

## **After Divorce, She Becomes the Billionaire Heiress ( Sylvia and Cyril ) Chapter 281-290**

### Chapter 281: You're Here Too

Sylvia didn't refuse his request; to be honest, she was quite curious herself. If the researchers from that institute could be persuaded to join, that would be great. Over the past few days, she had diligently investigated the specific situation of these researchers, knowing their strengths and weaknesses, and then set off with her brother.

"Although this is just a reality show, you don't have to put too much pressure on yourself. In other words, since our family invested in this project, your comfort is the priority. If you're not happy, we won't do it." In order to get his sister to participate in this event, Balk had put in a lot of effort. He even approached Bruce to get him to invest, and Bruce, seeing Sylvia's involvement, invested a large sum of money, instantly becoming the biggest sponsor of the entire reality show.

The directors understood this very well. So when they saw Balk and Sylvia coming, they were almost beaming with joy. They greeted them warmly, because whoever pays the piper calls the tune. "Why are you here?"

Before Sylvia and Balk could speak to the director, a sharp voice came from afar. They looked in the direction of the voice and saw Mia. Sylvia frowned when she saw her.

Because she had been very busy lately, Sylvia hadn't paid attention to who would be participating in this reality show. When she saw Mia, she felt uncomfortable.

"Why do I have a feeling that you invited me to participate in this reality show just to expose me to desensitization therapy? And how come everyone is here?"

This sentence left Balk speechless because he didn't know why Mia was here. There was no mention of Mia in the information he received, which meant that his initial information was true, but there had been changes later on.

Feeling a bit guilty, Balk touched his nose. He hadn't double-checked the personnel at the end, and he didn't expect such a big change.

Seeing Balk's reaction, Sylvia knew that he hadn't paid much attention to who would be coming to participate either, and she felt a bit speechless.

"Never mind, these things aren't really important. What's important is, if I'm not happy, can I ask him to leave?"

Sylvia asked sincerely. Sometimes, the best way to avoid conflict is to prevent it from happening in the first place.

So how can we prevent conflicts? By not giving them a chance to arise. Since she came here with a purpose, she could only push Mia out, considering that her family was the biggest sponsor.

Hearing Sylvia's words, Balk also seemed to have found a good solution. He nodded, but also looked at Sylvia strangely. "Of course, there's no problem with that. We've spent so much money, if you're still unhappy here, then all this money would be wasted. Anyway, if you're willing to stay, just treat it as a joke. If you're not, we can let him leave now."

"Then let's keep him here for now, just treat it as a joke for now."

Knowing her family's attitude, she didn't care anymore. She didn't consider Mia to be a particularly troublesome person. She came here only for the laboratory researchers. As for Mia's participation in one or two seasons, it had nothing to do with her.

The siblings ignored Mia's presence, and Mia could feel their disregard. She was very angry, but she didn't dare say anything. When she came, she knew that the biggest sponsor of this project was the Ivan Group, but she didn't expect Sylvia to be here. Originally, she thought she might get some information from her brother, but when she saw Sylvia here, she dismissed that idea.

Seeing the reaction of the three of them, the director felt a headache coming on. He didn't expect them to have such a history. If he had known earlier, he wouldn't have agreed to Mia's participation. But now that she was here, what could he do?

"Director, my sister doesn't have any special requirements, she just has one request, to try to reduce her screen time."

Balk said this in front of the other guests. The other guests had originally thought that the biggest sponsor of this event was the Ivan Group, so their screen time would be pitifully little. But they didn't expect the heiress of the Ivan family to take the initiative to reduce her screen time. This was quite strange.

"But if the screen time is reduced, then your performance here may be very inadequate. My suggestion is to give you as much screen time as possible. After all, you are the biggest sponsors here."

"No need. I came here for other things, not just to participate in the reality show. You can allocate my screen time evenly to others. Focus on my brother and me, if we're together, put us together. If we're not together, try not to show me on camera."

With Sylvia's words, the director had nothing more to say. Although he felt a bit regretful, after all, people like Sylvia and Balk, two good-looking siblings, were rare, and they were also the biggest sponsors. Sylvia's participation in this reality show was quite a spectacle. Now, suddenly reducing her screen time, he didn't know how the audience would react.

But the director had to consider the wishes of the client's father. The opinions of the audience were not the most important. After all, the client's father had invested real money, so his enjoyment should take precedence.

After sorting out these matters, Balk took Sylvia to meet the other guests. The other guests knew that the Ivan family was the biggest sponsor this time, and they knew the identities of the two of them. They greeted them respectfully, and based on Balk's previous performances in the circle, they were enough to win their respect.

But not everyone in this group would show them respect, like Mia.

Mia had never liked Sylvia, and now that Sylvia appeared with such an identity, she rolled her eyes and expressed her discomfort.

## Chapter 282: Setting a Trap

Regarding Mia's unfriendliness, others chose to turn a blind eye, especially Sylvia, who didn't take it seriously at all. To him, Mia seemed more like a pampered little girl from a wealthy family. Such girls didn't need much attention in his eyes.

"Alright, guests, welcome to our show. You should already know the theme of this episode: we're going to collaborate with a research institute. This institute is one of the top-notch research facilities, with highly skilled staff. Our task is to assist them and complete their daily tasks. Besides that, there may be additional tasks."

After the director finished speaking, there was a chorus of groans. They were entertainers, not researchers. Making them work in a research institute as assistants felt like torture. And if they were successful in assisting, it might hinder their careers in the entertainment industry.

Some groaned, some remained expressionless, and Sylvia was one of them.

"Alright, no more talk. Let's get started. First, let me introduce everyone."

The director led them into the laboratory, where several people were already there to greet them. Clearly, this had been arranged in advance. Although these researchers were somewhat reluctant to have their daily lives disrupted, they had to come.

Seeing their unwillingness but still having to greet them, Sylvia couldn't help but feel curious. How did they end up agreeing to participate?

"Because we're broke."

Such a simple reason. Project research requires a lot of money, and without funding, their projects would grind to a halt. Clearly, they were in a financial bind, which was why they reluctantly agreed to the arrangement by the production team. Despite their reluctance, they had to stand here and act as tools.

Sylvia glanced at Balk, feeling that all this had been planned by Balk and Bruce. They must have known they were short of manpower, so after learning about their situation, they immediately invested money and sent her over to do these things.

"Sis, why are you looking at me like that? What I said is true. They really agreed because they're broke. And when I got this information, the show was already being prepared. So our appearance is just adding to the mix. Moreover, if this project is successful, there will be no shortage of people giving them titles. And you've practically poached them. Well, not exactly poached, more like seconded, right?" After giving it some serious thought, Balk nodded, feeling that what he said was perfectly reasonable. Sylvia's lips twitched, but she didn't say anything.

After all, laboratory work was not their forte, so these guests stumbled at the beginning. In order to complete a project, they had to cooperate. The laboratory staff sighed incessantly, regretting that they had allowed themselves to be so troubled for the sake of money, and they weren't sure if today's work could be completed smoothly.

"Hello, I'm Sylvia, and my brother is Dewitt. He sent me here to say hello to you all."

During a break, Sylvia approached these researchers to greet them. When they heard Sylvia's name, they felt a bit familiar, but when they heard Dewitt's name, their eyes lit up instantly. They stood up eagerly and looked at Sylvia excitedly.

"We know you! You're Dewitt's sister, right? Dewitt used to boast to us all the time about having a very beautiful and smart sister. So it's you! By the way, since you're here, will Dewitt come too? To be honest, you guys have delayed our research progress."

Seeing the researchers' excited faces, Sylvia was rare at a loss for words for a moment. Then she explained the current situation to them seriously.

"My brother is currently helping me with artificial intelligence development. He used to work here and knows how capable you all are, so he sent me over to communicate with you and see if you're willing to come with me. My brother is mainly working on medical-related artificial intelligence development. Your AI projects are very impressive. If you're willing to come with me, I think my brother would be very happy to cooperate with you again."

At this point, the camera was focused on the guests, but there was also a camera on Sylvia. Hearing Sylvia talking to these researchers, both the guests and the researchers were stunned.

Yes, they came here to work, so they were doing research. But Sylvia's reason for coming here was also for work, just to poach these researchers.

"Of course, we can't give you an answer on this right away. Let's discuss with the director, and we'll give you an answer tomorrow. Is that okay?" These researchers were quite tempted. Their current projects were indeed impressive, but if they could collaborate with Dewitt, it would be even better. "Okay, we'll wait for your answer."

After saying this to them, Sylvia returned to her position and continued to be busy. The people around her stared at Sylvia, looking incredulous.

After noticing their expressions, Sylvia turned and asked, "What's wrong?"

The guests shook their heads and continued with their work. They knew that a reality show featuring an heiress wasn't that simple. The main purpose was to poach talent.

## Chapter 283: Someone Has Ulterior Motives

While everyone else was busy with experiments, many things here were unfamiliar to them. After all, they weren't in this field, so how could they know all the stuff the researchers do? So, the whole day was spent learning from them, how to use these things. After learning, the guests couldn't help but marvel when they sat down to rest.

"Indeed, there's a gap between people. Look at all these things; I can't even understand them. People can use them so proficiently, even predict future events using them. How impressive! And that artificial intelligence, I never imagined it could be so complex. I can't understand any of that code. I used to study computer science, and now I feel like it was all in vain."

"It's not just you who feels that way. Even I do. I feel like I've wasted so many years studying. I was a top student, graduated with a PhD, and started venturing into the entertainment industry smoothly. But today, I realize there's really a difference between people."

As they spoke, they couldn't help but look at Balk and Sylvia. As the behind-the-scenes investors of the entire program and from wealthy backgrounds, they seemed even more at ease than this group. Many things in this lab they didn't need others to teach them; they could use them proficiently and even come over to teach others.

Thinking about what happened earlier, they couldn't help but sigh. The gap between people was indeed too large. People from wealthy backgrounds could understand so much, while they knew nothing about these things.

"Well, it's no wonder they're rich. We don't usually study this stuff, and they can use it so well. And I heard Sylvia's family is developing a medical-related artificial intelligence. How come their brains are so good? Maybe they're in the lab every day, while I can't even understand these things. The difference is really huge. If I had known, I would have studied harder back then."

"Forget it. Even if you studied harder, you wouldn't be able to match their brains. You don't want to know what they do. You're just doing your own thing. If you want to compare, the gap is too big."

Their conversation, while they were venting to each other, was also captured by the director. The director thought it was excellent material. Seeing the luxurious life of wealthy people wasn't just about money; they were also very capable. This group of guests was already proving this very well.

While they were chatting, they didn't notice that there was another person who hadn't said a word from beginning to end. This was quite strange, but since everyone was focused on their own business, they didn't pay attention to it.

However, someone in the lab did notice the reactions of this group. When Sylvia was talking to Balk, he approached her.

Sylvia knew this lab coat; he was the most emotionally intelligent among these researchers and could talk to them. Plus, he could help with translations.

Yes, communication between them actually required translation, because sometimes the researchers' speech was really incomprehensible to them. So, they needed someone to translate how to use these things and how to communicate effectively with them.

So, he remembered this person's name; his name was Henry.

For this kind of potential ally who could cooperate with them, Sylvia always communicated with a very good expression. Balk also understood Sylvia's meaning, so he was very polite to the other party, and since the other party was doing research, he was naturally more capable than them.

"Do you have anything to say?"

Henry glanced at the group of celebrity guests, then said to Sylvia, "I just want to remind you that there are some people among them with impure intentions. I'm afraid you might

be deceived, so I came to tell you. But you don't need to think too much. The reason I'm telling you this is just because of Devitt's face."

Sylvia was stunned for a moment. Before she could react, the other party had already left after saying this sentence. As for Balk, after hearing the other party's reminder, he was almost infuriated. What does it mean? Someone actually dares to covet his sister?

"Let me see who's so clueless! He even dares to keep an eye on my sister? She really doesn't fear death! Sister, rest assured, with me here, I absolutely won't let them do anything to you. You can rest assured."

Balk's protective stance made Sylvia somewhat helpless. He wasn't worried about those people doing anything to her, and she was very clear that those people probably had such thoughts, but they didn't have the guts. After all, if they wanted to do something to her, they had to think carefully whether they had the ability to do so.

"Alright, brother, you know it in your heart. We don't need to worry too much."

While they were learning how to use those devices just now, Sylvia had actually noticed that some people were looking at her strangely, but she hadn't said anything because she felt it wasn't necessary. But now, it seemed she had to pay attention.

Balk was a little angry, but when he heard his sister say so, he knew that his sister understood, so if his sister knew about it today, he wouldn't say anything more.

"You know in your heart what's going on. I won't say much."

If his sister didn't know, Balk would definitely deal with these things properly, but now that his sister knew, let's see who is so clueless and still dares to have evil intentions. The two of them finished their conversation and went to do their own things, not taking what happened just now too much to heart. But in fact, they were secretly observing who among this group had bad intentions. They also noticed that one man's eyes seemed a bit erratic. After glancing in Sylvia's direction several times, he quickly averted his gaze, as if nothing had happened.

## Chapter 284: Late Night Visitor

There wasn't a need for recording at night, so Sylvia was back in her room dealing with company matters. She was here today just to communicate with the researchers and hopefully bring them to her lab. As for other matters, they were not on her agenda. With her brother handling the variety show matters, Sylvia believed the fans would be happier seeing him anyway.



She remembered this very clearly, so she felt relaxed as she began sorting out company issues in her room. After just two meetings and finishing all the work, she had a phone call with her brother to discuss the follow-up arrangements before hanging up.

After this busy period, when Sylvia finally stopped, it was almost midnight. She rubbed her stiff neck and prepared to take a shower and sleep. But as soon as she entered the bathroom with her clothes, she heard a knock on the door. Sylvia glanced at the time; it was already 2 AM. Who could be disturbing her rest at this hour?

She was curious, not just about the late-night visitor, but also about why someone would still be awake at this hour. What were they up to?

Curiosity led her to open the door, revealing a handsome man standing outside the same man she and Balk noticed earlier that day.

Before Sylvia stood a well-known actor in the entertainment industry.

He had been making quite a buzz lately, and Sylvia had seen some of his TV dramas. Though she wasn't particularly impressed, she had a vague impression of him. However, she hadn't paid much attention, as she was more concerned about her company's profits than TV shows.

So far, she didn't even know his name.

"What brings you here so late? I remember you staying downstairs. Why suddenly come upstairs?" Sylvia asked, puzzled.

If he had a problem, he should have sought help on the second floor or directly approached the director on the first floor, rather than come all the way up to the third floor to find her. Her room was the least likely to be disturbed by others, so his actions seemed suspicious.

The man smiled shyly and introduced himself first, knowing people like them probably wouldn't notice him: "Hello Sylvia, I'm Ian. I've been following you for a long time, and your performance today surprised me. So, I want to be friends with you. Do I have a chance?"

Sylvia burst into laughter upon hearing this unconventional greeting. "Sorry, I'm not usually keen on making friends, especially with people I have no connection with. I'm even less inclined to greet strangers. Do you have anything else to say? If not, I suggest you go back to your room quickly. Coming to my room in the middle of the night to say this kind of thing will only make people think too much." The man didn't hide his intentions; he directly stated why he had come.

"Your thoughts aren't that complicated. I think you should understand why I'm here. Since you understand, I won't beat around the bush. I know you recently got divorced



and took over the family business. I think you must need someone understanding and capable to help you in times of trouble. Although I don't know much about the company's affairs, I can provide you with emotional support. Besides, I've never been involved in any bad rumors in the industry..."

Sylvia watched him incredulously as he undressed in front of her. She was stunned. Would someone really do such a thing? She looked horrified, then watched as he was about to take off all his clothes. Sylvia quickly intervened.

"Wait, are you mistaken about something? First of all, I have no feelings for you. Secondly, don't you think it's embarrassing to take off your clothes at the door? Besides, I don't need a man to provide me with emotional support. And do you know that your current actions are like soliciting? Your resources are quite good; why do you have to come to me for this? Moreover, with your personality, after so many years in the industry, you shouldn't be doing something so foolish, right?"

Sylvia really couldn't understand. If this person's resources weren't good, and he wanted to offer himself for plastic surgery, that would make sense. But clearly, this person was quite impressive in many aspects. It was said that his talent agency also greatly valued him, so advancing to a higher level shouldn't be difficult for him. Why did he have to find her?

"I know you don't understand my current actions, but I really like you sincerely. So, I'm willing to take this step. Also, I'm well aware that if I can be with you, I'll gain more. So, why would I miss such a good opportunity?"

Sylvia finally understood. He came to her for resources and a smoother path ahead. Sylvia didn't reject hard work, but she did reject people who wanted to climb up without effort.

At this moment, Sylvia took out her phone, opened the camera, and aimed it at the man in front of her.

"It's quite interesting. No one has ever come to me in the middle of the night asking to be kept. So, I want to see what exactly makes you think I should do all this for you."

Sylvia really couldn't fathom what he was thinking. He thought she would really be interested in him, and she was here for work. This was something everyone could see. But he wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to climb up, which was truly astonishing.

## Chapter 285: Obedient Dog

When Ian saw Sylvia taking out her phone, he thought she was going to expose him. He was about to put his clothes back on when Sylvia spoke, making him feel like he still had a chance.

"I know you rich folks play around a lot. So, whatever you want me to do, I won't complain. Even if you want me to be your dog, I'll happily bark a few times for you. As long as you take a liking to me, I'll do anything. I'll be more obedient and sensible than any man you've met before. Just give me a second glance, and I believe you won't need any other man. Because no one else will be as obedient and charming as me. You can count on that."

The crucial thing was Sylvia started to wonder how he obtained these things. Was it really through the means he mentioned, step by step? But his appearance was decent; he could have achieved all this through proper means. So, Sylvia couldn't understand why he chose this path.

"I'm curious about something. Did you gain all those things by this method? If so, why didn't you succeed earlier?"

Sylvia was well aware of the shady dealings in the industry. Some people preferred these murky waters.

A person with money and another with influence could accomplish anything together. If Ian had started this way, he wouldn't have struggled for years to get ahead.

Moreover, if he hadn't succeeded before, why come to her today? There should have been other options, not taking a risk with her. He might have faced rejection.

At this point, Ian's expression changed. He had never sought out people before, but recently, his career had suffered a severe setback, making him realize the importance of having connections. He had considered several people, but they already had their own playthings and didn't need him.

He hadn't planned anything when he came to participate in this variety show. If he could establish a relationship with Sylvia, he could soar to new heights.

"I've never done anything like this before. This is my first time. So, trust me, I'm clean. As I said, as long as you're willing, I can kneel down and be your dog right now."

"You're crazy! Coming to my sister's room in the middle of the night and saying such things?"

Balk had been watching him closely.

Hearing the man's words, Balk almost burst out laughing. Did he really think his sister would want someone like him? Sure, if Sylvia liked him, it was fine. But Sylvia was currently focused on her work and not interested.

Seeing Balk appear, the man became visibly nervous. He hurriedly tried to put his clothes back on, but Sylvia kicked him away. She looked at him with a smile. He had been so confident earlier when taking off his clothes, so why was he nervous now?

"My brother is quite reasonable. You don't need to be in such a hurry. And I don't think my brother said anything wrong. You've never done this before, so why now? You could have climbed up on your own. If this gets exposed, it won't affect me, but it won't be good for you."

"You don't understand. Living in a wealthy family like yours, you wouldn't understand. Without resources like mine, I can't survive. I've been declining in recent years. Even if I become famous, it won't change. I just want to fight for myself. What's wrong with that? If you don't need me, you can say it directly. There's no need to humiliate me like this."

With both Sylvia and Balk present, the man knew his plan had failed. He regretted offending Sylvia.

"I was wrong. I was temporarily confused and took this path. Please, since I haven't done anything yet, can you let me go?"

He hadn't done anything, and Sylvia had no intention of doing anything either. She just glanced at him and threw the phone to her brother. After all, she didn't want to get involved in entertainment industry drama. Her brother should be able to handle it.

"Let's go, let's have a chat alone."

Balk nodded at Sylvia, took the phone, and dragged the man away. As Sylvia closed the door, she couldn't help but notice Balk's displeased expression. It seemed her chances had just gotten slimmer. All her years of effort were probably wasted.

## Chapter 286: Need Any Help?

The next morning, the program recording continued as usual. Sylvia had to have another chat with them to secure cooperation. It wasn't easy because these people were stubborn. So, Sylvia had to put in extra effort to persuade them.

What surprised Sylvia was that Ian was still around after yesterday's incident. He even obediently stayed by Balk's side, not daring to glance around.

She wondered what they had discussed last night. By the time Sylvia got her phone back, the video had been deleted. But she knew Balk wouldn't let it go.

She didn't care how Balk had handled it; she just focused on her tasks and continued chatting with them.

The director knew Sylvia was here for business, so the camera barely focused on her. It was a pity because she looked stunning, especially when working with her brother.

After finishing most of their work, Henry approached Sylvia.

"I know you're here to collaborate with us. Do you need my help? I have some influence here, and I can help you maximize your benefits. I know everything about how things work here."

Sylvia had to put in a lot of effort to convince these people. She wondered if things would have been less complicated if she had brought her brother along today.

Unexpectedly, Henry offered to help.

Usually, people like him had ulterior motives. Sylvia wanted to know why he was helping her, even if it was for cooperation or money.

"I'm curious. If so many people don't want to work with me, why are you offering to help?"

"They don't understand, but I do. You won't stop until you achieve your goal. Since they'll agree sooner or later, why not gain some favor with you now? Maybe you'll reward me later when distributing profits. I'm just a researcher, and I want to earn a bit more. It shouldn't be a big problem, right? Oh, and besides, I can also help persuade our team leader, Dr. Cyril."

It seemed he was doing it for money, but Sylvia had dealt with many rich kids like him. Despite what he said, his actions didn't seem motivated by money.

"You don't have to lie to me. Your actions aren't just about money. What's your real goal?"

Henry thought he had hidden it well, but Sylvia saw through him and smiled knowingly.

"I didn't plan to reveal it so soon, but since you've figured it out, I'll tell you. My actions aren't about money. I have a good relationship with Cyril. He knew you were coming and asked me to help you. You need a project, right? Well, I..."

"Thanks, but no thanks."

When Sylvia heard Cyril's name, she immediately refused. Regardless of Henry's capability to convince others to collaborate, she couldn't choose him because of his association with Cyril.

Henry was stunned. Sylvia had interrupted him before he could finish his explanation. Did he have to reject every opportunity just because of Cyril?

"No, did you misunderstand? I might be friends with Cyril, but I know what I should and shouldn't do. You've offered so much money; I don't have a reason to refuse it. It's all about making money. As long as I'm making money, it doesn't matter where it comes from."

Henry hurriedly explained, realizing his mistake. He had promised Cyril to handle things well.

Now he understood why Cyril had emphasized not revealing their relationship. Sylvia wouldn't accept his help once she knew.

"I'm telling you, your mindset is wrong. Even though we're friends, I won't refuse money. Understand? So, I'm offering my help. What's wrong with collaborating with me? At least you know me. And you can trust that Cyril's recommendation won't lead you astray."

Seeing Henry's anxious explanation, Sylvia couldn't help but laugh. He obviously hadn't taken Cyril's words seriously. Now he realized Cyril's warning was valid. Sylvia wouldn't accept his help once she knew about their connection.

"Stop, don't say anything more. I understand what you mean. But there's something you seem to have forgotten. Although Cyril and I know each other, our relationship isn't good. Especially after the divorce, I don't consider him at all. So, I wouldn't dare to use anyone he recommends. Even if it's for money, I dislike using his recommendations. After all, his identity is something I avoid the most. If you hadn't mentioned Cyril's information, I might have considered you. But now, with the guy you mentioned, there's no way I'll let you join my team."

Sylvia's serious expression made it clear that Henry's efforts were in vain. He regretted his decision now. If he had known this would happen, he wouldn't have revealed his identity.

## Chapter 287: Here Comes Another One

Henry felt really unfair. He was just here to help Cyril with something, nothing special. But Sylvia's attitude was crystal clear – she wouldn't cooperate anymore. That wasn't just about him; it involved the interests of the whole institute.

“You can’t say that. As a businessman, your priority should be making money. If I’m helping you, there must be some profit in it, right? Plus, don’t forget you came here because your brother recommended you. If your brother recommends, you should trust it, right? Also, besides my relationship with Cyril, think about my relationship with your brother. If he recommends me, it means I have a clear conscience about important matters. Although this time, I did agree to Cyril that I would talk to him, it’s also for the sake of our institute...”

Henry’s anxious explanation seemed futile to Sylvia. If he wasn’t guilty, why would he explain so much? Seeing Sylvia about to leave, Henry wanted to chase after her to talk things over properly. But the director approached Sylvia, so he couldn’t say anything more. He didn’t want to complicate things further.

The director approaching Sylvia was also a headache. Another person had joined, Cyril, the main investor. The director needed to consult Sylvia’s opinion. He invited Cyril because Cyril had also invested money. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have gathered them together. Having them together made the show more interesting.

“I’m not really keen on having him here either. You know, this project is about research and development. Your discussions as business tycoons are interesting, but you’re too unstable. I’m hesitant, but because he invested, I have to consider your opinions. You two are the biggest investors now, right?”

The director’s cautious demeanor was clear. Sylvia understood. He wanted to exploit the tension between her and Cyril to make the show more intriguing. She spoke up.

“Since he has invested, why refuse the money? My relationship with him isn’t that big of a deal. If he wants to invest, take the money. Even if we have conflicts, I’m here, and you control the editing later. Whether I go or he goes, it’s up to you. If he doesn’t want to invest later, you still have our investment. What’s to fear?”

The director was panicking about Cyril’s arrival. Nobody wanted trouble. But Sylvia’s words made sense. Regardless of Cyril’s behavior, his family had invested real money. Why worry about non-investors? “You’re right. I was unclear. Don’t worry; I’ll handle it. By the way, do you still want minimal screen time for you two?”

Sylvia nodded. She didn’t want much involvement with Cyril. But she thought of something else.

“Reduce my screen time, but give more to Cyril. Also, Mia and his relationship is noteworthy. If we can get some details from them, your show will be more interesting. I’m telling you this privately. Your relationship with him is still ambiguous.”

Sylvia spoke softly but earnestly. The director, initially skeptical, believed her instantly.

“Got it. Don’t worry, boss. Since you’ve invested, I won’t let your money go to waste. I’ll make sure you profit in the end.”

Sylvia nodded, satisfied. She thought she’d meet Cyril tomorrow, but surprisingly, he arrived in the afternoon. Seeing him, Balk’s expression turned sour.

If Sylvia hadn’t approved, Balk would’ve thought the director was plotting. He looked terrifying.

“Hello, everyone. We have a new partner here, but I think you all know him. Lately, we’ve seen him often in the news...”

The director regretted saying that. What they saw in the news wasn’t good. He shut up, leaving Cyril’s introduction unfinished. Then he hastily left to prepare the next tasks.

With only a few left, Cyril approached Sylvia, but before he could speak, Balk interrupted. He didn’t want Cyril near his sister.

## Chapter 288: Like Enemies

“Is everything alright? First, your people tried to block my sister from discussing cooperation. Now you’re here yourself. Couldn’t your company continue without trying to snatch work from my sister? And your childhood friend is here too. What’s your business with my sister? You and I are done. Let me tell you, if you keep bothering my sister, my brother will snatch away all your company’s deals!”

Balk’s guarded demeanor left Sylvia bemused. But he didn’t want to engage with Cyril either, so he just let him stand there. His phone rang, and he moved aside to answer, ignoring Cyril’s presence even more.

Seeing Sylvia had left, Balk warned Cyril again before walking away. Cyril then approached Sylvia to talk. Other people, having finally spotted Cyril, came over to greet him, hoping Cyril would remember their interactions for future smooth dealings.

“Why did you come over, Cyril? Was it because you knew I was here? I know seeing me here must be irritating for you, but I didn’t expect Sylvia to be here either. I wonder why he’s here when his brother is already doing research here. It’s really annoying, he’s clearly doing this on purpose, knowing you’re also cooperating here.”

Mia’s angry tone made Cyril pause. His eyes held a hint of danger as he looked at Mia.

“How do you know so much about my company’s affairs? You shouldn’t know who I’m collaborating with next. Who told you all this? Did you intentionally send someone to spy on my company? I don’t want to say anything harsh, but considering our relationship,



you need to understand one thing: your actions could be seen as stealing company secrets, and I have the right to report you.”

Hearing Cyril’s words, Mia was stunned. She didn’t mean any harm, but perhaps her father had different intentions. She began to panic. Did Cyril really suspect her?

But she hadn’t done anything to betray Cyril’s trust. The thought made Mia want to cry.

“I’m only here for one season. But let me warn you, think twice before doing anything to Sylvia. Can you handle the consequences? If not, I suggest you don’t do anything. This is advice from someone who cares about you for so many years.”

Initially, Mia didn’t have strong feelings towards Sylvia. But after this incident with Cyril, she developed a strong opinion. However, Sylvia didn’t know about this or that Cyril had inadvertently brought an enemy upon himself.

“My brother told me this lab is really good, but some people here have connections with companies in the South. If we can’t collaborate with them, it’s fine. He’ll find other people.” After hanging up the phone, Sylvia told Balk. Balk sighed. He thought Sylvia would stay for a few more seasons, but it seemed like she was preparing to switch labs. “But they do a great job with artificial intelligence. After seeing this, I have some ideas. I’ll discuss them with my brother later. Maybe we can upgrade the lab.” Sylvia had her own thoughts. After hearing this, Balk didn’t know what to say. He wasn’t sure whether to be proud of his sister’s prowess or worried about her actions. “After this season, I’ll step back. Then you can handle the show properly, little brother. After all, so much money has been spent at home. Don’t let it all go to waste.” Seeing his sister’s determined look to leave, Balk reluctantly agreed.

After chatting for a while, the siblings prepared for today’s filming projects. Sylvia seemed more relaxed now, observing the team’s work without much pressure. She noted areas for improvement in her own lab as well.

## Chapter 289: Battlefield

Since Henry and Cyril’s relationship had already been exposed in the previous episode, they didn’t bother hiding it anymore. They chatted and interacted naturally, though the Chinese staff sensed something amiss, they didn’t say anything.

When the day’s filming ended, another person arrived in the evening. The director felt like he was going to lose all his hair from the stress. It was only a three-day shoot, yet so many troublesome people showed up. Seeing the three of them living together, he joked that it looked like a battlefield.

“Balk, you didn’t tell me before the official recording started that your sister was so popular. First Cyril showed up, now Miles. How am I supposed to film this? We can’t use most of these shots. What am I going to do?”

The director complained to Balk, who shrugged. He didn’t know why Miles was here either. Most likely, Miles came because Cyril did.

“It’s no use telling me this. They’re not here for me. Talk to my sister. Besides, they won’t stay long. After all, you only have one more day of filming. Did my sister tell you anything? Just follow her instructions. And don’t worry about Miles. He won’t cause you trouble. If he doesn’t leave tonight, he won’t appear on camera tomorrow.”

Balk knew his sister well and had already made arrangements based on what she had told him. If he didn’t tie Cyril and Mia together properly, it would be interesting. Miles’s sudden appearance surprised everyone. But Miles seemed to know a lot; he immediately followed Cyril when he arrived.

Sitting together, Sylvia felt a headache coming on. Mia looked at her with hostility, even though Sylvia hadn’t done anything wrong. After Cyril arrived, he hadn’t even said a word to her. Did she deserve this hostility? And Miles, when did he arrive? Why didn’t she know?

“Why are you here? Isn’t there enough work for you at the company? You had to come here?”

Sylvia had been busy with both the variety show and company matters these days. Many meetings were held at night, and she was exhausted. Seeing Miles show up late at night, she couldn’t understand why he would come. Wasn’t there enough work at the company? Did he have to come here and give her more to deal with?

Miles smiled gently after hearing Sylvia’s words. “I’m done with work at the company, so I came. Will I be disturbing your work?”

The variety show had already finished filming for the day. Why would he be disturbing her work? Sylvia wanted to leave to handle company matters, but with the three of them around her, she couldn’t just walk away.

“Jimmy called the other day and said you were coming to film the show, so he asked me to come and see you. He also made these cookies himself and asked me to bring them to you. He heard you might not have time to eat properly while filming, so he made these cookies for you, hoping you’d have something to eat.”

Jimmy was still young and didn’t quite understand what variety shows were about. He thought Sylvia might not have time to eat properly during filming, so he learned how to bake cookies from their nanny and asked his dad to bring them to Sylvia.

Sylvia was touched by Jimmy's gesture. She hadn't expected him to prepare something like this for her.

"I can't understand what you told the kid. When do I not have time to eat? Sylvia felt warm inside, although she was annoyed by Miles's sudden presence, she appreciated Jimmy's innocence.

Balk also felt helpless. He had explained to Jimmy several times that Sylvia wouldn't go hungry while filming. With Sylvia's status and their family being the biggest investors, there was no way she wouldn't be fed. But kids are stubborn. They thought their parents were lying and didn't want to share their stuff with Sylvia.

"But Jimmy is still young, so what he made might not look good. If you mind, you can eat this instead. I bought it on the way here, it's your favorite flavor."

Miles remembered seeing Sylvia buy pastries from this shop when they went out together, so he bought some for her this time. Sylvia smiled when she saw the pastries. It was considerate of him.

After accepting both items, Sylvia felt happier chatting with Miles. Meanwhile, Cyril and Mia were ignored completely.

Strangely, Cyril sat quietly, not saying a word, looking like an outsider. Even Mia, who was genuinely an outsider, felt sorry for Cyril. Despite Cyril's fondness for Sylvia, things had turned out like this.

"You've been busy all day, and the staff shouldn't have time to work, right? Okay, I won't delay you any longer. I'll leave after delivering these things. When I get back, I don't know if you'll have time to have a meal with me. Well, mainly Jimmy. He's worried you won't have enough to eat here and will feel uncomfortable."

Miles used his son as an excuse again. After all, they had just made cookies with Miles's help. Sylvia didn't think too much about it. Even if she guessed it was deliberate, she didn't refuse.

"Okay, I'll probably be leaving the day after tomorrow. After I get back, I'll take care of company matters for a while. We can schedule a meal then."

After getting a positive response, Miles left contentedly. Before leaving, he provocatively glanced at Cyril.

## Chapter 290: Sorting Things Out

When Miles left, Cyril followed him outside, and they stood at the door. Nobody knew what these two big shots had to discuss, but nobody dared to eavesdrop either, fearing they might get dragged into something they shouldn't.

"You're quite impressive, making Sylvia change her attitude towards you with just a few words, using your son as a shield. You're quite something as a father."

"Whether I'm something or not is none of your concern. At least I'm better than you. You came all this way and can't even get a word out of Sylvia. Anyway, now I'm talking to Sylvia. Do you have a problem with that? And you're here to help her, right? But look at how she's treating you. She doesn't even want your help. So why are you still here?"

The two men were immediately at odds when they met. Both Cyril and Miles didn't like each other, especially Miles's actions towards Cyril. Today, it was clear that Miles had the upper hand, leaving Cyril speechless.

"What's it to you why I'm here? Don't forget, Sylvia and I were married before. She's so ruthless she won't even look at me. Compared to that, you should be worried that one day she'll see through you and refuse to talk to you. Why are you so sure Sylvia will choose you in this situation? Are you overestimating yourself?"

After hearing Miles's words, Cyril turned around and saw Mia not far away. He sighed inwardly. Although he had no relationship with Mia, she had been around him because their families had some connections. But he had no feelings for her, and Mia knew it. Yet, she insisted on staying close to him.

"Back then, you didn't cherish Sylvia. Now that you're divorced, you suddenly realize you love her. Don't you think sitting here is foolish? If I were a woman, I'd cherish Sylvia from the start, not wait until I lost her to regret it. And let me tell you, regretting now won't change anything."

Indeed, regretting now was pointless because Sylvia wouldn't give him another chance.

After saying these words, Miles left with a smile. Regardless of whether his actions today were right or wrong, he had achieved his goal, which was good enough.

Watching him leave, Cyril still felt uncomfortable. Mia walked over at this moment, wanting to talk to Cyril. But one glance from Cyril made Mia swallow her words. She couldn't understand why she was inferior to Sylvia. Back when they were students, Cyril wasn't worse off than Sylvia. They came from similar family backgrounds. Just because she wasn't a robot, did Cyril have to treat her like this? Would Cyril pay more attention to her if she were an heiress?

“I know you’re upset because Sylvia ignored you. But now Sylvia is the heiress of a big company. Does that mean I’m not? If you’re willing to marry me, you won’t lack anything compared to what Sylvia can offer.”

Mia chased after Cyril for two reasons: she genuinely liked him, and a marriage between them would benefit both their companies. So, Cyril was a rational choice for her, besides being someone she liked. He also knew that if he wanted his company to thrive, having Mia by his side would be advantageous. Despite their different backgrounds and businesses, mutual help and mutual benefit were nothing to frown upon. Ultimately, it was just a matter of exchanging benefits.

Hearing this, Cyril chuckled.

“No need. I understand your intentions. But I don’t need any of this. I’ll handle things with Sylvia myself. You don’t need to say all this to me.”

Cyril’s attitude towards Mia had been considered beforehand, knowing how much Cyril liked Sylvia. So, his refusal wasn’t surprising. What was difficult for him to accept was that even after the divorce, he still clung to Sylvia. What was the point?

“One day, you’ll regret this choice. But I’m willing to give you a chance. Because you know that if our families join forces, it will elevate both our companies. No one would refuse such a good deal, right?”