

From Doomed Villain to Harem King Novel -

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Chapter 4

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Chapter 4 Hacking the System "No, it's not like that!" Mia leaped up and grabbed her sister's arm. "He said I'm sleeping inside from now on." "What?" Chloe slammed the plates down and wiped her eyes, dumbfounded. Did she hear that right? Was Arthur possessed by a ghost today? Mia shared her confusion. Was he diagnosed with terminal cancer? Was this some kind of dying redemption arc? "Let's eat." Arthur commanded, pulling out a chair. Chloe nodded numbly. With Mia's help, the food was quickly plated. Three dishes in total: pork cabbage rolls, tomato egg scramble, and some greens.

Arthur frowned slightly. "Is this what you usually eat?" As soon as he asked, the memories kicked in. The original bastard banned Chloe from working and gave her zero allowance. With her family ruined, she had absolutely zero income. Plus, she had to scrounge up lunch money for Mia. The fact that they even had food on the table was a miracle. "Arthur... I want to get a job." Sitting opposite him, Chloe kept her head down. "I pawned my gold earrings for three hundred bucks, and it's all gone." Arthur remained silent, viciously cursing his predecessor in his head.

She'd rather beg for a minimum-wage job than ask him for cash. The trauma ran deep. Truthfully, if she just called Richard, his dad would wire her millions instantly. "Please. Mia's tuition is due. I can't let her drop out." Chloe looked at him with tear-filled, desperate eyes. Looking into those eyes, Arthur had the sudden urge to punch himself in the face. "Affection -5" The penalty popped up, but not from Chloe-it came from Mia. Arthur sighed. Even after reducing her to begging, Chloe's affection score still didn't drop?

"Let's have a real family talk today." Arthur picked up a piece of greens with his fork. "Do you know why I've been treating you like garbage?" The sisters exchanged terrified glances. They had theories, but they genuinely didn't know what exact sin triggered his psychopathic rage. "My family used to be top five in Northridge State. But after bailing out your family, our stock tanked." He ate a piece of egg. "I used to be treated like royalty in other cities. Now, those same trust-fund kids spit on my shoes." Chloe nodded silently. That aligned perfectly with her hypothesis. "So I hated you.

I saw you both as leeches who ruined my life." Arthur met Chloe's gaze dead-on, his tone dead serious. "I'm sorry. I let my anger get the better of me." What? He's sorry? Both sisters were paralyzed with shock. Did he actually just apologize? "Arthur... do you need me to do something?" Chloe was incredibly suspicious. He was a textbook megalomaniac.

He didn't just abuse them; he treated everyone like peasants. Men like him never apologized. "No.

I just realized we're family, and I've been crossing the line." Arthur pulled out his phone, wiring five thousand dollars to Chloe and a thousand to Mia. Hearing the banking notifications chime, both girls stared at their screens in disbelief. "If you wanna work, come to Pierce Group. I'll get you a cushy desk job." Arthur looked at his wife. "But if you wanna start your own business, I'll fund it." Chloe pinched her thigh under the table. The sharp sting confirmed it. She wasn't hallucinating. "Okay... let me think about it." She murmured, completely dazed.

After the meal, Arthur dropped one last bomb. "The food was delicious, by the way." Chloe completely blue-screened. "Affection +20" Watching the green text pop up, Arthur was amazed that a single compliment pushed her score into the positive. She really was too easy to please. Checking his own panel, his eyes bugged out. She gave him 20 affection points. Yet his Justice Points surged by 55. He was baffled. Was the multiplier RNG-based? He needed to run a quick field test. "Chloe, prep a guest room for Mia. I need to run an errand, I'll be right back." Arthur said as he stood up.

"Okay." Scrubbing plates at the sink, she agreed without daring to ask where he was going. Watching the Porsche peel out of the driveway, Mia finally exhaled the breath she'd been holding. Sneaking into the kitchen, she whispered, "He's definitely dying, right? He's terrified we'll desecrate his grave, so he's trying to buy us off." "Stop talking nonsense." Chloe shot her a warning glare. "Relax, the mics are wired upstairs. They can't pick up audio from down here." Mia reassured her. Chloe sighed heavily and shook her head.

"I honestly don't know what's going on." "I have a theory." Mia whispered conspiratorially. "What?" "He's buttering you up for a divorce. His dad won't let him initiate it, so he's trying to manipulate you into filing the papers yourself." She elaborated. "He's obsessed with that music teacher at my school. If he gets rid of you, he's free to marry her." Chloe's hands stopped moving in the suds as the logic clicked. "Look, I know you feel indebted to his dad. But if he pushes for it, you'll sign, right?" When Chloe stayed silent, Mia pressed harder.

She just wanted to grab her sister and run from this psycho. Chloe gave a barely perceptible nod and went back to scrubbing. "Good. A leopard doesn't change its spots, Chloe. He's a monster." Mia scoffed, glaring out the window. "He apologizes, then immediately bolts to go screw around. He's definitely not coming back tonight." "Enough. Let's just go pick out your bedroom." Drying her hands, Chloe finalized the arrangement. "You're taking the guest room next to mine." ... They headed upstairs and prepped the room. Just as they turned to head back down, Arthur walked through the front door.

Both girls froze. What the hell? Isn't he supposed to be out clubbing till dawn? "Where... where did you go?" Chloe asked hesitantly. Arthur briskly climbed the stairs. All the blood left Mia's face. Is he cornering us upstairs to beat us without leaving camera blind spots?! Chloe had the exact same thought and immediately threw herself in front of her sister. "I just popped out to grab you something." Arthur held out his hand, revealing a velvet

jewelry box. Chloe short-circuited. Her mind went totally blank. Mia was even more baffled. The flowers were undeniably for the teacher. But this...

this was obviously bought specifically for her sister. Chloe took the box with trembling hands and popped it open. Resting on the silk were two gold earrings. Tears pricked the corners of her eyes. "Affection +20" Arthur's little shopping trip was a calculated experiment to reverse-engineer the math behind his points. Opening the interface, he saw his balance shoot up by 160. The formula finally clicked. Chloe's Destiny Level was 8. All points generated by her were multiplied by eight. The weird 55 from earlier was because the system first neutralized her negative score. She was at -15.

The system used 15 of the 20 points to bring her to zero. The remaining 5 points were multiplied by 8, yielding 40. 15 plus 40 is 55. Arthur was thrilled. No wonder farming protagonist-adjacent characters was the meta strategy. The ROI was astronomical. Shifting his gaze to Mia, he realized he needed to fix her score ASAP. She was a Level 9. That meant a massive 9x multiplier. "Chloe, I'll be waiting for you in the master bedroom." Arthur gave her a sultry smile and headed down the hall. It was time for some intimate "pillow talk" with his wife. admin

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