

M Genius 971

Chapter 971

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'The Truth Behind the Villes' Whopping Prices!'

All kinds of titles appeared one after another in Eastcliff's major media outlets, all referring to the Cunninghems' ville residential project.

News traveled quickly in a short period. Soon, almost everyone in Eastcliff was talking about it.

On that day, the ville residential area's sales department was filled with people asking for a refund for the ville units that they had bought.

Meanwhile, customers who had not bought yet decided not to come anymore.

The reputation of the ville residential area was completely destroyed. Many buyers got together in hopes of being compensated for their losses by suing the company.

After knowing this, James was dumbfounded. He never thought that this matter would blow up.

He immediately called Liam and asked him to go to the sales department to stop the buyers from getting a refund. At the same time, he called the press, hoping that they could help to dismiss the rumors. However, all of them rejected him because they had obtained solid evidence regarding the ville residential area's inferior renovation. Anyone who helped the company now would be heavily criticized. Hence, things escalated very quickly in less than a day.

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~~Even the officials had closed the construction site and started investigating. The workers inside were taken away for interrogation overnight.~~

~~In the evening, Liam came home pale faced with his hair in a mess. His footsteps were so weak that it was as if he was floating.~~

~~Right then, James was so distressed that he couldn't stop pacing around the house. As soon as he saw Liam coming home, he asked at once, "How are things? What happened in the sales department? Don't give them a refund no matter how big a fuss they make, understand?"~~

~~Looking down, Liam didn't dare to say anything. Then, Demi, who had bruises on her face, told James, "Dad, I don't think it's that easy this time..."~~

~~Instantaneously, James widened his eyes. "What did you say? We have Cunningham Pharmaceuticals, Wellness Herbarry, the pharmacy, and the construction company. Do you know how much money we have right now? Do you know how powerful we are? Though we're not as powerful as the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff, we're pretty much there! Who could ever defeat us?"~~

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After being silent for some time, Liam said softly, "Most of the people causing the big fuss are from the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff. And I also heard that they were the ones who started it."

James was confused. "What... What did you say? Come again?"

"The Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff were the ones behind this." Liam sighed.

Hearing this, James roared, "What does this have to do with them?"

Softly, Demi explained, "Don't you know? They bought 20% of the villas."

Puzzled, James asked, "What? How could this be? When did it happen?"

"I just found out about it as well. They bought close to a hundred villas. They must be the ones causing such big trouble!"

His face turned pale. "Why didn't you tell me earlier? Why didn't anyone tell me about this? Why did they buy the villas from our company?"

Upon hearing this, she sighed and decided not to say anything else.

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Softly, Liam reminded James, "Dad, the Jacksons from the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff was the one whom we worked with before; don't you remember? The Jacksons are quite influential among the ten families, and they connected us to many buyers. Besides, our villa residential area is located in a key urban development area that has a lot of room for appreciation. That's why they were willing to buy. As a result, the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff became the major buyers of this project."

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"What should we do? They said that they would put us in jail if we refused to refund. At this point, they're willing to do anything..." Demi squeaked.

Immediately, James' face turned pale. Of course I know what they're capable of doing.

~~"Calculate the amount of money we'll need to refund them. Let's just give them a refund if nothing can be done!" He trembled.~~

~~Then, Liam said, "We can't do that. If we give them a refund, we'll have to compensate all the other buyers as well. We'll be finished just by giving the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff a refund."~~

~~This made James anxious. "They won't intervene anymore once we pay them back. As for the individual buyers, why should you be afraid of them?"~~

~~"It's not that simple. The officials are watching us right now. So, we either do a full refund, or we don't. We'll be screwed if we do a partial refund. Besides, those who were able to buy the villas are quite well-to-do, so even the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff wouldn't be able to hold them back if they make trouble," Liam explained worriedly.~~

~~James was speechless, knowing how serious it was.~~

~~He sighed. "How did this happen? How did it come to this?"~~

~~Just then, Matthew and Sasha came in.~~

~~Angrily, Sasha roared, "Look at what you've done, Dad! I already told you that we can't use defective materials for construction! I also warned you that cutting corners would get us into trouble, but you didn't listen! What do we do now?"~~

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All of a sudden, Demi jumped up and barked, "Matthew, how did the issue with the renovation materials at the construction site get exposed? Were you the one who leaked it on purpose to harm us?"

Upon hearing this, James turned to look at Matthew.

"Shut up!" Seshe slapped Demi. "Are you even human? How could you blame Matthew after such a serious matter has happened? What does it even have to do with him? Did you know that the Ten Greatest Families of Eastcliff have taken your husband's friend, Vincent, away? It was him who leaked it!"

Stunned, Demi did not dare to fight back. She knew that they had lost this time.

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"I don't know him that well..." Liam replied awkwardly.

Hearing this, Seshe fumed, "You don't know him that well? Don't think that I don't know how you conspired with him to embezzle the company's funds! Even we weren't certain about the company's accounts, but Vincent is. Also, I saw the video of you eating and drinking with him. How do you explain that? You should know!"

Unable to fight back, Liam lowered his head and kept quiet.

"Look at what you've done! Why did you work with him in the first place?" James scolded.

Seshe was filled with anger; she couldn't believe that James still couldn't see what the real problem was.

"Are you sure that this is because he found the wrong business partner? To begin with, what you did was wrong. Don't you know you're committing fraud?" she retorted.

After peusing for quite some time, Jemes esked softly, “W-Whet should we do now, Seshe?”

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~~Upon hearing this, he was at a loss for words.~~

~~Just then, Demi said, "Or we could just not provide any compensation!"~~

~~Immediately, James sat up. "Don't compensate? What will we do, then?"~~

~~"We just need to find someone to take the blame! With that, not only will this matter be resolved, it will also help to minimize our losses," she explained.~~

~~At that moment, Sasha had guessed what Demi was about to suggest, so she roared, "How dare you! This has nothing to do with Matthew! Don't you dare think of making him take the blame!"~~

~~Demi was furious. "Can't you think for this family's sake? We need someone to take the fall for this matter, and it so happens that he's the director of the company. Who else should take the blame? Surely you don't want Mom and Dad to be in debt and lose their home at such an old age! How could you be so selfish, Sasha?"~~

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"Don't even think about it! Matthew has taken responsibility for many of the troubles that you've caused before. We've already warned you this time, but you refused to listen! So don't even dream of making him take the blame!" she growled.

Demi turned to James. "Look at her! What's wrong with helping your own family? I would let my husband take the blame if he was the director of the company, but too bad, he's not!"

When she said this, Liem nodded in agreement. "Sigh, it's all my fault! I'd rather go to jail than cause trouble for my family if I were the company's director! Our family has gone through many ups and downs, and it wasn't easy to get where we are today, so I can't bear seeing our family torn apart!" He choked as if he was about to cry. What good acting skills he has, Sasha thought to herself.

Hearing this, James nodded furiously. "You value our family so much, Liem! If only others were like you."

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In the end, the Cunninghams were adamant that Matthew should be held accountable and go to jail for this issue.

With her fists clenched, Matthew spoke just as she was about to. "I'll take responsibility for this matter, Dad."

Everybody was ecstatic while Sasha froze when he said this.

Immediately, James stood up. "Really? You're the best, Matthew! I don't know what to say... Don't worry. I'll find you a good lawyer to solve this."

As for Demi, she nodded furiously. "You're my hero, Matthew! You're so manly, responsible, and strong! Let's off to you!"

However, Sasha questioned anxiously, "Are you crazy?"

Putting her hand lightly to reassure her, Matthew continued, "I won't be able to handle this alone, though. The whole world's in an uproar, saying that the managing director's behind it. Of course, I can't shirk off my responsibility as the director, but they are keener on holding the managing director accountable. Hence, Liam won't be able to escape from this."

Hearing this, Liam frowned. Why am I dragged into this?

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Patting her hand lightly to reassure her, Matthew continued, "I won't be able to handle this alone, though. The whole world's in an uproar, saying that the managing director's behind it. Of course, I can't shirk off my responsibility as the director, but they are keener on holding the managing director accountable. Hence, Liam won't be able to escape from this."

Hearing this, Liam frowned. Why am I dragged into this?

~~"You can't say that. Surely they'd look for the most important person to be held accountable. As the director, the problem will be resolved in an instance once you step forward. Who would even care about an insignificant managing director then?" Demi snapped.~~

~~As Matthew shook his head, he explained, "It's not as simple as you think it is. The people have evidence of Liam committing fraud, so they would never give up if he didn't go to jail."~~

~~At that moment, Sasha finally understood what Matthew was trying to do. "Yeah. The people outside are making noise, asking Liam to give them an explanation. Everybody's looking for Liam, not Matthew, so Liam can't escape from this. Dad, we should let Matthew and Liam turn themselves in if we want someone to take the blame. After all, they're both your sons-in-law. You can't show favoritism, can you?"~~

~~Nervous, Demi protested. "No! My husband can't go! Dad, just let Matthew go alone, okay?"~~

~~James glared at her. "Shut up! Matthew's willing to take responsibility for our family, so why can't Liam? When did you become so selfish? Can't you learn from Matthew how he handles matters? You preach so much when it involves others, but look at what happens when you're involved. Unbelievable. It's all for the sake of our family, so how could Matthew alone take responsibility while Liam doesn't?"~~

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Helpless, she looked down.

Meanwhile, Sasha exclaimed joyfully, "Great! Everything's settled, then! Go ahead and turn yourself in with Liam, dear! We'll find a good lawyer for your lawsuit. Don't worry." She winked at him while he smiled knowingly at her.

In truth, Matthew would be fine even if he and Liam took the fall together.

After all, Matthew was never involved in the matter.

Though he was the director, Liam was the one who was in charge of the renovation. Matthew had nothing to do with it.

Besides, Matthew had many connections, so this wasn't a problem for him.

However, the same could not be said for Liam.

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Chapter 975

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"If you really did it for us, it's all the more reason for you to turn yourself in! We can only overcome this hurdle if you and Matthew take responsibility. You're a dutiful son-in-law; surely you don't want to see your mom and I live on the streets," James replied coldly.

Liam looked at Demi helplessly. However, she turned her head and looked away.

Seeing this, Liam was stunned. There was no doubt that the whole family was ready to give up on him.

Then, Matthew walked toward the door and chuckled. "Come on. Let's go turn ourselves in!"

At that moment, all eyes were on Liam. His face flushed red and then turned purple.

Suddenly, he jumped up and shouted, "I'll never turn myself in and go to jail! You can go if you want to, Matthew. I'll... I'll never go..."

Annoyed, James stood up and slammed his palm on the table. "What do you mean by that? You keep saying what a filial son you are, yet you're not willing to sacrifice for our family now? Look at Matthew, and then look at yourself! Both of you are sons-in-law of the Cunningham family, so why can't you act more responsibly? What right do you have to be my son-in-law?"

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~~Immediately, Liam's face flushed with anger. "Why should I go to jail? It was not my own idea. Don't you think this is unfair, Dad?"~~

~~Then, Sasha interjected, "Who said you're going to jail alone? My husband's going with you!"~~

~~"It's only right that he goes to jail. Why should I?" he said in defense.~~

~~Upon hearing this, Sasha's face darkened. "Why should my husband go to jail? How can you be so shameless? It was your fault that this even happened in the first place. He couldn't stop you guys! In fact, what does he have to do with this problem anyway? You are the one who should rightfully go to jail! Such an excellent project wouldn't have become like this if it weren't for you!"~~

~~James nodded furiously. "She's right!"~~

~~Choking, Liam fumed, "It wasn't my fault! I only did it because Mom and Dad approved, so why should I go to jail now?"~~

~~As soon as he said this, James' face turned as cold as stone. "So you want your mom and I to go to jail? Is that what you're saying? You'd better make yourself clear!"~~

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Chapter 976

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Anxiously, Liam said, "I can't take responsibility for this, Dad... You'll be affected too if I do. That's the problem. They'll definitely check my accounts, and once they do, they'll find out you're involved. It'll be a big problem if things get serious. I'm fine with going to jail for a few years, but you and Mom won't be able to bear it since you're so old already. Let's think of another way, okay?"

At that moment, James looked so downcast that he seemed to have aged a lot.

Not long ago, he was running around showing off his new car, watch, and a billion dollars in his account. However, he suddenly realized that all these were pieces of evidence to prove his wrongdoings. He and Helen would be dragged into this and wouldn't be able to escape if things got out of hand.

"How did it get to this? What should we do now?" He sighed. Right then, he was close to collapsing.

Meanwhile, Liam secretly rejoiced as this was what he wanted.

"Why don't we just let Matthew take the blame alone?" he suggested softly.

Immediately, Seshe rebuked, "What, now? Will they not check the accounts if Matthew takes responsibility? Your villainess knows no limits!"

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~~Upon hearing this, she raged, "If you do that, do you know what a serious crime he would be convicted of?"~~

~~"The most important thing now is to protect the Cunningham Family. We can't let this involve Mom and Dad! Matt's still young and healthy, so it wouldn't be a problem if he goes to jail for a few years. However, Mom and Dad won't be able to handle it. Surely you don't want them to go to jail at this age, right?"~~

~~How could someone say that? Sasha was burning with anger.~~

~~Then, James raised his head to look at Matthew. It was obvious that Liam's words had moved him.
"Matthew—"~~

~~As soon as he said this, she interjected, "Don't even think about it, Dad! It's all your fault, so why should he take the blame? I'll never agree to this!"~~

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"You'd better make up your mind, Matthew! Are you willing to take the responsibility for Mom and Dad? You only need to say yes or no." Demi took the opportunity to question loudly.

Sasha's face darkened at once. Just as she was about to say something, the door opened all of a sudden. "Something bad has happened..." Helen panicked as she ran into the room.

Quickly, everyone turned to stare at her. "We already know about the issue with the villa residential area!" James hissed as he glared at her.

Panting, she said, "It's not about the villa. It's about Liam. I don't know how it happened, but somebody leaked the company's ledgers. All our transactions are exposed..."

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Chapter 977

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Meanwhile, Liam was stunned. Initially, he intended to use the transactions to blackmail James and Helen to force Matthew to take the blame.

However, he no longer had any leverage on them now that the ledgers had been exposed.

"How did they get exposed?" James stammered.

Helen replied, "I heard that it was the Jacksons who leaked them."

Trembling in fear, he stuttered, "I was wondering why they pulled out from the investment. Turns out that they had planned this for quite a while."

"What should we do now?" Demi asked nervously. The ledgers included her expenses, so she would not be able to escape from this either.

At that moment, everyone went speechless. Then, James and Helen looked at Seshe.

"Didn't I tell you not to do things that compromise your integrity? All of you refused to listen and insisted that it was a business technique. Now, you're reaping what you sowed! Didn't you know that the Jacksons were one of our partners? You guys were obviously trying to cheat them by doing what you did. Did you take them for fools? What are you going to do now that things have turned out like this?" Seshe gritted through her teeth.

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~~When everyone went silent, Matthew finally spoke. "It's not completely impossible to solve this. We could do a fundraiser and look for people to finance us to give them a refund. With that, the buyers will show us mercy and let us off."~~

~~Upon hearing this, James and Helen looked at each other. Then, Helen said softly, "Do you know how much money we're supposed to pay back? I heard we'd need around 56 billion. How could you raise so much money?"~~

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At that moment, James and Helen deeply regretted not listening to Sasha. They even regretted letting Liam join the construction company. If it wasn't for him, they could've earned around 5 billion in peace: that would have been great. However, not only did they not get any advantage, the Cunninghams were about to go down.

When everyone went silent, Matthew finally spoke. "It's not completely impossible to solve this. We could do a fundraiser and look for people to finance us to give them a refund. With that, the buyers will show us mercy and let us off."

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After nodding, he was about to leave when Seshe stopped him. "Hold on. Mom, Dad, there's something that I need to make clear."

Helen frowned. "What is it?"

"Matthew can raise the funds, but I hope you'll never involve yourselves in the company's matters from now on. Also, remove Liam from the company and stop hiring your people to work in the company!" Seshe replied.

Quickly, Demi questioned, "What are you doing? What's wrong with my husband working at our company? Mom and Dad are well alive in front of us. Who are you to make such decisions?"

Suddenly, James slammed his palm on the table. "Shut up! I've thought it through. I wouldn't let Liam stay at the company even if Seshe didn't say anything. People like him will only bring about trouble rather than accomplishments. Keeping him would affect the company's development. From now on, Liam, don't you dare enter the construction company. Otherwise, I'll kick you out of my house!"

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Sighing, they nodded helplessly. "Alright, then. I'll leave the construction company to you. Don't let us down, okay?"

Chapter 978

Bitter resentment welled up within Liam, and Demi was all the more upset as she demanded incredulously, "D-Dad, are you actually being serious right now? Aren't you worried about letting Matthew be in charge of all the assets in the construction company? What's going to happen to us if he were to take them all for himself? Someone in the family has to keep an eye on him no matter what! Whatever happened this time was an accident, but I promise Liam will do better!"

Bitter resentment welled up within Liem, and Demi was all the more upset as she demanded incredulously, "D-Dad, are you actually being serious right now? Aren't you worried about letting Matthew be in charge of all the assets in the construction company? What's going to happen to us if he were to take them all for himself? Someone in the family has to keep an eye on him no matter what! Whatever happened this time was an accident, but I promise Liem will do better!"

Upon hearing this, James glared at his daughter forcefully and snapped, "As far as I can tell, the only ones who have their eyes on our family riches are the both of you! I know how wildly ambitious and greedy you can be, Demi. Let me make one thing clear: I will only give you what is rightfully yours out of the family fortune, so don't you dare think about claiming everything for yourself! Now, stop wasting my time with this nonsense. If you have any objections, then you and your husband can get the hell out of my sight!"

Demi opened and closed her mouth, but in the end, she dared not so much as make a peep. She could hardly believe that James would go to the extent of casting her and Liem out in a fit of rage!

Presently, James walked up to Matthew and clapped a hand on his shoulder. "You're the most responsible one of the lot, Matthew! You've always been the only one to stand up for the family whenever it mattered the most. Don't you worry—from now on, the construction company is yours alone, and I'd put my life on the line to make sure no one takes it away from you!"

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~~Matthew nodded somberly. "Thank you, Dad."~~

~~Honestly, I have got to say that gaining control over the construction company is hard, even with my abilities.~~

~~Having stepped out of the Cunningham Residence, Matthew gave Connor a call. In fact, Matthew had been the one to set the wheels in motion for the incident this time. He knew that the project would end up barely breaking, even if Liam were to go on with his ridiculous antics. Thus, as a matter of necessity, he had figured out a way to kick Liam out of the project altogether.~~

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As for those who wanted to vacate following all the negative news, Matthew made a public statement in which he promised that he would do his best to see this project through. Some of the buyers insisted that they wanted their money back, and Matthew made the necessary refunds instead of arguing with them. There were others who waited to see how the project would go on under Matthew's management, but when they saw how he had no qualms with refunding, their determination to vacate the villas immediately waned.

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They could tell that Matthew was far more responsible than Liem when it came to money. Truth be told, the only reason why these buyers had been so anxious to vacate in the first place was that Liem had refused to give them back their money, which prompted the idea that the construction company was run by slipshod management.

Now that Matthew was processing the refunds without protest, the buyers wavered; they could see that the company was trying hard to redress their complaints.

At the end of the day, the number of those who insisted on vacating dwindled to about one-third of the buyers, which essentially meant the company was saved from having to suffer a considerable loss.

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Chapter 979

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During this time, James and the others paid particular attention to the construction company and how it was handling the situation. They were stunned speechless when they learned that only one-third of the buyers insisted on backing out of their purchase.

In all honesty, James and the others hadn't thought that Matthew could put the fire out, even if he could come up with enough funds to quell the demanding crowd. After all, in the heat of the moment, all the buyers had been adamant about getting their money back.

Alas, who could have expected that the number of those who insisted on a refund would be in the minority? By some miracle or other, the rest of the buyers had decided to stay.

From the looks of how things had turned out, the construction company wouldn't be making a huge loss at all.

Moreover, with Tiger lending aid, the inspection process went a lot smoother.

At the end of the day, the construction company did not crumble, and it was still standing strong after the mess was cleared up.

That evening, the Cunningham Family was having dinner when James lifted his wine glass and mused, "I must say, I underestimated you in the past, Matthew! You really are the definition of competent! I didn't think you could settle such a tricky situation with such ease!"

To one side, Helen nodded hastily in agreement. "Yes. I thought the construction company was done for! Who could have thought that everything would turn out fine? You handled this brilliantly, Matthew!"

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~~Sasha's face lit up when she heard her parents' outright acknowledgment of Matthew's competence. What can I say? Life could only get better from here on.~~

~~Meanwhile, Demi and Liam were looking distinctly gloomy. They were disappointed to learn that the construction company had found a way out of the sticky situation because Matthew had taken away all the money in their account in the process.~~

~~Some of the things they had bought were returned while the rest were sold off as secondhand goods, and the proceeds went into the company account. This meant that Demi and Liam had essentially schemed hard for nothing, and it left them angry as well as resentful.~~

~~They had initially believed that Matthew would never be able to resolve this mess. In fact, they thought they could watch him make a fool of himself. However, he had gone and proved them wrong by easily putting out the fire, which enraged them to no end. Now that James and Helen were praising him, Demi and Liam only grew all the more furious.~~

~~Incensed, Demi interjected abruptly, "There's something I can't quite figure out, Matthew—all these people were going all out, demanding that they get their money back, but why did they change their minds as soon as you showed up? Could it be that you were the one who persuaded them to back out of the deal in the first place? In other words, did you go to such lengths just so you could throw us out of the construction company?"~~

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Still peeved, Demi argued, "Then explain to me why those people changed their minds as soon as Matthew showed up."

James was stumped by this.

Seshe, on the other hand, retorted icily, "Isn't it obvious? They change their minds because they trust Matthew. You do know what trust means, don't you? Liam ended up the way he did because everyone lost faith in him and no longer trusted him, whereas Matthew has won them over because they trust him. That's why they decided to stay."

"Are you saying that my husband isn't trustworthy?" Demi seethed.

Seshe scoffed and ignored her, which provoked her more as she snapped, "What the hell do you mean by that, Seshe? What right do you have to insult him?"

Irritated, James shot Demi a dark, warning look. "What are you yapping about? You know as well as we do when your husband lost the trust of all those people. Take a look at what the both of you have done. Do you want me to list out your faults one by one?"

Upon hearing this, Demi felt her words die on the tip of her tongue. This time, not even her own parents were on her side.

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Chapter 980

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She spat through gritted teeth, "I can't believe this is happening! I just can't! How did that loser win Mom and Dad over? Liam, at this rate, it's only a matter of time before the both of us are driven out of the family."

Contrary to Demi's outburst, Liam merely sighed in resignation. Admittedly, things had gotten out of hand this time; the construction company was worth several billion in revenue, and they nearly threw it to the dogs.

It was normal for James and Helen to snub him after all that had happened, but when they switched over to Matthew's side, that was adding insult to Liam's injury.

After all, for as long as James and Helen continued to put Matthew down as an incompetent fool, then Liam would still stand a chance at proving himself.

However, now that he had lost out on his in-laws' favor, he couldn't even dream of getting back into their good graces, let alone ask for another chance.

With that in mind, he urged in a low voice, "Demi, we really are in hot water this time. From how I look at things, we have to find a way to make your parents continuously nitpick on Matthew. Otherwise, we'd lose out on our right to speak in this household!"

Demi's fists clenched, and her eyes flashed with a murderous gleam as she thought about how she would deal with Matthew.

In the days that followed, Matthew could hardly catch a break as he tried to do damage control on the construction company.

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~~The shareholders who had left now came back as well, and Wilson had gotten ahold of a new group of buyers for the vacated villas. In less than three days, nearly all these villas had found new homeowners.~~

~~In the meantime, Matthew was brainstorming with Stanley on another megaproject.~~

~~They had plans to set up a hospital near the villa neighborhood with Joseph as the resident doctor, which would surely bring in a steady flow of prospective homebuyers.~~

~~The plan was well and all, but Matthew could neither make head nor tail of equipment packages and the specifics of constructing a hospital. Stanley, on the other hand, was an expert in these matters and had been generous enough to personally dispatch a team to lend Matthew a helping hand. With the way things were going, the villa neighborhood would soon become the next prestigious residential address.~~

~~Matthew had left Julian in charge of these plans and went on to become a shadow director who spent most of his time in the hospital.~~

~~Meanwhile, Crystal had been getting busy as well. Having successfully set up a foundation to sponsor medical treatment for the impoverished, she spent every day helping out those who were sick and destitute, which enriched her life to no end.~~

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Initially, her friends all thought she had gone mad. The collective question was why a girl like Crystal would even set up a foundation to sponsor medical treatment in the first place. However, as her efforts began to reap results, everyone realized that she was genuinely serious about this noble cause, and they viewed her with newfound admiration.

Given the Harrisons' powerful connections and influence, Crystal's charity gained a surprising amount of donations, so much so that it even made headlines and won prizes from the business industry.

While this was happening, Joseph told anyone who would listen to Crystal's efforts with great pride. There was a time when he thought he had spoiled this granddaughter of his, and he couldn't be more relieved to witness such a transformation in her.

For this, the Harrisons were eternally grateful to Matthew.

That afternoon, Matthew had only just returned to the office when he saw Crystal sitting on her own, looking sullen.

"Oh my, has someone gotten on your nerves again, Miss Harrison?" he teased, chuckling.

Crystal's expression softened when she registered his presence. With a tired sigh, she mumbled, "You won't believe it if I told you, Matthew. I met a patient today, and talking about this just makes my blood boil!"

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