and then get close to her again? You’ve hurt her countless times over the years, and this time is no different. You’re disgusting”

Juliet’s words hit Cyril hard. His face flushed with embarrassment as he left, clutching the roses. It wasn’t until he reached the door that he realized how impulsive his actions had been. He finally had the chance to see Sylvia, and Juliet had only said a few harsh words; she hadn’t actually hurt him

Yet, he left like a deserter, carrying the roses.

Cyril sighed at the door. It was too late to turn back now. He glanced back at Sylvia and Benjamin, who were chatting happily. The atmosphere was pleasant. His heart ached even more, knowing that all this should have been his. Even though he had lost it all

His phone rang, breaking his reverie. Without looking at the caller ID, Cyril answered.

“Cyril, it’s me. I called you today..”

It was Karina. Cyril frowned, surprised that she was calling him.

Cyril hung up without a word. He didn’t want any contact with Karina now. Her betrayal in the past could be disregarded.

But if Karina continued to pester him, he would have to seriously consider all the times she had deceived him over the years.

Once Cyril left, Benjamin and Sylvia chatted for a while before Benjamin left. He had only come to help Sylvia drive Cyril away, and now that he’d accomplished that, there was no need to linger

“I have to say, he handled it quite gracefully. Honestly, you had met Benjamin earlier, maybe things wouldn’t have ended up like this. What do you think?” Juliet remarked. Although Juliet had been neglected for a while, she didn’t feel upset. On the contrary,

having such a good friend around was not a bad thing, and Benjamin was indeed a nice guy. “Don’t talk nonsense. There’s nothing between us,” Sylvia replied, feeling a bit helpless. She had talked so much with Benjamin because she had recalled some things from junior high. Besides reminiscing about junior high, there wasn’t much else they could talk about. Business talk over dinner was rather dull.

“Okay, okay, you two really have nothing going on. But I have some news to tell you. Do you want to hear it?” Juliet pulled out her phone. While they were chatting earlier, she had checked her company’s emails and saw a message

Sylvia nodded and took a bite of her food.

Juliet read the email aloud. As Sylvia listened, her brows furrowed more and more. When Juliet finished, she added, “Frank wants to continue working with us and has voluntarily lowered his share by three percentage points. What do you think?”

Their collaboration was significant, so Frank was indeed at a disadvantage by conceding so much. Sylvia couldn’t understand why he suddenly chose to back down.

“What’s there to not understand? Frank was our best option from the start, and they seemed eager to continue working with us. If it weren’t for Cyril, this collaboration wouldn’t have been delayed for so long. Now that he has conceded, it’s for the sake of collaboration. Plus, you know, if we seal the deal this time, the subsequent collaborations will also go smoothly, right? So, in the long run, his move makes sense,” Juliet reasoned

Chapter 154: Why Him?

You know, it’s funny how things work out sometimes. Like, this whole idea, it’s not really a problem, you know? If this collaboration goes smoothly, then maybe the next one will too. There’s this thing: the reason Frank is their best bet is because their company’s philosophy aligns pretty darn well with theirs. So, there’s a good chance for more

collaborations down the line.

From a businessman’s perspective, Frank’s compromise this time is actually setting the stage for smoother cooperation in the future. Plus, by not dragging Cyril into this round, it shows he’s not looking to negotiate with Cyril right now. He’s just trying to seal this deal on his own. Sylvia’s pretty pleased about that, but...

“Let’s not rush into saying yes to him. We need to discuss internally first. We’ve been looking at a few other suitable companies lately and need to compare them. So, we can’t guarantee working with them just yet. If it doesn’t work out this time, we hope there’ll be another chance in the future,”

Juliette knows exactly what Cyril's been up to lately. She comes up with this whole spiel about comparing companies, and honestly, it's a decent excuse. It'll make Frank feel a bit

*50, the reason you're saying all this is to double-check if there might be any difficulties with this venture? Frank wouldn't pull something like that, would he?"

"They've known each other for years. Last time, Frank even mentioned Cyril himself. It shows he wants to help Cyril. Even though he's compromising this time, we still need to be prepared. What if he tries to involve Cyril again?"

Sylvia's thinking ahead more than Juliette, Juliette nods seriously after bearing Sylvia out. Yeah, there's a real possibility of that. They're practically on the same boat, those two. "Alright, I'll reply to him later."

After chomping for a bit and finishing their meal, they head back to the office, each getting back to their own tasks.

Even though Sylvia's leaning towards working with Frank, she needs to mitigate some risks, past then, her phone rings. It's Bruce calling.

Seeing the call, Sylvia sighs. She knows it's probably Juliette waking up to inform her big brother again.

She just wanted to see where Frank stands and wasn't planning on sealing the deal immediately. Why the need for this tattling?

Sylvia sighs again and answers the phone, "Hey, big brother."

*50, Juliette just called me saying you've decided to work with Frank. Why him? There are plenty of other options, logically speaking."

Bruce already knows about Frank and Cyril's connection, so he's curious why Sylvia picked Frank over others.

Other options are great, but Frank's team has more mature technology. Plus, Frank's pretty easy to handle. Just pull out Cyn in a few things, and we're good. So, the risks are lower in this scenario. But haven't committed to working with them right away. I just want to keep him hanging for a while."

"So, the bottom line is you're still going with Frank. You know Frank and Cyril are connected. Why choose him? Can't it be Benjamin? Benjamin's company can also collaborate with us, just not on this project"

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Big brother, your intentions are a bit too obvious. If the projects are different, how could we collaborate? If we do collaborate, it'll be in the future. And if you keep prying into my love life like this, I'll call Dad and have him set you up on more blind dates,"

Bruce goes quiet. He's not hell-bent on Syhd getting into another relationship, he just thinks Benjamin might be a safer bet than others.

And Benjamin's more than willing to be that tall guy. If Benjamin's fine with it, what more is there to say?

"Alright, alright, I won't say anything more. You decide on this collaboration yourself. The subsidiary's matters are settled. How are you planning to handle Ingrid?

Bruce doesn't want to continue discussing the collaboration issue. Since Sylvia's made up her mind, there's not much more to say. Besides, Sylvia's right. Working with Frank does reduce some risks, and with Cyril's current situation well, let's just say they're holding the cards.

After discussing work matters, they hang up it's still work hours, after all, and they both have plenty to do.

As soon as she ends the call, Juliette bursts in, all flustered "Uh—oh, trouble's brewing! Karina just announced her pregnancy online, and guess whose baby she's carrying?

Cyrl's!"

Sylvia's expression darkens instantly, Karina's pregnant? What does that make of the past few years for Syhta? And why now, when Cyril's in this mess?

"I told you this guy wasn't any good. Look at him, still tangled up with his ex, and now there's a pregnancy bombshell. What are we going to do?" Juliette looks at Sylvia, seeing her troubled expression, feeling for her. But the dead's been done.

Chapter 155: A Sorry Sight

"You okay? Honestly, I didn't want to tell you about this, but now, this news is everywhere. If I didn't tell you, you'd find out anyway. So, what are you thinking now?"

Juliet was seriously worried. Initially, she didn't want to burden Sylvia with this news, but knowing Sylvia would find out eventually, she figured it was better to tell her and be by her side.

Sylvia did have a moment of feeling temble, her expression sour, but she quickly regained her composure.

She'd known for awhile that there was something different about Cyril and Karina's relationship. Now, hearing about Karina's pregnancy, it wasn't as hard to accept as she thought.

just felt like she'd wasted all these years on genuine feelings.

"Don't worry about me. I've known for a while that Cyril and Karina were more than just friends. I just didn't expect Cyril to be two-faced about it. He's been chasing after me this whole time, and I thought.. never mind. Men are like that, and Karina being pregnant, isn't that a good thing? They were forced apart before, now they re together. It's fine"

"That's one way to put it, but I'm worried you might have a hard time with it. You know how annoying Karina can be, and she's been causing trouble for you for years. Cyrill, too. He can't seem to make up his mind. How about this? I'll call your brother, let's give Cyril a piece of our minds. How dare he mistreat you?"

"Enough. Don't bother scolding him. The more we scold him, the more he'll think I still care about him, I don't have any feelings for him anymore, so let him do what he wants. Let's just leave it at that. As for Karina, if she contacts me, I'll wish them both well. If not, then so be it."

Sybiachuckled. Despite feeling a bit angry, seeing Juliet angrier somehow eased her. Having a friend by her side made all the difference.

Syhis hugged Juliet, comforting her. "I should be the one more upset about this, but why do you seem angrier? Come on, don't dwell on it too much."

Juliet thought of something else. She looked at Sylvia and asked, "How did you know Karina would message you? She just sent an email saying being with Cyril was an accident and not to be mad. But it's all so obvious. If you can't see through that, I'd be amazed."

Syhia burst out laughing. She knew Karina's tactics too well. Over the years, Karina had used every trick to keep Cyril hooked. This time was no different "Alright, since she's come to flaunt it, let's just reply with best wishes for them both and be done with it. We don't need to stay in touch. Isn't that better?" "Sigh, okay, okay. I was thinking of giving Cyril a piece of my mind, but if that's how you feel, fine. But I'm still mad for you. They really crossed the line this time."

"It's not the first time she's crossed the line. And I won't tolerate it like used to. Whatever they do is their business, but if they bring it to my doorstep, I won't let them off easy."

Anyway, our work for today is almost done. How about treat you to dinner? Let's relax and forget about them."

Seeing Juliet so angry made Syhia unable to bear it.

Juliet looked at Sylvia helplessly. "No, I'm just venting for you. Why do you always think I'm the one angry?

"Are you not angry? Sylvia asked back. Juliet couldn't deny it. She was indeed very, very angry,

In the afternoon, the two openly skipped work to go shopping. They spent the whole day outside, planning to hit the bar at night.

However, Syhia had to go back suddenly for something, so they had to cancel that plan.

Sylvia owned a property nearby. As she returned, she noticed a severely disheveled man sitting by the bushes.

Or rather, he seemed to have passed out, leaning against the flowerbed, his face dirty, clothes torn, as if he'd been injured.

Sylvia initially didn't want to get involved, but as she took a few steps, she caught a whiff of blood. She couldn't just let someone die like that. With a sigh, she approached the man and called for help.

"Hey, are you okay? Wake up!"

She gently shook the man, but he remained unconscious, Blood still trickled from his body. In the dim light, Syhia didn't dare to examine his wounds, fearing she might worsen them inadvertently.

Luckily, after about twenty minutes, an ambulance arrived. The paramedics loaded the man onto the vehicle, and Sylvia followed. After all, she had discovered him and made the call. She felt responsible.

At the hospital, doctors tended to the man's wounds. They weren't deep, but there were many. Hence, the strong smell of blood.

"The patient doesn't have any major issues, but are you his family? If so, it's better to admit him. Oh, and while examining him, we found a tumor in his body."

Hearing this, Sylvia felt a headache coming on. She'd only helped a stranger on a whim, but now it seemed his situation was far more dire

“Um, I’m not his family. I just found him by the roadside. I’ll contact the police to find his relatives.”

The doctor looked puzzled, assuming Sylvia was the man’s wife, But since she wasn’t, it wasn’t her concern. Plus, the tumor was still a mystery.

Chapter 156: Irritation

Sylvia was still in the hospital room with the man the next morning.

He had woken up yesterday morning, and Sylvia was about to collapse from exhaustion. She had managed to contact her assistant yesterday and asked him to investigate the man’s identity. So far, there had been no news. Sylla didn’t know if it was because the man’s identity was too complex or if he simply wasn’t around, making it impossible to find out who he was.

Sylla rubbed her temples wearily, glancing at the clock. It was almost time for her to start work. She decided to call a nurse to look after the man and then get ready as she was about to stand up, the man woke up.

“You’re awake. I’ll call the doctor to come and check on you.”

Sylvia immediately called the doctor over, who began examining the man. His injuries weren’t too severe, but the most important issue was the tumor.

y for work. Just

“You were lucky last night, I found you and brought you here. By the way, do you live any family? There’s a tumor in your body, and without your family, it’s hard to communicate.

“It’s okay. The tumor in my body is benign. I’ve already made an appointment with the doctor for surgery. Thank you for saving me last night. My name is Miles.”

The man’s voice was hoarse, understandable since he had been unconscious for so long. It would take him some time to fully recover, which was perfectly normal. Sylvia nodded, “Got it. Contact your family to take care of you. You have to go to work now. I’ll come see you after work. If you need any help, here’s my business card. You can call me ***. Sylvia wasn’t particularly compassionate, but since she had saved the man, she felt responsible until his family arrived.

“No need. I can take care of myself.”

Hearing his distant words, Sylvia didn't say anything more. She just placed her business card on the table. "call me if you need anything

with that, Sylvia rubbed her shoulders and left the hospital room,

After Sylvia left the room, the man's gaze fell on the business card left on the table. He hesitated for a moment before reaching out to take it. He looked at the name and position on the card with deep eyes.

"I'm furious! Let me tell you, this morning, before you even arrived, Cyril came over, causing a scene, insisting on meeting you. He wanted to explain things between him and Carina. What's there to explain? Everyone knows what happened between them. Why bother explaining to you? He even hoped you wouldn't be angry, saying he would immediately cut ties with Carlina and that child was just an accident"

Today, Juliet was even more emotional than yesterday. Sylvia had spent the entire afternoon yesterday trying to calm her down, only to be irritated by Cyril so easily this morning Sylvia was starting to feel a headache coming on.

"Okay, okay. You know what kind of person he is. Why are you so angry? Look, I'm not as angry as you, am I? stop being mad. Let's finish today's work. We haven't even finished yesterday's work yet. Think about it, delaying work for two days because of a man. Is that appropriate?"

"Of course it's not appropriate, but you see how unreasonable he is. Do you know that many people are discussing the relationship between you and Cyrill in private today? Some even say it's because of you. Guess what joke they're making about you two? How can you treat them kindly? If Cyril didn't agree at the beginning, he could have refused!" Juliet ranted on, her face turning red with anger.

Sylvia had no choice but to go along with Juliet's words. The two of them cursed Cyril back and forth for awhile until pet's mood improved slightly

When Juliet calmed down, she noticed that Sylvia was wearing the same clothes as yesterday.

She looked at Sylvia strangely "What's wrong with you? Don't you never wear the same clothes two days in a row?"

"On my way home last night, I accidentally ran into an injured person and took him to the hospital. I stayed there all night, so I haven't changed clothes yet."

Sylvia sighed and briefly explained what had happened last night to Juliet, who widened her eyes in surprise.

“No way! You saved a man? Could it be that he deliberately collapsed in front of your house, waiting for you to save him? I'll go with you this afternoon to see. If this person has any ulterior motives, I'll help you!

Sylvia couldn't help but smile. Juliet was taking it too seriously.

“Don't worry about him taking advantage of me. I saw last night that he was wearing custom-made clothes that cost a fortune. He must be someone”

As Sylvia spoke, she realized something wasn't right. If the man looked well-dressed and respectable, why was he hanging there in such a miserable state? Could he have been set up just like she was?

“What are you thinking? Do you think his identity is suspicious? Is someone trying to harm him?”

Juliet asked curiously.

Sylvia nodded seriously she regretted being so impulsive last night. Just then, her phone rang, displaying a standard number Sylvia instinctively thought of the man in the hospital

After hesitating for a moment, Sylvia answered the call. A hoarse voice came through the phone.

“Hello, Sylvia This is Miles. I've contacted the people I needed to. I'll be leaving soon. As for the favor I owe you and the money, I'll remember it I'll transfer the money to your account later. If you ever need anything, you can call this number.”

He was leaving soon, which surprised Sylvia a bit. But she didn't want to get too involved with this person. “It's okay, just go. Be careful on the road. As for the money, it doesn't

“What goes around comes around I owe you this favor for saving me I owe you. And I'll the money you spent. It's amule

Miles' voice was calm, but Sylvia couldn't help but shiver at the mention of roles and repayment What kind of role demanded repayment like this?

Chapter 157: Time to Leave

Sylvia's life continued on its usual track. Work was going smoothly on this end, but cooperation with Frank had hit a bit of a snag again.

The reason? Cell. He had been trying to seize every chance to meet Sylvia and explain the situation between him and Karina

Sylvia was beyond annoyed. She ended up blaming Frank for it, which made Frank feel unfairly targeted. After all, it was Cyril's own doing, yet Frank was being dragged into it.

Frank was having a major headache over this but felt powerless.

"I'll leave the follow-up tasks to someone else. I need to head back to headquarters, My brother is about to go on a business trip, and there's no one managing things there.."

Technically, Sylla shouldn't be burdened with headquarters matters for now. However, bruce had full faith in his sister's capability to handle it all, so he unhesitatingly passed everything to Sylvia

Sylvia was overwhelmed but had no choice. She temporarily set aside the subsidiary's affairs and delegated her tasks to others. Since things were almost sorted with Frank, and he was willing to compromise, they were okay with it. All that remained was signing contracts and ironing out the details of their collaborations.

But headquarters still needed her attention.

Once Sylvia confirmed arrangements, she left ahead. Juliet stayed behind to brief and finalize matters with Frank's company, with Sylvia gone, Juliet became the key figure in managing affairs here.

It took two days for Cyril to learn that Sylvia had returned.

"Right, the word I got is Bruce is going on a business trip, so he handed over company matters to Syria. And Sylvia has delegated everything here to her subordinates. Also, Miss Karina..."

Barry felt really downcast. Each of these matters tested his patience greatly. Neither Karina nor Sylvia made decisions easy, especially Karina, who was now pregnant, complicating matters further. Paris was practically tearing his hair out dealing with her, as her demeanor had completely changed.

"Have you found out what happened that day?"

Cyril didn't believe he had relations with Karina. He vaguely remembered meeting her two months ago in a public setting

He had a few drinks that day and couldn't recall what happened afterward. But when he woke up, Karina was beside him, insisting nothing happened between them. Yet, how did she end up pregnant?

"We checked the surveillance footage. It indeed showed Karina accompanying you to the hotel, and she didn't come out afterward. But before she left, another man entered

the hotel. It's unclear if he had any connection with Barina, Shall we continue investigating?"

"Continue. I want every detail of this investigated thoroughly."

Cyril's expression turned extremely grim. He couldn't tolerate being deceived by Karina. If this child wasn't his, it meant Karina had crossed his boundaries repeatedly.

"Alright, boss. Do we need to reschedule with Sylvia? She's back in her country now."

Berry inquired again. Last time Cyril insisted on meeting Sylvia, but despite numerous attempts, they couldn't secure a meeting. The message from Sylvia's end was always she was too busy, Secretly, Barry was informed that Sylvia had instructed them to decline any appointments Cyril made, regardless of his availability

So, no matter how hard he tried to schedule, Cyril couldn't get Sylvia's time,

"If we can't schedule it, won't you try again? Use your brain and think of other ways. Also, book a return ticket to her country. You've done enough here."

"Understood, boss."

When the boss spoke like that, what else could Barry say? He obediently booked the ticket and wrapped up the company's affairs, notifying headquarters personnel that the boss would be back soon to sign documents.

Upon her return to the company, Sylvia dived headfirst into the hectic routine. Bruce had indeed taken care of most things, but there were still loose ends she needed to tie up. Syhta found herself drowning in work to the point where she didn't want to continue anymore.

She messaged Bruce, complaining about the excessive workload here. Bruce replied calmly, "From now on, the entire company is yours."

Seeing that message, Sylvia, rarely silent, pondered. If this company was going to be solely hers, did it mean she had to deal with all this workload every day?

If that were the case, she needed to reconsider her position as vice president. After all, it didn't matter who took over the company within the family, the workload would be similar, right?

"Dad, it's not that I don't want to come back. Brace has handed over all the work to me, and I'm swamped. Why don't you call him and ask him to come back, or come here yourself to help me out? I can't handle it all alone."

Sylvia headed upstairs, receiving a call from her father urging her to come home for dinner.

She had been back from abroad for half a month, spending most of her time at the office she barely had time to go home for a meal Sylvia hoped her brother would rebar soo00. "You must come for dinner tonight, no excuses. Grandpa Cyril is here, and you know how he is. He's definitely here to cause trouble"

Manford understood his daughter was incredibly busy, but there was no way he could ask her for help. If he did, she would surely refuse. After all, she had finally taken over the roinguny, and he didn't want to bother her.

"Why did that old man come over?"

Sylvis never spoke so impolitely to anyone, but with Cyril's family, it was different.

here to give you a hard time You know very well. All this fuss about Cyril and Farina recently."

Chapter 158: Clever Means

Let me tell you, it's quite ridiculous. Cyril stirred up this whole thing, yet for some reason, that old man couldn't wrap his head around it. He insisted on thinking it had something to do with Sylvia. He's been pestering me for quite some time to meet up, which got me really annoyed. So, I finally decided to meet with him and see what he's up to.

When you arrange to meet up, you gotta call in the main players. So, Stanford called Sylvia over again. After all this time, nobody really knows the relationship between Sylvia and Stanford, let alone what ties Sylvia has with Ivanov Group.

"I got it. I'll finish up work a bit early tonight and head back."

After Sylvia agreed, she hung up immediately and started dealing with today's tasks urgently. Finishing up work early meant leaving the office on time and not dragging

tomorrow's affairs

Sylvia managed to leave work relatively early, but by the time she got home, it was already half past six. As she reached her doorstep, she spotted two cars parked outside – one belonging to the old man, and the other to Bonnie

She had initially thought it would just be the old man coming over tonight, but apparently, he'd also invited Bonnie.

"Even though there's quite an age gap between the two of us, your son's upbringing has been really good. Bruce has been running the company well these years, and we all see it. But these youngsters nowadays, they just can't sit still. They always feel like they can control everything. Look at how they're handing over the family business to others for management, even to a woman. What if something goes wrong in the middle of it?"

The old man never directly mentioned Sylvia, but his words insinuated her. Sylvia stood at the doorway without cushing in, listening for a while to see how the frame her.

he old ma

man would

"Is there really any difference between what a man can do and what a woman can do? Whatever a man can accomplish, a woman can do just as well. And during this time, his management of the company has been excellent. So, there's no need for the old man to worry. But old man, why exactly did you come here? just to tell me that a woman can't handle things as well as a man? If that's the case, I think it's unnecessary. I understand her better than you do."

Her own father wasn't mincing words, especially when he got serious. He didn't really like the old man, and Sylvia wondered if the old man could feel it. But the old man was quite a sly fox, probably could sense it, yet he remained silent.

"This woman's always been quite cunning What can you understand? Don't let her deceive you. She's turned yours

son around her finger. She divorced my son, and now she's become the vice president of the company. Tell me, which woman has the ability to pull that off? But she did it. I didn't come here today to say anything bad. Just wanted to remind you, she's not a good person. Back when she was in our house."

"old man, why don't you elaborate on how I was back when I was in your house? Tell us how much I sacrificed for your family, and how your family repaid me by being ungrateful wolves."

Slowly walking in, Sylvia realized her mistake. It wasn't just Bonnie here; even Michelle had come. The whole family stood together, neatly arranged, ready to tarnish her reputation. What a slimy move.

Sylviasat beside her father with a smile, the atmosphere between father and daughter quite pleasant.

"Back already. How's work going?"

"Not bad. I've pretty much wrapped up today's tasks, but I've got another meeting later."

“Alright. When’s the meeting? Do you want to have dinner earlier?”

“No need for that. Let’s have the meeting around ten tonight. We’ve got to consider the time difference for the other party.”

“Alright, make sure to rest early afterward. Don’t overwork yourself.”

The two conversed as if nothing unusual was happening, just like any ordinary father–daughter chat. But the three of them had suspected Sylvia of using underhanded means to enter the Ivanov family. Seeing Sylvia charting with Stanford only fueled their doubts about her identity.

“See, I told you she’s quite the schemer. Now, she’s even getting cozy with you. Who knows how many secrets she has hidden.”

With these words, Stanford’s expression changed. Was there something wrong with him saying this to his daughter? It’s normal to care about your child, right? Didn’t the old man care about his own kids?

“Old man, since you’re our guest, I didn’t speak too harshly. But when you were in my house earlier, you should have respected my family. Whatever she’s like, I know it very well. No need for your performance here. How much injustice has this child endured in your house? I know it too well. Your family has been treating others like dirt for years, and now you come here deliberately to tarnish her. Your family’s hearts are blacker than coal. No wonder your business can only go this far.”

Stanford rolled his eyes. Now, he wasn’t giving them an inch, neither in appearance nor in reality.

Their company indeed had been doing quite well, but when it came to Stanford’s generation, things started going downhill. The old man had his time of glory with the company, but with a foolish child like his, the company slowly declined, eventually going bankrupt if it weren’t for Cyril’s business acumen in starting his own company and gradually revitalizing the old one, their whole family might still be wandering the streets.

Given this situation, they had the nerve to come and criticize his daughter. Regardless of what Sylvia thought, Stanford wouldn’t let this family off the hook.

“I was just giving you a heads–up.

“Well, I’m really grateful for your concern. But if you have nothing else to say, it’s probably best for you to leave. We’re about to have dinner, and it’s not appropriate for you to stay. We didn’t plan on inviting your family to dinner.”

After finishing, Stanford grabbed Sylvie’s hand and walked into the dining room, paying no heed to the expressions of the other three.

Bonnie and Michelle thought for sure that this time, the old man would give Syna a piece of his mind, but instead, Sylvia just made a few casual remarks, leaving them burning.

"Fools!" The old man cursed under his breath, ring on his cane and walking out.

Bound and Michelle hurriedly followed behind him.

Chapter 159. Grand Banquet

Chapter 159: Grand Banquet

After a busy half month, things at the company had settled down, and Bruce finally returned from his business trip, much to Sylvia's relief.

"You have no idea how diligently I worked every day while you were away. I didn't dare to slack off for fear of causing any major trouble for the company. Thankfully, you're back." After this episode, Sylvia realized that although Bruce could handle the company matters, his experience far surpassed hers. Many tasks still posed headaches for her, as she was relatively inexperienced compared to Bruce.

Bruce had been involved in company affairs since he was 18, whereas Sylvia was just starting out. It was natural that she found it challenging to navigate through tasks with the

same ease as Bruce.

"It's normal. You'll encounter more of these situations in the future. Eventually, I'll delegate all this information to you. You need to grow quickly. The workload is immense, and all I've wanted these years is to have some proper test,"

Bruce's expression was earnest. Over the years, he had dedicated himself to the company, of course, he had also attended to matters at home diligently, but now with Sylvia willing to take over, he saw it as opportunity to relax.

However, after hearing Bruce's words, Sylvia's eyes widened.

"Are you planning to throw me into the deep end just like that? You know, I'm not very knowledgeable about the company's affairs."

"Exactly because you're not well-versed in the company's matters, there will be hands-on experiences. Only through practice can you identify the issues you face. But don't worry, I'll assist you gradually, I have another business trip next month, which will take about a month. During that time, focus on handling the company's affairs well. As long

as we don't go bankrupt, feel free to experiment with the company. Of course, you still need to deliver results. There's a collaboration next month, so prepare for it." Given that Sylvia had recently taken over the company's affairs, it was normal for her to encounter difficulties Bruce believed that as long as the company didn't go bankrupt, there wouldn't be any major problems.

After all, their family shared the same attitude towards Sylvia. If she made a mess, they would cover for her.

Sylvia sighed, feeling the pressure mounting. Yet, she found satisfaction in the challenge; pressure fueled her motivation.

"Don't worry, I won't bankrupt the company. Oh, by the way, I received an invitation yesterday from a company I'm not familiar with. Should I attend?"

Sylvia hadn't heard of this company before, suggesting it might not be local. Since her assistant was busy and likely unaware, she turned to Bruce for advice. Depending on his response, she would prepare accordingly.

Bruce took the invitation from Sylvia and glanced at it before setting it aside. It seemed they were invited to quite a grand event.

"This company is a foreign one. They've been transitioning into the medical field in recent years, previously engaged in real estate development and other projects, including the IT industry."

Bruce briefly introduced the background of the company. Sylvia nodded in understanding. It appeared to be a longstanding company undergoing transformation. Their sudden

invitation was likely an attempt to expand their market, hence the invitation to local enterprises.

"In that case, we should probably attend,"

*Indeed. I'll call the stylist to prepare early. We'll head over in the late afternoon after work."

With plans set, Bruce returned to his work, and when they were almost done in the afternoon, they packed up and left together. Originally, Juliette intended to join them, but she had her family's obligations at the event, so she didn't accompany them

With many attendees, Bruce and Sylvia mingled with the crowd, exchanging greetings. Among them was Cyril, whom Sylvia didn't find surprising; such events brought diverse encounters.

“Keep some distance from Cyril.”

Bruce, feeling uneasy, pulled Sylvia closer and earnestly cautioned her. Given Cyril’s recent antics in France, Bruce wasn’t sure what trouble he might stir up.

“I know, bro. You can relax.”

As long as Cyril didn’t approach her with his usual recklessness, Sylvia wouldn’t engage in anything problematic.

After chatting for a while, Sylvia spotted a familiar figure on the second floor staircase, briefly passing by. Struggling to recall where she had seen him before, she furrowed her brows, deep in thought.

dancing at her, Bruce remembered bearing about her helping someone in France. Although he hadn’t paid attention to who was on the second floor, it was likely the host

“It might be an employee. We’ll find out soon. Don’t wander around; the banquet is about to begin.”

“I’m not a three-year-old. I know what to do. Let’s go chat with those two over there, they have some connections to our collaborations.”

In such settings, maintaining relationships was crucial.

Sylvia and Bruce busied themselves mingling with others, while Cyll also remained engaged in conversations, not letting his guard down

“I never realized Sylvia and Bruce had such a good relationship. They’ve been inseparable for so long. Oh, I heard your grandfather took your mother and sister to the var family recently. But it seems the head of the Ivanov family supported Sylvia.”

grandfather took your mother and sister to the var family recently. But it seems the head of the Ivanov family supported Sylvia.”

Chapter 160 Mouths Open, Calling Mom

Jonathan was quite informed, as the matter hadn’t been kept secret. After it happened, their family directly spread the word, trading to widespread knowledge that Sylvia had made some other considerations before entering the Ivan family.

Cyril frowned upon hearing this. He had heard some gossip, but he hadn’t expected the matter to spread so widely.

“Don’t pay attention to this. It’s obviously not true, and where’s the psychological judgment?”

Rolling his eyes, Jonathan retorted. He indeed possessed judgment and knew at a glance that this matter wasn’t genuine. However, with rumors rampant outside, it would surely affect Sylvia

Moreover, he and Sylvia weren’t compatible to begin with, so it was quite normal for their relationship to be strained.

“Alright, alright. What’s the use of being kind to her only when divorcing? I didn’t see you defend her before. Now you’re suddenly defending her. Take a look, isn’t that Miles we’re supposed to chat with later?”

After Jonathan mocked Cyril, he steered the conversation back to business. Cyril glanced at Jonathan without retorting. These years had indeed been quite unfair to Sylvia

And he knew deep down that the current efforts to make amends weren’t of much use to Sylvia. She had already suffered grievances, and casual attempts at compensation wouldn’t suffice

There was still quite some time before the banquet began, so they engaged in conversations around. Normally, the host should have come out earlier at this hour, but the assistant conveyed that he had some last-minute matters to attend to, which everyone understood.

After all, people always had matters to attend to, especially sudden ones upon returning from overseas, which were quite common.

Moreover, they weren’t in a hurry. It was a good opportunity to mingle with those around.

After walking around with Bruce, Sylvia had greeted most people and found a place to sit and rest. She started massaging her calves; the stroll had left her quite tired.

“You haven’t been resting well these days, have you? Dad told me you’ve been home less often lately, practically living at the company. Dad urged me to come back soon just to ease your burden. Even though it was him who suggested you take over the company, now he’s treating me like a laborer.”

Though it sounded like a complaint, Bruce didn’t mean it that way. He was just a bit concerned about his sister. Seeing her busy till late every day, he couldn’t help but worry, even though he knew that taking over the entire company was inevitable.

Syhta sighed. There was too much going on in the company, especially with several new contracts she recently secured. She had to ensure everything went smoothly with these contracts, which required more effort

As for going home, she had already discussed it with Dad. Yes, she was busier than before and visited home less frequently, but it didn't mean she didn't go home at all. She had visited home just yesterday.

"Don't listen to Dad. I went home yesterday. He said there was nothing urgent and that I should focus on work. Yet, he's quick to complain when I don't come home and even reports to you."

Sylvia was speechless. It was her father who urged her to rest properly and take over the company. Now, seeing her exhausted and not returning home, he was still complaining to Bruce. He was quite contradictory.

Bruce chuckled along. It was indeed the case. Both of them felt helpless..

"The boss cares about you. By the way, Little Third told you he's relocating here after the job transfer, right? You might consider signing a contract with him to take charge of the system here, especially the medical services."

Thinking of his younger brother, Bruce didn't hesitate to offer him up, regardless of his brother's busyness. Having his brother busy was quite troublesome.

Sylvia had already heard about this and had been contemplating how to persuade her brother to agree. She knew her brother was busy, but she wasn't entirely at ease having someone else handle this, especially when it concerned AI and human lives. She had to be fully prepared.

"I've talked to my brother. He said he'll come over when he has time. It seems he's reluctant, but if he agrees, he'll spend most of his time here."

This statement was quite accurate. Given their family's indulgence toward their daughter, if Little Third agreed to help, he would likely devote most of his time to Sylvia's affairs, neglecting his own.

Bruce nodded after hearing this. "Talk to him properly. If he agrees to come, it'll save us a lot of expenses. One person like Old Jan can handle a medical team. If he comes, it'll save

Sylda was momentarily stunned, then burst into laughter. She hadn't expected her brother to be so stingy when it came to family.

"Mama, I've been looking for you for so long! Mama!

Sylvia could hardly maintain her composure, a child suddenly appeared and called her mom', adding a weight to her legs.

Looking down, she found a five or six-year-old child blinking at her, calling her mom' again.

Sylvia widened her eyes. Whose child was this? Why did he call her 'mom' so casually? Wasn't he afraid of people misunderstanding?

"Bco, whose child is this? Why is he calling me mom?"

Sylvia grabbed Bruce's clothes, feeling extremely nervous. She was afraid people would think she had kidnapped the child, but she genuinely didn't know the child. "Mamma, I'm your son! Mama!"

The child's clear voice further confused Sylvia. Did she resemble his mother so much? otherwise, why would he call her 'mom'?

The child's voice quickly attracted the attention of those around them. Everyone turned to look at Sylvia, who test trapped under their gaze, unsure of what to do next