

M Genius 851

Chapter 851

James took a deep breath before he gritted his teeth and snapped, "Matthew, that ungrateful son of a b*tch! How dare he pull a stunt like that? If I can't get him out of the Cunningham Family this time, I'll drop my family name! Get that a*shole to come back right now! Ask your sister to come back home too!"

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Immediately, an excited look appeared on Demi's and Liam's faces before they quickly got their phones out and started making calls.

Ever since the two of them caused trouble with the Whites, they had been staying put for a while now. Nevertheless, they never gave up and had been thinking of ways to subdue Matthew. Unexpectedly, their opportunity came in no time. If they could use this chance to make Matthew leave, the construction company would surely land on their hands.

Suddenly, the entrance door was pushed open before a bunch of people entered, with Joseph and Crystal at the very front. Right then, Crystal's eyes were red while Joseph's face looked cold as they walked over before Joseph roared in anger, "Tate Campbell, get out here this instant!"

Not knowing what Tate did just now, James, who was already annoyed, flew into a rage the moment he saw Crystal.

"Crystal Harrison, how dare you come to my house? I've never met such shameless people in my entire life! You even brought your grandfather along? Wow, I never knew that Joseph Harrison is equally shameless!"

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At this moment, Joseph and Crystal were taken aback. What's happening?

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Meanwhile, Tote hid at the back end and refused to say anything since the Cunninghams picking a fight with the Harrisons was exactly what he wanted to happen.

At the same time, Joseph frowned. "James Cunningham, what on earth are you talking about?"

However, James replied coldly, "You should know what I'm talking about! You should remember all those dirty things that you guys have done! What's wrong? Do you guys want me to expose everything in front of everyone?"

Immediately, Joseph's face turned pale in anger. "What kind of dirty things have we done?! You better explain yourself, James!"

While James was about to speak, Seshe and Matthew entered as well. Upon seeing everyone on the lawn, those two looked stunned.

Right then, James' face darkened before he dashed over to Matthew and slapped his face. "How dare you return, Lerson?!"

Frowning, Matthew took a step back to dodge James while Seshe rushed over to pull James away from Matthew. "Dad, what's wrong?"

James roared, "What's wrong?! You should ask him what's wrong! I can't believe we actually provided for someone so shameless!"

Seshe frowned. "Dad, explain yourself. What did Matthew do for you to criticize him like that?"

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At this moment, Sasha was completely stunned. What is happening here?

Even Matthew was confused. At the same time, Joseph frowned. "You better explain yourself, James. Who's he cheating with?"

James pointed his finger at Crystal and yelled, "It's her! This shameless sl*t—"

With a loud smack, Joseph landed a hard slap on James' face before James got enraged and roared, "What the f*ck? How dare an old fart like you hit me? I—"

Before he could finish, Joseph slapped him on his face again. Completely angered, James growled before pouncing toward Joseph. "It's over for you!"

Immediately, a few men behind Joseph rushed over and pushed James onto the ground before Joseph came forward to step on James' head and gritted his teeth. "Listen well, James Cunningham! There's a limit to everything that we do, so how dare you humiliate my granddaughter when she's not even married yet?! If I don't get an explanation for what happened, I won't let you live another day longer!"

Right then, James couldn't help but be taken aback because Joseph's twisted expression was making him feel anxious.

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Chapter 852

Right at this moment, Helen ran out from the house and shrieked, "Let go of my husband! Joseph Harrison, you old fart! Why are you coming over to our place to cause a ruckus when you can't even keep your own granddaughter in check?! Are you guys shameless?! I-I won't let any of you leave in one piece!"

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Immediately, Sasha rushed over to hold her mother back. Finally, she had a vague idea of what had happened. I think this situation spells trouble...

"Mom, you... You need to calm down. Please calm down as well, Mr. Harrison. I'm sure that everything is a misunderstanding. Why don't we all take a seat to talk things through, alright?"

Still, Helen snapped, "What's there to talk about? What's there left to talk about when your father is being pressed against his foot?!"

Sasha gave Joseph a helpless look.

However, Joseph's face was still dark as he refused to say anything while continuing stepping on James.

If it was regarding anything else, he would have relented, but he would never do so if his granddaughter was involved in it!

Not knowing what to do, Sasha could only turn toward Matthew.

Sighing softly, Matthew walked over to Joseph. "Mr. Harrison, I sincerely apologize to you if my father-in-law had done anything to offend you. I understand that you only came here to settle things after all. Still, we won't be able to solve anything being here, so why don't you and your men come in and talk things through? The one who's at fault shall bear the responsibilities of doing so. How's that?"

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"Sure. I'll take a step back for you. Still, I have to make things clear beforehand. Listen well, James Cunningham. If it's proved that you're at fault, I want you to kneel down and apologize to me and my granddaughter by then. Hmph!"

Upon hearing that, James' neck went up in anger before he snapped, "What if you guys are at fault?!"

Immediately, Joseph answered, "If that happens, I'll kneel down to apologize to you before jumping off the building in front!"

Everyone's facial expression changed right then because the building in front of them was the Grand Pavilion, and it was at least ten floors high.

Wouldn't Joseph die if he really jumped off that building? He's honestly risking his own life to protect his pride!

At the same time, signs of anxiousness started appearing on James' face after sensing Joseph's confidence.

Although he tried to sneak a glance at Tete, the young man was afraid to meet his gaze and continued hiding among the crowd.

After continuously coaxing them, Matthew finally managed to get everyone into the house.

Right then, Seshe spoke up. "Alright. Can someone explain what happened?"

Immediately, Helen chimed in. "Seshe, that son of a b*tch, Matthew, is cheating on you behind your back with that slut, Crystal Harrison! Your dad was just trying to stand up for you, but he ended up getting attacked. What do you think we should do now?!"

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Ignoring the possibility of the situation being a misunderstanding, Helen snapped, "Are you implying that I'm lying? Your cousin witnessed them himself!"

Sasha's face darkened after she heard Helen. "Tate, again? Mom, how can you believe in what he says?"

"Well, why would my nephew lie to me? Sasha, I don't want to be the one who says this to you, but you can't put so much trust in Matthew. Think about it. Crystal Harrison was born with a silver spoon. Why would someone like that work as a nurse in a hospital? Moreover, why did she choose to work in Matthew's department, of all departments? You don't have to be extremely smart to see something wrong in this!"

Still, Sasha waved her off. "Mom, all of your claims are just based on your assumptions. Let me ask you this. Do you have any evidence?"

Agitated, Helen questioned, "Why would Tate make stories up about Matthew and Crystal Harrison being flirtatious with one another? He's our family! Why would he lie to you?"

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Chapter 853

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Immediately, Helen snapped, "Why are you still talking about that? Stop bringing in unrelated issues! Moreover, what happened this time really crossed the line. Why would he lie about it? Sasha, are you seriously choosing to believe in an outsider rather than your own cousin?"

At the same time, Chloe whispered to Sasha as well. "Sasha, Tate is an honest man. He won't lie to you. Besides, what benefit would he get for making up lies like this? Isn't he just revealing this for your own sake?"

Nonetheless, Sasha continued frowning, as she didn't trust Tate at all.

"Mom, Aunt Chloe, I'm trying to resolve our issue at hand instead of picking who to trust! Since Mr. Harrison and Miss Harrison are together with us, why don't we clear our misunderstanding? If not, how are you guys planning to settle this?" she asked in a low voice while Helen interrupted her.

"Why are you asking the obvious? Aren't you angry that this sl*t tried to seduce your husband? Don't you know how cheaters were punished back in the day? Even if there's no more punishment, we still deserve an explanation. I mean, the Harrisons literally came over and attacked your father! You're the president of Cunningham Group, for God's sake! How could you just let this be?"

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Right then, Helen was enraged. "Watch who you're trying to threaten at my house—"

Before she could finish, Joseph motioned with his hand, and those intimidating men behind him quickly surrounded them.

Immediately, Helene chickened out and stopped talking while James gritted his teeth. "Hey! Do you think you're the only one with backup? Liam, get back up, now! Since when do the Harrisons have the right to come over to our place to cause a ruckus?"

Nevertheless, Liam lowered his head and kept quiet, as he didn't have the guts to go against Joseph.

Glancing at him, Joseph said coldly, "James, Helen, what happened today must be put to an end. Since you claimed that Crystal hooked up with Matthew, I went the evidence!"

As James turned toward Helen, she quickly straightened her back and exclaimed, "My nephew witnessed them together! That's evidence!"

Sasha looked tired. "Mom, how can you trust what Tete said?"

Still, Helen got angry and cut her off. "Shut up! Why would my nephew lie to me?"

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Right then, Helen chuckled coldly. "What? Do you really think that I'm afraid of you? Come here, Tate. Tell them everything that you've seen!"

Suppressing his fear, Tate spoke up softly. "That day, I—"

However, Joseph interrupted immediately. "What day? When was it? Where?"

Taken aback, Tate pondered for a while before answering, "It was last Monday during the afternoon at an alley behind the hospital..."

Instead of mentioning the day he went to the hospital, Tate changed his statement to Monday so that it aligned with him getting into a conflict with Crystal at the hospital that day.

With that, even if Crystal were to expose what he did at the hospital the other day, he could claim that the conflict happened because he saw Crystal and Matthew together and went over to confront her.

However, Joseph suddenly chuckled coldly upon hearing Tate. "You're lying!"

Tate was stunned. "H-How am I lying?"

Then, Joseph said, "Crystal went to Mightwater with me and wasn't at Eastcliff the entire day last Monday, so how could you have run into her on that day, huh?"

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Chapter 854

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When Joseph dropped the bomb about what actually happened, everyone's expression changed.

"Tate, did you... Did you mess up the dates? Maybe it wasn't Monday?" Helen was desperate to prove Tate's innocence.

At this moment, Tate, who was so terrified to the point where he started shivering, immediately answered, "O-Oh, that must be it! I-I can't seem to recall when I ran into them. Gasp. M-My head is a mess right now, so I can't really remember well. However, I did remember witnessing them being intimate with each other at the back alley of the hospital..."

Upon hearing that, James frowned, as he could tell that Tate was lying. Still, he couldn't expose Tate with the way things had escalated right then. After placing his bet with Joseph, he didn't think he had a chance to back down now.

On the other hand, Joseph questioned Tate, "Why do you think that people are obliged to believe you when you can't even recall the exact time?"

Helen came to Tate's defense. "What's wrong about Tate being confused and not getting the date right? That doesn't change the fact that your granddaughter tried to seduce my son-in-law, though!"

Joseph gave her a look. "Listen clearly, Helen. The more you try to prove yourself right, the more I'll prove you wrong later on!"

At this instance, Helen jumped out of her seat abruptly. "Who are you to threaten me, old fart? Do you think you can intimidate me by saying that? Come get me if you even dare!"

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At this instance, Helen jumped out of her seat abruptly. "Who are you to threaten me, old fort? Do you think you can intimidate me by saying that? Come get me if you even dare!"

Wasn't Crystal at Eastcliff on that day?

When Joseph dropped the bomb about what actually happened, everyone's expression changed.

Nevertheless, Joseph ignored her and asked Tate coldly, "Tate, are you sure that you saw the two of them at the back alley of the hospital?"

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Tate quickly nodded. "Yes. It's true! Although I don't remember the exact time and date, I definitely remember who I've seen!"

Right then, Joseph nodded slowly. "Alright, then. Moving on, how are you going to explain yourself about what happened in the hospital?"

Tate's eyes widened. "What do you mean?"

"The instance where Crystal beat you up after you tried to hit on her!"

Immediately, James and Seshe looked stunned. That happened too?

At this moment, James' face darkened as he suddenly realized that the situation was way more complicated than he had imagined.

It seemed like he was fooled by Tate again.

On the other hand, Tate's face was completely flushed before he snapped, "That's a lie! Since when did I try to hit on her? Stop accusing me of things that I've never done, old fart!"

"Explain why my granddaughter beat you up, then."

Tate explained angrily, "I recognized her as the woman who tried to seduce Matthew, so I tried to approach her and get her to stop. However, she got mad at that and even started attacking me!"

Immediately, a pained look appeared on Helen's face. "Aw... My poor Tete... Why didn't you tell us that you were beaten? Does it still hurt?"

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With his head held high, Tate explained, "Aunt Helen, I didn't tell you guys about this because it was just a small matter, and I figured that I could deal with it on my own. However, I didn't expect them to be so shameless to come over and accuse us, so I can't deal with it anymore!"

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Helen nodded along. "Tate, you're really a good kid to be so caring to the family! Don't worry. As long as I'm here, no one will be able to bully you!"

Right then, Joseph chuckled coldly. "Helen, do you seriously trust him that much?"

Helen replied quickly, "Of course, I believe in my nephew! So what? Do you have anything else to say?"

Couldn't be bothered by Helen, Joseph turned toward Tate. "Tate, let me ask you again. Are you willing to take responsibility for your claims just now?"

"Of course. What's there to be afraid of?"

Joseph nodded. "Great! That's great! Haha! It looks like you still don't know that there are surveillance cameras outside of Matthew's department, Tate. In fact, those are newly set up to be able to record voices as well. Those surveillance cameras probably had recorded everything that happened in the corridor, and I brought the footage along with me when I was heading here. Why don't we all take a look at it?"

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Chapter 855

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Joseph motioned with his hand, and the man next to him quickly walked over with a thumb drive before inserting it to the side of the television. When the footage was opened, it immediately displayed the corridor of the hospital and Tate trying to flirt with Crystal.

Just as Joseph claimed, the two's conversation was recorded as well, so everyone could hear Tate trying to flirt with Crystal.

Upon watching the footage, everyone had their facial expressions changed.

Helen's face turned as pale while James fell on the couch.

As for Chloe, she looked horrified, as she knew that things were getting complicated now.

Giving everyone a look, Joseph said, "I guess by now everyone should have a clear idea of what really took place. I don't see a need for me to further explain because I'm sure we all know who's at fault, don't we?"

Seeing how things went, Sasha could no longer hold back her anger. "Tate! Who gave you the audacity to do something like that?! How could you do that?!"

Still, Tate, who had a pained expression on his face, kept quiet.

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Greeting Chloe, Helen gritted her teeth before chiming in, "Well... This footage can't prove anything, anyway! It's true that the way Tete spoke to Miss Harrison is impolite, but does this justify Matthew's and Crystal's affair? We are now talking about Crystal and Matthew, not Tete, so stop changing the topic, Joseph Harrison!"

Right then, Joseph stared at Helen intently. "Helen, how are you so good at being unreasonable! How are you still so stubborn? Can't you see that your nephew is lying?!"

Even Sasha urged, "Mom... Can you think rationally? Why are you still trying to protect Tete?!"

Truthfully, Helen knew that Tete was lying, but she had no choice but to protect him.

If she chose to give in, Tete would surely lend in trouble, so she could only try to make things messy and pull through in the end.

"How am I unreasonable? Tete is in the wrong for speaking to Crystal in such a way. However, is it his fault that she hooked up with Matthew?" Helen chested.

"Mom! Can't you see? He's lying! There's nothing between Matthew and Crystal!"

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At the same time, Joseph’s face darkened. “Helen, you’re a really stubborn person. Fine. Since your nephew claimed that he saw Matthew with my granddaughter in the back alley of the hospital, let’s investigate this today! It hasn’t been a month since your nephew returned, hasn’t it? Let’s just make it a month. I’ll get the entire month’s worth of surveillance, and all of us shall review it together. What about it?”

Instantly, Helen’s expression changed. She initially thought that Joseph would give up trying to get an explanation from them if she continued being unreasonable. However, she didn’t expect Joseph to put in so much effort to prove his granddaughter’s innocence.

Right then, she seemed to be out of choices.

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Chapter 856

Meanwhile, Tate looked around before he started stuttering as he spoke. "I-I might have made a mistake. It might not be the back alley of the hospital. All I remembered was an alley, but I don't remember the exact time and location..."

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Helen quickly nodded along. "That's right. It doesn't necessarily have to happen at the back alley of the hospital..."

Right then, Sasha felt like she was about to explode. Are they shameless?

However, Joseph replied, "It's fine! Since your nephew witnessed them. I'll use him as the breakthrough and start the investigation on him. As there are surveillance cameras all over Eastcliff, I'll start the investigation under the Harrison Family's name and get all the surveillance using his location. We should at least come up with something by then!"

At that, Helen's facial expression changed. Is he insane?!

At the same time, Tate's expression changed as well before he chimed in, "T-There are some places that don't have surveillance cameras..."

"That's fine. We shall track Matthew and Crystal's timestamp at places you go without surveillance cameras. If you're not with them at the same time, or if they aren't together, it'll prove that you're lying. Although this will waste a lot of my time, I don't mind it a bit. Even if I have to go bankrupt, I'll do everything that I can to prove my granddaughter's innocence! If the results of this investigation prove that my granddaughter and Matthew are innocent, I'll make all of you pay for all the amount spent on the investigation!"

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Immediately, James' facial expression changed, as 10 million was enough for him to buy a lot of cars and houses.

"Listen, Mr. Harrison. I do not believe in Tate's claim, so the Cunningham Family won't pay for the amount of money spent on this investigation! Tate, get your father here. He should be the one paying!" James exclaimed.

Upon hearing that, Tate had his face turned pale because he knew that it was over for him this time.

Initially, he just wanted to drive a wedge between the Cunninghams and the Harrisons. Still, he had never expected Joseph to go to such lengths and get the entire city's surveillance cameras just to investigate this issue. By then, they would surely find out about his lies!

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After being quiet for a while, Tate suddenly knelt down to the ground with a loud thump before he said with a stuttering voice, "Aunt Helen, Aunt Helen, I-I was wrong. I-I lied, and I didn't see Crystal and Matthew together at all... Aunt Helen, I won't lie anymore... Please forgive me and give me another chance..."

However, Helen's face was pale as well because she knew that things had really gone wrong this time.

Yet, she never expected Tate to break under pressure and confess while she was still thinking about what to do.

After that, she slumped onto the couch, as she knew that it was useless for her to try to deny anything at this point.

Meanwhile, James was enraged when he heard Tate's confession. "Tate Campbell, you little brat! I knew you were lying all along! Are you shameless, you little scum! I can't believe you almost fooled us into wronging Miss Harrison, you... you've really f*cked up this time!"

Immediately, he put on a grin and turned toward Joseph. "I'm so sorry for offending you just now, Mr. Harrison. I sincerely hope that you can be the bigger person and spare us..."

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Chapter 857

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Bristling, James retorted coldly, "That seems a little over-the-top, Mr. Harrison. My family may never match up to yours, but that doesn't mean you can trample on our dignity!"

Upon hearing her husband speak up, Helen chimed in defensively as well, "That's right! I know my nephew is to blame for whatever happened this time, but certainly, there's no need for you to blow things out of proportion like this! What are you trying to accomplish with all these men you've brought to our doorstep, Joseph? Do you plan on wiping us out? Have you forgotten about the rule of law?"

Joseph chuckled insidiously. "Indeed, the rule of law exists to regulate man's behavior, but maybe you should ask your nephew if he'd like to settle this personally before we call the police."

Helen's blood boiled at the old man's threat. "Go ahead and call the police on us, Joseph!" she taunted angrily. "You're the one breaking and entering into a private residence with this large group of thugs, which seems far worse than our incident if you ask me! So my nephew told a couple of lies, but he might only be charged for defamation in the worst-case scenario. You, on the other hand..."

She trailed off with implication, and without missing a beat, Joseph countered, "Fine, then. Crystal, get the police and tell them that we've caught a man who was trying to abduct women. In fact, I have a reasonable suspicion that all those missing women cases in Eastcliff may have something to do with him!"

Tate began to panic. As far as criminal records went, his was not the cleanest, and an incident like this one could easily get him thrown into prison for years. "Aunt Helen, you can't call the police!" he interjected hastily.

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To the side, Seshe curled her lips into a humorless smile as she scoffed and interjected, "I think it's pretty obvious what's really going on around here, Mom. This punk has probably done something despicable and ended himself in boiling hot water!"

Helen's eyes widened to the size of saucers, and she suddenly recalled what Tete had said when he arrived at the house—he and his friends had wanted to teach Crystel a lesson, which culminated in the whole mess.

She had been so angry with the alleged affair between Crystel and Matthew that she completely forgot about this detail.

Presently, Joseph's icy voice pierced the heavy air as he drawled, "President Cunningham, I'm going to assume that you have no idea of the things this young man has done, have you?" He scoffed contemptuously and added, "I just so happen to have brought along his scumbag friends who acted on his orders. Why don't I let them tell you precisely what happened?"

Having said that, he clapped his hands once and cued the shameful entrance of a group of men, all of whom were Tete's friends. They were brought in with their arms pinned behind their backs, and the next second, they spilled the whole truth in front of everyone.

When the explanation came to an end, Seshe felt as if she might throw up in a fit of anger. There was a dark fire in her eyes as she glared at Tete murderously and snapped, "You're really done for this time, Tete! Take a good look at what your precious nephew has done this time, Mom! Are you still going to defend him? I'd like to see you try!"

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She had been so angry with the alleged affair between Crystel and Matthew that she completely forgot about this detail.

Presently, Joseph's icy voice pierced the heavy air as he drawled, "President Cunningham, I'm going to assume that you have no idea of the things this young man has done, have you?" He scoffed contemptuously and added, "I just so happen to have brought along his scumbag friends who acted on his orders. Why don't I let them tell you precisely what happened?"

Having said that, he clapped his hands once and cued the shameful entrance of a group of men, all of whom were Tate's friends. They were brought in with their arms pinned behind their backs, and the next second, they spilled the whole truth in front of everyone.

When the explanation came to an end, Sasha felt as if she might throw up in a fit of anger. There was a dark fire in her eyes as she glared at Tate murderously and snapped, "You're really done for this time, Tate! Take a good look at what your precious nephew has done this time, Mom! Are you still going to defend him? I'd like to see you try!"

Confused by his belligerence, Helen blinked and asked, "Why? We have every right to call the police on them, seeing as they broke into our home. There's nothing to be afraid of."

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Meanwhile, James was fuming as he shouted, "Damn it, Tate! You good-for-nothing bast*rd! I can't believe you're trying to instigate a fight between us and Mr. Harrison after what you've done. How much more twisted can you be?" He turned to his wife with a grimace. "Helen, I swear to heaven above, if you even try to speak up for this boy one more time, I'm going to divorce you right now!"

Tears welled up in Helen's eyes as desperation washed over her. "Why would you even do something like this, Tate?" She stared at Joseph in anguish. "I'm so sorry, Mr. Harrison. I really am. Please accept my apology on his behalf. I'm begging you not to hold this against him. He didn't know any better."

The air around Joseph dropped to a freezing point as he regarded Helen impassively. "Remember what you said to me just now, Helen? Allow me to refresh your memory—you said with utmost certainty that your nephew would never lie to you, and you called my granddaughter a sl*t, too."

Blood rushed to Helen's face. "I was ignorant, Mr. Harrison. I've learned my lesson now. Forgive me just this once, Mr. Harrison, as a favor to Matthew."

However, Joseph was adamant in his stance, and with a slow shake of his head, he declared, "Absolutely not! I've made myself clear just now that I'd jump down from the rooftop if I was in the wrong. I put my life on the stake even though I was right the whole time, so do you honestly think an apology on your part could resolve this?"

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Chapter 858

All the color drained from Helen's face. She glanced over at James, but he ignored her and turned his face the other way. Out of desperation, she could only look to Matthew for help as she begged, "M-Matthew, do you think you could plead with Mr. Harrison on my behalf? I promise this won't ever happen again."

All the color drained from Helen's face. She glanced over at James, but he ignored her and turned his face the other way. Out of desperation, she could only look to Matthew for help as she begged, "M-Matthew, do you think you could plead with Mr. Harrison on my behalf? I promise this won't ever happen again."

However, before Matthew could respond, Joseph snapped, "Don't speak for her, Matthew! This isn't going to resolve itself just because someone begs for forgiveness, and I don't care who that may be. If you were to speak for her, then we would be as good as strangers from now onward!"

Having heard this, Matthew gave Helen a helpless shrug. He had never intended to help her anyway, not after he realized that there would only be more trouble to come if Tate did not learn a hard lesson this time.

Frustrated, Helen began to sob as she begged Sasha, "Please say something, Sasha. He's your cousin, after all!"

Sasha glared at her mother incredulously. "I told you not to believe him, didn't I? But you refused to listen to me, and look how things turned out! I can't do anything about this now. Mr. Harrison, do whatever you must. You have my unwavering support!"

Joseph was pleased to hear this, and he nodded before saying, "Very well, then. Let's start with you, James—I believe the agreement was that you should get on your knees and apologize to my granddaughter if you were proven to be wrong."

James blanched. "M-Mr. Harrison, I was misled earlier and—"

"You should be ashamed that an adult like you lacks such common sense to tell right from wrong," Joseph sneered. "You insulted my granddaughter right from the get-go, and I'd say you deserve what's coming for you, even if you were misled! My question for you, James, is whether you're going to get on your knees or not?"

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"Fine, you don't have to kneel," Joseph barked, cutting the insolent man off with an angry wave of his hand. "Give Stanley a cell right now and tell him I'm going to stop dealing with Cunningham Pharmaceuticals effectively immediately. Also, get my son to have someone look into Cunningham Group Wellness Herbs and the new pharmacy they're about to open. Listen to me very carefully, James—if I so much as find any trace of funny business, you best believe I'm going to cripple your family fortune and make you lose everything!"

James' blood ran cold when he heard this. It was impossible for any company as big as theirs to have entirely clean records.

The Harrisons' word was as good as law when it came to matters in Eastcliff's medical industry; if Joseph really were to set his mind on screwing them over, then they could do nothing else but wait for the end to come.

As such, James lowered his voice as he stammered, "D-Don't you think that's a little too harsh, Mr. Harrison? Surely there's no need for such extremity when what we're dealing with here will eventually become an insignificant thing of the past."

He was brutally rebuffed when Joseph countered icily, "Crystel is the only girl in our family, and there are three generations of us. For her to have endured such a horrific ordeal today would not sit well with the rest of the Herrisons, particularly if I don't see to it that she is rightfully compensated. You don't have to kneel, James, but you'd be going through much worse after I have someone look into all your businesses!"

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James turned as white as a sheet, and after a long moment of silence, he heaved a long sigh of resignation. "I won't ever forgive you for this, Helen!" he hissed through gritted teeth even as he reluctantly walked up to Crystal and got onto his knees before her. "I'm sorry, Miss Harrison!" he apologized as his face flushing red with indignation.

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However, Crystal neither spared him a glance nor asked him to rise to his feet. She hated him for mistreating Matthew all the time, and she wanted to punish him for it now.

Not daring to get to his feet, James was forced to acknowledge how bleak his situation was as he remained on his knees.

Then, Joseph turned to Helen and snapped, "And now it's your turn! Go over and kneel in front of my granddaughter, and slap yourself on the face until she tells you to stop!"

Helen thundered, "I will do no such thing! You're taking things way too far, Joseph!"

"Fine, then," Joseph began darkly. "If you won't kneel, then we'll have to call the police over and tell them everything. The incident today alone would be enough to keep your nephew in prison for ten years at the very least!"

Given Joseph's social standing and powerful connections, he was being merciful to Tate just by having the latter kept behind bars for ten years, especially in light of his recent string of problematic incidents.

As panic settled within Tate, he quickly urged Helen, "Aunt Helen, you have to save me! M-Maybe you should just do as he says..."

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Chapter 859

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Chloe, on the other hand, was outraged at her son's audacity. "Tate! How could you ask that of your Aunt Helen? She shouldn't have to go through such humiliation because of what you did. Helen, he's my son, and I should be the one who gets on my knees. I should be the one to slap myself!"

As she said this, she rushed over and knelt down next to James on the floor, crying out, "Mr. Harrison, this is my son's mess, and it has nothing to do with my sister at all. I should have raised him better than this, so I'll be the one to bear the brunt of his thoughtlessness." She began to slap herself across the face and continued to do so even as she begged, "Please don't drag my sister into this. How about it, Mr. Harrison?"

Regardless of her efforts, Joseph didn't even bother sparing her a glance as he kept his icy gaze on Helen. "Made up your mind yet? Do you want to see your nephew behind bars for the next decade, or do you want to slap yourself a couple of times and keep him a free man?"

Helen felt hot tears pricking her eyes as she took in Chloe's miserable state. Gritting her teeth, she marched over and grabbed Chloe by the arms, helping her to her feet. "Get up, Chloe. It's pointless for you to beg on your knees!"

Then Helen turned to look at Joseph. "You want me to kneel? Fine, I will! Tate has done plenty of wrong, but ultimately, it's our fault for not giving him the proper guidance, so please give him a second chance!" Having said this, she fell on her knees and began to slap herself just as Chloe had.

Joseph merely watched the husband-and-wife duo before him impassively, and he did not utter a single word. Ten minutes had passed before he finally waved his hand imperiously and declared, "That's enough from the both of you! Go stand at the side right now!"

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Tate took a big gulp convulsively, penicking as he stammered, "M-Mr. Harrison, Aunt Helen has already knelt on my behalf. What more do you want?"

"She knelt to keep you out of prison, but that doesn't mean I'm through with you yet!" Joseph seethed. "I think you should pay in blood for what you've done this time! Go and pull out all his teeth!"

Upon hearing this, the men next to Joseph immediately rushed forward and pinned Tete to the ground.

When Helen saw this, she cried out, "Mr. Harrison! Haven't I already gotten on my knees like you asked? What do you think you're doing? How dare you go back on your word!"

Alas, no one paid attention to her as the men took their forceps and began to pull out Tete's teeth one by one.

While this was happening, Chloe felt fear coursing through her as she screeched, "Mr. Harrison, how dare you to go back on your word! Whoever wants to lay a finger on my son will have to go through me!"

In one swift move, she grabbed the paring knife off the table and hurtled forward like a lunatic.

At the sight of this, the men standing next to Joseph kicked out at her and made her topple backward onto the ground. The men were merciless as he followed up on his attack by kicking her face. Almost instantly, blood gushed out from Chloe's nose, and her lip was split. She couldn't even push herself up from the floor after that.

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Helen was about to cry out in protest when James slapped her hard across her face, clearly infuriated as he growled, "You better shut up, you b*tch! None of this would have happened if not for you! I swear, if you even so much as try to speak up for that boy, I'll cast you out of the Cunningham Family myself!"

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Toward the end, Helen dared not make a peep. She could only watch with horror as Joseph's men pulled out all of Tate's teeth.

It was only after Joseph had flushed all the teeth down the toilet that he nodded in satisfaction.

Presently, he turned to look at Matthew and Sasha, then said softly, "I'm terribly sorry for the ruckus, Mr. Larson, President Cunningham."

Matthew shook his head slightly, as if telling the old man to pay no mind to it.

Sasha, on the other hand, said hastily, "Oh, no, Mr. Harrison, please don't say that! We were in the wrong this time, and it was only right that you punished that boy. Matthew and I will personally show up and apologize one of these days."

Joseph smiled, then eyed James and Helen scornfully. "It's a wonder that the both of you could even manage to raise such a pleasant and reasonable daughter!" He scoffed. "If it weren't for Mr. Larson and President Cunningham, I would have bankrupted the whole Cunningham Family by the end of the night!"

With that, Joseph turned to leave, taking his company with him.

As soon as the front door closed, chaos descended upon the room.

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Chapter 860

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He barely made it out of the mortifying ordeal alive, and he appeared to have gone into shock. After all, not just anyone could survive the extreme pain that came with having all their teeth pulled out while conscious.

If Joseph's men hadn't been professionals, there was a chance that Tate would have died of pain by now.

Presently, Chloe burst into tears as she cried, "Tate? Tate, are you okay? Say something! Don't scare me like this!"

However, he couldn't even utter a word in response.

Helen, on the other hand, hurried across the room as she yelled, "Quick! Call for an ambulance!"

It was only then that Chloe snapped out of her initial shock and frantically searched for her phone.

"What are you patting around for?" Helen was beside herself with panic as she stared at her sister incredulously. Then, she turned to Sasha and urged, "Sasha, call for an ambulance right now!"

Sasha turned to face the other way, averting her mother's gaze as she answered flatly, "My phone ran out of battery."

Helen grew anxious. "Now, of all times? For heaven's sake, Sasha—never mind. Demi! Call for an ambulance."

Suddenly turning into a space cadet, Demi mumbled, "But I have no idea where my phone went, Mom."

"Don't look at me, Mom," Liam said, holding his hands up. "I was in such a rush that I left my phone at the site. I forgot all about it."

Demi and Liam hated the Campbells with passion, and they couldn't be happier to see Tate suffering the consequences of his own idiocy. It was unlikely that they would stop the show now by calling for an ambulance.

Chloe scrambled to get on her feet and went over to help Tate off the floor, wincing at the copious amount of blood that gushed from his mouth.

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Bewildered and resigned, Helen began to say, "Matthew, could you—"

But Sasha cut her off bluntly, "I can't believe you're asking Matthew for help after how Tate has treated him earlier! Did that somehow slip through your mind or something?"

"Tate's mind was all muddled up from panic, and he made one little mistake, but he's still your cousin! I'm just asking for someone to call for an ambulance. Why are you all being so heartless?"

Just then, James' thunderous voice filled the room. "Shut up, Helen! I'm going to say this once and for all—the Campbells will have nothing to do with our family anymore from now onward!" He turned to Liam and Matthew, then barked, "The both of you—throw Tate out of the house right this instant. And Helen, if you're so determined to speak up and acknowledge this nephew of yours, then I'll file for divorce and leave you high and dry!"

Upon hearing this, Helen swallowed and tasted bile. "James, how could you be so vicious? How could you even say something like that when my nephew is already in such a sorry state?"

James was fuming as he argued, "If your nephew ended up dead, I'd say he deserved it! Damn it, Helen, what does any of this have to do with me? I had to beg for someone's forgiveness tonight, and I've never done anything so humiliating in my entire life until your nephew showed up and made trouble for us all. I think I get to say whatever I damn well want. In fact, I ought to kill this piece of trash right now!"

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When Helen saw how James' eyes had turned red with anger, she realized that his rage was truly at its peak and dared not add fuel to the flame. As such, she helped Chloe bring Tate out to the yard, afraid to dawdle a second longer.

Meanwhile, James stood at the doorway and bellowed furiously, "You'd better get back in here on the count of three, Helen! Otherwise, you'll have divorce papers to sign tomorrow morning!"

Demi felt her heart twist at this and muttered under her breath, "Dad—"

However, she couldn't manage to say what she wanted, for James turned around and slapped her across the face, warning her darkly, "Shut up! If you speak up for your mother again, then you can get out of this house too!"

She immediately clamped her mouth shut and did not say anything more.

Out in the yard, Helen was close to bursting into tears. She could tell that James meant business this time, and she didn't dare to go head-to-head with him while his rage was on full blast.

Resigned, she heaved a sigh and whispered, "Chloe, I have to go back into the house now. Hurry and take Tate to the hospital right away. James is on a rampage now, and if he sees me helping you, he'll divorce me for sure!"

As soon as she was done speaking, she lowered her head apologetically and walked back across the yard. James slammed the front door shut after that, and he did not spare a second look at the two pathetic figures standing in his front yard.

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