

Read Novel Spoiled By Mr. Russell By Luminous Night

Chapter 1121

Chapter 1121

Heather called Ralph to test him. However, she became somewhat interested when she heard his confident tone. "Can you tell me how you plan to take Alexander down in just a day? I'm quite interested now."

Even if Ralph was only boasting, he should make it sound believable. Heather believed Alexander would not have survived in the business industry for such a long time if Ralph could trounce him.

Although Alexander was younger than Ralph, he took over the family business at a very young age. Initially, many thought

Alexander was too inexperienced to lead the family. However, he convinced everyone of his abilities, and almost everyone acknowledged him.

Alexander was a capable leader, and the family business had never been better under his leadership. Yet, Ralph claimed he would soon replace Alexander and take over the family business in one day.

Heather wondered how that would be possible. Even with the family elders present, it would not mean Ralph would succeed.

The Riggs family also had their elders, who were only responsible for family affairs. Their influences could never reach the company. Besides, the company's board of directors would not allow the family elders to overstep their boundaries.

Even though Heather was curious about why Ralph was so confident in replacing Alexander, she did not think he would succeed.

There was a part of her that was waiting to mock his failure.

"There wouldn't be a surprise if I told you, would there? You should attend the meeting if you're interested to see what will happen. I'll save you a VIP seat," Ralph said.

Then he quickly continued, as he was worried Heather would hesitate,

"Though this is a family meeting, we're still technically engaged, so you can still attend this meeting as my fiancée."

Heather gave his proposal some thought and replied, "Fine. I'll see you tomorrow." She hung up and smiled.

'This is getting interesting.'

Chump, standing beside Heather, could not help but ask, "Ms. Riggs, are you sure you want to attend the meeting?"

"Sure, why not? It doesn't matter to me if he wins or loses, but just the thought of witnessing an internal conflict within the Russell family excites me," She looked at him and continued, "I'm about to leave for home anyway, so why not have some fun before that?"

'I will get the car ready," Chump said.

Heather nodded and went to look for something suitable to wear. She opened her closet and chose an appropriate outfit.

She was about to change when she felt a sudden rush of blood to her heart. Heather could not breathe, as if something was pressing against her chest. She gently stroked her chest with one hand with the other on the table supporting her as she tried to steady herself.

It was an unusual sensation that had been happening recently, but the frequency was increasing rapidly. Sometimes, Heather even felt her insides churning, like something was about to break out.

She thought it was a sign that her inner strength was about to improve, so she did not pay much attention to it and tried her best to take slow, deep breaths to ease her discomfort.

However, this issue happened too frequently and was especially bad today. It felt like there was a heavy stone pressing down on Heather's chest. She felt like she was suffocating. She was standing upright, but her eyes became blurry.

She took a few deep breaths and steadied herself. Heather tried to adjust her breathing method to calm herself, but in the process, she felt worse, making her cough and spit a mouthful of blood. Her blood was a dark red, looking like it contained a tinge of black.

"Ms. Riggs!" Chump came rushing in as he had just returned from getting the others to prepare the car. He wanted to check with Heather on when they should leave but walked in on her spitting blood.

"Don't panic." Heather lifted her hand and gasped for air. Then she wiped the blood from her mouth with the back of her hand and noticed the blood's color.

Ironically, after spitting out blood, she felt slightly better. Though her body was still weak, and her mind clouded with confusion, she did not know if this was because of the kickboxing skills she was learning from the secret handbook or something else.

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Heather wondered if this was a stage she had to overcome to increase her kickboxing skills. She could not tell if this was good or bad, and she could not even walk properly.

Chump rushed over to help her and led her to sit on the sofa, saying, "Let me get the family doctor over to check on you, Ms. Riggs!"

"No, it's fine. This isn't something the doctor can fix." Heather knew whatever was wrong with her was not a medical condition.

This was due to her learning kickboxing techniques from the secret handbook, which a doctor would not know how to treat. She needed to depend on herself to balance out the different energies in her body.

"I need to sit down and balance my inner energy. Stay here and guard me," she said sternly, crossing her legs on the sofa.

Chump nodded as he stepped forward, then remembered something and turned to ask Heather, "Should I ask them to send the car back since we'll no longer be leaving?"

Heather finally remembered what she was supposed to do. Her dazed mind had made her forget momentarily. She thought for a moment before deciding, "No, we'll leave as usual!"

"But you're still..."

"Go get Hannah. Tell her to dress up and go in my place, just like we did last time," she instructed.

Even though she wanted to see how the conflict would unfold, she was more interested in trading blows with Alexander to assess the gap between them. However, her current condition would not allow her to do so. It would be meaningless since she could not fight him, so it was best to stay back.

Moreover, she had told Ralph that she would turn up. Although she could have easily changed her mind, it was an excellent chance to allow Hannah to see him. It was to ensure that her absence did not cause any extra trouble and to see if Hannah was loyal to her.

Heather wanted to use this chance to see if Hannah had given up on Ralph or if she was just putting on an act.

'Yes, Ms. Riggs!' Even though he did not understand her motives, Chump always complied with her instructions.

Soon after, Hannah was brought into Heather's room. When she noticed Heather sitting on the sofa with her legs crossed, Hannah knew she was practicing some breathing techniques. "Heather?"

If Hannah remembered correctly, it was Saturday, and Heather would leave the house. She noticed Chump had prepared a car for Heather from her tiny window in her bedroom. Then, moments later, he came into her room and brought her upstairs.

"Do you want to go to Russell Estate?" Heather opened her eyes and questioned Hannah.

"If you want me to go, then I will. If you think I shouldn't, I won't!" Hannah gave her the perfect reply, showing Heather she had Heather's interest as her top priority.

Heather smiled. "Fine. I know you want to go, so I'll give you the opportunity."

"I didn't..."

"I don't need to hear your excuses," Heather interrupted Hannah as she closed her eyes and continued, "I'm telling you to go so that you can help me keep an eye on the Russell family. Make sure you check out what they're planning to do and report to me in detail when you return."

'Yes, I understand!' Hannah replied.

"One more thing..." Heather drawled, "You know what to do when you see that guy. Don't forget that we're leaving in two days. Since you liked him, you should end this relationship on your own as well."

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Chapter 1123

Hannah bit her lower lip and mumbled, "I understand." "Go on." Heather waved dismissively. She looked pale and feeble.

"Heather, are you okay?" Hannah asked worriedly.

"I'm alright. Remember what I said." Heather closed her eyes, not wanting to speak anymore.

Heather opened her eyes as Hannah quietly left the room. The room was empty as she called out, "Chump!"

"Yes, Ms. Riggs." Chump quickly stepped forward.

"Send two of our most trusted men to follow her, and remember not to cause a scene." Heather had a calm expression on her face, not betraying her emotions.

"Yes, I understand." Chump knew what she meant and left to get it done.

Chump had to stay by Heather's side as she continued to meditate. She needed someone she could trust to be by her side in case of an accident, and Chump was the only one suitable for this. However, she also needed others to be around Hannah, especially since she had other thoughts recently. Heather needed to ensure nothing would go wrong.

As noon drew closer, most of the family elders arrived. Most of them were having tea and enjoying their afternoon snacks. Although they were unaware of the purpose of the meeting, most of them showed up because Margaret had made the invitation and mentioned that it was an important event.

All the family members were gathered in the main hall, which was crowded. However, the main guest was not there yet. Ralph turned to see if Alexander had arrived and instructed the housekeeper to look after their guests and keep bringing more tea and snacks.

As for Heather, he did not know if she would attend, but that was not important. After all, Alexander was the main attraction.

After looking at the time, Ralph was about to call his nephew and ask if he was too afraid to show up when one of the housekeepers came running toward him and said, "Mr. Alexander is here."

Alexander and Lily came into the main hall together. Some of the family members stood up as they walked in. Alexander always had a strong presence, which made people around him respect him more. Some of the elders had even stopped talking and looked toward the couple.

"It's crowded today." Even though Lily knew this was a family meeting, she did not expect to see so many people.

It reminded her of when she was a child in the Lodge family. After growing up and leaving her family, she rarely saw such a huge family meeting.

Alexander gently patted the back of her hand and whispered, "If it makes you feel uncomfortable, you could go to one of the guestrooms to rest. I'll get you when we're done. I promise it won't be long."

"It's fine." Lily shook her head as she saw Ralph approaching them. She smiled and said, "I want to see what he has up his sleeves."

"You're really the VIP for making such a late entrance." Ralph laughed.

He was obviously in a good mood as he thought of what would happen that evening. Even his eyes were curved into a smile. Alexander corrected him, "Uncle, you're wrong. I'm merely returning to my own home. How could I even be counted as a guest."

"Sometimes, we just don't know who's the guest or the host," Ralph commented. "Since everyone's here. Let's start."

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Alexander nodded and briefly looked around. "Where's Grandma?" "Your grandmother will be out soon, don't worry. We should start first," Ralph said.

Alexander briefly wondered if his grandmother's being present was particularly significant. He then moved forward and turned to look at Lily. She lifted her hand from his and took a few steps back, but remained by his side.

"Good afternoon to all the elders here. Today, we're gathered here..." Alexander paused for a moment and turned to Ralph.

"Since you're the one who called us here today, do you have something to announce?"

When Alexander asked him first, Ralph smiled smugly. "Of course, I have something important to announce. This is something important involving the Russell family's bloodline."

Once everyone heard that it was something important, they immediately sat up. One of Ralph's uncles started to joke, "What is it? Bloodline? Ralph, are you planning to have a kid?"

This caused everyone in the room to laugh.

Ralph was not upset by the joke. Instead, he looked at his uncle and said, "Don't worry, Uncle. I'll have a kid in the future."

Anyway, what I'm about to announce will affect our family's bloodline. This is an important issue, as our bloodline should be pure."

Ralph raised his voice so that everyone in the hall could hear him.

Everyone stopped laughing as soon as they realized he was serious about this, and the atmosphere in the room changed instantly.

"Ralph, what is it?" Someone asked curiously, but Ralph did not answer him. He took a step back and looked at Alexander.

Alexander was always the one leading the family meetings and the one with the most power. However, this would change. Ralph would no longer be the one sitting down. Instead, he would take his place as the leader.

Alexander continued to hold his gaze. He looked like he was still unaware of what was about to happen. Ralph almost laughed when he saw Alexander's face.

'Alex, you've been in charge for so long, yet you did not expect to fall into my hands, did you?' Ralph thought smugly.

Ralph cleared his throat before continuing, "Alex, this issue will affect the Russell family's reputation. What if someone among us claims to be a Russell but isn't? What should we do with this person?"

Since Ralph had openly asked him this question, Alexander looked him in the eye and replied, "Even though our bloodline is important, this is the twenty-first century. I'm not sure who you're referring to, but if that person isn't of the Russell family bloodline, how would they become one of us?"

"What if that person purposefully kept it hidden, or if he isn't even aware of it?" Ralph continued to ask questions.

"Then, there are only two possibilities. If that person intentionally kept it a secret and tried to lie their way into the family, we should kick them out. However, if that person is unaware of their bloodline and is already integrated into the family, it won't change anything. Our bloodline is indeed important, but so is our relationship."

Alexander clarified sensibly, "Our family is huge, so maybe that person had some reason to do this. As long as it doesn't harm our family, then it isn't an important issue."

Ralph did not expect Alexander to say this. He thought Alexander would insist on kicking that person out of the family. Ralph had wanted to use this against him, but it had backfired.

Alexander was a sly fox, but Ralph would not allow him to have his way. He would force Alexander to take a stand on this Ralph smiled and stepped forward, saying, "That's not entirely true. Our family is rather conservative, right? I'm sure most of the elders here would agree. Would you be able to sit still if you found out your grandchild, whom you've loved for years, wasn't yours?"

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Chapter 1125

Ralph's comment convinced the elders, and most agreed. They nodded and said, "That's true. Who would want to raise someone else's child? Who would do that voluntarily?"

"That's right. If someone told me to raise someone else's kid, I probably wouldn't."

"How can we ignore the importance of a pure bloodline? Does that mean someone committed adultery in the family? Who is it?"

Everyone around the room started discussing as this was a sensitive topic to them, instantly throwing the room into chaos.

Everyone looked at each other accusingly and wondered who Ralph was referring to.

The elders thought the person had stayed in the family for a long time, even though they were not related by blood.

The Russell family was unlike ordinary families. They were a vast and influential family. Even those from the branch family benefited greatly from the family name. Endless wealth and power came with the family name, so why should someone who did not belong to the family enjoy these privileges?

It was not a joking matter. Even though the elders were suspicious of each other, no one dared to accuse anyone of anything.

As the others were having a heated discussion, Ralph looked at Alexander quietly while Alexander held his gaze in silence.

Finally, someone asked, "So, who are you talking about? You can't just leave us hanging here. Since you've started it, you have to explain to us."

"Yeah. Isn't that why you gathered us here? The Russell family's bloodline is important, and you can't leave it like this."

Ralph turned to those who spoke up. It was the reaction Ralph had wanted, and he smiled in satisfaction as he turned back to Alexander. “Look at everyone’s reactions. How can you possibly say that bloodline isn’t important? Where did you come across such a ridiculous theory? If that person isn’t a Russell, why should they enjoy the privileges of being a Russell?”

“Yes.” Even though most agreed with Ralph, some were hesitant as they were still unaware of who he was referring to.

“Is it more than the bond they had built with the family? More important than years of nurturing and affection?” Alexander questioned calmly, “If one were unaware of their true identity since birth, but the Russell family took them in and nurtured them, it’s not entirely their fault, is it? Isn’t it better not to tell that person the truth?”

“I disagree. Maintaining the bloodline is something passed down by the family. How can we ignore it? We must remove anyone that isn’t from the Russell family. Otherwise, how can our ancestors rest in peace?” Ralph was determined not to leave any choice to Alexander since all he wanted was to destroy Alexander.

He had entirely forgotten what Margaret had said to him—to give others a second chance. Even though he looked calm on the surface, greed had already blinded him.

He had called for a family meeting to ensure Alexander would fall from grace. Ralph had not only planned to take him down but also did not want to give him any second chances.

If Ralph could remove Alexander from the Russell family, Alexander could not do anything to him as Alexander would no longer have power or wealth. Ralph would not give Alexander any chances to take revenge on him.

Some agreed with what Ralph had said, but others sided with Alexander.

After all, if one did not know their true identity, it would not be their fault— instead, it would be their parents.

“In my opinion, anyone who tries to mess up our bloodline should be held accountable. Since it’s not the outsider’s fault, the parents are at fault here.” One of the elders said.

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Chapter 1126

“No, the outsider wouldn’t be innocent at all.” Ralph interrupted. He could not allow Alexander to persuade the other elders.

'What a joke. If the outsider were innocent, Alex would be innocent, and everyone would forgive him. If that's the case, I can't claim my seat as the family patriarch.'

"If the outsider enjoyed our family's privileges, they would be at fault. How can an outsider be so entitled when they aren't one of us? If the outsider is already an adult, they can make a living independently. Since our family has already nurtured the outsider, we must not allow them to take anything more from us."

It was evident that Ralph aimed his speech at Alexander. Some had already realized who he was talking about and looked at

Alexander with unreadable expressions. If Ralph were right and Alexander was not a blood relative to the Russell family, then who was he? Does that mean his mother had an affair?

When the elders realized who Ralph aimed his speech at, they chose to remain silent. The elders would voice their opinions if this concerned someone from the branch family.

However, it was about the most critical figure in the family. Alexander was the head of the family, and his existence was power itself. This issue could make or break the Russell family, so everyone remained silent.

As the atmosphere in the room tensed, Ralph continued to confront Alexander. The air in the room resembled a gas-leaked area where a tiny spark from a lighter could blow the place to bits.

At that moment, a housekeeper came rushing in. "Mr. Alexander, Ms. Riggs is here. Her car is outside."

Ralph raised his eyebrows in surprise as he did not expect her to show up. Still, "Heather" appeared at the best time, and Ralph was glad she was here to witness his victory. If Ralph could choose, he wanted everyone to witness his most glorious moment. Ralph could not help but smile. "Bring her in right away."

'This is a family meeting. It isn't suitable for Ms. Riggs to be here,' someone in the crowd protested.

Ralph immediately explained, "Ms. Riggs is my fiancée, and we'll be married soon. So, technically, she's also part of the Russell family. Of course, she's allowed to attend our meeting." Since Ralph had chosen to say this, those who had objections kept quiet.

Moments later, "Heather" came in dressed in a custom-made suit. Two other men who were bearing gifts accompanied her. She was surprised to see so many people in the room but continued walking toward Ralph.

“Sorry to be a bother, but I brought some gifts for Mrs. Russell. I hope she’s well,” Heather said politely. Most in the room had already heard of her, but this was their first time seeing her in person. Everyone thought this Heather Riggs was different from what the rumors said.

Ralph said smilingly, “You’re too kind. We’re family, so you don’t have to be so formal.”

Ralph noticed the elders looking at him and Heather, so he took Heather into his arms. “I’m sure you’re exhausted from traveling. Why don’t you sit and let us finish our important discussion.”

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Chapter 1127

Most were worried for Ralph when he took Heather’s hand since they heard she was a strong and scary woman. Even Ralph was not confident when he grabbed her.

However, he had to do something since he had already claimed that Heather was his fiancée. If he did not show the elders he and Heather were close, especially to his mother, they would only be suspicious of their relationship.

Ralph was sweating as he smiled stiffly and looked at the woman beside him. He was trying to send her a message through his eyes that it was an important day and not to make him look like a fool.

Although it seemed like his message had gotten through, it could also mean Heather was in a good mood and might have even changed her mind about working with him again.

In short, “Heather” did not shrug his hand off or give him an over-the-shoulder throw- instead, she allowed him to touch her and smiled.

“I hope everyone doesn’t mind me intruding.”

“Not at all.” Most shook their heads. Since she was Ralph’s fiancée, she was part of the Russell family. Ralph confidently smiled as he felt this was probably his best day yet.

He led “Heather” to a seat close to his and turned to her two bodyguards, frowning. “You two can wait outside.”

However, the two bodyguards did not budge and feigned ignorance.

Ralph was unhappy with their attitude and was about to yell at them, but decided not to as they were Heather's men. He took a deep breath and glared at them before moving closer to Heather, saying, "Although it's okay for you to be here, this is a family meeting. Can you tell them to..."

"Heather" lifted her head, looked at them, and sighed, "You should wait for me outside. I'll come out when this is over. It won't take long."

Her bodyguards nodded and walked toward the entrance.

Ralph felt much better seeing them leave. Still, there was something strange about how Heather talked to them. They were merely her subordinates, so why did she have to explain things to them? Also, their job was to wait for her anyway, so why would it matter if she took a long time?

Unfortunately, Ralph did not have time to think about her strange behavior under these circumstances. He gave her a cup of tea and continued confronting Alexander, "Okay, it's about time we finish our meaningless argument. I haven't exposed who that person is yet because I'd like to give everyone a fair chance to make their decisions.

"According to our family's rules, we will vote en masse. Should the person who isn't a Russell still enjoy the wealth and power our family provides, or should they hand it back to the family? We'll vote anonymously and announce the results immediately after."

He had already instructed the housekeeper to prepare papers and pens beforehand.

He turned toward Alexander and asked, "Isn't this fair? We'll only judge based on the issue and not the person. When the result is out, everyone should agree on it."

Alexander glanced at him. "Are you sure about this?"

"Of course. Do you have a better idea? I think this is the best option," Ralph insisted stubbornly.

The other family members agreed as this was the method they had used in previous disagreements regarding family matters. Of course, the head of the family also had to agree with this.

Lily had remained silent throughout the ordeal. She was not entirely sure about the Russell family's feud, but she had faith in Alexander. Lily believed he was more than capable of handling this on his own.

She also noticed that Ralph was intentionally implying that the person was Alexander. It was evident this was a trap for Alexander.

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Chapter 1128

Alexander could not deny the results because Ralph had told everyone to vote anonymously. Ironically, Alexander's uncle was the one trying to overthrow him.

He continued to remain silent, looking calm and collected, as always. No matter the adversaries, he would always face them head-on without faltering.

Lily did not care whether or not her husband was from the Russell family. She only cared about him as a person, not his bloodline or family background. After all, the man Lily loved and trusted wholeheartedly was Alexander.

She looked at him with steadfast eyes as she smiled while stroking her baby bump gently.

The first round of voting ended shortly, and Ralph announced, 'To ensure the voting session is fair, both Alexander and I will stay out of it. This will be everyone's opinion and not dominated by a single person.'

"Okay," Alexander readily agreed.

Ralph turned to one of the housekeepers and instructed, "Go and get Mrs. Russell."

"As this is an important matter, we'll need Mrs. Russell to be here. She was resting as she wasn't feeling very well. Still, we should wait for her to be here while counting the votes!" Ralph exclaimed as he instructed the housekeepers to count the votes while the others waited.

Most in the room already knew what would most likely happen. Some were relaxed and were only present to enjoy the show, while others were panic-stricken as they did not know what to expect.

If the result were against Alexander, there would be a considerable change to the power balance in the family.

If the head of the Russell family were not blood-related, it would be a massive scandal as it would affect the family's reputation and Alexander's right to inherit the family business.

How could they allow something like this to happen? Most were afraid this would bring a negative impact on the family. Some votes agreed to confiscate the outsider's rights, while the rest were against it. The total for each side was extremely close.

Nonetheless, Ralph was not worried. It did not matter whether or not the others agreed. He decided that Alexander was not part of the Russell family. Even if the others agreed not to strip Alexander of his power, he would still lose his position as the family patriarch and director of the Russell family's business empire.

When that happened, Ralph would be the next in line to inherit everything.

He glanced at the people counting the votes and then toward the living room. His mother was still nowhere around, so he thought she must feel conflicted and upset.

Ultimately, Margaret was too kind. Even though she had always sided with Ralph, Alexander was still her grandson. It must be tough for her to come out and expose Alexander.

Ralph shifted his gaze toward Heather with a smug expression as if telling her to witness how capable he was. Even without the Riggs family's help, he could take down Alexander. He would soon lead the Russell family.

In comparison, the Riggs family's wealth was nothing. However, he was surprised that Heather did not look at him mockingly.

Instead, she was slightly...excited?

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Chapter 1129

Moments later, the housekeepers finished counting the votes. Interestingly, both for and against were close, but ultimately, votes for the outsider to leave were slightly higher than those who voted for things to remain unchanged.

Of course, some family members were dissatisfied with Alexander's reign. After all, it was difficult to satisfy everyone as the head of the family. So, the unsatisfied family members used this opportunity to vote against him.

The result had only a two-vote difference, and Ralph revealed a smug expression when he saw the results. "So, most of our family members have agreed to honor our family's tradition that the Russell family's pure bloodline is most important.

"Those who aren't part of the Russell family should not be allowed to stay and continue enjoying the privileges that come with being a Russell." He raised his hand, which was holding onto the votes victoriously.

Ralph was about to obtain what he had always dreamed of. He could imagine Alexander kneeling and crying before him, unable to accept reality. As he thought about the once powerful and terrifying Alexander bowing to him, he could not help but want to laugh.

However, Alexander just stood at the side and remained silent.

“Okay, since the results are out, can you announce who that person is?” Someone from the crowd asked impatiently.

Ralph smiled as he stared at Alexander and lifted his index finger. “That person is-“

“Wait!” Margaret shouted as she walked toward the hall with Celine helping her. Margaret looked like she was in a rush as her footsteps were in haste, but due to her age, it looked like she was about to stumble with every step. When Ralph saw his mother, he immediately went forward to help her.” Take your time, Mom. You don’t have to rush. I know your heart is aching, but you must be careful.”

‘It looks like there’s no turning back since Ralph is determined to do this.’

“We should just drop this issue,” Margaret said while holding Ralph’s hand.” I agree with what Alex said. Bloodline is not that important. Maybe there was a reason behind this, and since the outsider grew up in the Russell family, he’s one of us. We should leave it at that.”

Ralph was stunned as he looked at his mother wide-eyed. He did not expect his mother to change her mind at this crucial moment.

“Mom, how could you say that? A family’s bloodline is essential. Look at the monarchy, for example. They had always passed down their thrones to the rightful heirs based on bloodline.

“Even though our family is no monarchy, we can’t give our massive family business and wealth to an outsider. I disagree with your opinion. Yes, we can continue to treat him as one of us, but he mustn’t have any power in the family!”

Ralph refused to allow his mother to speak anymore, so he continued,” Besides, the voting session has ended, and this is the family’s decision, not mine alone. Even if you disagree, the votes against him are still the majority.”

“You...” Margaret looked at her son with a pained expression. She did not expect him to be so stubborn and unforgiving.

“I know this decision pains you since you value your relationships, but we can’t let our emotions drive us. We must consider the bigger picture and what’s most beneficial to the family. Please be sensible!” Ralph said.

Then he took the opportunity to whisper to his mother, "Didn't we already agree to do this?"

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Chapter 1130

Margaret was making things difficult for Ralph. She would have destroyed his current plan without him having a few contingencies up his sleeves.

She ignored him and continued to address the surrounding family members, "I would like to say something important today. I hope every one of you will be able to overlook today's incident on my behalf. Whatever Ralph had said today was just some joke, and you should not listen to him nor continue to question this issue."

Even though the other family members would love to listen to Margaret, unfortunately, this issue had already escalated to the point of no return. Everyone was curious and wanted to know who Ralph was referring to, but Margaret was trying to protect Alexander.

Lily was astounded. Alexander's relationship with his grandmother had always been less than civil, so she wondered why

Margaret would change her attitude toward him and try to protect him.

"No! That's unacceptable!" Ralph was shocked by what his mother said and immediately stepped in front of her. "Mom, you can't keep protecting him like this! Alex might be your precious grandson, but he is not part of our family or my brother's son!

"What would my father and brother think if you keep defending him like this? Will our ancestors be able to rest in peace!" Ralph took the opportunity to expose Alexander's identity. In other words, he was announcing to everyone that Alexander was not a child of the Russell family.

Though most in the room had already guessed, hearing it was different. Most were too afraid to speak, and the hall fell silent. No one dared to say a thing for fear of supporting the wrong side.

"You, shut up!" Margaret was furious, and her body trembled. "Stop speaking!"

"Mom, everyone knows about it now. It's no use for you to hide it anymore. Why don't you tell them the truth? Even Alex has the right to know if he is my brother's son.

“No one would want to feel left in the dark. Alex might even want to look for his biological father and find out who he truly is,” Ralph finished and looked at Alexander smugly.

Meanwhile, “Heather” sat quietly in her seat. The crowd placed their attention on her when she entered the house, but as time passed, everyone shifted to more important issues instead of focusing on her.

Hannah glued her gaze on Ralph. After the commotion, she finally understood what was happening. To her surprise, Alexander was not a blood relative of the Russell family. That was why Ralph was so confident he could take Alexander down and would soon obtain the family’s wealth and power.

‘If that happened, would Heather reconsider Ralph’s marriage proposal to her? If that time comes, what will happen to me?’

Hannah could not help but worry about this. The glow in her eyes dimmed as she continued to stare at Ralph, her mind filled with a thousand thoughts.

Since she was too focused on her thoughts, she did not notice Lily studying her. Lily was not at all worried about Alexander. Even though things might not look like it was going well, she was confident he could handle this situation.