

Read Novel Spoiled By Mr. Russell By Luminous Night Chapter 1071

Chapter 1071

The butler nodded in agreement. "Yes, you're right, sir. It was our negligence that Mrs. Margaret lost her ring under our watch. If I may, sir, have you found the ring?" Then the butler sighed in relief when he saw the ring in Ralph's hand.

Ralph nodded. "Yeah, I found it. I'll bring this to my mother immediately. You should clean this place and check if anything else is missing. You might even be able to find something. Also, you guys should improve your security here. This time it was my mother. What if it was someone else next time?"

"Yes, of course! We'll do better next time," the butler assured Ralph politely. Ralph was delighted with the butler's attitude, so he did not continue to make things difficult for him. Moreover, he already had what he had come for and was excited.

He could not wait to leave. "Good, now I'll be leaving. Take the time to reflect on your shortcomings!"

The butler smiled politely, his hands crossed before him while sending Ralph off. The smile on the butler's face entirely disappeared when Ralph left.

Meanwhile, Margaret was dragging Lily into different stores in the shopping mall. She would choose a few pieces of clothing when they entered one and make Lily try them on. After trying about three sets, Lily refused to try anymore as she was exhausted.

Margaret even wanted Alexander to try a few on, but Alexander's clothes were typically custom-made, and he had refused to give in to her. So, Margaret ended up dropping the idea.

The old lady paid for everything Lily had tried and planned to go to a jewelry store for their next stop, but Lily stopped her, "It's okay, Grandmother. You've already got me so many things, and I can't accept any more."

"Nonsense! You shouldn't say that, or others would think the Russells can't even afford to go shopping! These are my gifts to you, so don't worry about it!" Margaret said.

"Grandmother, aren't you going to ask about your ring?" Alexander finally spoke.

"Ralph is already looking for it, no? Even if I lost it, it would be in your house. Since that's the case, I stopped panicking. Let's continue our shopping while waiting for news from Ralph. I'm feeling peckish. Why don't we grab something light to eat?"

Margaret paused and looked forward. 'There's a cafe over there. Why don't you two accompany me for a cup of coffee?'

Lily and Alexander glanced at each other and knew Margaret was trying to buy time. Still, they chose not to expose her.

"Sure," Alexander said, "Lily, why don't you grab a seat with Grandmother? There's a phone call I need to take first."

"What call is so important? It's your day off, so let those at the office settle that instead. Why are they always calling you about small issues?" Margaret said in haste.

Alexander took out his phone and explained, "It's something that has to do with our work. It won't take long."

"All right, we'll wait for you inside. Hurry." Margaret relaxed when she heard it was about work.

Alexander took the call as Lily and Margaret walked into the cafe. The caller on the other side said, "Sir, he left."

"All right," Alexander replied and hung up. Then he turned and looked toward the cafe.

Lily and Margaret were seated next to the window, and he could see that Margaret was talking on the phone. Her eyes were glancing around, unfocused. When her gaze met Alexander's, she was stunned and broke the gaze immediately.

Alexander smiled slightly and entered the cafe. When he approached their table, he could hear Margaret saying, "Fine, fine. Just come over. What's taking you so long?!" She finished and hung up.

"What's wrong? Who made you angry?" Alexander asked as he took a seat across them.

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Chapter 1072

"Who else would it be? Of course, it's your silly uncle." Margaret looked slightly across. "He took a century to look for a ring! Still, he found it.

According to him, it was between the cushions on the sofa, and I didn't even realize I dropped it there."

‘That’s excellent news, and you still have time to spare. Tell Uncle Ralph to come to pick you up, then you could make it for your show,’ Alexander said while looking at his watch.

Margaret nodded. ‘Thank goodness you were here to accompany me, or I would’ve panicked.’

Ralph arrived moments later. Since he knew they were at the cafe, he came over immediately. He entered the cafe and rushed straight to their table. ‘Mom, I found it.’

Then he removed the ring from his pocket and handed it to Margaret. ‘Look, this is the one, right?’

‘Yes, that’s it. This ring has never left my side all these years. If I lost it, I would never be able to rest in peace even after I die.’

She hurriedly took the ring from Ralph and put it on her finger. ‘It’s looser than it was. No wonder it fell off my finger.’

‘You’ve lost some weight. Let me bring it to a jeweler and get them to tighten it for you so that it won’t fall off anymore,’ Ralph offered.

Margaret shook her head. ‘No, it’s fine. I wouldn’t be able to face your father if I lost it one day. I’ll keep it safe in my jewelry box when we get home.’

‘Sure, that’s a good idea too.’ Ralph smiled and turned to Alexander. ‘It’s getting late already. I’m leaving with your grandmother to see the show. What are your plans?’

‘Lily’s exhausted too, so we’ll be leaving as well,’ Alexander explained, ‘You should leave first.’

‘Mom, we should hurry, or we won’t make it for the show,’ Ralph said as he stood up from his seat.

As the two were about to leave, Alexander called out from behind them, ‘Uncle Ralph.’

Ralph stopped and turned back to look at him in a daze.

‘Since you left in a hurry, are you sure you didn’t leave anything behind?’ He continued, ‘I’m just asking, so I don’t have to get my housekeepers to look for whatever you lost.’

‘Haha,’ Ralph laughed forcefully, ‘Of course not. I’m a guy, after all. I don’t wear accessories, so you don’t have to worry about me leaving things behind.’

Alexander nodded and bid them farewell, ‘Very well then. Have fun and stay safe.’

Ralph dared not linger. When faced with his nephew, he could not help but feel nervous that Alexander would see through him.

Alexander always had a kind of expression that Ralph found unreadable.

Nevertheless, he had gotten what he wanted, so all he had to do was negotiate with Heather. Ralph was excited as he thought of the wealth that would soon be his. As they got in the car, Margaret sighed while looking out the window.

“Mom, why are you sighing? I got what I was looking for, so you should be happy!” Ralph said while excitedly starting the engine.

“Well done! However, I couldn’t help but feel insecure. I don’t feel right,” She clarified.

Margaret felt something was off, and there was something strange about Alexander whenever she faced him. She could not even lie with ease.

“You’re used to being in his shadow. Wait till I become the head of our household. Then he won’t even dare to behave arrogantly toward you!” Ralph said in confidence as if everything was within his control.

“Let’s hope so.” Margaret leaned against the window and chose to remain silent.

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Chapter 1073

Heather entered the house and heard a commotion in the kitchen. She entered the kitchen to check what was happening when she saw Hannah. Heather’s face darkened as she asked sternly, “What do you think you’re doing?”

Hannah was surprised when she heard her sister’s voice. Her hand that held a pot cover trembled. The steam from the pot scalded her as she yelped softly.

“You’re so clumsy!” Heather said frustratedly, “Come here!”

“I-I’m sorry.” Hannah had been apologizing a lot recently. However, she was more obedient than before and hurriedly left the kitchen with a bowl of soup. It was still warm, covered with a cotton cloth to keep the heat inside. The aroma of the soup was appetizing.

“What’s this?” Heather frowned and looked at it.

"I made some soup for you," Hannah spoke softly, not daring to make eye contact with Heather. She gently pushed the bowl toward Heather, trying to make Heather happy.

"Who permitted you to cook? You should stay in your room until I tell you to come out!" Heather said while undoing the top button on her blouse. She remembered something as she was about to sit and brought the weighing scale over. Then she looked at Hannah and ordered, "Come here and stand on it!"

Even though she did not need Hannah to take her place recently, they still needed to maintain a similar physical appearance.

After all, it was in Heather's nature to always be prepared for any circumstances.

Hannah obediently approached Heather and wanted to step onto the scale when Heather stopped her. Hannah looked at her sister in confusion as Heather drew her lips into a thin line, saying, "Put down the bowl you're holding!"

'She's so stupid sometimes. Why do I always have to tell her how to do things?!

Fortunately, Heather was in a good mood today, so she did not mind wasting time and was surprisingly patient with Hannah.

"Oh! Sorry!" Hannah apologized again and placed the bowl on the table before stepping onto the scale.

Heather's frown deepened when she saw the numbers on the scale. "I told you to eat more, didn't I?! How did you lose even more weight than before? I need you to maintain a similar appearance to me. You'll increase your food intake from tomorrow onward during every meal."

Hannah wanted to tell her sister she could not eat that much food. However, she swallowed her words because she knew they would not change anything. Hannah never had the right to voice her disagreement, ever.

The issue was not her food intake but because Heather often worked out. So, even though Heather was skinny, she was lean, and her muscle mass was heavier. On the other hand, Hannah did not work out, and her body composition differed from her sister's. It was challenging for her to gain weight no matter how much she ate.

Nonetheless, Heather did not care about these things and only wanted results.

"All right, that's it. You can leave now." Heather waved dismissively, eager to look at the item she had just received.

However, Hannah stood still as she had something more to say.

“What’s wrong? Why aren’t you listening to what I said?”

“N-No. It’s just that…” Hannah hesitated for a while before mumbling, ‘The soup…’”

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Chapter 1074

“What’s this? I’m not eating that!” Heather rejected her offer, looking at it with disdain.

The bowl was filled with white, creamy liquid and bits of chicken and vegetables that looked appetizing and smelled amazing. It did make Heather hungry, so she asked, “What soup is it?”

Hannah’s face immediately brightened, and she answered Heather’s question eagerly, “It’s some chicken broth that’s good for the body. I heard that you’ve injured yourself, and I hope this can help you recover.”

“Good for me?” Heather eyed her suspiciously and took out her phone to search for information about it. “How did you know chicken soup is good for injuries or when someone’s sick?”

“I saw it on TV,” Hannah replied immediately, “I noticed that we have the ingredients needed to make it, and the kitchen was empty then, so I decided to make this for you. Don’t worry. I made sure no one saw me.”

Heather was not worried about Hannah being seen. She made sure that the people around her were those she brought from their island, and they were loyal. Those employed after they came were not allowed into the main house.

This was why the public did not know that there were two Ms. Riggs instead of one. It was because they had a good prevention method to keep the news hidden.

“Are you worried that it’s too hot? Then, let it cool for a while. I tasted it a while ago, and it was just right,” Hannah said nervously as she waited eagerly for Heather to try it.

Heather took the bowl of soup and eyed it closely. She smirked and said, “I’m not worried that it’s hot, but rather that you’ve poisoned it!”

“I wouldn’t dare do that!” Hannah was terrified as she knelt immediately and said, “I wouldn’t dare do this even if you gave me a million dollars. B- Besides, I couldn’t even leave the house, so how would I be able to obtain the poison? No, wait, I’m saying that I won’t do it! You’re my twin sister. Without you, there wouldn’t even be me. How could I possibly poison you? I -I would never do that!”

Hannah was scared to death as she kept shaking her head. Her eyes were brimming with tears, and she was shivering.

Heather meant it as a joke, but seeing Hannah shivering in fear, Heather was annoyed. "Okay, okay, I was just joking. You don't need to be so afraid. Honestly! After so many years of posing as me, you're still not able to be more like me! Thank goodness mom and dad had me as well, or else the Riggs family would be destroyed if it was handed to you!"

Hannah nodded her head in agreement. "Yes, you're the best the Riggs family has ever had! You're our hope! Without you, I'm nothing as well, and our family wouldn't have a future! This is exactly why you have to take good care of your health! I-I..." Hannah did not know what else to say, so she took the hot soup from Heather's hand and drank it, saying, "I'll prove that I didn't poison it!"

"Hey, you..." Heather did not expect Hannah to do this. She did not have enough time to stop Hannah as she watched Hannah burn her mouth with the soup.

"I've already told you that I was joking. You're not only cowardly but foolish as well!" Heather removed the bowl of soup from Hannah's hand.

Hannah was still hesitating about whether to finish it or not.

"We have our private chef, so there isn't a need for you to cook personally," Heather instructed. Even though she knew Hannah was good at it, there was no need for that.

"I don't have much to do at home, and it'd be my honor if I could help you out. Since I'm usually no help in other affairs, I would be happy if I could help take care of you. Please give me a chance to do this, and I'll make sure that no one else sees me!"

Hannah lowered her head earnestly.

After finishing the bowl of soup, Heather could feel her body warming up. She wanted to return to her room immediately and did not want to waste her time with Hannah, so Heather waved her hand dismissively and said, "It's up to you!"

"Thank you!" Hannah replied happily.

"All right, go back to your room. Don't come out before I tell you to!" Heather was unimpressed with how happy Hannah was just because of something like this. After giving her instructions to Hannah, Heather turned and went upstairs.

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Chapter 1075

Heather went upstairs while Hannah took the empty bowl to the kitchen. She turned on the tap and cleaned the bowl with a cloth. She took her time cleaning it thoroughly.

After she finished, she placed it back in the cabinet and took one last look at the kitchen before walking toward her small bedroom.

Hannah's bedroom in the basement was very dark and quiet, but she was used to this environment. She sat in a corner where a small amount of sunlight was available. The sunlight shone on a small area close to her toes. She could feel the warmth of the sun if she just stretched her feet, but instead, she chose to sit with her knees bent and her toes curled together. She was so close to the sun yet did not dare reach out for it.

Her arms were around her knees, hugging them as one of her hands played with the distorted ring she had. Hannah had found her ring, even though it was not how it used to be.

Nothing truly belonged to her in this world, not anything or anyone. She should not have hoped for it, and she should not have been greedy. Unfortunately, she was only human. How could a human not have any desires or wants?

Heather entered her room upstairs, closed her door, and drew the curtains shut. Then she took out a box from her pocket. She opened the box and revealed the book inside. She felt as though her heart were about to jump out of her chest because she was so excited and her heartbeat was so rapid.

She wanted to open the book immediately, but as her fingertips touched the cover page, she was so nervous that she started shaking. She had wanted this for the longest time, and now it was in her hands. She could not describe the happiness that she was feeling.

As she turned the pages and studied the words and pictures inside greedily, she could not help but feel impressed by them. They were all skills that she had never seen before. Still, Alexander told her such skillful fighting stances did not exist-what a hypocrite!

Heather scoffed disdainfully as her hands continued practicing the stances in the book. She was eager to learn everything inside this top-secret kickboxing handbook. While she was practicing, her phone rang. She tried to ignore it as she was absorbed in her own world.

However, whoever was calling was very stubborn. The phone kept ringing even after she had tried to ignore it. She finally had enough of the noise and walked over to say, "Hello!"

“Heather, I’ve found it. I have what you need,” Ralph said smugly into the phone.

When Heather recognized his voice, she recalled that she had forgotten the promise between them. She smirked and replied mockingly, “Really?”

“Aren’t you happy?” He could tell that Heather did not sound as happy as he expected her to be. She had changed, and he was interested in why.

Heather smiled and continued, “Of course, I’m happy! So... when are you going to hand it over to me?”

“Of course, I’ll give it to you, just not now. We haven’t exactly agreed on the issue we discussed before, so why don’t we meet and talk it through?”

Since he had what she wanted, everything would work according to his plan. He would use this as leverage and increase his end of the bargain. Ralph did not plan to just hand it over to Heather easily. He needed to make sure that she made him a good offer.

“Fine, how do you propose we do this?” As Heather talked to Ralph over the phone, her gaze did not leave the book in her hands.

Ralph spoke into the phone with confidence, “Why don’t we do it tonight, at 7 p.m.? Let’s meet at the hotel where we met last time. I have a suite there, so it would be safe for us to meet.”

He paused and continued quickly as he was worried that she might hesitate, “Since this book is critical, it would be dangerous if it fell into the wrong hands. Besides, we need a secure and quiet place to discuss our plans in detail.”

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Chapter 1076

“Sure,” Heather agreed readily. “I’ll see you later.” Then she hung up the phone without hesitation, making Ralph somewhat suspicious because she was too quick to decide.

Ralph felt Heather should have been ecstatic and full of anticipation. Despite the fact that she agreed quickly, her reaction surprised him. It was nothing like what he had imagined at all.

It weirded him out a little, but Heather was unlike any other woman when he thought about it. Hence, what he found strange about her might be what was usual in her daily life.

With that thought in mind, he hummed a song and headed into the shower to prepare himself for the night. They would have a great talk tonight, and he would welcome his brand new life!

At six p.m., Ralph was about to leave for the hotel when Celine appeared. She could not help but notice he was in high spirits.

“Heading out for a wild night?”

“Hey! What are you talking about? I’m going to discuss business and strike a huge deal.” Ralph clicked his tongue before explaining in a delightful tone.

“What kind of deal could you possibly strike? Do you even have the ability to do that now?” Celine looked him up and down.

Ralph was not too important to her, but things might change. Her decisions would depend on which side someone was on, and Alexander was, at the very least, on the same side as she was.

“Mind your own business!” He did not want to continue the conversation. As for the secret handbook, he had told Margaret to keep it a secret from Celine, thinking it was best she knew nothing about it.

Instead of his sister, he expected to be the one to lead the Russell family in the future.

“Oh, right. Are the test results out yet?”

“You want to know about it?” Celine mimicked his tone and asked in return. “Go to the hospital and check it out for yourself!”

Finally, she went inside the house, leaving him there to watch her leave. He pursed his lips at sight.

“You arrogant b*tch! You’ll beg me on your knees when I gain control over the Russell family. Just wait!”

Then he flipped his hair and left the house, confident of his appearance.

On the other hand, Celine did not return to her room but headed to her mother’s instead. “Mom, I’m back.”

Margaret had just eaten her dinner and was feeling drowsy from it. When she heard Celine’s voice, she forced herself to focus.

“Yeah? You’re back. How’re the results?”

"It's out." Celine had a strange expression on her face. She walked over to her mother's side with a folder in her hand. "I think you should mentally prepare yourself before looking at it."

"It's been so many days since the incident happened. What makes you think I haven't prepared myself for it? I've thought things through. If he isn't related to us by blood, we can't let him, an outsider, take control of the family's affairs, no matter how much your dad used to adore him.

"The best we can do is give him some money so he can live comfortably in the future, and that's all we can do for him."

Margaret looked out the window. Although she did not like her grandson, she watched him grow. If Alexander were not related to them biologically, all of Hugo's efforts in the past would be in vain.

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Chapter 1077

Margaret opened the folder and removed the stack of papers, finding it slightly thicker than she had expected. Puzzled, she looked up at Celine, who explained hurriedly, "To ensure the results are accurate, I did the test for everyone in our family.

"There's the test between you, Ralph, and myself with Alex, respectively. If the results are the same, that would be no problem, but if it isn't, the outcome wouldn't be affected just because of one person."

After pondering for a moment, Margaret found that Celine's words made sense and nodded before picking up her presbyopic glasses and browsing through the results.

However, her expression gradually worsened while she looked at them. She would read a few pages and then flip to the earlier ones before flipping back to the later ones again. Suddenly, she raised her head to look at Celine in disbelief. "T-This..."

"Mom, stay calm. I told you that you need to be mentally prepared," Celine said softly. She was shocked, too, when she first saw the results. That was why she told her mother to prepare herself mentally. Even so, it had a massive impact on her.

"B-But this is impossible!" Margaret suddenly became agitated. After all, feelings were not something a person could control easily.

"I don't believe this! Where did you do the test? We must do it again!"

“Mom, this test is 99.99% accurate. Calm down. I’m going to…Mom!”

Margaret’s vision blackened before getting to her feet, and she passed out, causing Celine to panic instantly. “Somebody help!”

Ralph was elated as he sat in the master suite, scrolling through the pictures on his phone. They were shots of a few pages from a book, and the pages were not continuous.

He was not dumb. If he brought the secret handbook over, he knew he would not have the chance to negotiate with Heather.

With her combat skills, she could snatch the item from him away quickly, and there would be nothing he could do about it.

Since he was not as skilled as Alexander was in combat, he could only depend on his brain. He hid the item somewhere else to ensure nothing would go wrong, believing he had made the right decision.

When Ralph heard the doorbell ring, he broke into a grin, which he did not try to hide as he got up to get the door. He even moved slowly on purpose and only walked toward the door after the doorbell rang three times.

All the hardships and sufferings he faced in the past because of Heather would end right here. In the future, he could hold his head high, and he no longer had to give in to her commands. At least, that was what he thought.

He opened the door, and as expected, Heather was standing there. She donned a suit and looked as severe as always.

Sometimes, Ralph suspected she had a split personality. Otherwise, nothing could explain how she would sometimes look shy and gentle.

He stared right at Heather while she only glanced at him before stretching her hand toward Ralph.

“Where’s the secret handbook?”

This question brought Ralph back to his senses, and he laughed. “Slow down! It’ll belong to you, eventually. What about you come in first? We can talk about it over a drink or two.”

“There’s no need for that. Haven’t we discussed it before? I get the book, and you get the shares,” Heather said coldly, “There’s nothing else for us to discuss.”

It seemed she was only here for the item. That was how Ralph thought she should behave, after all.

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Chapter 1078

Ralph felt even more victorious the more Heather acted this way. With a smug smile, he turned and approached the bottle of red wine he had prepared earlier and slowly poured the liquid into two wine glasses. He was not concerned about her words, as if everything was under his control.

Heather noticed his actions and followed behind him but stopped after taking one step.

With two wine glasses, Ralph turned around and faced her. "We're finally getting the things most important to us. Don't you think it calls for a celebration? Let us toast to our successful cooperation!"

Heather only looked at him for a moment before taking the glass. After seeing Ralph gulp the drink, she put the glass closer to her lips and took a sip. Then she stretched her arm out again. "The book."

"Haha..." Ralph looked at her outreached hand. She had her palm facing up; her many fine lines and thin calluses differed from other girls with soft hands. With one look, one could tell those were traces from practicing kickboxing all year round.

Smiling, Ralph stared at her palm when suddenly a strange thought flashed across his mind. However, the feeling he got disappeared before he could figure out what it was.

He took out his phone and showed her a few pictures he had taken. "Take a look. Is that what you want?"

With that, Heather narrowed her eyes to look at the pictures and the words on the screen carefully. Before she could look at them enough, he suddenly retracted his hand and smiled mysteriously. "I'm not lying to you about it, am I?"

"You're not thinking you can finish this off by just showing me a few photos on your phone, are you?" Scoffing, she asked.

"Of course not! Trust me when I say that I have the item with me. I'm just showing you a sample of it now. You've been in business for a few years, so I'm sure you understand that customers would first look at the samples before making orders, don't you?"

“Stop beating around the bush. I can tell you want to add additional terms now, so just give me the specifics.” Heather sat on the couch and raised her chin slightly. Although she was looking up at him, her demeanor was not any weaker than his.

Ralph stood on his spot. He had to lower his gaze to look at her, but for some reason, it still made him feel inferior to her.

As she had exposed his motives, he just laughed boisterously. “You’re indeed brilliant! If it weren’t for your nasty temper, I would want to marry you!”

“Cut the cr*p!” she interrupted coldly and asked, “Name your price.”

“I want 50% of the Riggs Group’s shares that you own!” Ralph put his hand up, showing Heather his five fingers. “Besides that, I want to be a part of the board of directors.”

“You sure are an ambitious one!” She only mocked him, and toward his conditions, she still showed no acceptance or objection to them.

“It’s not that I’m too ambitious. It’s just that the item you want is costly,” Ralph said smilingly, thinking he was reasonable with his request. He believed she should pay the right price if she were truly desperate for the item. 30% of the Riggs Group’s shares were attractive but not enough for him to control the company. Even with that, Heather would still be the major shareholder, and Ralph would not have absolute authority.

However, things would be different if he had 50% of the shares because that would make him a significant shareholder. By then, even Heather would need to abide by his words. She could get the other shareholders’ support, but they would only be on par with Ralph at most. He would still have absolute control over the company.

He could only go against Alexander if he had absolute control over the Riggs Group. That was his only way to reclaim what belonged to him and the Russell family.

“Don’t be so stingy! I know that managing the company has never been your top priority. Since that’s the case, why don’t I help you to do it? You can focus on practicing kickboxing too. We get what we want, so isn’t that the best choice?”

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Chapter 1079

“The audacity you have to say that. Do you think you have the credibility a businessman should have when you add more terms on the spot like this?” Heather swirled the wine glass in her hand and looked at Ralph mockingly.

She knew this man was unreliable from the start and that adding terms at the last minute was something he would pull off. It did not matter how many shares she offered him in the first place because Ralph was a greedy man who would never be satisfied.

“Credibility?” Ralph laughed as if he had heard a joke. “Who even talks about that these days? Being credible won’t get me what I want. As you said, we’re people in business, and our self-interests are our utmost priority, no?”

“Look at us; we’re tied together because of our personal gains, right? Since it all boils down to our interests, we should try to maximize it, which is the gist of being in business!”

That was Ralph’s business perspective, and he based his actions on that. Hence, he felt frustrated by the way Alexander managed the company.

‘Who even cares about credibility now? Alex would willingly give up on certain benefits for his so-called credibility. How could there be such an idiot in this world? If he isn’t in business to make money, he should just leave the company!’

When Ralph was still working in the company, he argued this matter with Alexander, opposed to Alexander’s decisions, but ultimately, there was nothing he could do. However, he could not understand why Alexander could always get lucky and make profits.

That was why the directors never said anything because, to him, it did not matter who led the company as long as they could make money.

Later, Alexander slowly reduced Ralph’s authority and finally kicked him out of the company. This thought would always rile Ralph up, but since he could decide for himself now, he would do things his way.

Heather raised her brow, choosing not to express her opinion on the matter but asking a question in return instead. “Still, do you think I’ll agree to your terms?”

Ralph was confident.

“You will!”

Then he continued, “Don’t you want the secret handbook anymore? Think of the level Alex is on now. He could reach that state even though he started learning late. Your talent and capabilities will make you invincible after learning everything from the book!

“By then, your family will be the best kickboxing family worldwide. You might not even have the time to manage Riggs Group then, so why don’t you let me help you with it while you focus on your passion? Don’t you trust me more than the others?”

Ralph felt that his words were reasonable and would convince Heather. Since he understood the book's meaning to Heather, he dared to negotiate his terms with her.

"That makes sense." Heather nodded, appearing to be in thought. She looked at him and saw that he could not conceal the joy on his face. He even smiled.

However, her expression turned cold abruptly. "I changed my mind. I don't want it anymore."

With that, she heavily put the wine glass on the table and got up to leave. Ralph was stunned by this sudden change of hers. It was something he had never expected to happen.

When he returned to his senses, she was already at the door, making him chase after her. "Wait! Wait..."

He grabbed her wrist, but Heather shook his hand off, and he dared not touch her anymore. Astonished and angered, he questioned, 'What's the meaning of this? What do you mean by you don't want it anymore? Didn't you always want to have the handbook? Are you toying with me right now?'

"You're the one toying with me!" Heather sneered. "You're the one who added terms at the last minute. You were greedy and wanted more than what I offered. How am I the one toying with you?"

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Chapter 1080

"I..." Ralph was tongue-tied and thought to himself. 'Could it be that she changed her mind because she wasn't satisfied with my terms? That can't be it. She's been looking for the handbook for so many years. How could she just change her mind about something she wanted so badly?'

He probed. 'Then... what do you mean to say?'

"I mean that I don't want it anymore! I don't want the book anymore!" Heather was determined. It looked like there was no room for negotiations.

"Cut the cr*p. I know you still want the handbook. You want to discuss the terms of our deal again, don't you? Fine, let's talk it out then. Since it's business, we can always negotiate and come to a conclusion that we're both happy with. You don't need to reject me directly just because you couldn't accept what I requested. There's no need to get so worked up over this."

When it came to Heather, Ralph did not dare to use brute force on her as he was no match for her. However, he was puzzled by her attitude.

While he was pestering her, she turned her head to look at him. He could not tell what she was thinking from her deep, dark gaze.

“Well then... I don't want 50% of the shares anymore. What about 45?” Ralph probed. Seeing that she was not going to say anything and was just staring right at him, he shuddered, and the room sunk into silence for a moment before he asked again,

“40%?”

Heather still said nothing, as if there was no turning back on the matter.

“Look at this! This is the secret handbook you've been dreaming of getting your hands on!” He took out his phone and waved it in front of her, flipping through the pictures as he continued, “I took a lot of risks just to get it.

Don't you remember how much trouble you went through just to find the book? You couldn't even find it, but it's with me right now. Do you not want it anymore? Are you sure? It's going to be too late if you regret it. I might not agree to make a deal with you by then, regardless of what you offer me!”

“Keep it for yourself, then.” Smirking, Heather said coldly.

That left Ralph dumbfounded. Seeing that she had already opened the door, he pressed his hand on the doorknob to stop her from taking another step forward.

At the same time, he said through gritted teeth, “Fine! We'll go with what was discussed before this. 30%, and I won't ask for more! Are you happy now? Let's sign the agreement now. The shares go to me, and the book will be yours. How's that?”

The way he spoke sounded like he had to compromise and suffer a significant loss from the deal. However, the strange thing was that Heather was still not taking the deal. She just kept staring at him coldly like he was a clown.

Ralph's mind turned blank before it became messy with overflowing thoughts. Heather's reaction disrupted all his plans, and it shattered the confidence he had earlier on wholly.

At this moment, she looked like she did not want the book. That should not be the case, though!

“Just be direct with me and tell me exactly what you want! If you don't want this handbook, I'll return it to Alex immediately! No, I'll put it on auction for the kickboxers. I'm confident that someone else will offer better terms than you!” Ralph threatened after giving it some thought.

He did not expect that to make Heather chuckle. “Sure, go ahead! I’d like to see what you can get from selling a fake secret kickboxing handbook!”

Those words erupted in Ralph’s head like a thunderstorm. His mind exploded as he shrieked in disbelief, ‘What did you say?’”