

Rebirth of the Deadly Beauty

c 781

[575 words]

"Yes, this must be the Vintner Reserve from St. Claire's Distillery!"

A smile spread across Alfred's face as he addressed Yolanda. "Yolanda, how much did you pay for this bottle? I'll give you double the price! No, make it quadruple!"

He firmly held up four fingers.

"Quadruple?" Jude was dumbfounded, thinking this was an excessive amount of money.

"I didn't buy this, and it's not for sale." Noting Alfred's disappointed expression, Yolanda continued, "But I'll give it to you if you want it."

"Dad, I believe Ms. Henderson brewed this herself!" Jude recalled the materials he had helped her gather. They were all brewing ingredients.

"She made this herself? Impossible!" Alfred's eyes widened in disbelief as he stared at Yolanda.

"I can tell this is the Vintner Reserve from St. Claire's Distillery. They stopped production decades ago and destroyed the recipe. There are probably fewer than five bottles left in all of Havaria, so nobody can buy it even with connections.

"Yolanda, you're barely twenty. How could you possibly recreate it so perfectly or even know this spirit?"

"This really is Ms. Henderson's own creation. I bought the ingredients myself and had them delivered to her." Jude stepped forward while eyeing the bottle in his father's hands warily. "Dad, be honest with me. Are you unhappy because you've been craving alcohol?"

Jude was worried about his father's health. But Alfred scoffed and responded with displeasure, "Hmph! You foolish boy. Do you think so little of me? You think that I'd act like this just because I want a drink?"

"Mr. Kaufman, I suspect your father wants this bottle for another purpose." Yolanda had heard from Jude that they had removed all alcohol from the Kaufman residence. In that

case, the Vintner Reserve in the storage room must have been something Alfred had recently acquired through his connections.

He found such a rare spirit but did not drink it. Instead, he carefully stored it with the antiques, which meant he did not want it for himself. Yolanda guessed the bottle held great meaning to Alfred, but he had accidentally broken it.

Because of how rare the spirit was, even someone of his status could not obtain another bottle of it. That was why he had been sighing with regret these past few days. He had been too distressed to eat

"If you're not planning to drink it secretly, then what do you want to do with it?" Jude asked skeptically. Doubt filled his eyes. He did not seem to believe Alfred's words.

"This bottle means something special to someone." Alfred sighed deeply. "With this bottle, we might get him to return to Riverdale."

"Dad, who exactly are you talking about?" Jude grew curious about who could matter so much to Alfred that he would spend a fortune on such a rare spirit.

"I'm talking about Richard, the head of the Loake family."

"The Loakes?" Yolanda and Jude were both startled.

"Ever since Richard left Riverdale, he's never returned. I write to invite him to every Moonlight Festival, but he always refuses to come back here."

"Well, the Loake family is at its peak now. It's understandable that Uncle Richard doesn't come back," Jude reassured Alfred.

"Richard isn't one to forget his roots. He just has more important matters to attend to." Alfred gazed out the window.

"Though Havarria appears peaceful and prosperous now, there's a hidden tension among everyone, especially for those in high positions. One wrong move could spell disaster.

"Besides, everything's connected. If something were to happen to someone, countless families could be affected."

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Chapter 782

[551 words]

Yolanda deeply agreed with Alfred's words. The power play between Havarria's core factions had never ceased. Even among the three great families of Creybia, friction was common.

"At first, I just wanted Richard to come back for old times' sake. Since he couldn't return, I had to accept it. But with Riverdale's situation now..."

Jude fell silent at these words.

Indeed, things had grown chaotic in Riverdale lately. Especially with Cayden's retaliation, which had created a deep sense of crisis among the allied families within the Titan Merchants Association.

"I wanted Richard to return to send a message to other powers in Havarria-the Loake family's roots are in Riverdale. Anyone thinking of disrupting Riverdale's peace would first have to get through the Loakes.

"But now, perhaps only the Vintner Reserve from St. Claire's could persuade him to set aside his duties and return to Riverdale. This spirit holds special meaning for him.

"Since a bottle of spirits could affect Riverdale's peace and countless lives, how could I sleep soundly after breaking that bottle?" Alfred glared at Jude, then carefully sniffed the bottle Yolanda had brought again. "Now with this bottle, Riverdale's trouble will resolve itself!"

"Mr. Kaufman Senior, if this spirit means so much to your friend, surely he'll notice it's a recreation and not the original recipe."

Alfred shook his head at her words. "Recreation? If you hadn't told me, I'd say the aroma is exactly the same as St. Claire's Vintner Reserve!"

He carefully poured a few drops into his palm and tasted it. "The flavor is the same too! This is the Vintner Reserve!"

"Perhaps Richard might notice. But since there are only so few bottles of Vintner Reserve in existence, he won't complain about having such a perfect reproduction."

Alfred relaxed and laughed as he patted Yolanda's shoulder. "Yolanda, you're really talented! If you were my granddaughter, I'd hand the

Kaufman family business towel ne

tell these useless brats to step aside!"

and

Jude felt embarrassed at being called useless and criticized in front of others. But

he was relieved that Yolanda had eased Alfred's troubles.

"By the way, since you can recreate it so perfectly, could you make a few more bottles?" Alfred suddenly asked. "I'll still pay you four times the price! I'll pay you 80 million dollars per bottle!"

"80 million?" Jude was stunned. Alfred had paid two million for the last bottle, which cost as much as a mansion. He had really invested heavily in this.

"If you want more, I can make several bottles for you. But forget about the money. Just tell Jude to send me the ingredients like before."

"That won't do! I can't accept your alcohol without giving anything in return!" Alfred declared firmly. "I'll order five more bottles-no, make it eight! Jude, write her a check right now."

80 million per bottle meant Alfred was going to pay Yolanda over 600 million dollars...

Little did Jude know that people would fight to buy St. Claire's Vintner Reserve even at 100 million dollars per bottle. Beyond its rarity, St.

Claire's brand had once earne

recognition from all the influential and powerful families.

Having resolved Alfred's troubles, Yolanda prepared to leave. Just then, Jude received a phone call.

After hanging up, he approached

Yolanda and said, "Ms. Henderson, I

have another favor to ask. A friend

of mine has fallen really ill and is

You

looking for skilled doctors. If y

have time, could you take a look at him?"

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[581 words]

"What symptoms does your friend have?" Yolanda asked.

"I'm not sure of the details. If you're willing to have a look, I'll ask him to come over right now..." Jude said while dialing a number to relay a few instructions.

An hour later, a Mercedes-Benz pulled up at the Kaufman residence's entrance. Upon receiving word from his staff, Jude immediately went to greet them. Anyone Jude would personally welcome must be quite important.

Within ten minutes, a group entered the Kaufmans' living room. At the front, a young woman supported a middle-aged man with a cane as they walked toward Yolanda, accompanied by Jude.

When Yolanda glanced over and saw the pair, her expression cooled. They were none other than the Cavanaughs who had threatened her before.

"Ms. Henderson, let me introduce my friend to you!" Jude was unaware of Yolanda's history with the Cavanaughs and thought they hadn't met. "This is my friend, Lennox Cavanaugh, head of the Cavanaugh family from Dunhill. And beside him is his daughter Miranda.

"Mr. Cavanaugh and I go way back. He's been unwell lately, so I'd appreciate it if you could examine him."

As the president of the Titan Merchants Association, Yolanda had close ties to the Wright and Hansen families. Because of that, Jude was willing to help expand Yolanda's network in Havarria through such introductions too.

"Dr. Henderson, it's been a while." Lennox's expression was pleasant, but his tone carried a hint of sarcasm. "Meeting you seems harder than climbing to heaven."

It had been about two weeks since Yolanda last saw Lennox. Now, his eye sockets were sunken, and his cheeks were gaunt. Looking more sickly than before, he appeared a decade older than his actual age.

Though he needed a cane to move, his pride remained intact as he struggled to keep his spine straight. He was unwilling to show any weakness.

Miranda, who was carefully

supporting her father, shot Yolanda a long look but remained silent. Yolanda had repeatedly offended and humiliated her at Willow Creek Clinic using the Savage family's influence. The sight of Yolanda made her wish she could tear Yolanda into pieces.

However, Lennox's condition had been worsening day by day, and even Russell's team had proved helpless. Miranda could only hope that Yolanda might really cure her father.

"Mr. Cavanaugh, do you know Ms. Henderson?" Jude was taken aback as he was sharp enough to sense the tension between Lennox and Yolanda. His brow furrowed a little.

"Of course I do." Lennox smiled slightly at Jude. His tone was calm but aggressive. "Though Ms. Henderson is quite famous in Riverdale, even someone

like me is not worthy of requesting her medical services.

"Our best assistant, Daphne, wasn't qualified to request her help. Not even my daughter and heir, Miranda, could persuade her. If you hadn't put in a good word for me, I probably wouldn't have had this chance to meet Dr. Henderson either

Miranda had been worried about agitating Lennox and did not want to mention her own humiliation, so she had not told him the full story. She had hidden the conflicts between Daphne, other Cavanaugh staff, and Yolanda.

She only said that Yolanda was arrogant and looked down on their family, refusing to treat them. That was why Lennox believed Yolanda was trying to extort the Cavanaugh family through his illness. Even as his condition worsened, his impression of her remained quite poor.

Yolanda gave a slight laugh at his words. "It's not that you couldn't request my services. I simply know I'm just an ordinary doctor who can't cure Mr.

Cavanaugh's condition."

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Chapter 784

[567 words]

As Jude sized up the situation, he realized the conflict between Yolanda and the Cavanaugh's was far more than a simple misunderstanding. With both parties being his friends, he found himself in a difficult position.

Since he was the host, he could not leave his guests standing there in silence. He had no choice but to say. "Ms. Henderson, there must be some misunderstanding between you and Mr. Cavanaugh. Perhaps..."

"Mr. Kaufman, this isn't a misunderstanding," Yolanda cast him a cool glance. She hoped Jude wouldn't make matters worse, especially since she still had a good impression of him.

"Yolanda, Queenie Thompson has already drafted the contract. If I sign it, your family in Riverdale will never recover. Are you sure you want to implicate your entire family?"

In Lennox's eyes, Yolanda would still prioritize the Henderson family's honor and interests even though she had been cast out from the family. After all, children of prominent families were bound to their collective interests from birth, forming an unbreakable connection.

Rather than threatening to destroy her clinic, he chose to leverage her entire family's future. With this move, she would be branded an unfaithful child if she still refused to help.

Hearing Lennox's words, Jude's expression changed. But before he could speak, Yolanda responded directly, "That's between you and the Henderson family. There's no need to tell me about it. I can't cure you, so find someone else."

"Yolanda!" Lennox's anger flared. "I've already shown you plenty of respect. Don't be foolish!"

Lennox knew he needed Yolanda's help and shouldn't be so domineering. But he was someone who was always in a position of power, so he was used to others pleasing him. He found it impossible to swallow his pride and ask for help.

"Yolanda, name your price. We won't negotiate!" Miranda spoke up when she saw Lennox about to clash with Yolanda again. She was trying to ease the tension. "If you can treat my father, we'll pay you whatever amount you want!"

"I've told you. No amount of money will change my mind." Yolanda swept a cold glance at Lennox. "If he wants my help, he can kneel at Willow Creek Clinic's entrance for a day."

Daphne, who was standing behind Miranda, drew in a sharp breath. How could Yolanda be so arrogant and refuse to compromise even with Jude mediating? Was she too stupid to not know Lennox's status?

Even with Gavin's backing, she shouldn't do this in front of the head of the State Medical Board!

"What did you just say?" Lennox's face darkened. His eagle-like eyes were fixed on Yolanda. He thought he must have misheard.

Did Yolanda say she wanted him to kneel at the busy entrance of Willow Creek Clinic? That was absurd!

"If you want treatment, kneel until I'm satisfied." Yolanda challenged Lennox with her gaze. Since he was unwilling to kneel for one day, she had decided to make him kneel longer.

"This is outrageous!" Lennox was thoroughly enraged. "How dare you speak so brazenly at your age? Do you know who I am?"

"Mr. Cavanaugh, please calm down."

Seeing the situation spiraling out of control, Jude quickly tried to mediate. "Ms. Henderson, Mr. Cavanaugh has been irritable lately due to his condition. Please don't take his words to heart."

Jude did not understand why

Yolanda was so adamant. But since

both of them were his friends, he

could not just stand by and watch the show. "If possible, could you just spare some time to examine him?"

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[593 words]

Watching Yolanda's expression, Jude hoped his suggestion would satisfy both parties. "The treatment fees are all negotiable."

"Mr. Kaufman, you'd better stay out of this." Yolanda's tone softened slightly. "I've stated my conditions. If the Cavanaughs can't meet them, they should seek help elsewhere."

Having hit a wall, Jude found himself at a loss for words. He was caught between speaking up and staying silent.

"Yolanda, don't mistake my patience for weakness! I'm warning you-you'll have to treat me today!" Lennox had never been defied like this before, and what little patience he had was exhausted. "You can't afford the consequences of turning me down!"

Yolanda ignored Lennox and turned toward the door. Before leaving, she still addressed Jude politely, "Mr. Kaufman, I'll be going now. I'll contact you when that batch of spirits is ready."

Jude nodded worriedly as he watched her leave.

Completely ignored by Yolanda, Lennox shouted angrily at her retreating figure. "Yolanda, once you walk out that door, there's no turning back! You think you can look down on me just because you know some medicine? Dream on!

"Mr. Kaufman, how can you tolerate such arrogance right under your nose? She's too brazen and did not even show you respect. You're practically nurturing someone who will turn on you in the future!"

Lennox was furious. Everywhere he went, people fawned over him. Even in Creybia, no family dared slight him, yet he faced such cold treatment here in a small town like Riverdale.

"She keeps turning me down and sets these outrageous conditions. She's clearly just trying to extort more money! Shut down her clinic now, and let's see how arrogant she remains!"

Once her clinic was closed, would she still be able to maintain her stance? Eventually, she would have to come crawling back to Lennox!

"Mr. Cavanaugh, what exactly happened between you and Ms. Henderson?"

Naturally, Jude hadn't followed Lennox's suggestion to investigate and shut down Willow Creek Clinic. He was just confused about what Lennox had done to anger Yolanda so much that she wouldn't budge. She had even insisted on thoroughly humiliating him before she would help.

In his experience, Yolanda was definitely not someone who cared about money. She even provided free consultations and medicines to patients with difficult conditions who could not afford treatment. So Lennox's claim that she was refusing treatment to extort money didn't hold up in Jude's mind.

Just then, Joel walked in. He said as he entered, "Jude, what's wrong with Ms.

Henderson? I just ran into her at the entrance, and she seemed upset."

When he entered the living room and saw Lennox and Miranda, he frowned slightly and said nothing more.

"Joel, you just got back, so you don't know anything. However, there seems to be some misunderstanding between Ms. Henderson and Mr. Cavanaugh. Actually..." Lennox started to speak, but Joel cut him off.

"It's not just a misunderstanding!" Since Jude had been away in Creybia on business, he wasn't

aware of many things. But Joel worked for Riverdale's government sector, so he knew everything that had happened recently.

"When Harold brought Yolanda to treat Mr. Cavanaugh earlier, they were thrown out of the Cavanaugh residence as Mr. Cavanaugh thought they were frauds.

"But when he realized only Yolanda could save him, he sent Daphne with over a dozen security guards to request her assistance at Willow Creek Clinic. When Yolanda refused, she ordered the guards to wreck the clinic.

"When that didn't work, Ms. Cavanaugh threatened Harold with a contract at Henderson Group, saying she'd bankrupt the Henderson company otherwise."

Jude's expression grew increasingly grim as he listened, but what Joel said next shocked him even more.

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Chapter 786

[468 words]

"Also, Ms. Cavanaugh tried to take advantage of the situation by teaming up with Anna and others to pressure Yolanda. Jude, did Mr. Cavanaugh pay you to persuade Yolanda today?"

Lennox's and Miranda's expressions changed abruptly as they had a bad feeling about this. They could sense that the Kaufman brothers' attitude toward Yolanda seemed more than just that of superiors toward an important staff member.

Still, they were puzzled. What made Yolanda so special that even the head of the State Medical Board dared not offend her?

Jude's face darkened as he turned to Lennox and Miranda with a cold smile. "Mr. Cavanaugh, I didn't expect you to treat me as a friend while plotting against me."

Though Lennox was shocked that Miranda had not told him the truth, this wasn't the time to discipline his daughter in front of others. Joel's words left him no choice but to accept responsibility for everything.

"Mr. Kaufman, that's all in the past. What's urgent now is getting Yolanda to treat my illness. If you can help, I'll donate a billion dollars to the State Medical Board!"

Given the Board's substantial annual expenses, a billion-dollar donation would be incredibly tempting to Jude. Yet faced with such an enormous offer, he remained unmoved. "Mr. Cavanaugh, please leave."

Lennox stared at Jude in astonishment, and even Miranda was taken aback. Did Jude just reject a billion-dollar donation to protect Yolanda? This seemed absurd!

"Mr. Kaufman, are you sure you won't help?" Lennox persisted, believing their 15 years of friendship should warrant his help even without the donation.

"Ms. Henderson is an honored guest of our family. You'll be offending our family if you offend her. Not only would Joel and I object, but our father would as well!"

Jude's words left the Cavanaugh's dumbfounded.

"Show our guests out!"

Though Lennox felt deeply

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humiliated, he could not afford to antagonize Jude. He had to swallow his pride as he left with Miranda. Once Outside the Kaufman residence, Miranda couldn't help asking, "Dad, since Yolanda won't accept our goodwill, what should we do next?"

"We'll shut down her clinic and ruin her reputation!" Lennox roared like an enraged lion. "Use every

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connection we have to close down Willow Creek Clinic!"

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When Yolanda returned to Willow Creek Clinic, she found dozens of colorful balloons piled at the entrance.

"What's all this?" Walking inside, she saw numerous streamers and decorations.

"Isn't it a bit early to prepare for the annual party?"

"Ms. Henderson, don't you remember what day it is this weekend?" Dunstan approached carrying a massive balloon. The

traditional Havarian deco The net

actually complemented Willow Creek Clinic perfectly.

"What day?" Yolanda looked confused.

"This weekend marks Willow Creek Clinic's 100th day since reopening. Isn't that worth celebrating?"

"Uh..." Faced with Dunstan's and others' excitement, Yolanda felt somewhat speechless. What was there to celebrate about being open for a hundred days?

"Yolanda, this is a local business custom in Riverdale."

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[581 words]

Selena walked over with a bright smile, holding some flowers in her hands.

"Dunstan and Dr. Pattinson were just discussing plans to celebrate this weekend. They want to invite Mr. Knox, Mr. Miller, and others over here. They'll also send invitations to our regular patients from the neighborhood.

"All herbs and consultation fees will be 40 percent off on the 100th day."

"Uh..." Even Yolanda, who was usually quick-witted, was at a loss for words. In both her past and present lives, she had never heard of a clinic holding a 100th-day anniversary sale.

"Ms. Henderson, don't worry about anything. We've got it all arranged!" Jamie said cheerfully. "You won't have to do anything on the day except receive congratulatory gifts!"

"You're even accepting gifts?" Yolanda raised an eyebrow.

"Of course! This is Willow Creek Clinic's 100th-day celebration. I've already told Knox, Melina, and the others to prepare gifts! Melina even offered a 20 percent discount on all future medical equipment for our clinic!"

When Yolanda won her bet with Miguel earlier, she gained control of Healing Haven. But since she had no immediate plans to expand, she had rented out the space.

When Melina heard about this, she immediately leased the opposite storefront and turned it into a Quinlan Pharmaceuticals branch specializing in medical equipment. Now, it was very convenient for Willow Creek Clinic to purchase supplies.

The colorful decorations Dunstan had bought created a festive atmosphere in the clinic. Those who knew would recognize it as the 100th-day celebration, but others actually might mistake it for a wedding.

"Ms. Henderson, I've already sent out all the invitations. Mr. Knox and the others confirmed they'll be here on time this weekend." Dunstan patted his chest. "I know you find these things troublesome and don't like organizing events, but I'll handle everything for this one, so don't worry!"

Dunstan and the others were confirming the weekend celebration details at Willow Creek Clinic.

badly beaten Anna on his net

Meanwhile, Boris was putting a

private jet

at Riverdale Airport to return to Creybia for recovery.

Anna's injuries were severe. Apart from her totally swollen face, she had two broken ribs and a shattered shin bone. It would take at least a year and a half to fully recover.

After learning of Anna's injuries, Boris had his staff arrange immediate flight plans. Only after she'd left did he return with his men to their villa in Riverdale.

"Mr. Caldwell, has she left?" When Boris entered, Judas was smoking in the living room.

"Yes!" Boris irritably threw his suit jacket onto the couch. "I'll need to give the Zanetti family an explanation for Anna's injuries. But fortunately, the head of their family is reasonable and won't make a fuss about this.

"The real problem now is that bitch." A cold glint passed through Judas' eyes.

"Her? She's not qualified to be a problem!" Boris sneered. "I just want to know what other backing she has and what other tricks she's hiding!"

Boris viewed Yolanda's provocations like a small dog baring its teeth, which were completely harmless to him. On the contrary, this woman, who had repeatedly opposed him, had sparked his interest. Too bad she was so ugly.

"But she has the Savage family's backing, and I heard Asher Loake recently claimed to be her friend." Judas frowned. "We can't touch her for now."

"The Savage family isn't really her backing." Boris shook his head. "First, they'll never accept her as a daughter-in-law.

"Second, you think Gavin is protecting her now. But once he takes over the Savage family, do you think he'll still protect her?"

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[450 words]

"Mr. Caldwell, what do you mean?"

"I've always felt there must be some deal between Gavin and that woman. Otherwise, would any normal man be interested in such an aggressive and ugly woman?"

"That's true..." Judas pondered, suddenly enlightened. "You mean Yolanda is using something to blackmail Gavin?"

"Not exactly blackmail," Boris mumbled around his cigar. "I think it's more likely they have some mutually beneficial arrangement. For instance, Yolanda's a doctor. Could Gavin need some untraceable methods of murdering people?"

"I see!" As understanding dawned, Judas felt even more frustrated. "So we can't touch her until she's no longer useful to Gavin, can we?"

"Right now, with both Gavin and the Loakes backing Yolanda, we certainly can't just frame and arrest her. But we have other options."

"Should we send another group of assassins?"

"No!" Boris immediately rejected the idea. "Renee might act recklessly in Riverdale, but if we make too big a move, we'll upset the Kaufmans."

"Then..." Judas found himself stumped. He had thought crushing Yolanda would be as simple as stepping on an ant, but even Renee had fallen to her.

Just then, Judas' phone screen lit up. Glancing at it, he suddenly smiled. "Mr. Caldwell, misfortune is heading Yolanda's way!"

Boris looked over with measured interest.

"Since Yolanda offended the Cavanaughs, they're now leading a boycott against her and her clinic."

"This weekend is Willow Creek Clinic's 100th-day celebration. The Cavanaughs have announced that anyone who dares support Yolanda that day is opposing them and will face their boycott!

"Moreover, any company doing business with Willow Creek must immediately terminate their

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contracts or be permanently blacklisted from working with.

Cavanaugh enterprises and subsidiaries.

"As for the residents around Willow Creek, anyone who continues seeking treatment there will also be blacklisted. They'll be banned from all Cavanaugh-owned malls, restaurants, banks, and other establishments!

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"Basically, from today on, anyone maintaining any relationship with Yolanda is considered their enemy and will be targeted! Let's see how smug she remains now!"

Excitement gleamed in Judas' eyes, and even Boris' face showed traces of amusement. "This woman truly doesn't know what's good for her since she dares to offend Lennox Cavanaugh!"

Boris had dealt with the Cavanaugh's before, so he knew Lennox would help those who obeyed and destroy those who did not. Those who offended him rarely met good ends.

Even Boris had to be cautious with the Cavanaugh's. How could Yolanda, with her unstable foundation, possibly survive?

This time, there was no way for her to recover!

"This saves us quite some trouble." Judas felt vindicated. Since the Cavanaugh's were involved, they need not worry anymore.

"Since Mr. Cavanaugh has spoken, how can we just stand by and do nothing?" Boris smiled sinisterly. "Let's make sure she's thoroughly finished."

"Go release a statement now!" Boris called over his staff.

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Chapter 789

[491 words]

"From today on, the Caldwell family will firmly stand against Yolanda and Willow Creek Clinic! Anyone who supports or associates with Yolanda would be an enemy of the Caldwell family!"

"Okay!" The staff member responded respectfully before withdrawing.

Boris crossed his legs, flicking cigarette ash onto the coffee table with a smug smile. "Now we just sit back and enjoy the show!"

In just one afternoon, the situation in Riverdale changed dramatically.

The Cavanaughs issued the first statement, declaring Yolanda arrogant and incompetent. They claimed that she was just a fraud posing as a miracle doctor who had delayed Lennox's treatment. And so, they announced a boycott of both Yolanda and Willow Creek Clinic.

Anyone maintaining ties with the clinic would be considered to be disrespecting and opposing the Cavanaugh family. Within half an hour, the Caldwell family from Creybia released a similar statement.

Following suit, the Yorkshire, Quinlan, and Zanetti families from Creybia, among others, announced their joint boycott of Yolanda and Willow Creek Clinic.

Their declarations targeting Yolanda and her clinic sent shockwaves through the city. Many uninformed small businesses joined the bandwagon, cursing Yolanda online and demanding her expulsion from Riverdale.

Curious bystanders wondered what Yolanda had done to anger so many prominent families, sparking wild rumors across gossip forums.

However, these gossip threads disappeared within an hour. People thought the powerful families had silenced any mention of Yolanda's name. But actually, Flynn had hacked and removed all the posts.

Meanwhile, Yolanda was still

treating patients, so she was still unaware of the online storm. After her last patient left, she was browsing takeout menus and

wondering what she should have for dinner.

"Hello? I'd like to order a double cheeseburger, salad, fries, and an iced lemon tea. Please deliver to Willow Creek-"

The staff at the fast food restaurant hung up before she could finish. Thinking it was poor reception, Yolanda called again, but no one answered this time.

"What's going on?" She raised an eyebrow in confusion while reaching for another takeout menu.

"Ms. Henderson! Come quick!" Dunstan, who had just checked his phone, came running over. "Many powerful families are boycotting Willow Creek Clinic!"

"What? What boycott?" Jamie, who had been cleaning windows nearby, rushed over before Yolanda could put down the menu.

"Look!" Dunstan handed his phone to Jamie before explaining to Yolanda, "The Cavanaughs, Caldwells, and those great families in Creybia boycotting us. They're saying anyone associated with Willow Creek is their enemy!"

"Ms. Henderson, what should we do? The clinic might never get any business after this."

Just as Dunstan finished speaking, Sharon burst in from outside. "Yolanda, have you heard the news?"

"About the boycott?" Yolanda's expression remained unchanged. No wonder the fast food restaurant would not take her order.

"What should we do now? These

people are playing dirty!" Sharon fumed on Yolanda's behalf. "My father just called and asked if I knew someone named Yolanda. He told me to cut ties!"

"But I won't listen to him! You're my best friend. How could I abandon you when you're in trouble?"

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[499 words]

"I'm fine. Don't worry too much about it." Yolanda felt touched. She gave Sharon a gentle smile.

If even small business families like the Jones were getting warnings, those powerful ones were really casting their net wide.

"Yolanda, don't worry. We'll find a way." Selena came from the backyard after hearing the news. "Not everyone fears these big families. Regular folks will still go wherever healthcare is affordable."

Selena had a point. For people who watched every penny at meals, having no access to malls or loans meant little. As long as Yolanda maintained her reputation, business would continue.

Besides, the medical fees at Willow Creek were already lower than those of other clinics. Families unable to afford expensive medical care would likely still choose them.

"We can't just sit here and take it. Should we discuss this with Mr. Wright and the others?" Dunstan's mind worked quickly as he felt they could not remain passive.

"No need." Yolanda shook her head. "Just post a statement on behalf of Willow Creek."

"A statement? What kind?" Dunstan looked puzzled.

"State that anyone supporting the Cavanaughs, Caldwells, and other families will be blacklisted by Willow Creek Clinic."

"Blacklisted..." Dunstan paused briefly, then clapped his hands in approval. "Ms. Henderson, that's brilliant! They think they can gang up and boycott us? Well, we'll boycott them right back!"

"I'll post the statement right away!"

Though Yolanda had decided to counter-boycott these families, Sharon and the others remained worried. After all, angering such powerful families was no trivial matter. They feared the Cavanaughs might use even more vicious tactics.

Yet Yolanda acted as if none of this concerned her. After sending Dunstan to post the statement, she returned to studying takeout menus.

"This time, you make the call for me. Have them deliver to Quinlan Pharmaceuticals across the street." She handed the menu to Sharon.

"Forget takeout. I'm free today, so let's go get pizzas!" Sharon tossed Yolanda's menu into the trash and pulled her out of the clinic. She was worried about Yolanda's mood and wanted to take her mind off things.

Meanwhile, Kate was at the Henderson residence trying to persuade and

brainwash Diana again. Just then, she saw the online news and could not contain her delight.

"Perfect! Diana, thank goodness you were smart enough to sign those papers disowning Yolanda earlier. If not, the Hendersons would've been dragged into this mess!"

Kate had always disliked Yolanda. Seeing her in trouble made her want to pop champagne in celebration.

"You and Harold are both such intelligent people, and Yvonne is so sweet and clever. How did Yolanda turn out so incompetent and even pick fights everywhere?"

"She already pissed off Mr. Caldwell, and now she has offended Mr. Cavanaugh too. She's got a death wish!

"Serves her right! Now with all these families boycotting her, that shabby clinic of hers won't survive!" Kate gleefully read the online news to Diana.

"Anyone who dares help Yolanda and her clinic would be an enemy of the Cavanaughs, Caldwells, and other powerful families! Even if she thinks she has Mr. Savage's Backing, it won't help!"

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