

From Outcast to Overlord: The Unyielding Heir Novel

Chapter

Chapter 201 Get Lost ! The night passed quickly . When noon came the next day , Madeline hurried off to prepare for her performance at the evening gala . On the other hand , Leander was awoken by Yvette and Ginny . Smiling sweetly , Yvette pointed outside to where the sun shone warm and bright . " Leander , the weather's so nice today . Want to go shopping ? " " Shopping ? Not interested ! " Leander shook his head firmly . Then , he flopped back onto the couch in the hotel suite and nonchalantly continued scrolling on his phone .

Frankie had just sent him a message , informing him that a charity gala would be held in Ravenridge in three days . More importantly , a major celebrity would be invited to perform at the event . Although Jeff Enterprises was developing steadily , its rapid growth had been too aggressive in recent months . Various public relations and brand - building marketing activities were needed to strengthen the brand image and public perception . To that effect , events such as charity galas were the perfect opportunities .

They could help boost both the company's national contribution and brand reputation . He planned to fly directly to Ravenridge after watching Madeline's performance tonight . While there was no need for him to perform at the charity gala , his presence would still be required . Yvette shrugged at Ginny and boldly walked into Leander's room without hesitation . " What are you doing ? " Leander frowned slightly . " I don't think we're close

enough for you to just barge into my room without warning ." However , they paid him no mind .

They knew his temperament well : As long as they did nothing to annoy him in particular , he would let most things slide . He would simply ignore them , even if they were being stubborn and willful . Upon entering the room , the two women pestered him relentlessly . He eventually caved their demands and reluctantly accompanied them on their shopping trip with a sour expression . West Listin was one of the more developed areas in Listin . Additionally , they were currently in the capital city of Keystone , the most prosperous city in West Listin .

The vibrant atmosphere along the bustling streets was certainly a sight to behold . Not to mention , it was the weekend . The streets were packed with people . Yvette and Ginny dragged Leander through nearly every mall in sight , browsing store after store without rest . Yvette suddenly stopped in front of a Versace store . As the only guy in the group , Leander was laden with numerous shopping bags . He was visibly losing patience at being dragged around all day . " You've already bought so much . Are you seriously still shopping ?

" " Leander , I want to buy you some clothes ! " Gazing at the exquisite suit in the display window , she turned around with sparkling eyes and murmured softly . " You've saved me so many times ... and even helped to return my family's villa and enterprise . I've never had the chance to thank you properly for all you've done for me . " I know that your net worth exceeds hundreds of billions . A suit might mean nothing to you , but it's

a token of my appreciation ! " He frowned at those words . Just as he was about to refuse , Yvette and Ginny took action .

They sandwiched him on both sides and dragged him into the store by the arm . Many eyes turned toward them as soon as they entered the store . Both women were absolutely gorgeous . Not only did they carry themselves with elegance , but they were dressed in high - end designer brands . Just their appearance alone radiated an aura of luxury . The sight of two such stunning women in the company of a single young man naturally drew a lot of attention . The two women had Leander sit on the couch while they picked out clothes for him .

Just then , a flashy - looking young man with a heavy gold chain around his neck walked over to them . His complexion was pale , and his steps were unsteady . It was obvious that his body had been ruined by excessive indulgence in alcohol and debauchery , His eyes immediately brightened when he noticed Yvette and Ginny . " Pardon me , ladies . Do either of you happen to be free tonight ? " I'll be attending a high - society gala at the Waterfront Plaza in West Listin tonight , and I need a dance partner for the event . Would either of you be willing to accompany me ? " Or better yet ...

perhaps both of you could come along with me ! " Even though he attempted to present himself as a gentleman , he could not hide the lecherous look gleaming in his eyes . 2/4
13.11 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 201 Get Lost ! 零 Frowning slightly . Yvette glanced at Leander and shook her head lightly . She responded in a cool tone . " Sorry , I don't

think my boyfriend would approve ." The young man's gaze shifted to Leander , who was burdened with countless shopping bags .

A flicker of disdain flashed through his eyes when he noticed that Leander was not wearing a single item from a recognizable designer brand . Nevertheless , he did not give up - Yvette was not the only woman around . He turned to Ginny and smiled . "

What about you , Miss ? " Ginny might have been piqued by his status once , but she had since lost interest in other men after learning of Leander's true abilities . No matter how wealthy or powerful they seemed , none of them stood a chance when compared to Leander . " You heard her . Our boyfriend wouldn't approve .

" Shrugging lightly , she pointed at Yvette with a bored look . " I'll have to decline . " The young man stood frozen for a moment , clearly in disbelief . Those who overheard the conversation , including many other rich young men shopping nearby , were similarly shocked by those words . Their astonished gazes immediately turned to Leander . Both those beautiful women had the same boyfriend !? Many found the statement hard to believe . Leander's attire was far too ordinary . Nothing about him indicated that he was a wealthy person .

Apart from his strikingly handsome face , there was nothing special about him . Either woman could have easily caught the eye of powerful tycoons with generous wallets , so why would they choose to be with a nobody like him ? The young man's eyes darkened as he pondered silently . Could this guy be some hidden heir to a wealthy family ? Ugh , these women ! Although Leander heard the statement made by Ginny and Yvette , he

kept quiet . He simply shook his head helplessly at their audacity . The young man stared at Leander thoughtfully for some time .

Then , he suddenly gave a sly smile and stepped forward . " Very impressive , buddy . I can't believe you managed to bag two of such top - tier beauties ! " It was apparent that he regarded Leander as another debaucherous wealthy heir , playing around with both Yvette and Ginny . Smirking slightly , he introduced himself . 3/4 13:11 Wed , Oct 15
Chapter 201 Gel Lost 62 Finished " I'm Peter Barret , cousin of Henry Barret from West Listin . Tell you what - I'll give you ten million , and you'll let me have one of them for the night . Deal ?

" He spoke with a smile , seemingly negotiating a deal with Leander in a friendly manner . In reality , his tone held a hint of menace . He was clearly trying to intimidate Leander with his status . If Peter had spoken such words elsewhere , he would definitely be considered rude and vulgar . However , those shopping in the Versace store were either the rich or the noble . Such talk wasn't rare in their circles . In fact , these transactions were practically commonplace . As soon as he mentioned the name " Henry Barret " , the onlookers in the store quickly averted their eyes .

They were secretly surprised by the unexpected reveal . Henry Barret from West Listin was a prominent figure known to everyone . As the cousin of such an influential figure , Peter naturally held a similarly powerful status . None of the customers present in the store could compare to him . Moreover , offending him would be no different from offending the entire Barret family - it was a terrifying prospect indeed . Leander raised his eyebrows slightly at the offer . " Let you have one of them ?

" Yvette and Ginny were already using him as their shield anyway ; he might as well play along with them . He quickly took on the role of their fake boyfriend . Pulling an arrogant expression befitting a spoiled , wealthy heir , he sneered disdainfully . " Peter Barret ? Henry Barret from West Listin ? Who are they ? Never heard of them ! Listen up . Be smart , and get lost . You're not qualified to share my women ! " Send Gifts 60 W

Chapter 202 Go Ahead and Take Your Revenge ๗5 69 Finished Wearing a look of absolute disdain , Leander looked every bit the part of a spoiled , wealthy heir . It was obvious he thought nothing much of Peter . Though Peter had introduced himself in a seemingly friendly manner , he was clearly trying to intimidate Leander with his background and status . The expectation was for Leander to hand over either Yvette or Ginny . Otherwise , his actions would be considered an affront to the Barret family . However , such threats were nothing to Leander .

With his current status and position , neither the Barret family nor Henry Barret himself was worth his attention . As soon as the words left his mouth , the entire store fell dead silent . The shocked and horrified gazes of these onlookers immediately landed on him . " Who is this guy ? Did he just claim not to know about Henry Barret from West Listin ? He even told Peter Barret to go away ! " " He must be insane ! Who dares to talk to a member of the Barret family like that in West Listin !? " The expressions in the crowd were varied .

There was no one in West Listin who did not know the name of the Barret family . The Barret family practically monopolized over 70 percent of the economy in West Listin , with stakes in various lucrative industries , including real estate , finance , entertainment , and tourism . It was not an exaggeration to claim that they held great power and authority in the city . In fact , the

current chairman and head of the family , Solomon Barret , was as influential as a high - ranking official in the city . Even the top members of Listin had to show him respect .

Anyone who was associated with the Barret family could practically throw their weight around in West Listin without repercussions . After all , who would dare to go against the Barret family ? Even influential outsiders would have to tread carefully around them . Yet , here was an unfamiliar young man who seemed more like a nouveau riche upstart , publicly brushing off the Barret family and telling Peter to scram . Peter froze in shock for a moment , his narrowed eyes glinting with suppressed fury . The fake smile on his face had vanished completely . " Oh ?

I was trying to be nice by striking a deal with you , but your tone seems to indicate otherwise .

Are you looking down on me and the Barret family ? " 1/5 13:11 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 2012 6

Ahead and Take You Revenge Staring at Leander , he flashed an ominous grin . A hint of malice passed through his eyes . You're right ! Neither you nor the Barret family is worth anything in my eyes ! Leander lazily raised his head and spread his hands in a nonchalant shrug . He seemed completely unmoved by Peter's unfriendly glare .

" You should disappear quickly while I'm still in a good mood ." Figher However , the words that came out of his mouth were even more shocking than his off - handed attitude . The onlookers in the store collectively held their breath , shocked speechless by his audacity . Those who could enter the store were either the rich or the noble . Naturally , most of them were members of West Listin's upper crust . Despite their own status , a single word from the Barret family was enough to make them tremble .

None of them would have even dared to think , let alone say , that the Barret family was beneath them . On the other hand , Leander had bluntly declared that the Barret family was nothing to

him . His calm and courage were simply terrifying . " You brat ! You're asking for death ! " Peter seethed , anger flashing in his eyes . As one of the infamous playboys in West Listin , he was feared by most of the upper class . He had done various outrageous and unspeakable things , but the Barret family had always intervened and cleaned up after him .

Their enabling attitude eventually nurtured his reckless behavior . The sight of Yvette and Ginny had ignited a burning desire in his heart . When he heard that Leander was their boyfriend , he immediately decided to flex his background . He believed that the power and reputation of the Barret family would be enough to intimidate Leander , forcing Leander to meekly give up one of them to him . After all , women were mere playthings among those of the truly rich and wealthy .

Giving up a woman to earn some goodwill and strengthen one's relationship with the Barret family was a bargain most people would kill for . Contrary to his expectations , Leander had done the exact opposite - mocking the Barret family , and even telling him to get lost ! Leander simply sneered , not even bothering to respond to Peter's threatening words . Leaning back on the couch , he even closed his eyes to rest . Meanwhile , Yvette and Ginny continued to choose clothes for Leander . They seemed completely unconcerned about the situation .

2/5 13:11 Wed , Oct 15 Chaplet 202 Go Ahead and Take Your Revenge The onlookers in the store quietly shook their heads . 2 Finished They assumed that Leander was either from a remote region or the heir of a wealthy family from somewhere else . Regardless of whether he came from East Listin , South Listin , or North Listin , the consequences of offending the Barret family in West Listin would be dire . " Peter , come take a look ! I picked out this outfit just for you ! " At that moment , a sweet yet seductive voice suddenly rang out .

A heavily made - up woman sauntered over with a suit in hand , her every movement dripping with flirtatious charm . " Not now , Kelly , " Peter snapped , glancing at the woman in irritation . She was his female companion for the day . Unfortunately , he had no time for her right now . He turned and pointed at Leander instead . " You country bumpkin ! How dare you disrespect the Barret family ? I swear , I'll write my name backwards if you walk out of here unscathed today ! " Frowning slightly , the woman glanced at Leander . " Who do you think you are ?

How dare you disrespect Peter and the Barret family ? " The woman was known as Kelly Hore , a third - tier minor celebrity . In order to climb up the ranks , she had gone to great lengths to curry favor with Peter for a shot at fame . Now that the opportunity had come for her to shine, she naturally wanted to display her loyalty to him . " Don't you know who he is ? He is Peter Barret ! Cousin of Henry Barret , the most powerful man in West Listin ! Surely , I don't need to explain what that means ? " She raised her eyebrows proudly .

Judging by her arrogant demeanor , she seemed to think that being connected to the Barret family gave her immense status . " If you want to continue living in West Listin , you'd better apologize to Peter now ! Otherwise , you won't be able to bear the consequences ! " Peter crossed his arms smugly , looking very pleased with himself . " I'll give you a chance to correct your mistake . Now , kneel and apologize to me . If you call me " Master Peter " and hand the two women over to me , I'll pretend this never happened !

" Leander had remained reclining on the couch , stretching his body to the fullest so that he was comfortable . " Cousin of Henry Barret ? " When he heard Peter's statement , he finally opened his eyes with a look of pure annoyance . He snorted and shook his head in amusement . 3/5 13:11 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 202 Go Ahead and Take Your Revenge ¶ 69 #Finished " Even if Henry

Barret himself said such crap to me, I'd still tell him to get lost . Compared to him ? You're nothing ." A collective gasp swept through the room .

It had been shocking enough for Leander to show such disrespect to Peter , but his last statement was utter madness . He had just openly insulted Henry Barret , the most powerful man in West Listin ! He was truly arrogant beyond belief . Publicly insulting Henry Barret was no different from declaring war on the entire Barret family . It was impossible to determine whether he truly had the backing to support his arrogance or whether he was plain ignorant of the consequences . For a moment , Peter was too stunned to react . " Seems you didn't hear me clearly the first time .

I was in a good mood earlier , but now ? You're annoying ! " Just as Peter was about to explode in a fit of rage , Leander stretched and stood up with a lazy yawn . He reached out and grabbed Peter by the collar . Then , he casually tossed the young man out of the store like a bag of trash . The entire store fell silent . Everyone was holding their breaths in disbelief . None of them could believe what had just happened . Leander not only insulted the Barret family , but he also physically assaulted a member of the Barret family !

At that moment , the heavily made - up woman in glamorous clothes shrieked in horror and ran toward the door . She quickly helped Peter to his feet , but he seemed dazed from the fall . It so happened that Yvette and Ginny finally settled on an outfit for Leander at the same time . Therefore , they calmly exited the store as though nothing had happened . Peter had yet to regain his senses . On the other hand , Kelly pointed at Leander and screamed shrilly . " Don't run away , you coward ! How dare you assault Peter !? Just you wait ! The Barret family will make you wish you were dead !

" Leander didn't even flinch at the threat and simply chuckled coldly . " I'm done shopping , and I've got no time to waste with you clowns . But since you're so eager for revenge , I'll give you a chance . " My name is Leander Ashcroft , and I'll be staying in West Listin until noon tomorrow ! " He pointed at Peter and continued calmly , " If you're not satisfied , then come at me . I don't care 4/5 13:11 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 202 de Ahead and Take Your Revenge Fausher if it's you . Henry Barret , or the Barret family . Go ahead and use everything you have against me . I'll be waiting !

" With that , he turned and left with the two women . Only the onlookers who were too stunned to move remained at the scene afterward . Send Gifts 60 5/5 W 13:11 Wed , Oct 15

Chapter 203 Waterfront Party Finished " That guy was an absolute scumbag ! I can't believe he came and harassed us even though he already had a companion with him . We even rejected him outright , yet he still had the audacity to threaten Leander into handing one of us over to him . He's so shameless ! " Ginny scoffed disdainfully as they exited the store . " Henry Barret has always seemed like a gentleman , but his cousin turned out to be such a scumbag ! " Yvette remained silent , watching Leander with a small smile playing at the corner of her mouth .

The way Leander had taken action at the slightest provocation was exactly how a wealthy playboy with real power would have acted . Recalling how she had referred to him as her boyfriend and how he had not refuted the statement , her heart fluttered in excitement . " You could've just rejected him . Why drag me into it ? " Leander scolded coldly , his arms laden with countless shopping bags . " You need to understand . If

someone else had been with you today , you could have caused them some serious trouble by using them as your shield .

" With how influential the Barret family is in West Listin , it would not have taken much for them to send someone to prison or even to the bottom of the river ! " Next time , please use your brains before doing something so reckless ! " Seeing the shift in Leander's expression , Ginny immediately shut her mouth . On the other hand , Yvette hurriedly tried to ease the tension with a smile . " We know , Leander . Please don't be angry . We only said that because it was you . " In their eyes, there was nothing in the world that Leander couldn't handle .

Leander simply waved his hand dismissively without saying anything . After they returned to the hotel , they spent the afternoon relaxing in the lounge . When 7:30 p.m. came around , they got changed and prepared to attend the high - society party at the prestigious Waterfront Plaza in West Listin . Madeline's performance was going to be held there tonight . The Waterfront Plaza in West Listin was located on an island . As an island , it was naturally 1/5 13 11 Wed Oct 15 chorf surrounded by water on four sides .

The Barret family had seized the opportunity to develop the island into a luxurious waterside resort , which then became a luxurious paradise for many business elites in West Listin Almost every major social event and banquet was held at the Waterfront Plaza , hosted by the Barret family . Guests could only reach the Waterfront Plaza by boat . Leander boarded a small yacht , accompanied by Ginny and Yvette . Most of the passengers on board were wealthy socialites . Many of them cast envious glances at Leander , who had a gorgeous woman on each arm .

Roughly ten minutes later , the small yacht arrived at the Waterfront Plaza . Leander and the two women presented their invitations , and then they found some seats near the side of the main stage . " Wow ! The setup is amazing ! Looks like Madeline's performance tonight isn't just some small- time gig ! " Ginny murmured , impressed by the stream of celebrities entering the venue Madeline had been nothing more than an ordinary high school student just a few months ago . However , she was now performing under the spotlight and showcasing her talent to a hall full of elites !

Yvette nodded with heartfelt pride . She was genuinely happy that her best friend could finally stand on the stage . Meanwhile , Leander casually picked up a glass of red wine and savored the alcohol . He was not surprised by the luxurious atmosphere . After all , he was the one who arranged for Madeline to enter Glorious Entertainment . Most of the heavyweights in Glorious Entertainment knew about her connection to him . For that reason , they made sure to carefully assess and evaluate each event that she participated in . Only the best offers were accepted .

The high - society gala hosted by the Barret family tonight was no exception . This event was an important occasion , where practically every single wealthy and powerful individual in West Listin had been invited to attend . These attendees were truly among the most influential figures in society . Madeline's debut at such a prestigious event would surely pave the way for a smoother future in her career . " Yvette ! Ginny ! You're both here ! " At that moment , a female voice rang out . Grace suddenly approached and casually sat next to them . Yvette and Ginny greeted her politely .

After exchanging a few cursory pleasantries , she turned to Leander . Leander had been ignoring her , focusing instead on the food and drink before him . His indifference secretly irritated her . In fact , she found herself unable to remain calm and composed around him . That was especially true ever since she learned that he was the Southwest Racing God she had always admired . " Uh ... Hey , Leander ! " She abruptly called out . " Can I ask you something ?

" " If it's a stupid question , " Leander replied blandly without even lifting his head , " then don't bother . " Her eyes flickered slightly . His cold attitude made her pause for a moment , but her curiosity won out in the end . " I just wanted to ask ... why didn't you become a professional race car driver when you're so skilled in racing ? And ... why did you vanish from the scene two years ago ? " Those questions had been puzzling her for a long time . His talent was undeniable . Winning world championships would have been a breeze for him .

If he had entered the professional racing circuit , he would have achieved great success and worldwide fame by now . He could've become a global legend . However , he disappeared without a trace after breaking every track record in the southwestern region two years ago . There had been no news of his whereabouts until now . In fact , few even knew his real name or true identity . It was a mystery she simply could not understand . " Become a professional race car driver ? " He chuckled and shook his head dryly . " You've got it wrong .

Racing was just a form of training for me , or maybe even a game . I've never cared about making a name for myself in the racing world ! " To be honest , I haven't raced in over two years . Yesterday was the first time I held a steering wheel since I stopped ! " His indifference stunned her . She had always believed that only someone who was extremely passionate and dedicated to the sport could master such insane driving skills , yet he claimed that it was just a pastime for him . He even treated it like a game !

The Racer King , Borgsenner , had poured his heart and soul into racing - only to be soundly defeated by Leander , who hadn't touched a steering wheel in over two years . Staring at Leander , Grace couldn't help wondering to herself : Leander had managed to reach this level without putting in much effort . If he were to devote himself entirely to racing , what terrifying heights could he reach ? She studied him for some time , her interest in him growing stronger by the minute .

He had managed to achieve such amazing accomplishments in racing , yet he had zero intention of making racing his main profession . He even had the gall to toss aside his success ! If those meant nothing to him , then what other shocking abilities was he hiding ? Thinking about Madeline , Yvette , and Ginny , who were obedient and respectful toward him , she found herself becoming restless with curiosity . She wanted to understand everything about him . At that moment , her gaze drifted toward the backstage area . Leander ... She sighed inwardly .

She knew from the moment her grandfather announced the rise of the Barret family that her brother , Henry Barret , had been fully unleashed . No matter how amazing or outstanding you are , in the end , you're just an ordinary person ... On the other hand ,

my brother ... He's a Martial Practitioner ! Given Henry's personality , he would take everything he wanted , including women . Whether willing or not , Madeline would not be able to escape from his grasp after her performance tonight .

It did not matter how powerful or outstanding Leander was - as long as he wasn't a Martial Practitioner himself , he would be powerless against Henry . Even if you're truly a Martial Practitioner , even if you're stronger than my brother ... When Grace turned back to look at Leander , her gaze softened into a look of pity . She shook her head quietly , resigned to the situation . There's another obstacle ... Behind my brother stands our grandfather ! Unless you're stronger than our grandfather ... But how could that be possible ? Her grandfather was Jordan Barret .

In her eyes , his strength was comparable to a god or a demon . He was practically unmatched in terms of power . There were only three people in Astria who could rival his strength , and every one of them was an extraordinary figure throughout the world . Regardless of how amazing Leander was behind the wheel , it did not change the fact that he clearly wasn't one of those three individuals ! Focused on savoring his drink , Leander was oblivious to Grace's swirling thoughts . Not far away from them , a young man in a suit scowled at the sight of Leander .

His female companion seemed similarly shocked , but she also had a hint of hatred in her eyes . The young man was none other than Peter Barret - the man Leander had thrown out of the 4/5 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 203 Waterfront Party store earlier !

Send Gifts 60 : B

Chapter 204 Henry Barret Takes Action Finished " Peter , that b * stard's here too ! I can't believe he had the nerve to come ! That scoundrel ! " The female companion standing beside Peter was the same woman from before - Kelly Hore . She had not forgotten how Leander had not only humiliated Peter in the store but also completely ignored her . Just the memory alone made her itch with anger . Now that her enemy was in sight , she was ready to confront him immediately . " Anyway , this is perfect . We're at a party hosted by the Barret family . Let's go and teach him a lesson .

We'll see if he still has that arrogant attitude once we're done with him ! " " Wait ! " Peter quickly grabbed her arm . " Don't be so hasty . Don't you see who is sitting next to him ? " At his words , she took a closer look . She was stunned to see Grace , dressed in a striking evening gown , sitting next to Leander . The sight baffled her . Why would the pride of the Barret family be with that man ? " You know how proud my cousin can be . She has always ignored every single eligible bachelor in West Listin , " Peter remarked .

" Anyone who tried to approach her has always been coldly rebuffed without exception , yet she is now sitting next to that guy like it's nothing . " That guy must have an unusual background . " Despite being an infamous playboy in West Listin , he was not stupid . He knew how to read and assess the situation . Although he was a member of the Barret family , there was a marked difference in status even between the family members . His status in the family was nowhere near that of his cousin , Grace . The reason ? Their grandfather , Jordan Barret , adored her the most .

Even Henry Barret had to act carefully around her ; how could he possibly compare ? Kelly fell silent for a moment . " So what if he has some backing ? Can he truly be more

powerful than the Barret family ? " Though she hesitated , she remained unconvinced . " Besides , he laid hands on you earlier ! He also openly insulted the Barret family ! Are you telling me the Barret family will turn a blind eye to his actions ? Do we really have to let it go just like that ? " The scowl on his face deepened . Recalling Leander's arrogant demeanor at the store today , his face twisted in anger .

1/7 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 204 Henry Barret Takes Action " Wait here , " he snapped . " I'm going to find Henry . We'll see what he has to say . " Gritting his teeth , he marched toward the backstage area . Finished Henry was discussing the details of the program with the program host behind the screen when Peter suddenly marched over . " Return to your work . I need to have a discussion with my cousin ! " Peter brusquely sent the program host away . Then , he turned to Henry with a pitiful expression . " Henry !

" Dressed in a plain white suit , Henry resembled a handsome and noble prince from ancient times . The sight of his younger cousin immediately made his brows crease in frustration and irritation . Peter had always been an indulgent skirt - chaser , never bothering to make any contributions to the family . On the contrary , he often stirred up trouble . When the problem became too big for him to solve himself , he would come running to the family to clean up his messes . Henry honestly considered Peter as nothing more than a thorn in his side .

However , as the saying went , " Blood was thicker than water . " Henry's late uncle - and Peter's father - had passed away young , but he had been very kind to Henry while he was alive . Since Peter was his late uncle's only child , Henry had always felt

obligated to watch out for his cousin . " Spill it , " Henry snapped impatiently . " I'm busy . " Knowing his cousin's opinion of him , Peter hurriedly relayed the entire incident at the store without any embellishments . After listening to the entire story , Henry's eyes darkened slightly .

He did not care about how Peter had tried to snatch another person's female companion ; it was Leander's statements that made his blood boil . " He dared to tell me to scram ? " He growled , eyes narrowing dangerously . " What's more , he challenged the Barret family to retaliate against him through whatever means we have ? " 2/7 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 204 Henry Barrel Takes Artton 9 : " Yeah ! " Peter nodded eagerly . " He was speaking as though you weren't even worth mentioning ! He was blatantly insulting the Barret family , too ! " Henry's lips curled into a frosty smile .

His eyes glinted with a menacing light . " Interesting ... He sure has some guts to challenge the Barret family on our own turf ! " Seeing the change in Henry's expression , Peter was secretly delighted . He quickly added more fuel to the fire . " Henry , he's not just arrogant . He's absolutely reckless ! I even saw him at the party earlier ! " He was sitting next to Grace . Since I didn't know the relationship between them , I didn't dare to confront him directly , but ... " " Oh ? " Henry's gaze turned sharp . There was a hint of interest in his eyes . " Did you say he's here ?

And sitting next to Grace ? " Take me to him . Let's go see what kind of person he is . " They walked out of the backstage area . When Henry glanced in the direction that Peter was pointing and saw the man in question , his expression changed once more . " So , it's him , huh ? " Peter felt his heart skip a beat at the shift in Henry's expression .

Thinking that Henry was acquainted with Leander , he immediately froze in fear . " Don't look so nervous . I don't know him well . In fact , I'd say we're enemies . " Henry reassuringly placed a hand on Peter's shoulder .

" He's just a flashy street racer . Don't worry ; he's no friend of Grace's either ! " His gaze darkened , killing intent flickering in his eyes . " I'll make sure he pays for everything he did to you . Just sit back and enjoy the show ! " Peter's stiff expression transformed into delight . Overjoyed , he thanked Henry repeatedly before quickly returning to his seat . " How did it go ? What did Mr. Barret say ? " Kelly asked eagerly . " Haha ! " Peter smirked . " Henry promised to handle it personally . Just wait - you're about to see something amazing !

" Kelly smiled gleefully , elated by the news . Recalling Leander's arrogant behavior at the store , she savored the thought of Leander's imminent humiliation . 3/7 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 204 Heniy Baltet Takes Action " Mr. Barret will be handling you personally ! Let's see how arrogant you'll be then ! " 68 Finisher The evening gala officially began at 8:30 p.m. Henry stood on the stage , illuminated by a spotlight above . The audience immediately erupted in applause as soon as he appeared .

After all , nobody in West Listin would dare to show any disrespect to the heir of the Barret family . He nodded and smiled at the guests in greeting . After a brief speech , the performance officially began . The Barret family had invited many celebrities to the banquet tonight , though most of them were second - tier celebrities . Despite being familiar faces in the entertainment industry , their performances were somewhat lacking

to the wealthy guests in attendance . Henry returned to the stage following the performance of a popular young celebrity .

" Ladies and gentlemen , thank you for gathering here at the beautiful Waterfront Plaza tonight . On behalf of the Barret family , it is my honor to introduce the rising star from Glorious Entertainment , Miss Madeline Gardner ! " With his introductory speech , the atmosphere in the venue changed . Cheers erupted from the crowd , and thunderous applause filled the air . Glorious Entertainment , which originated from Mornwick , was headed by Frankie Wainwright . Since receiving the support of Jeff Enterprises , it rapidly became a prominent player in the entertainment industry .

Countless famous celebrities had quickly rushed to join their ranks as a result . It was no secret that they had been heavily promoting a rising star recently . She was rumored to be extremely selective about the events she participated in , rarely accepting invitations to performances or filming events . Hence , no one had expected her to perform at the Waterfront Plaza tonight . Her attendance tonight was a reflection of the power and influence of the Barret family . As the spotlight dimmed , Henry gracefully exited the stage . A graceful figure emerged instead .

Madeline stood on the stage , dressed in a soft blue evening gown . Her elegant makeup and hair made her resemble a noble yet pretty princess . " It is my honor to perform here at the Waterfront Plaza . " Holding a microphone in her hand , she spoke in an alluring voice . Her eyes sparkled with excitement . " This is my first performance in West Listin , so it is a rare opportunity indeed ! 4/7 13 12 Wed , Oct 15 200 Chante

204 Hrs , Barret Takes A tion " I originally planned to sing a different song , but someone special to me is in the audience tonight .

So , I decided to change the setlist at the last minute . I'm going to sing a song I wrote just for him ! " She looked straight at Leander during her speech , affection overflowing in her eyes . Henry clenched his fists at the sight . The wine glass in his hand shattered from the force of his grip , but he reminded himself about what he planned to do later and forced himself to remain calm for now . Munching on a piece of watermelon , Leander slowly raised his head to meet Madeline's fiery gaze . " Nine months ago , I was just a student with dreams of becoming a singer .

It was he who gave me the courage to pursue my dreams . It was he who built the stage I now stand upon . It was he who changed my life . He is the most important person in my life ! " I was once naive , ignorant , even arrogant ... I often threw tantrums and acted unreasonably , but he never held a grudge against me . He never held the past against me . He's here tonight , giving me strength and confidence again , so I just wanted to say : Thank you ! " This song has never been published before . It is a song I wrote myself , and I wrote it for him .

I hope that he will always carry my ' message ' with him wherever he goes in the world . " Madeline finished her speech with a final sentence . " This song is called ' Message ' , I hope you all enjoy it ." As the melodious music started , she began to sing . " When I was young and clueless , you led the way , and I followed behind ! When I thought I'd grown , you shielded me , and I never noticed ! When I finally realized , you were gone

... All I could do ... was put my feelings into a message for you ... " Her mesmerizing voice carried throughout the venue .

Accompanied by the harmonious melody , the music overflowed with tenderness and sorrow . Each segment told the story of her and Leander - from their naïve youth , to their arrogance and purity , to their later enlightenment . Many wealthy businessmen were reminded of their youth , and some even wept in reminiscence . Her song had enthralled the entire audience . Leander sipped on his wine , smiling faintly . The little girl who had always been chasing after him had finally grown into a woman . She could now stand independently , controlling the stage on her own .

5/7 13 12 Wed , Oct 15 On the other hand . Henry was seething . His eyes twitched in rage . Every sentence Madeline sang felt like a dagger to his heart . As jealousy overtook him , he could barely restrain himself from tearing Leander to pieces on the spot . He glared at Leander with a murderous look in his eyes , unable to accept " his " woman having feelings for another man . " Leander ... I'll make sure you won't leave this place alive ! " Madeline finished her song to thunderous applause . Everyone in the audience remained enraptured by the emotions conveyed through her song .

She smiled sweetly at Leander , as if asking whether he liked her performance . In response , Leander returned her smile and gave her a thumbs - up . Her heart melted at the sight . Satisfied , she prepared to thank the audience and leave the stage . At that moment , Henry rushed onto the stage . The venue abruptly plunged into darkness , leaving only two spotlights focused on Henry and Madeline . Madeline frowned slightly .

Before she could protest , Henry got down on one knee and whipped out a velvet box . Inside was a dazzling diamond necklace .

" Madeline , I've wanted to say this since the moment I laid eyes on you . " Looking at her with affection , he continued in a gentle voice . " I like you . No - I love you . I've always been in love with you . " Taking this opportunity tonight , I wanted to confess my feelings in front of everyone . I'm not great with flowery words , but I couldn't keep silent any longer . Please give me a chance to stay by your side forever . Please let me protect and support you as your knight in shining armor ! " Tonight , you'll be my princess , but in the future , you'll be my queen !

" The audience suddenly exploded in applause , nearly causing the entire venue to shake from the thunderous noise . Meanwhile , Madeline stood frozen on the stage . She seemed bewildered and lost , unsure of 6/7 B 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 204 Henry Barret Takes . Action how to react . Offstage , Grace sighed inwardly at the scene . Henry has made his move after all Send Gifts 10 60 Finished 717 13:12 Wed , Oct 15 From Outcast to Overlord The Unyielding Henr

Chapter 205 Trap 必 零 #Fimented Henry went down on one knee , and the diamond necklace in his hand gleamed under the lights , scattering sharp reflections across the ballroom . With his looks , his family name , and the power he carried , the moment struck like lightning . In full view of the elite crowd , he knelt before one woman and laid his feelings bare . The room fell into stunned silence before the buzz exploded . The socialites who had chased after him for years stood frozen . Their painted smiles cracked , and jealousy swelled in their chests like fire pressed against glass . " Mr.

Barret's proposing to her ? You've got to be kidding me , " one woman whispered sharply . " She's just a pretty face from the screen . She's not even a top name yet . Why would he do this for her ? That necklace alone - does he even know what he's giving away ? " The women born into wealth knew exactly what was in his hand . That necklace was the Crystal Trace , " a piece auctioned just a few weeks back at West Listin's most exclusive gala . It had gone for fourteen million . And now Henry was offering it to Madeline . To everyone watching , the message was clear . Henry had fallen for her .

Not a fling , not a passing crush . It was real . And they could not understand why someone like him would choose a woman from the stage . To them , actresses were nothing more than passing entertainment . But Henry Barret , heir to the most powerful house in West Listin , had picked one . And they could not accept that . Still , none of their disbelief mattered . Henry was right there , kneeling in the spotlight , his gaze steady and full of emotion as he looked at Madeline . Yvette and Ginny looked rattled .

They hadn't expected anything like this to break out during Madeline's performance .

But Grace stood still . She had seen it coming . Most people thought Henry was refined and composed , but she knew the truth . When Henry decided to go after something , nothing could stop him . Once he let go of his restraint , his ambition came alive .

Madeline blinked hard , stunned , before she managed a polite smile . " Mr. Barret , you're not serious ... right ? " Henry met her eyes and spoke slowly . " I've never been more serious . Madeline , I want to protect you . I want to stand beside you .

Just give me one chance . " He stayed on one knee , his expression unshaken .
Madeline's gaze shifted . She looked toward Leander . He stood with a glass in hand ,
watching 1/1 13.12 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 205 Tran 8200 everything unfold without
speaking . To him , this choice belonged to Madeline . Whether she said yes or no
wasn't his place to influence . She stared at him for a quiet moment , then turned back
to Henry . Before the hundreds of guests , with cameras rolling and lights shining down ,
she shook her head . " Mr. Barret , I'm grateful . Really .

But I've always seen you as a partner . A friend . I never once thought of you as
anything more . I'm sorry . " She moved to the side , ready to step off the stage and
walk toward Leander . However , before she could take a second step , a line of black -
suited bodyguards surged forward and blocked her path . They moved fast and locked
down the stage from every side . Madeline stopped short . Her brows pulled tight . " Mr.
Barret , what is this supposed to be ? " Her voice was low , calm , but firm . The
kindness in Henry's face was gone .

He stood up slowly , holding the necklace box out toward her , his smile sharp and cold
." Madeline , you really think you can turn me down and just walk away ? That's not
happening . In this city , and in all of Listin , one day , no one says no to me . Not even
you . " I made this public . I confessed to you in front of the world . If you won't say yes ,
then you're not leaving this stage . And you're not walking out of Waterfront Plaza . " In
that moment , Henry was no longer the charming heir with a polished voice . The mask
had fallen away .

What stood in front of them was the true heir of the Barret family , unfiltered and unafraid to show his dominance . Grace blinked , her eyes gleaming . " That's my brother ," she murmured . His behavior was over the line , but deep down , she admired it . She believed men were meant to chase what they wanted and take it with strength . That was real power . Madeline's voice dropped to a cold edge . " Mr. Barret , are you threatening me ? " She had always thought he was thoughtful and graceful . She believed he handled everything with control .

But now , seeing him like this , she realized just how naïve she had been . Henry held a calm smile , saying nothing . He had already made his move in front of everyone , and he wasn't about to let Madeline walk away now . " Mr. Barret , don't you think this whole act is going a little too far ? " 2/4 13 12 Wed , Oct 15 Chap 20s Tian C The voice came from the front row. It belonged to a young man from a powerful family , someone whose background matched Henry's . He had once been interested in Madeline himself .

Now that Henry was trying to back her into a corner , he saw an opening and stepped in to help . " A gentleman should admire a lady with grace , but if Ms. Gardner isn't interested , what's the point in forcing it ? " Henry turned and looked right at him . His smile widened into something sharper . " Well said , Leroy . A gentleman should be nice and polite when it comes to the ladies . No argument there . " His eyes lit up with something colder . He chuckled under his breath , then spoke loud enough for all to hear . " But tonight , I'm not trying to be a gentleman .

I'm here to take what I want . I want Madeline . And I want every single person here to pledge loyalty to the Barrets . I want full submission . I don't care if you think this is a lie

. You'll soon know it isn't ." He still held the microphone . His voice rang out through Waterfront Plaza , every word cutting through the air . The room shifted . Murmurs turned into rising voices . Tension built like a wave about to break . He wanted the entire elite crowd of West Listin to bow to him ? It was too much . These weren't nobodies . Most of them came from long - established families .

The Barrets were powerful , yes , but the gap wasn't impossible to close . Nobody here would challenge them directly , but that didn't mean they were scared either . Many had roots in other cities , where they ruled their own turf . There were kingpins here who had never once bowed to anyone . People started whispering that Henry had gone mad . " Henry , how much have you had to drink tonight ? Do you even hear yourself ? " Leroy Xanderson's voice turned low and cold . The Xanderson family stood just below the Barrets in the city's power ladder . They weren't far behind .

And Henry's words had clearly crossed a line . " Mr. Barret , we respect your name . We respect your family . But what you just said - there's no way to defend it . " Other voices chimed in . One by one , the wealthy and powerful turned against Henry . Their words piled up , louder and angrier . In a matter of seconds , Henry had turned into the lightning rod of the entire plaza . Only Leander stayed relaxed . He didn't flinch . He kept sipping his drink , picking at his plate , watching everything unfold with mild amusement .

3/4 13:13 Wed , Oct 15 Chapter 205 Trap Finished He looked like a man sitting through dinner theater . Then , a low voice rolled in from the main doors . " Henry is right . But tonight , everyone here will bow down to the Barrets . You will give up thirty percent of

your company shares . If you don't , you won't be walking out of here . " He didn't shout . He didn't need to . The tone in his voice made it clear he wasn't asking . He was stating fact . And everyone heard it . People turned toward the entrance . An old man in a deep black robe embroidered with silver thread walked in .

His hands were behind his back . His pace was slow and steady . But as he stepped forward , the entire room seemed to bend around him . His presence hit harder than any introduction . Behind him came Solomon , chairman of the Barret Group . He followed quietly , his head lowered , walking like a man who knew exactly who the real leader was . The moment shifted . Even the most seasoned businessmen felt something tighten in their chests . This night had never been about wine or celebration . It was a trap . A setup , plain and simple .

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