

The Ashes 1051

Chapter 1051 Aspen was over the moon, watching Andrew with genuine admiration.

This guy really had not made a single wrong move every step had been calculated and strategiche totally hit the jackpot.

Between Derek's full support and that massive project approval, this was worth way more than just a measly 50 million dollars.

Aspen felt like he was finally starting to understand why this devil of aman always ended up on the winning side.

Quinton's expression was hard to read, but suddenly, he raised his voice and said, "Mr.

McCormick, we at the Wrights propose that this matter be voted on!"" Derek frowned and said, "Quinton, are you questioning my decision?" Quinton's face was tense as he replied, "I wouldn't dare, sir.

I just believe this project is far too important to settle without consensus.

A show of hands will doif more than half agree, then even if the project goes to Supreme Capital Group, we'll respect the outcome." Derek glanced around at the others and scoffed coldly.

"So the rest of you are in favor of a vote too? Fine.

Then we'll vote." Quinton sneered to himself.

'Damn it, if I can't have it, Andrew's little wannabe firm sure as hell won't get it either.

---- He looked around the room, and just as expectednot a single hand went up. That meant Supreme Capital Group did not have any allies in the capital.

Yet they thought they could venture into the scene here and take on a big project.

What a joke.

But then, to his utter shock, Richard raised his hand.

He declared," The Golding family supports Mr.

Lloyd from Supreme Capital Group for the official project." "And we at Silver Lining Corporation back him too!" "Everbright Group is also on board!" Quinton was completely stunned, jaw practically hitting the floor.

He wondered if Richard had lost his damn mind.

After all, he was backing their sworn enemy now.

Did the Golding family's bounty mean nothing anymore? "Mr.

Golding Senior, you really shouldn't be backing Supreme Capital Group," Quinton said furiously.

"Maybe you haven't realized it yet, but that

t guy is your family's number one enemy!" His warning was blunt and Sincere, but Richard just shot him a cold glance.

"Quinton, stop trying to stir up drama," Richard said sharply.

"Mr.

Lloyd and the Golding family are now aligned.

Very soon, we'll be launching a secret collaboration.

And I don't want to hear any more of your nonsense.

Not a second time." Several other bigwigs, who had been friendly with Andrew

just now, also jumped in with icy remarks.

One said, "Mr.

Wright, enough already.

Everyone here knows you're the one with the biggest ambitions.

But your family shouldn't make it so damn obvious.

Supreme Capital Group has what it takes, and the governor favors them so quit whining like a brat.

What's so fun about being the party pooper?" Another chimed in, "Gentlemen, if you trust Mr.

Golding Senior and us, then raise your hands to support Supreme Capital Group and back Mr.

Lloyd.

Let's give a warm welcome to Mr.

Lloyd's entry into our arena.

It's been way too long since we've had such an outstanding young talent join the capital circle!" The room instantly filled with thunderous applause, and even Andrew had not expected that.

Richard and the others were really going all out for those two miracle drugs working behind the scenes, pulling strings for him.

Though Andrew could not help but

wonder if Richard ever found out he was one who made Elon

I crap, would he regret this?

Chapter 1052 Quinton's face darkened, and it looked like he was ready to Kill

someone.

He could not believe what was happening.

Did Andrew come with some kind of main character plot armor? Even Richard, a heavyweight in the game, was leading the charge to back him actually rallying support on his behalf.

Moreover, no one was bringing up the fact that Elon literally ate crap because of him.

Was the Golding family's public vendetta just meaningless now? Quinton could not wrap his head around it, not even a little none of it made sense to him.

Christina frowned and said, "Mr.

Wright, what if there's another possibility? "What if Mr.

Golding Senior and the others don't actually know that Andrew is the same guy from Jayrodale the one who humiliated his son and triggered the Golding family's bounty in the first place?" Quinton's eyes burned with hatred as he hissed, "I already warned him, but Richard still didn't believe me.

You saw it yourself.

I honestly don't know what kind of spell Andrew has him under! Or maybe they've secretly patched things up behind closed doors!" ---- Christina stayed skeptical as she replied, "I still think Mr.

Golding Senior might truly have no idea.

He might not even know who Andrew really is.

Otherwise, based on what Andrew did, there's no way the Golding family would ever back him." Quinton's eyes narrowed, glinting with something dark.

"Either way, I'm going to tell Mr.

Golding Senior the truth myself.

Unless he's someone who doesn't care that his son ate literal crap, or that his family's honor was publicly trashed.

Otherwise, Andrew's little moment in the spotlight isn't going to last long." Seeing that things were starting to escalate, Derek decided it was time to wrap things up and dismissed everyone, saying the day's charity event was officially over.

He approached Andrew and asked, "Mr.

Lloyd, would you like to.

have a private chat? You're an interesting young man." Andrew smiled and said, "I really appreciate the offer, sir, but I'm afraid I'll have to take a rain check.

Thanks to your endorsement, my company just got hit with a big opportunity, so I need to rush back and Oversee everything personally." Derek gave him an approving nod.

"Young people with drive and execution are exactly what I like to see.

Go ahead.

We'll talk another day." Pulling Aspen along, Andrew made a quick exit without looking back.

---- As Derek watched him leave, he murmured, "Why does it feel like that guy was in a real hurry? He even turned down my invitation.

This kid isn't the type to suck up to power.

That's a rare quality these days!" In truth, he was giving Andrew way too much credit.

Andrew was not avoiding power out of integrity.

He had just walked away with a mountain of someone else's money and emotionally played the hell out of his enemies.

He had no choice but to vanish before someone connected all the dots, and things blew up in his face.

Otherwise, there would be absolute chaos.

Aspen started the car and burst out laughing as the engine roared." You panicked, didn't you? Running like that?" Andrew snapped, "Just drive, will you? I took a ton of their money, tricked them into trusting me and even messed with their emotions.

If it were you, wouldn't you be freaking out too?" Aspen nodded so fast it was a

blur.

"If it were me, I'd chase you to the

ends of the earth just to tear you limb from limb!" Through the rearview mirror, she spotted Quinton already tracking down Richard, his expression thunderous.

Sure enough, Richard's face twisted into a deep, stormy scowl as the conversation unfolded.

Aspen felt her heart clench, knowing the match had been lit.

She

slammed the gas, and the Ferrari bolted out like a bullet.

It was time to escape any slower, and they would be caught in a major storm.

Chapter 1053

Meanwhile, Quinton's face twisted in fury as he gritted his teeth, nearly shouting, "Mr. Golding Senior, you've completely lost your judgment! That guy from Supreme Capital Group? He is Andrew Lloyd from Jayrodale—the owner of

Moonlit Apothecary.

"Everything that happened to Elon in Jayrodale, and even the humiliation Winston suffered there—every last bit of it was thanks to that bastard! He's the exact same man your family's bounty was targeting. That's the guy!"

Richard's eyes burned with rage as he roared, "Quinton, are you absolutely certain about what you're saying?"

Quinton shouted right back, "Dead serious! Every damn word! If I'm lying, do whatever you want to me, Mr. Golding Senior—hell, if you want to kill me right now, I won't fight it!"

Richard stumbled a step, barely staying on his feet as disbelief crashed over him. "So, that little punk was lying to me from the very start? He didn't just steal my money—he fooled my heart, tricked my trust?"

Quinton let out a sharp breath. "Wait... Mr. Golding Senior, are you saying... you trusted Andrew that much?"

Richard's forehead veins bulged in rage. "That little bastard! After everything, I treated him like a friend! If that's not emotion, then what the hell is it? So, he's the one behind Moonlit Apothecary, and those miracle drugs were his doing all along."

He added, "No wonder when we talked business, he spoke so confidently-he knew everything about those two damn pills!"

Right then, a few of the other major players noticed something was off with Richard and walked up, concerned.

"Richard, what's going on? You look like you're about to explode."

Another asked, "Yeah, man, where's our good buddy Mr. Lloyd?"

"Come on, let's grab dinner with him and iron out the details on that miracle drug collaboration!"

The moment those enthusiastic voices hit his ears, Richard absolutely lost it. He screamed like a madman, "Collaboration? You can shove that collaboration! That little piece of shit played us all like a bunch of clowns!"

He yelled, "Guards! Find him now-I want him torn to pieces, dragged through hell, and erased from the face of this earth!"

The Golding family's bodyguards immediately fanned out in all directions. However, it was already too late.

One of them reported, "Sir, we've got a problem-he's already driven off!"

Richard was enraged. "He drove off?! Then why the hell didn't you stop him? Why didn't anyone chase him? Go now!"

He vented his anger on his men, kicking and punching in a blind rage.

His bodyguards looked helpless, and they reasoned, "Even if we chased him now, we wouldn't catch up. He was driving a LaFerrari. That thing flies unless we've got a damn helicopter, he's long gone.

Richard felt everything go black, and he nearly collapsed on the spot. Then, came

the sound-an eerie, chilling laugh slipping out from his throat.

Quinton and the others stared in alarm, completely caught off guard.

"Mr. Golding Senior, are you okay?"

"Richard, breathe-don't let this get to you!"

"Quick, someone get him to a hospital! He's losing it!"

As the urgent voices surrounded him, Richard's laughter faded into something far more menacing. He hissed, "Andrew, you little bastard... How dare you humiliate me like this.

"If I don't destroy you, strip you of everything you've built, then I don't deserve to be the head of the Golding family!"

He had not been laughing because he found it funny-he had laughed because he was that enraged. After all, he was the head of the Golding family, one of the Five Apex Families of the capital.

Yet, some smug little punk had played him like a fool. The same punk who made Elon eat crap and left the boy so mortified, he had not dared step out of the house since.

Not only had he actually regarded Andrew like a friend, but he had even wired him 100 million for the sake of that "friendship".

At that moment, Richard honestly

felt that if there were no others around he would be slapping himself so hard he would knock out

his own teeth-maybe then he would feel less ashamed.

Chapter 1054

At that moment, the other big shots who had also handed over their money to Andrew finally realized just how deep they had been played. Their faces turned green with fury, and they exploded in rage.

Someone shouted, "Kill him! Hunt him down across the entire city-chase him to his relative's house if you have to, but don't you dare let him get away! Arrogant, reckless, completely out of control... damn it, I'm going to burst a vein!"

Another chimed in, "We've seen all kinds of deception in this business, but this? This is by far the most outrageous betrayal we've ever faced!"

Quinton let out a cold laugh and walked away. He silently mocked them for being a bunch of idiots of idiots for only figuring it out now. After all, regret and rage were useless at this point.

Christina looked completely stunned. "So you're saying Andrew even tricked Mr. Golding Senior? And those billionaires too?"

Quinton sneered, "He didn't just take their money-he played with their emotions. Mr. Golding Senior and the others were even treating him like they were best buds."

Christina stood there in a daze, unsure whether to admire Andrew's nerve or mourn his complete lack of survival instincts.

Quinton's expression darkened. "The Golding family alone is terrifying, but throw in those other moguls, and not one of them is easy to deal with. It won't take long before word of Andrew's death sentence spreads like wildfire."

He added, "And when it does, not even God could save him."

Andrew and Aspen had just returned to Supreme Capital Group.

Andrew said, "The second we get in, contact Mr. McCormick's office and speak to his assistant. Set up a meeting to discuss the project. Request that someone from his office be assigned to our company to help oversee things."

Aspen blinked, clearly surprised. "I mean, this project is a big deal, so of course we'll take it seriously... But do we really need someone from the governor's office on-site? I looked into the specs-our team cantotally manage this ourselves."

Andrew shook his head calmly. "I'm not bringing them in because I need advice. I

want their presence here as our shield. You get it now?"

Aspen paused, then suddenly, her

eyes lit up. "Oh, I get it. You're worried Richard and the others might come for revenge and drag us into the fallout. So you want

someone from the governor's office here to keep things in check and act as a deterrent?"

Andrew smirked coldly. "Exactly. Now that Quinton's spilled everything, Richard's bound to go berserk But with Mr. McCormick's people backing us, who the hell do they think they're dealing with? We're

working directly under the state

now-no one can touch us."

Aspen took a deep breath and muttered, "Andrew, sometimes... you're honestly terrifying."

Andrew frowned. "Now, what's that supposed to mean? I haven't even messed with you lately."

Aspen looked deadly serious. "When you mess with me, at most, I'm annoyed or pissed. But watching how you played Richard and even leveraged the governor like a chess piece that scares me more than anything you've ever done to me."

Andrew let out a snort. "Aspen, that's nothing. You haven't even seen what real strategy looks like. I'm just getting started. You've got a long way to go if you want to keep up."

Aspen nodded hard. "I know. There's still so much I need to learn from you."

Andrew raised a brow. "And why are you suddenly being so obedient?"

Aspen blushed and shot him an annoyed look. "What choice do I have? I can't win against you, even when I try."

Just as they stepped out of the car in front of the company building, dozens of uniformed bodyguards were already waiting for them.

Leading the group was Seth, grinning with pure malice. He growled, "Andrew, you're fucking doomed!"