

M Genius 891

Chapter 891

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Sanchez's face contorted with rage, and he growled, "You're lying. There's no way a snake centipede can win against a toad, unless she reared it. Nobody in Orleans can rear a snake centipede as powerful as this one. Nobody but her. You must have seen her. She's helping you, isn't she?"

He must be talking about Jinny, Matthew thought. However, he played dumb. "Sorry, but I have no idea what you're talking about. Now that you've lost, it's time for your punishment."

Matthew was about to prick Sanchez with his needles, but he noticed black blood flowing from Sanchez's nose. His face fell and he quickly went up to Sanchez, but Sanchez's face was already black from the poisoning.

Sanchez broke into a hideous smile. "I don't have long now, not after my toad died. You'll never get me alive, much less interrogate me. You'll never know who's searching for her. What's more, I've already sent this message to Orleans. They'll be coming for you soon. You can't protect her forever..." Sanchez's face contorted with rage, but his voice trailed off.

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Wilson sneped, "Out! Out if you went me to live!"

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With a wave of his hand, Wilson said, "We can't escape now."

Leroy panicked. "But we can't just let him do whatever he wants, Wilson. Why don't I gather everyone and fight him together?"

Wilson shook his head. "You guys leave us for now. I'll handle this myself. I started this after all."

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Wilson snapped, "Out! Out if you want me to live!"

Leroy struggled to make a decision, but eventually, he gritted his teeth and retreated with the other Lachs. After his family was gone, Wilson started easing up, and he even smiled. Then he sat down and had some tea. "It seems I've underestimated you, Mr. Larson. I picked the wrong enemy to trifle with."

Matthew looked up at him coldly. "I want to know everything about him," he demanded.

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Wilson shrugged. "I'm sorry, but I don't know much about this guy. He comes from Orleans, and he's a voodoo master. Oh, and he's looking for a girl. That's all I know. We weren't friends, but we had a deal. I agreed to help him with his search, while he agreed to help me become the family head. Honestly, we wouldn't have been enemies, but I had to do something after you got into our business in the village."

Matthew frowned. "Who is that girl he wanted you to find?"

"I'm not sure, but judging from what he told me, the girl is crucial to the voodoo clans in Orleans. They have mobilized a lot of people for this search. Oh, and he told me he wanted her dead or alive."

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Wilson nodded. "Yes, but in exchange, I want you to let my family go."

Matthew looked at him coldly. "You're in no position to negotiate."

Wilson smiled. "Mr. Larson, I'm talking about my family, not myself. You can kill me, but my family must be spared."

Matthew stared at him for a moment. "Give me the girl's details."

Wilson gave him a stack of files without hesitation, and Matthew skimmed through it. It was about a woman from Orleans. Since she gave birth to a girl littered with pus on her body, her whole clan shunned her. Left with no choice, she took her child and left for Eastcliff. Ten years ago, the woman died, and her child was sent to a shelter, but because of the girl's condition, everyone shunned her. In the end, the girl left the shelter and had been missing ever since.

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Matthew interrupted him, "Wilson, will you work with me if I can get your family back on its feet and become one of the top three in Eastcliff?"

Wilson was stunned and gaped at Matthew. He thought Matthew would kill him, but he never expected him to propose something like this. What is he doing? Is he trying to make us his underlings? A moment of silence later, he said softly, "Mr. Larson, my ancestor created the family, and they fought hard to turn it into what it is today. Yes, we lost our glory, but we will never become someone's lackey."

Matthew shook his head. "I'm not asking you to be my lackey. I just want to work with you. I'll pay you if I need your help, and you can pay me if you need mine."

Wilson's eyes glinted, but he kept staring at Matthew in disbelief. It was the first time he was examining Matthew this carefully, and a while later, he smiled. "You're ambitious, Mr. Larson."

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Matthew went to the window and answered softly, "That's how men should be. Eastcliff won't be the end of my journey. Eastshire is a big place, so think bigger, Mr. Lach."

Wilson trembled. He knew Matthew was trying to say that the Lachs could take the spot as one of the Ten Greatest Families of Eastshire. But the problem here was that none of the top families in Eastcliff would dare to dream of that prestige. Each of the top ten families in Eastshire has been going strong for centuries. Wait, is he trying to change the landscape in Eastshire? God, he's brazen. But instead of giving a rebuttal, Wilson took a step forward. "Are you sure you can do it, Mr. Larson?"

Matthew smiled. "You'll see. I suggest that we become allies first. You don't necessarily have to help me out, but at the very least, don't stab me in my back."

Wilson thought about it for a long while. Finally, he stopped smiling and nodded. "Very well then, the Lachs will be your ally starting from today, Mr. Larson."

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Wilson broke out into a smile again. "All to get the family's glory back. Underhanded, yes, but it works."

Matthew smiled as well. "And that's why I want to work with you. Yes, your tactics are underhanded, but it works. However, that's not the point. Point is, don't forget about your promise."

Wilson turned solemn. "I always tell the truth when I'm not smiling, Mr. Larson."

Matthew smirked. "So everything you say is a lie whenever you smile?"

Wilson laughed. "Not all the time. Well, ninety-nine percent of it, I'd wager."

Matthew looked at him. "You're scum, but at least you're no hypocrite. Right, I'll leave the rest to you. I'll call you if I need anything. Oh, you know what to say about tonight, right?"

Wilson nodded. "I'm not a genius, but I'm not stupid either. Nobody will know about our deal. We'll still be enemies in the public eye."

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A short while later, Tiger and his gang came in as well. Leroy came back into the living room in a panic and whispered to Wilson, "Wilson, we're surrounded."

Wilson was shocked, and he gazed at Matthew. It was at that moment he knew Matthew had seen through his whole plan. His family was already in danger from the moment Matthew came in. If he had refused to ally with Matthew, his whole family would have been destroyed. Yes, the realization came as a shock, but it also excited him. Wilson wanted to see if Matthew could really manage the impossible.

Tiger and the others took the Cunninghams back to The Grand Garden. They were only asleep because Matthew pricked their cupoints. Once they got home, Matthew released them from their slumber.

The moment James regained consciousness, he leaped up, shouting, "Wh-Where are we? Are you alright, Seshe? Where's your mother? Oh, she's here. Phew, she's alright. Oh, right! Call the cops!"

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Sasha and Helen took their phones out nervously and were about to call the cops, but Matthew blurted, "It's fine. We're fine now."

James stared at him in disbelief. "R-Really? We're okay? But I thought the Lachs kidnapped us. They broke into our house, didn't they?"

Matthew smiled. "Tiger got the news and busted us out."

The news delighted James. "Really? Oh, he's such a good friend. You found a rare gem, Matthew."

Sasha pouted. "I seem to remember you calling Tiger a worthless ruffian."

James quieted down, embarrassed by what his daughter said.

On the other hand, Helen gasped, "Where's Minerva then? Why isn't she here? Is she alright?"

James shot up and gave his wife a tight slap. "Don't talk about that piece of trash! She almost got us killed, for Pete's sake!"

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It was then Helen remembered that Minerva was the one who led the Lachs in, and she poisoned their salad. The realization of Minerva's betrayal drained all the strength out of her, and she plopped down, crying. "That silly girl. How could she do this?"

James shouted, "She's not silly! She's evil! We've been nothing but nice to her ever since she came back! We shared everything with her, and we helped her father out with his career, but what did they do? They kept creating trouble, and we have to clean their mess up! Now she almost got us all killed! Can't you see that she's evil? Are you that stupid, Helen?"

Sasha agreed with her father. "Don't stay in touch with them anymore, Mom. At this rate, they'll kill us all."

Helen sighed. Even after all that, she still refused to cut ties with Minerva.

All of a sudden, they heard someone calling outside. When they went to take a look, they saw Minerva lying on the yard. Her hands were tied, and her mouth was sealed. She was struggling and looked to Helen for help.

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"Minerva! Are you alright?" Helen wanted to help her up, but James pulled her back.

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"Matthew, toss her out and tell the guards to never let this piece of trash in," James shouted.

Helen yelled, "James, are you mad? She's a girl! You can't leave her out at this hour! What if she runs into thugs?"

James snapped, "She's the biggest thug around. Besides, it's not like they can do anything to her. I mean, she slept with an old git like Wilson. What else can't she do? I'm warning you, Helen. Help her or else I'll toss you out too. You can forget about ever coming back."

Tears streamed down Helen's cheeks. "But she's my niece. Her mother helped us when we needed it most. We can't just put that behind us."

That made James snap. He turned around and slapped Helen again. "Bring that up again and you can f*ck off! Just because her mother was nice to us doesn't mean they can do whatever they want! We're lucky Tiger saved us. If they didn't know we were kidnapped, we'd have been killed at this point! Do you really want to see us dead before you'll stop, Helen?"

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Helen covered her cheeks. She knew it'd be disastrous if she said anything, and she looked to Sasha for help.

Sasha sighed. "Matthew, untie her and chase her away. Tell the guards to never let their family in again."

James snorted in annoyance, but he said nothing in the end. Matthew nodded and went over to untie Minerva.

Minerva said nothing. She kept her head low and left the Cunninghams. After she exited The Grand Garden, she went to a corner and cried. She almost lost her life earlier, and that made her regret her actions, but it was already too late for apologies. Plopping down on the ground, she spaced out for a long while before she recalled something, then she whipped her phone out and called Peter.

“Peter, it’s me. W-Where are you? I want to see you. I love you. I can’t live without you. Wait for me, Peter. I’ll be right there.”

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Chapter 895

Matthew didn't go to work the next day. Instead, he went to Lakeside Garden alone to visit Natalie, then he went to Jinny's place. More of her skin healed up, and she could show her arms now. Her skin was porcelain smooth, just like a child's. If it weren't for the pus, she would have been a lovely girl.

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Seeing Matthew, Jinny came up to him happily and mumbled, "Matthew!"

Matthew smiled and handed a bag to her.

She opened it to see what was inside. When she realized it was a dead toad, instead of backing away in fear, she put it in her hand happily and took a closer look.

If the Lachs were here, they'd be shocked by what they saw. Anyone who touched that toad would die in an instant, but Jinny held it in her hands like it was nothing.

Then Matthew took the bottle out and released the centipede. The centipede seemed to adore Jinny, so it crawled up to her arm and wouldn't come down. It was as if the centipede was kissing her arm like a happy kid.

Jinny loved the centipede too, so she touched it, and the centipede stopped moving. It stayed on her arm, letting her touch it freely.

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Matthew was surprised to see that, but he kept quiet about it, then he said, "Jinny, I found out about your past."

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A smile broke out on her fece. "I'll stey here es long es you went me to, Metthaw!"

Metthaw forced e smile. He'd love her to stey, but some people out there wouldn't. "Oh, do you heve eny memory of your fether, Jinny?" Metthaw asked.

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A smile broke out on her face. "I'll stay here as long as you want me to, Matthew!"

Matthew forced a smile. He'd love her to stay, but some people out there wouldn't. "Oh, do you have any memory of your father, Jinny?" Matthew asked.

Jinny shook her head. She was just a baby when her mother left Orleans, so she had no memory of her father.

A moment of silence later, she said, "Mom said Dad wanted to kill me. He thinks I'm a jinx. That's why she took me and left the clan."

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Matthew chatted with her for a while and left with a couple of bottles. As for the centipede, he left it with Jinny.

Sanchez hit the bullseye when he said the centipede had come in contact with Jinny. Over the last few days, Matthew left all the poisonous creatures he got with Jinny so she could rear them. Every night, he'd go to her place and take one creature to defend himself. Luckily he had the centipede last night, or it'd be hard to kill the toad.

For Matthew, it would be an easy task, killing the toad. He had that power, but there were too many people around. If he killed it with his bare hands, the toad's poison would spray everywhere and kill the Lachs. That wasn't what he wanted, so he used the centipede to minimize the casualties.

He had to admit that Jinny was a great trainer. Ever since he left the creatures with her, they'd come back more poisonous or venomous than ever. For example, toads were supposed to be more poisonous than centipedes, but after Jinny trained it for a couple of days, the centipede killed the toad easily, much to his surprise.

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Chapter 896

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Minerva spent the last few days fooling around with Peter. When Tate brought that up, she felt awkward about telling him what happened, so she changed the topic. "Let's put that aside, Tate. Peter's handling a big project now. If he can make it, he'll become Wayne Group's general manager. When that time comes, I bet those Cunningham b*stards will beg us to let them in. You can tell them to chase Matthew out then and nobody would say a thing."

Tate was excited to hear that. "Really? W-What's the project, then?"

Minerva smiled. "Peter said he has to keep it a secret. It's his most important project in Cathay, so nobody can know about it. You know how Cathians are. They don't honor their contracts. If they find out about Peter's project, they might just take it away from him. Peter even invested his own money in the project's R&D. He didn't use a single cent of Timothy's money because he wants to have full control over the project."

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Tate's eyes were glinting with excitement. "Once the project's done and dusted, can I get a spot in it?"

Minerva smiled smugly. "Sure. Peter said you can work with him after the project's done. No matter where he goes, you can go too. At the very least, you'll be a department manager. It's only the start though. Peter said you'll have to work your way up since you're young. The most he can do is secure a position of department manager for you. He hopes you'll understand."

Tate nodded. "Sure. I just know you're better than Seshe. See, Peter's a lot better than that loser, Matthew. Those arrogant b*stards think they can do anything just because they have a bit of money. What, they want to cut ties with us? Heh, I bet they'll do anything to take those words back once Peter's project is finished. Heed my advice, Minnie; don't give in no matter what. Not to those money grubbers."

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Minerva nodded fervently. She was furious about Wilson's betrayal and getting chased out by the Cunninghams, so she wanted Peter to get back at them for her.

Tate was still visibly excited. "So when will Peter finish his project?"

Minerva sighed despondently. "Not sure. He invested all his money in R&D, so he's tight on cash. But now he's contacting his friends so he can get some funds. If it comes through, it'll be done in two weeks at most. If we're lucky, it'll be finished in a week. Speaking of which, do you have any money, Tate? Can you lend me some? Peter rented his place out so he can get some money to invest in the project. I want to support him as well."

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Chapter 897

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Minerva waved him down. "I'm not talking about investment money. I just want to get him a good hotel so he can focus on R&D. He's living in a cheap motel just to save money right now, and I'm worried about his health."

"Minnie, you're subsidizing him?" he asked.

Minerva shot him a glare. "What are you talking about? This is true love, not a business deal. He's trying to create a business, but since I don't have enough money to invest, at least I have to show some support. Tate, you'll only be appreciated when you help someone in need. Peter's not that successful, but it's just temporary. If I don't help him now, he won't give back to me once he makes it in life."

Tate nodded. "You're right, Minnie. That's what my friends told me as well. A friend in need is a friend indeed. Only those who help you when you're in need are your true friends. I don't have much, but here, take my two grand."

Minerva was delighted. "I knew you'd understand me, Tate. Don't worry. I'll tell Peter to secure a great position for you once his project is done."

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A while later, Minerva's phone rang, and she took the call. But after she was done, she looked upset, much to Tete's surprise.

"What happened, Minnie?"

Minerva teared up. "Peter just called me. He... He said his friend in Wall Street got into a car crash, so the money won't come through. He sought Timothy out earlier for assistance, but Timothy said he would only purchase the project with the measly thirty million. Peter's distraught, and he cried..."

Tete stared at her in disbelief. "What? He'd only pay thirty million for a project that's worth ten thousand times more than that? Is he a monster?"

Minerva sighed. "That's just how sharks are. What should we do, Tete? This is his life's work. Are we just going to let it end like this?"

Tete didn't want to let it end just like that either. He thought about it for a long time and asked, "How much more does he need? How about we try helping him out?"

Minerva shook her head. "We can't. He still needs about seven million. Where on earth can we get seven million for him?"

Tote nodded with a smile, looking forward to a bright future.

A while later, Minervo's phone rang, and she took the call. But after she was done, she looked upset, much to Tote's surprise.

"What happened, Minnie?"

Minervo teared up. "Peter just called me. He... He said his friend in Wall Street got into a car crash, so the money won't come through. He sought Timothy out earlier for assistance, but Timothy said he would only purchase the project with a measly thirty million. Peter's distraught, and he cried..."

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"Oh, dear god. This is just not our day. A hundred-billion project, but Timothy is only willing to pay thirty million for it? How are we supposed to get our revenge like this?" Minerva lamented.

Tate was flushed with anger. He clenched his fists, frustrated and powerless about the situation. However, he kept thinking, and he finally got an idea. "Say, Minnie... why don't we ask Aunt Helen to help us out? She's handling the pharmacy's funds, and she told me she has about twenty million left. We can ask her to lend us seven million. Once Peter's project is finished, we'll pay her ten times what we owe her. That'll do it. Aunt Helen has always been nice to us, so this is just us paying her kindness back. What do you think?"

All at once, Minerva's eyes shone. "Hey, that's a great idea! Aunt Helen loves us. She'll help us! I just know it!"

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Chapter 898

When Matthew and Sasha came back home that night, they saw Helen on the sofa, spacing out.
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That afternoon, Tate and Minerva asked her out and tried to persuade her into lending them ten million. She kept refusing, but the siblings knelt before her in the end. She couldn't keep refusing, so she agreed to transfer the money to them. But when she came back and realized what she had done, she was terrified. After all that had happened, she knew Minerva and Tate couldn't be trusted, so she was worried that something might go wrong.

"What's wrong, Mom?" Sasha asked, puzzled.

Helen trembled, but she waved her down. "I-I'm fine."

Sasha didn't believe it. She doesn't look fine.

A while later, Helen couldn't take it anymore. "Sasha, can you come here for a second? I need to ask you something."

Sasha sat beside her. "What's the matter, Mom?"

Helen took a deep breath and whispered, "I-I have a friend who's handling a new project recently. If he succeeds, he'll make hundreds of billions with it. But now he needs money to continue the project's development, and he needs a few million. What do you think about this investment? I... I need your opinion."

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Sasha nodded. "What kind of project is it? Did you hear it from him? If the project can make that much money, he'd have investors lining up to fund it. He doesn't need your money, unless he's a scammer. This is how they scam people out of their money. Don't fall for it."

Helen looked horrified. "But he's a foreigner..."

Sasha snickered. "So? Doesn't mean they won't lie. Remember my friend, Penny? Her foreigner fiancé said he's Carlson Group's president, but Tiger exposed him. Turns out he's just a tutor at a kindergarten under Carlson Group. That's a big fat liar. Don't just trust those foreigners blindly, Mom. We're as powerful as them now."

All the color drained from Helen's face.

Sasha started picking when she saw her mother looking like that. "Mom, don't tell me you've given him the money?"

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Helen quickly waved her down. "Nonsense. I didn't do anything like that. This is a big deal. Of course I'll talk it through with all of you. I'm not that stupid."

Sasha heaved a sigh of relief. "That's good to hear. Don't fall for their lies, Mom. Just run the pharmacy and leave everything else to us."

Helen nodded and told them she was feeling unwell before hurrying away to her bedroom.

After Matthew saw her off, he whispered, "We might be too late, Sasha. Helen has probably given the money away."

Sasha's face fell. "What? Impossible. W-Why didn't she talk it through with us? No. I have to ask her about it..."

Matthew stopped her. "Don't. She won't admit to it now, and you might start a fight."

That made her panic. "What should we do, then? This is a few million we're talking about. We can't just ignore it."

Matthew gave it some thought. "She doesn't have that much money in hand, but the pharmacy does. If you want proof, we can check the pharmacy's accounts tomorrow."

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Chapter 899

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Minerva answered impatiently, "But I already did, Aunt Helen. Besides, how do you know it's a scam? This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I only let you in on it because you've been nice to us. Lots of people want in, but I didn't tell them about it."

Helen answered quickly, "But Matthew said this is a scam..."

Minerva snapped, "That loser? What does he know? All he does is leech off your family! He knows nothing of the business world. He doesn't know what makes the most money! He can't call Peter a scammer! Does he have any proof?"

Helen paused for a moment. "I know how you feel, Minerva, but you're still young. You don't know how evil people can be. If Peter's a scammer, then I would have given the money for nothing."

Minerva retorted furiously, "Aunt Helen, you just don't trust me, do you? Fine, I'll say it again! I told you I could have made an IOU, but you refused me! Right, even if Peter is a scammer, you can come for me and I won't say a thing. Is that enough? Gosh, you're my aunt. I just want some help, but you just won't do it, huh? Never saw my mom complaining when she helped you guys."

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Helen couldn't find any comeback for that, and she remained quiet for a while. "That's not what I meant, Minerva. I just don't want you to get scammed..."

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Helen sighed. "I understand, Minerva, but you have to see it from my perspective. Sushe's already suspecting me. She might look into the accounts tomorrow. If she finds out that half the funds are gone, what should I even say to her?"

"You don't have to! She's your daughter! You don't have to explain anything to her. What, are you scared of her?" Minerva was getting disgruntled.

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Helen hesitated. "Is that really okay?"

"Aunt Helen, I don't have the money, so I can't give it back to you no matter what you do. That's the only thing you can do for now. Once Peter is done with his project, I'll pay you twenty times the money I owe you, alright?"

Helen sighed. She didn't want Minerva to pay her back twenty times the money she owed; she just wanted her ten million back. But since she couldn't force Minerva, she went to see Demi and asked Liam to transfer her the money so she could deal with the inspection.

At first, Demi wanted to refuse, but Liam agreed and transferred the money right away. Delighted by the outcome, Helen praised Liam to high heavens.

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Chapter 900

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Liam sneered. "Why should I? She could have asked for double the money and I'd still give it to her."

"Wh-What do you mean?" Demi was flummoxed.

Liam looked at her. "What do I mean? We laundered a ton of cash from the company. Do you think Matthew won't check the accounts? If he finds out about it, he's going to interrogate us."

Demi pouted. "Hmph. I'm not scared of him. He's just a live-in son-in-law. As if he can do anything to us. Besides, it's our family's company. He doesn't have the right to question us no matter how much we take from it."

Liam nodded. "You're right, but the problem is, what if your parents ask us about it? What should we tell them?"

Demi shut up, and she frowned. "What are you trying to say?"

Liam laughed. "I got James a new car a couple of days ago. It's a Rolls-Royce. And I switched his watch to a new one. Cost me a million. And I spent about seven hundred grand on a piece of jewelry for Helen."

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Liam explained slowly, "Now calm down. Yes, I spent a lot, but that means we'll have an excuse once Matthew comes around to audit. If your parents question us, we'll tell them we used the money to buy them gifts. Now that they know it's used on them, they won't question us anymore. That's why I don't have to know what Helen wants to do with the money. As long as she takes the money, she'll have to defend us, get it?"

Realization struck Demi, and she gushed, "Oh, you're so smart, honey. Now that you dragged them into this, Matthew can't do anything to us. He can't interrogate my parents, can he?"

As expected, Seshe looked into the pharmacy's accounts the next day, but since Helen had patched it up, she didn't find anything wrong with it. Since the funds were all there, Seshe felt relieved and put the issue behind her.

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Realization struck Demi, and she gushed, "Oh, you're so smart, honey. Now that you dragged them into this, Matthew can't do anything to us. He can't interrogate my parents, can he?"

As expected, Sosho looked into the pharmacy's accounts the next day, but since Helen had patched it up, she didn't find anything wrong with it. Since the funds were all there, Sosho felt relieved and put the issue behind her.

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Three days later, Helen received a call from Tate.

Tate was sobbing, his voice trembling. "Aunt Helen, come here quick! M-Minerva's trying to kill herself!"

Helen shivered. "Wh-What? Where are you? I'll be right there!"

Ten minutes later, Helen hurried over to a motel. The moment she went in, she saw Minerva plopped on the floor, a look of despair on her face.

Tate was beside her, worried and panicked. Right after Helen came in, he said, "Aunt Helen, you have to talk some sense into her. She wants to kill herself."

Helen quickly went up to Minerva. "Wh-What happened, Minerva? Don't scare me! Tell me what happened. Don't do anything stupid!"

Minerva looked up at her, her eyes red. "I-I got scammed, Aunt Helen," she said with a trembling voice. "I couldn't get through to Peter no matter what, so I went to his place, but it's already deserted. And I even went to Wayne Group to see if he was there, but nobody knew him. Th-They say they don't have anyone named Peter working with them..."

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