



280: Their Naïve Thinking

The once noisy and chaotic conference hall fell into complete silence.

All eyes turned toward the two new leaders who had just walked in.

Everyone knew Garrett was the new CEO of TIG, but when Caitlin stepped onto the stage, the room buzzed with shock and curiosity.

This was her—Caitlin Lewis.

Jonathan's own daughter, yet she had single-handedly orchestrated his downfall, aligned herself with 4EVER Capital, and wiped out his entire leadership team.

And now—

She alone held absolute power over TIG.

A woman capable of toppling an entire empire on her own—how terrifying was that?

The shock was palpable, but so was the speculation.

What would happen next?

Would Caitlin eliminate them, one by one?

Would TIG even survive under her rule?

The room was brimming with questions and unease when Garrett finally stepped forward to take charge.

"Ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon. As many of you know, I am Garrett, the newly appointed CEO of TIG. It is my honor to chair today's

privilege to formally introduce our new Chairwoman—Caitlin Lewis."

Gasps and whispers spread through the room.

Even those who had never met Caitlin knew exactly who she was.

But among them, there were many older executives—Jonathan's loyalists—who harbored nothing but disdain for her.

One of them, Lawrence Lewis, head of the Sales Department, scoffed loudly.

"Well, well, Caitlin... You're Jonathan's daughter after all, but I gotta say—I don't get it.

"You betrayed your own father just to steal his position?"

Next to him, Norman Lewis, head of the Production Department, shook his head in mock disappointment.

"A few years ago, you were just some unruly little brat. And now? You're kicking your own father out and crowning yourself queen?"

Disgraceful!"

Lawrence leaned forward, eyes narrowing.

"You're too young to run a company like this. Sure, Jonathan made mistakes, but we've been holding down the fort all these years. We're the backbone of this place!

"And you think you can just wipe us out? What kind of heartless nonsense is that?"

Norman nodded in agreement.

"Exactly! LIG isn't some plaything. You should step down and bring Jonathan back!"

It was clear—these men weren't just defending Jonathan.

They were defending their own interests.

Jonathan had lined their pockets for years. His downfall meant their cushy lives were over.

And now, Caitlin was the one threatening their entire empire of corruption.

She already knew what they wanted.

Power. Control. Greed.

They weren't protesting because they cared about the company—they were desperate to keep their grip on their illicit gains.

Caitlin's lips curled into a cold smirk.

"BANG!"

Her palm slammed onto the table, the sharp sound cutting through the room like a knife.

The entire hall went dead silent.

Her gaze swept across the crowd, chilling and commanding.

Her voice, calm yet undeniably powerful, echoed through the space.

"Lawrence, Norman... and all of you who think like them—are you all still asleep?"

"Let me make this perfectly clear. LIG is gone. It no longer exists.

"This is TIG now. And I am the absolute authority here.

"If any of you have a problem with that—

"Then go collect your severance pay and get the hell out."

A heavy silence followed.

For the first time, some of them began to feel real fear.

But Lawrence wasn't done yet.

His chair scraped against the floor as he shot up from his seat, glaring at Caitlin.

"Caitlin, no matter what, I am your elder! You should be calling me 'Uncle'—and yet you're threatening to kick us out?"

"Are you seriously telling us to just pack up and leave?!"

Caitlin crossed her arms.

"That's exactly what I'm saying."

Lawrence's face twisted with rage.

"Listen, kid—you're playing with fire.

"You can't run this company without us!

"We've built this place from the ground up. You think you can just erase us?"

"If you had any sense, you'd reverse the board's decision and bring Jonathan and Joshua back before it's too late."

Caitlin let out a low chuckle, her amusement genuine.

"You really don't get it, do you?"

Her gaze locked onto his, her voice turning sharper.

"Jonathan is under investigation. Once they confirm the charges, he

won't just be out of a job—

"He'll be behind bars.

"And as for Joshua? What the hell makes you think he's ever had what it takes to run a company like this?"

Lawrence slammed his fist on the table.

"Then I should be CEO! I'm Jonathan's cousin—it's my right!"

Several other executives nodded in agreement.

"That's true! Lawrence has seniority—he should be in charge!"

Lawrence smirked, thinking he had rallied enough support.

His tone turned arrogant.

"Caitlin, listen—you need us.

"If you refuse to put me in charge, we'll all walk.

"Then let's see how well you run this place without us."

Four senior department heads stood up, attempting to strong-arm Caitlin into submission.

They believed they held all the power.

That without them, the company couldn't function.

That Caitlin would be forced to beg them to stay.

They had no idea how wrong they were.

Caitlin's expression didn't even flicker.

"Alright then."

She turned to Garrett.

"Accept their resignations immediately."

The entire room froze.

Even Lawrence looked stunned.

"What...?"

Caitlin repeated, slower this time.

"You quit, right? Good. Now leave." 

Norman's face turned ashen.

"You—you can't be serious!"

"We run this company! You can't just—just throw us out like that!"

Caitlin smiled.

"I just did." 

Garrett nodded, already sending orders to the HR department.

"Please proceed to the finance office to collect your severance."

Security stepped forward to escort them out.

Lawrence's face turned red, his composure shattering.

"Wait! Caitlin, let's talk about this!"

Norman stammered, "We—we didn't mean it! This company needs us—" 

Caitlin leaned forward, her voice dropping to a dangerous whisper.

"Oh, I know exactly what this company needs.

"And it sure as hell isn't you.

"You think I don't know how much you've been stealing from this company?"

"How about I expose every shady deal you've ever made?"

"Or better yet— shall I let the authorities handle it?"

The color drained from their faces.

They never expected this outcome.

Their plan to blackmail Caitlin had completely backfired.

And now... they had lost everything.



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