

271: The Darkest Hour Has Come

Jonathan staggered, nearly collapsing.

Joshua caught him just in time, supporting his weight.

Jonathan's bloodshot eyes locked onto Caitlin, still unwilling to accept defeat.

"Caitlin, no matter what, I am still your father! How could you betray me like this? How could you align with them and do this to me?!"

Caitlin's expression turned ice-cold.

"A father? How could someone like you even call himself that?"

Her voice carried undeniable scorn.

"After you took over Thompson Global Ventures, did you ever truly try to build it into something greater?"

No. You only ever wanted to make it yours, to fatten your own pockets, to enrich yourself alone!

And now, I am officially announcing—Jonathan, you are no longer the chairman or legal representative of LIG!"

The verdict was delivered without mercy.

The Vote Is Final

Jonathan's face twisted in fury.



"I still own shares! I'm still a shareholder—I object!"

Caitlin remained unmoved.

"Eight votes in favor, one against. Your opposition is invalid. The decision is final!"

Her voice was sharp and absolute.

She continued, "Now, you have two choices.

One—sell your remaining shares to me and walk away.

Two—wait for the legal consequences of your crimes."

Jonathan's body trembled violently.

If Joshua hadn't been holding him up, he might have collapsed on the spot.

Joshua Is Removed

Caitlin didn't stop there.

"In addition to removing Jonathan, I also motion to officially terminate Scott from his position as CEO and Joshua from his role as Vice CEO. Effective immediately, both are expelled from LIG!"

Joshua felt as if his entire world had collapsed.

Just moments ago, he had been dreaming of taking over.

Now—he was being thrown out.



"No... no, no, no—this isn't happening!"

Jonathan's body suddenly went limp in Joshua's arms.

Joshua panicked. "Uncle Jonathan! Uncle Jonathan—!"

Caitlin glanced at them with indifference.

"Stop shouting. You should take him to the hospital. If you hurry, you might still save him."

Joshua had no choice but to help Jonathan out of the room.

Their exit marked the true end of an era.

A New Beginning

Caitlin turned back to the remaining shareholders and smiled.

"I sincerely appreciate the support of all the shareholders today. Now, in order to ensure LIG's future, I believe we should appoint a new chairman. Any suggestions?"

Zoe was the first to speak.

"I nominate Caitlin as the new chairman!"

Terry immediately followed. "I second that!"

The other shareholders quickly voiced their agreement.

A unanimous vote.



But it was more than just a formality.

Caitlin had proven herself—her ambition, her strategy, her execution.

She had quietly seized power, orchestrated a complete takeover, and removed Jonathan with precision.

She wasn't just a leader—she was a force to be reckoned with.

Moreover, she was Kelly's daughter.

Thompson Global Ventures was rightfully hers.

Her appointment as chairman was undisputed.

Caitlin Reshapes LIG

Caitlin nodded. "Thank you for your trust. I won't let you down."

Then, she turned to Garrett.

"However, for the operational management of LIG, I will be appointing Garrett from 4EVER Capital as the new CEO. Any objections?"

The shareholders had no issues with the decision.

Garrett, overwhelmed with gratitude, stood up.

"Thank you, Caitlin. Thank you for this opportunity!"

He had initially feared that after Caitlin's takeover, he would lose control of 4EVER Capital.



But instead — she had entrusted him with even more power.

His loyalty to her was now absolute.

Ensuring the Future

After the meeting, Caitlin spoke privately with the key shareholders.

She reassured them, "Rest assured, I will rebuild LIG into something greater. I will not betray your trust."

And she meant it.

Within the next year, she planned to guarantee that every shareholder saw profitable returns.

As the shareholders left one by one, Zoe stayed behind.

She walked over and took Caitlin's hands.

"Caitlin, you truly are an extraordinary woman. Thank you for everything."

Caitlin responded humbly. "Zoe, you're the true role model. I still have much to learn from you."

Zoe laughed. "Let's not flatter each other. Actually, there's something else I wanted to tell you."

"What is it?"

"Tomorrow is Luminary League's annual charity gala and new member induction. I'd like to invite you to join us."



Caitlin's eyes slightly widened.

She knew about Luminary League.

Only women with exceptional power and influence were allowed to join.

A formal invitation like this was an honor.

Caitlin smiled. "Thank you. It would be my privilege."

Zoe chatted with her a little longer about personal matters before finally departing.

A New Era for LIG

Once the shareholders had all left, Caitlin entered the chairman's office.

The cold, rigid décor of the room felt stifling.

She turned to her assistant.

"Replace all the furniture. Redesign both the chairman and CEO's offices. Use CL Group's aesthetic as the reference."

"Understood, Chairman."

Then, she discussed strategy with Garrett.

"Garrett, don't take any drastic steps just yet. First, issue an official announcement regarding the rebranding of LIG. Then, notify all mid-to-senior management for a meeting tomorrow at 1 PM."

"Got it, Chairman."



Caitlin knew—this takeover would trigger massive waves.

Shockwaves Throughout LIG

News of the shareholder meeting's outcome spread quickly through LIG.

Employees were stunned.

Jonathan—gone.

Scott and Joshua—removed.

LIG had just undergone the most drastic upheaval in its history.

Some panicked, fearing for their future.

Others sensed a new era was coming.

One thing was clear—

LIG had changed hands.

Jonathan, meanwhile, was hospitalized due to the shock.

But Caitlin wasn't done yet.

She called Yosef.

"Prepare all the evidence of Jonathan's embezzlement and misconduct. When he tries to retaliate, let the world see his crimes."

Yosef's voice was steady. "Understood, Boss."

Caitlin didn't just want to defeat Jonathan.



She wanted to destroy him completely.

He needed to fall into the abyss—never to rise again.

A Message from Harrison

Having successfully reclaimed Thompson Global Ventures, Caitlin finally exhaled.

But she couldn't let her guard down yet.

Her mother was still missing.

Her brother had yet to return.

There was still so much to do.

As she left LIG headquarters, her driver handed her a bouquet of purple hyacinths.

Caitlin blinked. "Who sent this?"

"A man left it for you earlier. He asked me to pass it along."

Caitlin lifted the bouquet.

She knew the meaning of purple hyacinths.

[I'm sorry. Please forgive me.]

Inside was a small card.

The handwriting was familiar.



It matched the writing on the wish plaques at Sakura Ridge.

James.

Harrison.

Caitlin's eyes filled with tears.

She instinctively scanned her surroundings.

And then—she saw him.

A figure lurking nearby.

Her heart tightened.

Without hesitation, she took off running.

"Harrison!"



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