

What?

Xavier's mind was all over the place when he read Zeke's text and found out it had something to do with the herb plantation.

The nation kept the classified information regarding the herb plantation under wraps because it would affect the performance of Eurasia's militants.

In other words, the plan would directly impact the performance of the nation's security level.

Such confidential information shouldn't have had been leaked to an ordinary citizen in the first place.

Xavier was already drenched in sweat when he received Zeke's text. He replied, *Don't worry Great Marshal, I will investigate what's going on immediately!*

Half an hour later, Lacey and her family finally made their way to the Grand Millenium Hotel.

Hannah's family was already waiting for them by the entrance.

Lacey's old-fashioned grandmother, potbellied uncle, aunty with heavy makeup, and their children were present.

Hannah exhorted them once again before getting

out of the car, “Remember what I said! If anyone from my family asks about the old geezer's whereabouts, tell them he's currently hospitalized and won't be able to join us.”

“Otherwise, I won't be able to return to my family in the future.”

Daniel nodded with a look of guilt. “Alright.”

Hannah got out of the car and greeted her family enthusiastically, “Mom, brother, sister, you guys are here so early today!”

She was embarrassed as they merely nodded indifferently in return.

Lacey took the initiative and greeted them as well. “Grandma, uncle, aunty! How's everyone doing?”

Lacey's grandmother finally put on a smile the moment she saw Lacey.

She had always looked down on Daniel. Back when Hannah insisted on marrying Daniel, she had been irritated.

Throughout the years, Lacey's grandmother's attitude had always been indifferent whenever she ran into Hannah and Daniel.

If it weren't because of Lacey, she wouldn't even want to head over to Oakheart City.

Meanwhile, Lacey's uncle and aunty were as aloof as they always had been. They ignored Lacey when she greeted them.

However, Lacey's grandmother held her hands firmly and said, "My dear, I believe I have told you this countless times! You have to eat more! Look at how skinny you are!"

Lacey stuck her tongue out playfully. "Grandma, I did put on some weight, okay? Perhaps the food contributed to my height more than my weight."

She managed to win her grandmother over with her playfulness. Her grandmother grinned, feeling overjoyed.

In the meantime, Daniel handed over a cigarette to his brother-in-law. "Brother, join me for a cigarette."

Daniel's brother-in-law took the cigarette he handed him. He was irritated when he realized it was a premium brand. "Daniel, are you trying to pretend you're rich? I'm sure you're aware of your family's condition, right? Stop smoking such premium cigarettes!"

"I have a higher position and earn more than you, but the cigarette I smoke is merely an ordinary brand."

"Do you really think others will adore you because of the premium cigarette you smoke? To be honest, you're but a joke to others!"

Daniel nodded humbly and remained silent as his brother-in-law rambled on and on, hoping to teach him a lesson.

His brother-in-law was a government official and held the position of a section chief for a bureau. He despised sole proprietors like Daniel the most.

His children would condemn Daniel for what he did as well, let alone him. Daniel had already gotten used to how things were and decided to let it be.

Daniel was well known for being a cowardly son-in-law.

Lacey's aunt was irritated by her mother and Lacey's interaction. "I believe that's enough mom. Let's continue catching up once we're inside, okay? I don't want to delay my beloved daughter's birthday."

Hannah was shocked. "Shirley's birthday?"

Her sister explained, "Yes! It's Shirley's twenty-fifth birthday today."

Hannah replied as though she was begging for mercy, "Sister, twenty-fifth birthday isn't as important as the coming of age ceremony for Lacey's twenty-third birthday, right?"

"Why don't you celebrate Shirley's birthday on another day? I delayed Lacey's birthday

celebration during Lacey's coming of age ceremony as well.”

Her sister defended herself, “Do you mean your daughters' birthday is worthy of celebration while my daughters' isn't? Do you have any idea what you're talking about?”

“I mean, I don't mind delaying her birthday celebration either, but I'm afraid Shirley's boyfriend won't allow it. He's throwing her a birthday party at the Grand Millenium Hotel.”

“You guys must have been lucky! You will get to carry out the coming of age ceremony due to Shirley.”

“Oh! Shirley's boyfriend is from the military. They're considered to be part of the upper echelon. Please behave yourself later on and keep the shabby part of yours to yourself. I don't want him to look down on us.”



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Hannah immediately explained herself when she heard her sister's words. "Sister, Zeke has also reserved a hall for Lacey's ceremony."

Her sister chuckled the moment she heard Hannah's word. "Do you think this is your neighbourhood fast-food restaurant? Not everyone gets to reserve the hall of the Grand Millenium Hotel."

"You need to be a member of the hotel if you want to enter the hotel. Do you even have a member card?"

Hannah looked at Zeke.

Zeke shook his head. "We don't need one of those to enter the hotel."

What a joke. Grand Millenium Hotel belongs to me. It's a present for Lacey. Why would I need a member card?

Pffft!

Hannah sister's and her fellow siblings burst out laughing hysterically. "Seriously? Just who do you think you are to be able to enter the hotel without a member card?"

"What a fool! It seems like you've never visited such a high-class hotel, huh? Aren't you embarrassed by your own bluff?"

Hannah's sister reached for the member card she had and led everyone into the hotel.

Lacey's grandmother looked at Daniel and took a peek at Zeke. She raised her concern with an awful expression on her face, "Sigh... What the hell went wrong? My in-laws are getting worse each generation."

Lacey's face was flushed when she heard her grandmother's words. "Grandma, Zeke is not as pathetic as you think he is. He's quite a capable man."

Lacey's grandmother was heartbroken and held her hand firmly. "Sigh... My poor granddaughter... It's fine as long as he's the man you love. I'll keep whatever I have in mind to myself."

Hannah's face turned pale all of a sudden. "Daniel, it turns out Shirley is celebrating her birthday today as well."

"Sigh... I know my sister better than anyone else. She will definitely steal the limelight from Lacey."

"We don't get your dad's support either... I'm afraid the coming of age ceremony will head south soon..."

"Sigh... Poor Lacey... She deserves a better life..."

Daniel felt guilty and inferior. "My dear, let's deal with whatever is in store for us accordingly."

“I'll give my dad a call and try to get him over again.”

Hannah cradled her forehead. “Sigh. Just forget about it. If that's the case, we'll just celebrate Lacey's coming of age ceremony after everyone from my family leave.”

“Poor Lacey. She doesn't even get to receive other's blessings during her coming of age ceremony.”

Daniel lowered his head as he blamed himself for being such a useless man.

Meanwhile, Hannah's sister led everyone into the hotel using her member card.

Zeke stopped all of a sudden right when they passed by, Couleur, the most luxurious suite in the hotel. He invited Lacey and her parents, “Dad, mom, Lacey, this way, please.”

Daniel and Hannah headed into the suite without any hesitation.

However, Hannah's sister shrieked and stopped them almost instantly, “Mr. Williams, what the hell do you think you are doing?”

“This is the most luxurious suite in the hotel. Only the elites from the upper echelons have the rights to access the suite. We're talking about people such as the mayor and Oakheart City's top

conglomerate leaders.”

“Shirley's boyfriend reserved a normal suite on the second floor.”

Zeke replied nonchalantly, “Oh, but this is the suite I've reserved.”

Pffft!

They laughed at Zeke once again. “Does that mean you're as influential as Oakheart City's top conglomerate's leader or the mayor?”

“Hahaha! You must have lost your mind after all those years behind bars, right?”

Zeke ignored Hannah's sister and insisted, “Dad, mom, Lacey, let's go in.”

Hannah and Daniel knew Zeke would never have made things up. Hence, they entered the suite as invited.

Hannah's sister scolded Zeke, “Hmph! You're embarrassing me!”

“Please don't tell the hotel's employees we're related. I don't want to be chased out of the hotel with you guys!”

Suddenly, the receptionist's mind was blown away when she detected Zeke's presence.

What the hell! Mr. Williams is here, but why is he alone? Where are the waitresses?

I have told the guards over and over again, at least ten times!

The receptionist was afraid she would offend Zeke. Hence, she sent ten waitresses into the suite immediately.



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Actually, the guards had been on the lookout for Mr. Williams all along.

However, Zeke had been hidden amongst the crowd back then. Hence, the guards had failed to detect his presence.

Hannah's siblings stepped aside away from her family, the moment the receptionist rushed over with the waitresses. "Hurry up and leave Hannah and her family alone! I don't want to get involved!"

They thought the receptionist was there to chase Lacey and her family away.

However, their jaw dropped open almost instantly when they saw what happened next.

The receptionist and the waitresses rushed into the suite and bowed respectfully. "We sincerely welcome the arrival of our reputable guests."

Then they immediately served them their beverages. "Dear reputable guests, please hold on. We will serve the dishes you've ordered immediately."

They stood aside on standby after they finished serving Lacey and her family their beverages.

Zeke took a peek at them and instructed, "Please leave us alone."

The waitresses were confused because it was

against the rules.

Usually, that particular suite would require at least ten waitresses to serve the guests.

“Get out!” shouted Zeke.

They don't have the rights to be here to witness Lacey's coming of age ceremony.

The receptionist couldn't do anything about it either and simply nodded. “Alright, sir. Please reach out to us if there's anything you might need.”

She then quickly led the waitresses out with her.

The receptionist warned with a callous tone when she passed by Hannah's siblings, “Please stay away from this particular suite. We do not want anyone to interrupt our reputable guests.”

Hannah's siblings were stupefied; they couldn't comprehend what was going on.

What the hell? Did Zeke really reserve this particular suite?

But... he's an ex-convict, right? He couldn't possibly have the capability to reserve such a premium suite, right?

In the end, Hannah's brother was the first to return to his senses. “We're actually here together.”

“Together?” The receptionist turned around and looked at Zeke to seek for his orders.

Although reluctant, Zeke nodded.

The receptionist's expression finally eased up. “I apologize for the misunderstanding. This way, please.”

Although Hannah's siblings had no idea what was going on, they finally made their way into the suite.

Hannah's sister whispered into her daughter's ear, “Shirley, what exactly is going on?”

Shirley was confused as well. However, she tapped on her head before long and told her mother, “I know what's going on! My boyfriend told me he had a surprise for me! If I'm not mistaken, perhaps this suite is the surprise he had been talking about!”

“Don't forget that Jayden is part of the military. I'm sure he has the rights to reserve this suite as well.”

Hannah's sister asked with a confused look, “How did Zeke figure out this particular suite was reserved by Jayden?”

“Do they know each other?”

Shirley replied, “I'll ask him.”

“Zeke, do you know my boyfriend, Jayden Hill?”

“Jayden Hill? The one from the Hill village?” Zeke knitted his eyebrows and asked in return.

Shirley nodded immediately. “Yes! That's him!”

Zeke replied indifferently, “I do.”

Jayden is about to get married to Sandra, wasn't he? How did he become Shirley's boyfriend instead?

It seems like he's a playful one, huh? How dare he sit on the fence and engage in two relationships at once?

If I get Sandra over... If she realizes Jayden is celebrating another woman's birthday...

Sigh! I guess I'll do Douglas a favour and help Sandra this once!

I'll get her to discover who Jayden really is. I don't want her to live a miserable life either.

Zeke texted Douglas. *Douglas, please get your sister to drop by the Grand Millenium Hotel immediately.*

Hannah's sister and Shirley heaved a sigh of relief because they thought Zeke was acquainted with Jayden.

It turns out that this suite has been reserved by Jayden.

It seems like Jayden is far more influential than what I had in mind.

I knew it! Hannah's son-in-law is but an ex-convict! He couldn't possibly have reserved this particular suite.

Suddenly, Shirley's phone rang. She received a call from Jayden.



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Shirley picked up the phone and asked, "Jayden, where are you? Why aren't you here yet?"

Jayden replied, "I'm here. I'm waiting for you guys at the suite on the second floor. Where are you guys?"

Shirley replied, "We're in Couleur."

Suddenly, Jayden was shocked. "What are you guys doing in that suite? Hurry up and get out! We're not supposed to be in there! We don't have the rights to be there!"

Shirley chuckled when she heard Jayden's words. "Jayden, your acting skills are impressive! I almost fell for your act!"

"Stop lying to me! The surprise you told me about is Couleur, right? You've reserved the most luxurious suite for me, haven't you?"

Jayden was confused by Shirley's words.

I don't have the rights to reserve Couleur. This must have been a misunderstanding.

However, Jayden decided to play along since Shirley had already misperceived things. He wanted to show his capability and conquer Shirley.

He laughed diffidently, "Haha! How did you manage to figure it out? It was supposed to be a surprise!"

“Wait for me! I'll be there immediately!”

Shirley cast a contemptuous gaze at Zeke after she hung up the call. “Hmph! Jayden was the one who reserved this suite! How dare you lie to us? Have you no shame at all?”

Hannah's sister mocked Zeke as well, “You know, it's really fine to be poor, but it's not fine to pretend as though you're rich when you aren't!”

Lacey and her family were stupefied.

Did Jayden really reserve this suite? Did Zeke really attempt to take the credit?

Zeke wouldn't have done such a thing, right?

Lacey's grandmother stepped forward and diverted everyone's attention to another topic.

“Daniel, where's your father? He should be here to witness Lacey's coming of age ceremony, right?”

Daniel stuttered, “My dad is sick... He's currently hospitalized... He won't be joining us...”

“Jeez! Sick? Stop lying to us!” Hannah's brother broke the silence all of a sudden.

“Everyone knows how much he despises you! I'm sure he refuses to join us because of you, right?”

“Hmph! What a shame! To think that a man will end up being a wimp like you!”

Daniel felt a sudden flush of embarrassment because they managed to see right through his lies.

Meanwhile, Jayden finally showed up in the suite.

"I'm so sorry, everyone. I got caught up with a certain something just now."

"Jayden, where were you?" asked Shirley coquettishly.

Jayden told her, "I was away to get your birthday present ready for you."

Shirley's eyes gleamed all of a sudden. "Birthday present? You were away for such a long time! It must be another huge surprise, right? I can't wait to figure out what it is!"

Hannah's sister pointed at Zeke and asked, "Jayden, do you know this fella?"

Jayden was shocked when he saw Zeke.

What a day! Why the hell is he here? To think that I will run into my arch enemy right here out of everywhere else!

It's his fault! He was the one who persuaded Reinz Pharmaceutical to demolish the Hill village! He was the reason Sam scolded me!

I must get my revenge!

Jayden replied in an odd manner, "I do. Of course, I do!"

"He's Douglas's ex-convict friend, right? We were drinking together last night."

Hannah's sister asked curiously, "Douglas? Who is that?"

Jayden went on and explained, "Douglas! I'm sure you guys know him as well! He's the one who used to make a living by stealing car batteries."

Hahaha!

Everyone laughed when they heard what Jayden said.

Douglas was well known as he tended to make a fool out of himself. Everyone despised him and his existence.

Zeke's but an ex-convict! It makes sense for him to befriend someone of sorts!

Jayden teased Zeke sarcastically, "Zeke, I'm so envious of you! You have such a famous friend!"

The crowd laughed even harder when they heard Jayden's words.

Lacey and her family felt humiliated like never before.

All they wanted was to bury their heads in the sand and ignore their words.

Zeke replied nonchalantly all of a sudden, “Jayden, do you know Douglas' sister, Sandra?”

“Sandra has always talked about you in front of me. Why don't we get her to join us?”



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Jayden turned slightly uneasy when he heard Sandra's name.

He had gotten engaged to Sandra a long time ago. The woman took their relationship seriously.

She would definitely wreak havoc if she had any idea about the affair Jayden had been having with another woman behind her back.

Perhaps Sandra might go berserk and teach him a lesson if that was the case.

He glared at Zeke and changed the topic immediately. "It's Shirley's birthday today. Let's forget about that ex-convict. He's such a jinx!"

"Shirley, come check out the gift I have prepared for you! Do you like it?"

Jayden reached for the three carats diamond ring he prepared as he finished his sentence. It was an elegant and flamboyant ring.

Shirley's eyes gleamed the moment she saw the ring. "Wow! It's beautiful!"

Each and every youngster in the room was attracted by the diamond ring. They began to praise and talk about it excitedly.

"This diamond ring is at least three carats, right? That means it must have cost at least seventy thousand!"

“Brother-in-law is such a romantic man! I'm so jealous of Shirley!”

“If someone were to present me with such a huge diamond ring, I would definitely get married to him immediately!”

Jayden asked with a bright smile on his face, “Shirley, do you like it?”

Shirley was overjoyed as it was all over her face. “I do! I love it! Please put it on for me!”

“Sure!” Jayden put it on for Shirley just as she requested with a grin on his face.

Shirley deliberately waved her hand to show off her ring in front of Lacey.

Jayden turned around and told Hannah's sister, “Aunt, thank you for taking care of Shirley throughout the years.”

“You deserve to steal the limelight during her birthday because you have suffered the most to bring Shirley to this world years ago.”

“Here's a present for you. Please accept it as a token of appreciation.”

Jayden reached for another scroll and handed it over to Hannah's sister.

Hannah's sister was surprised and delighted.

“What? There's a present for me too? What is this?”

She opened the scroll carefully while Jayden explained the origin of the present, “It's a masterpiece from Vincent van Gogh. Yesterday, I bade this particular drawing for five hundred thousand.”

“What? Vincent van Gogh's masterpiece worthy of five hundred thousand?” Hannah's sister was shocked.

“Jayden, you've spent over a million for us within a day! I... I can't express how grateful I am...”

Jayden replied, “The amount involved meant nothing to me! As long as aunt and Shirley are happy, it's worth it!”

“Good! Good!” Hannah's sister adored the masterpiece as she praised Jayden repetitively.

The other youngsters approached Hannah's sister to check on the masterpiece and praised Jayden as well.

Hannah's brother reached for the present he prepared and handed it over to Shirley. “Shirley, I have no idea what you may fancy, but I heard that the youngsters nowadays are crazy over the makeup collection launched by YSL lately.”

“I made use of my connections and got you a set. I

hope you will love it.”

Shirley was thrilled, “Thank you, uncle! I have always wanted to get a set of this collection. It's a limited-edition collection! I might not have been able to get it if it weren't because of you!”

“Uncle is the best! I want to be part of the government officials like you in the future!”

Hannah's brother smiled and nodded. “Sure! I'll talk to the people of my department and get you a position under me.”

“Lacey, here's a present for you as well.”

“You're a businesswoman. As the saying goes, nothing beats experience. I bought this book for you. Hopefully, it will be useful for you.”

The book cost nothing more than a few bucks. It was nothing as compared to the limited edition makeup collection, which easily cost ten or twenty thousand.

It barely qualified as a gift. It seemed as though he was trying to insult Lacey.

Although Lacey's mind was all over the place, she accepted it politely. “Thank you, uncle.”

Hannah's sister asked all of a sudden, “Hannah, Jayden and Shirley's uncle have presented Shirley with her gifts. Have you prepared your gift as

well?”

Hannah stuttered and couldn't bring herself to reply her sister.

We have nothing to give her! She didn't even notify us that she would be throwing Shirley a birthday party!

Apart from that, it's Lacey's coming of age ceremony today! They should be the ones presenting Lacey with her gifts instead!

She's trying to pick on us on purpose, right?



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Hannah's sister heaved a long sigh. "Forget about it. I mean, everyone knows how your family's condition is. What could you have possibly prepared, right?"

"It's fine. At least we don't have to suffer a loss when we try to return the gift."

Daniel's eyes welled up as he blamed himself for everything.

He blamed himself for not being capable enough. Daniel felt as though he was the reason why his family was being humiliated along with him.

Hannah's mom grew irritated and rolled her eyes when she noticed her son-in-law's reaction.

What an unlucky day! Why did I allow him to become my son-in-law again? He's such a wimp! One who can't even defend his own wife and daughter!

It seems like I have to take things in hand again.

Lacey's grandmother reached for a worn-out handkerchief and told Lacey, "Today is your coming of age ceremony. You will officially be an adult after today, Lacey."

"I don't want you to live a lavish life, nor do I want you to make it big in life. All I want is a happy life for you for the rest of your life."

“This gold bracelet is a family heirloom. Please accept this, okay?”

Lacey's eye brimmed with tears because her grandmother was the only one who loved her.

However, Hannah's sister said, “Mom, your eldest granddaughter is right here. Don't you think you should present her with her gift first?”

Lacey's grandmother comforted Hannah's sister. “Don't worry, I've prepared Shirley's gift as well. This silver bracelet is for Shirley.”

Hannah's sister sneered, “Mom, don't you think you're overly biased? Are you seriously going to give your eldest granddaughter a silver bracelet while you give your youngest granddaughter a gold bracelet?”

Lacey's grandmother had an odd expression on her face, “Everyone only gets to go through the coming of age ceremony once in a lifetime. We can always celebrate Shirley's birthday another time. Just give in to your sister's family for once, okay?”

Hannah's sister asked, “Give in to her? Nope! I refuse to do such a thing!”

“Shirley has a diamond ring on. Do you think a silver bracelet will be able to complement the ring she has? The gold bracelet seems more like it.”

“I mean, do you seriously think Lacey deserves the gold bracelet?”

Hannah's sister snatched the gold bracelet without further ado and handed it over to Shirley, “Shirley, hurry up and express your gratitude to grandma.”

“Thank you, grandma.” Shirley cast a provocative peek at Lacey.

Lacey's grandmother was beleaguered and did not know what to do next.

Lacey's eyes brimmed with tears as she felt aggrieved, but she put on a strong front and smiled. “Thank you, grandma. I like the silver bracelet too.”

Lacey's grandmother heaved a long sigh. “I'm glad you like it.”

She glared at Zeke as she finished her sentence.

This useless grandson-in-law! He's not much better than Daniel at all!

Look at Jayden! He's prepared all sorts of gifts, including a diamond ring and a famous artist's masterpiece! What about him? He came unprepared!

Daniel is such a loser! The same goes for his son-in-law!

Zeke realized Hannah had been staring at the masterpiece Jayden presented her sister. He asked curiously, “Mom, do you have a thing for art pieces of sorts as well?”

Hannah replied, “Mm. I used to work in the museum back when I was young. I do have a thing for art pieces like this.”

Zeke tapped on his head. “Mom, I really had no idea the sort of gifts I should have prepared for you back then.”

“You should have told me you fancy artwork of sorts!”

Lacey raised her head and looked at Zeke.

Is he finally making a move after remaining silent for such a long time?

Zeke removed the painting, which was initially hanging on the wall casually, and handed it over to Hannah.

“Mom, here's A Vase of Flowers from Margareta Haverman. Mr. Raynor, the ex-boss of the Grand Millenium Hotel had spent twenty million to get this from Suseby Auction Firm.”

“I'll give it to you since it is what you like.”

Silence fell in the room for a moment before everyone broke into laughter.

The bunch of youngsters laughed so hard they almost cried.

They looked at Zeke as though they were looking at a foolish man.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Hahaha! What a joke! I can't believe someone actually tried to present someone else with the hotel's accessory.”

“Even a mentally retarded person wouldn't do such a foolish thing, right?”

“Lacey must be blind, right? Why did she choose such a foolish man as her partner?”

Shirley laughed so hard and teared up.

“Impressive! I've never seen such a shameless guy before!”

Jayden scolded Zeke, “Hurry up and put the painting back in its original place!”

“Although the hotel's manager is a close acquaintance of mine, I won't be able to protect you if you break such a valuable piece!”

Zeke replied nonchalantly, “Grand Millenium Hotel belongs to me. They won't flinch even if I were to tear this drawing into pieces.”

What the hell?

Grand Millenium Hotel belongs to him?

Who the hell gives this ex-convict the audacity to utter such absurd words?

This is the most hilarious joke of the day!

Everyone broke into laughter once again.

Jayden could barely catch his breath as he was laughing hysterically. "If that's the case, I'm the leader of Eurasia!"

"You better stop getting full of yourself! I'll seriously get the hotel's manager here immediately! I'll get them to sue you until you file for bankruptcy!"

Daniel got anxious and said, "Zeke, although you're an acquaintance of the hotel's owner, Ms. Raynore, it's better not to go overboard."

"Put the piece of drawing back where it belongs. We sincerely appreciate your effort."

Jayden told everyone, "Susan has already sold off all of her shares to a mysterious figure. I'm sure you guys have no idea about it, right?"

"Ms. Summer is currently the person in charge of Grand Millenium Hotel."

"I'm warning you for one last time! Return it, or I'll call them!"

"Please be my guest," replied Zeke.

I was the one who appointed Summer as the manager of the hotel. I don't think she would dare go against my words.

“Fine! I'll fulfil your wish since you have a death wish!” Jayden reached for his phone in a furious manner.

Daniel and his family grew even more anxious.

Zeke can't possibly get away unscathed now that Susan is no longer Grand Millenium Hotel's person in charge!

They tried their best to persuade Zeke, but it was too late because Jayden's call had already made it through.

He initiated the conversation respectfully, “Ms. Summer, please hurry up and make your way to Couleur. Someone is trying to break the painting of the suite.”

“Mm. Sure! Don't worry! I won't allow him to get away!”

Daniel and his family had an awful expression on their faces.

It's too late! Things have gotten to the point of no return! What should we do?

Daniel lowered his voice and told Zeke, “Hurry up! Take the opportunity to call Ms. Susan.”

“Although she's no longer affiliated with the hotel, I'm sure she's still pretty influential and will be able to help you!”

Zeke replied with a smile, "Don't worry dad. I've got everything under control."

Hannah's sister sneered, "Seriously? You've got everything under control? How?"

"Daniel's a wimp. Turns out his son-in-law is a wimp as well! He's no match for Jayden!"

Lacey's grandmother was disappointed with her grandson-in-law as well.

She decided to teach him a lesson, "You're Zeke, right? I know you're irritated because you're no match for Jayden, but do you think others will look up to you with such a bluff?"

"You're wrong! Everyone will think you're nothing but a fool!"

"I'm warning you! I don't care what you are about to do, but I will not allow Lacey to marry you if you were to get her involved!"

Zeke smiled but remained silent thereafter.

Since you're thinking on behalf of my beloved wife, I'll forget about it.

Soon, Summer made her way into the suite.

Everyone got up and welcomed her.

Jayden told her, "Ms. Summer, he's the one who's

trying to present others the items of the hotel!”

“In fact, he told us he's the owner of Grand Millenium Hotel!”

“Please sue him through legal means under theft and defamation of the hotel!”



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Summer looked at Zeke with a radiant smile on her face, “Mr. Williams is right. He's indeed the owner of the hotel.”

Jayden sneered, “Hmph! Did you hear that, Zeke? Why don't you try to defend yourself... Wait... Ms. Summer, what did you just say?”

Everyone stared at Summer. They thought they must have had been hearing things.

Summer walked towards Zeke and apologized respectfully, “Mr. Williams, I'm so sorry to get in your way during your meal.”

“It's fine.” Zeke nodded.

Summer reached for the agreement she had with her and handed it over to Lacey, “Ms. Lacey, this is a present from Mr. Williams. Please accept it.”

Lacey was confused. “What is it?”

“Please check it out.”

Lacey went through the content of the agreement after she opened it.

She got worked up soon after, and rubbed her eyes, afraid she was seeing things. “I... I'm not seeing things, right? T-This... is a share purchase agreement of the Grand Millenium Hotel?”

“Thirty percent! Zeke, you're giving me thirty

percent of Grand Millenium Hotel's shares?"

Zeke nodded and asked, "Do you like it?"

Lacey's heart pounded furiously, "Tell me what exactly is going on! Since when did you purchase Grand Millenium Hotel?"

"Impossible! It's impossible!" Jayden behaved as though he had lost his mind and snatched the agreement. He went through every single detail of it.

Soon, he shuddered and dropped the agreement.

The contract contained the details of the transferor and transferee. Zeke had indeed purchased thirty percent of Grand Millenium Hotel's shares and transferred it over to Lacey.

Everyone was shocked because they couldn't believe what was going on.

Jayden had proven the agreement's authenticity. Hence, it couldn't possibly be a forged agreement either.

Apart from that, Summer was the one who had delivered the contract to Lacey.

That would indicate the fact that Zeke was really the owner of Grand Millenium Hotel.

What the hell! He's really presenting others his

property! Nothing's wrong with that, but...

Everyone looked at Zeke in disbelief.

He's but a poor ex-convict, right? Where did he gather the funds required to purchase Grand Millenium Hotel's shares?

Thirty percent of it! It would have cost at least several billion!

Jayden's diamond ring which cost several hundred thousand seemed relatively inferior to the shares transfer agreement.

Hannah grew excited due to the drastic turn of events.

She smiled and asked, "Ms. Summer, I beg your pardon. So it's fine for my son-in-law to give me this particular painting, right?"

Hannah seemed as though she was trying to be polite, but it was actually an act of showing off in disguise.

Summer replied, "Each and every Grand Millenium Hotel item belongs to Mr. Williams and Ms. Lacey. Of course, it's fine for them to give you their belongings."

"Great." Hannah smiled and went on, "Too bad, Zeke. Although your gift is of a valuable one, it's nothing as compared to the Jayden's painting."

“Look at the painting Jayden has. It's larger than the one you have. I'm sure it's worth several billion! It's definitely a catch!”

Several billion!

Hannah's sister and her family were dumbfounded because Hannah used to be an archaeologist back in the day. They knew her appraisal was trustworthy. “It's such a valuable piece?”

Hannah nodded. “This particular piece's specification was nothing like those of the Renaissance. Perhaps this particular piece was one of a kind. It may potentially change mankind's history.”

“It has the potential to change mankind's history? Does that mean it's a valuable piece?”

Hannah was actually indirectly indicating that it was a replicated artwork.

Pffft!

Lacey could no longer hold back her laughter.

Since when did mom pick up Dawnie's sarcasm?

She's done a great job! First of all, she managed to trick them, before revealing the harsh truth.

Hannah's sister's family had a gloomy expression on their faces.

Jayden immediately rebutted, “Hannah! Stop talking nonsense! You're not from the Renaissance, right? How can you be so certain artwork of such a specification didn't exist back then?”

Suddenly, Summer was shocked. “Huh? What? Why is this piece of artwork with you guys?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Jayden asked immediately, “Ms. Summer, have you come across this piece before?”

Summer nodded, “I have!”

“It's the one we have in the lowest grade suite of ours! It's a factory produced item that costs nothing more than three thousand.”

“However, someone had accidentally damaged it a few days ago. Hence, we had it thrown away.”

“Did you pick it up from the pile of trash?”

Hannah's sister clenched her fist out of anger. She couldn't wait to beat Jayden into a pulp.

This isn't an antique at all! It's nothing but a factory printed item!

Damn it, Jayden! How dare you give me such a piece of trash!

How dare you humiliate me!

Jayden flushed with embarrassment and tried to defend himself, “Ms. Summer, I'm sure you have mistaken it as something else. I didn't pick it up from the pile of trash. I bought it from an antique firm!”

“Apart from that, this piece of mine isn't damaged either.”

Shirley nodded as well. "That's right! I'm sure it's different from the one you guys threw away!"

Summer went on, "It seems like something's wrong with the size. Perhaps they have altered it to cover the damaged part."

"Why don't you remove the frame and see if it's damaged on the bottom right corner?"

Hannah's brother immediately did as instructed and removed the frame.

Indeed, the part that was initially covered by the frame was damaged.

Jayden was speechless as he had no idea how to defend himself now that the evidence was right in front of him.

Hannah's sister and her family's face flushed with anger. They had been greatly humiliated in front of others.

My sister's son-in-law gave his wife shares worthy of several billion, while my son-in-law gave me a piece of trash?

How embarrassing!

Zeke suddenly scolded Summer, "Summer! This is the hotel's asset! How dare you get rid of it without my permission!"

“I want you to bear the loss you've caused the hotel! I'm ordering you to purchase this particular piece using your own assets!”

Summer was dumbfounded.

Why is Zeke behaving like a stingy man all of a sudden? He isn't such a stingy man, right? He's acting nothing like his usual self!

However, it seems like there's a reason behind his action.

Lacey immediately stood up for Summer, “Forget about it, Zeke! It's such a trivial matter! It's just a worthless piece of artwork! Let's just let bygones be bygones.”

Hannah tried to persuade Zeke on behalf of Summer as well.

However, Zeke told them, “Mom, Lacey, please stay out of this.”

“This is a matter of principles. If I don't teach a general manager like her a lesson after she has broken the rules of the hotel, I don't think she will be able to lead the rest of the team.”

Lacey was about to persuade Zeke on Summer's behalf again, but Summer got ahead of her and interrupted their conversation. “I'm so sorry, Mr. Williams. It's my mistake.”

“Jayden, I believe you know what has happened. I'll offer you ten thousand. Please return the piece of artwork to me.”

Hannah couldn't bear that they were actually paying ten thousand a piece of factory-made artwork.

What a waste of money!

Jayden immediately agreed without any hesitation, “Sure!”

He had actually spent five hundred to get the said piece. He managed to generate a fortune by selling it off for ten thousand.

Summer immediately transferred the fund to Jayden.

He handed the said piece over to Summer once he received the payment.

Lacey was slightly irritated, “Are you happy now? I can't believe we've actually spent ten thousand on this defect item!”

Zeke smiled in a mysterious manner and handed the piece of artwork over to Lacey, “Hold on to it for me, Lacey.”

“Why?” asked Lacey curiously.

Zeke repeated himself, “Just take it.”

Lacey took over the piece of artwork.

Zeke took a mouthful of water and spit on the piece of artwork.

Lacey was shocked and asked, “Zeke, why the hell did you do that!”

“You spent so much getting it back! Why are you ruining it?”

Zeke replied, “I'm not trying to ruin it. I'm unveiling its true value.”

Hannah's eyes gleamed all of a sudden as she recalled something. She got worked up and asked, “Zeke, do you think something is hidden behind this particular piece?”

Zeke nodded. “Yes, mom. Please work on it.”

Hannah could barely hold back her excitement. “Okay!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Everyone was confused by the conversation Zeke and Hannah had.

They witnessed what Hannah did. She removed the frame of the picture and gently rubbed on the damaged part of the artwork.

Eventually, she managed to separate the piece of artwork into two pieces. There was another separate layer beneath the first layer.

What! There's another layer hidden underneath?

Everyone had their eyes on the piece of artwork as they couldn't wait to find out what was hidden beneath.

Hannah removed the protective film slowly. There were certain parts which were stuck. She would spit on those parts because it would allow her to separate it easily.

She managed to remove the protective film soon and unveiled the artwork hidden beneath the film.

It was a stunning oil painting.

It was none other than Three Graces by Raphael from the Renaissance.

Everyone was shocked when they saw the completely revealed artwork.

It was a long-lost piece with its date of origin yet

to be determined.

A random piece of Raphael's artwork would easily cost millions, let alone a long-lost piece.

Its value would easily surpass any of its available artwork, as it was one of his earlier artworks.

That particular piece could easily go up on sale for ten or even twenty million.

Ten thousand for a piece of artwork, which was worthy of millions. It was indeed a miracle.

Hannah reached for the piece of artwork and kept it because she was afraid Jayden might go back against his words.

As a fellow antique collector, such a rare hunt would be even more valuable than the collection she had to spend a fortune over.

Hannah's sister and her family were certainly jealous.

What a huge loss! We just handed over several million to them!

This can't be it!

Hannah's sister scolded Jayden. "That's my gift! How could you sell it off to others?"

"Return them their money and get that piece of

artwork back!”

Jayden figured out what Hannah's sister meant almost instantly and nodded. “Yes! Zeke, I'm not selling that painting anymore.”

“I'll return the money to you! Please return the piece of artwork to me!”

Zeke agreed without any hesitation as well, “Sure!”

Meanwhile, Hannah was anxious. “Zeke, no! They're the ones going against their words! How can they possibly demand something they have already sold us?”

Zeke reassured his mother-in-law, “Mom, this piece of artwork is useless to us. Let's just return it to them.”

Before Hannah could stop Zeke, Jayden had already returned the money to Zeke. “I have already transferred the money to you. Please return the piece of artwork to me.”

Zeke handed over the first layer of artwork removed by Hannah to Jayden. “Here you go.”

Jayden was irritated. “Zeke, stop being sarcastic! This isn't what I want! I want Raphael's piece!”

Zeke told Jayden, “I don't think you have any right to demand Raphael's piece! It's not the piece we bought from you either!”

Jayden's face turned pale all of a sudden. "Y...You! How dare you trick me!"

Zeke replied in a callous tone, "I'm not! It's a fair trade!"

"I mean, even if I did trick you, what can you do about it?"

Shirley felt aggrieved because she was no match for Lacey at all.

She was determined and tried her best to defend her dignity. "Hmph! That's nothing but a piece of paper! It might deflate in value soon! Stop getting full of yourselves!"

"Diamond is far more superior to a piece of paper! Diamond is forever. I will be able to pass it on to my children."

Jayden played along, "That's right! This diamond ring shows how much I prioritize Shirley in my life! A piece of crap can't possibly outmatch my sincerity!"

Suddenly, Summer recalled something. "Speaking of a diamond ring, I ran into a piece of receipt at the doorstep just now. It belongs to Jayden Hill."

"Jayden, here's your receipt."

Summer reached for the receipt she had with her as soon as she finished her sentence.

Meanwhile, Jayden was confused because he had bought the replicated diamond ring from the black mart.

It had merely cost him three thousand. Apart from that, it had been transacted using cash.

What exactly does Summer mean by receipt? There can't possibly be a receipt!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Summer said, “The receipt shows that the diamond ring you bought costs one million. It's yours, Jayden, isn't it?”

One million!

Everyone gasped.

Jayden actually spent a million to buy a diamond ring. What a generous man.

Jayden hurriedly replied with a smile, “Yes, it's mine. I didn't want to reveal the price initially, but unexpectedly, I'm sold out by the receipt.”

Shirley was deeply moved by it. “You're so generous to me, Jayden, thank you.”

“It's my pleasure,” Jayden answered with a smile.

Summer suddenly said in surprise, “Hey, wait, I was wrong. It's not one million, but one thousand. I misread the price.”

One thousand?

Everyone shot Jayden a skeptical look.

Jayden broke out in a cold sweat. “It's impossible. This receipt isn't mine. I've clearly spent three thousand—”

When the words came out, he quickly realized that he had slipped up, and covered his mouth.

Damn!

Shirley and her mother were furious!

Jayden had just admitted that the diamond ring was a fake that only cost three thousand!

He's trying to mess with us like we're fools, isn't he?

“Go to hell!” Shirley yelled at Jayden.

Jayden was so embarrassed; he wanted to dig a hole and hide.

A gloating smile appeared on Summer's face.

In fact, this receipt was fake.

She just found out that Jayden and his group had mocked Zeke, so she got a fake receipt to help Zeke save face.

Summer said, “I guess I'll leave you two alone, Mr. Williams, Ms. Hinton. I'm off. Call me if you need me.”

Zeke nodded his head.

When she reached the door, she suddenly asked, “Jayden, do you still need the normal suite you reserved? If you don't, I'll cancel your reservation.”

Shirley suddenly remembered something and hurriedly asked, “Ms. Mills, who has reserved the

Couleur?”

Summer replied matter-of-factly, “Mr. Williams, of course. What's wrong?”

The truth has come to light!

Jayden has only reserved a normal suite, while the Couleur has been reserved by Zeke.

It was Jayden who was taking the credit earlier, not Zeke!

The last fig leaf of Jayden had also been completely taken off.

The atmosphere turned extremely dreary in an instant.

Shirley and her mother shot Jayden a furious look, wishing to tear him apart right there and then.

In the end, Lacey's grandmother broke the strained silence. “Let's eat first. We'll talk about other stuff later.”

Then, she looked at Zeke, feeling pleased.

It seems this grandson-in-law is so much better than Daniel.

It's great that my granddaughter won't need to be a loser like Hannah for the rest of her life.

At this moment, Zeke's phone rang.

It was a call from Douglas.

Douglas said, "Williams, Sandra and I have arrived at the Grand Millenium Hotel. Where are you?"

"Come to the Couleur," Zeke told him.

Douglas replied, "Alright, right away."

After hanging up the phone, Lacey curiously asked, "You also invited other guests?"

Zeke nodded his head. "Yeah, they'll be here soon."

Before long, there was a knock on the door of the suite.

Zeke shouted, "Come in!"

Douglas and Sandra walked in.

Jayden immediately spotted Sandra and shuddered in shock.

Damn, why is Sandra here?!

I'm doomed. They'll all find out I'm a two-timer.

At the same time, Sandra had also noticed Jayden.

She was surprised. "Why are you here too,

Jayden?”

Jayden stammered, “I-I...”

Shirley curiously said, “Jayden, why does she sound like she's very close with you? I didn't know you had a sister.”

Sandra hurriedly explained, “I'm not his sister. I'm his fiancée.”

“Fiancée!” Shirley flew into a rage. “Jayden, you actually have a f*cking fiancée!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Sandra was baffled. “Why are you so angry? What's wrong with me being his fiancée?”

Shirley replied, “Jayden told me he's single and has been pursuing me. He's here today to celebrate my birthday...”

“Damn!” Sandra couldn't help but curse. “Jayden, you're a bastard! How dare you two-time me!”

Jayden stared at Zeke with an angry look on his face.

He knew for sure that Zeke was the one who got Sandra here.

This bastard has set me up!

He had no way out now.

He said through gritted teeth, “Zeke, how dare you f*cking mess with me! I'm not done with you!”

Then, he got ready to leave in a huff.

However, Sandra grabbed the hem of his clothes. “You can't leave. You must give me an explanation today.”

Jayden cursed, “What f*cking explanation do you want? You've already seen it with your own eyes.”

The two of them walked out of the suite while Sandra tried to stop him.

Douglas chased after Sandra and stopped her. "Let him go, Sandra, this kind of scumbag isn't worth it. I've already told you that a scumbag like Jayden isn't worthy of you."

Sandra buried her face in her hands and cried. "I was wrong, Douglas, I should've listened to you."

Zeke and Lacey also walked out and consoled her. "Sandra, don't be sad. You should feel relieved instead, as you can give him up before you fall in too deep."

Sandra glanced at Zeke and Lacey Hinton with teary eyes.

They behave intimately. I guess they're a couple.

Other than her good looks, and sexy figure, Lacey was also gentle and considerate. *Only this kind of woman can be worthy of Zeke.*

I'm no match for Lacey at all!

Realizing she had no chance, she cried even harder.

In the end, Sandra reluctantly left following Douglas's persuasion.

Zeke said, "Why don't you come inside, Hill? It's my wife's coming-of-age ceremony today."

Douglas smiled. "You've learned to rob the cradle,

haven't you, Williams? I'm telling you, it's your blessing she's willing to marry you at such a young age. You have to treat her well.”

Lacey's face flushed with embarrassment. “Douglas, don't listen to Zeke's nonsense. We're not married yet.”

“Don't worry, Lacey, just marry him. I understand his personality well. He's very reliable.” Douglas added, “If he dares to treat you wrong after marriage, let me know. I'll teach him a lesson for you.”

Lacey raised her fist at Zeke. “You heard that? With Douglas backing me up, don't you ever think of bullying me again.”

Zeke smiled bitterly.

Douglas is just my employee. He won't dare touch me.

“Williams, Lacey, you should go ahead and celebrate the coming-of-age ceremony. I'm going to a business meeting,” Douglas said.

It was awkward for him, as an outsider, to attend the coming-of-age ceremony. Which was why he simply made excuses to decline Zeke's invitation.

Zeke asked curiously, “With whom are you having the business meeting, Douglas?”

Douglas was now responsible for the planting of *Rhodiola Rosea* and was considered a dean in Reinz Pharmaceutical.

“The former boss of the hotel, Susan Raynor,” Douglas replied. “By the way, my superior told me that several people have asked me to attend a dinner once the contract is signed. I wanted to refuse at first, but I heard Mr. Hinton is attending the dinner, so I agreed to go too.”

“Mr. Hinton? Which Hinton?” Zeke was curious.

Douglas answered, “Your grandpa, Adam Hinton.”

Zeke finally understood.

It turned out the VIPs from Reinz Pharmaceutical whom Madeleine and Emily invited had invited was Douglas.

Douglas agreed to attend the dinner because he didn't know the relationship between his family and Adam.

Madeleine and Emily wouldn't have expected that he was actually the owner of Reinz Pharmaceutical, and Douglas was just his employee.

Speak of the devil.

As soon as he thought of Madeleine and Emily, the door of the suite across from theirs was opened.

Madeleine, Emily, Jeremy and Adam walked out of the suite.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Madeleine and Emily immediately saw Douglas.

However, the two of them wondered why the VIP they had invited was with Zeke.

Madeleine had a bad feeling about this. “Emily, do you think Mr. Hill knows Zeke?”

Emily assured her, “You're overthinking, Mom. Zeke must have taken the initiative to approach Mr. Hill on the grounds that he knows us. Mr. Hill doesn't know that we've had a falling-out with him, so he probably talked to them out of politeness.”

Madeleine immediately nodded her head. “Yeah, that must be the case.” She added, “Let's go and clarify the situation. We must not let Zeke win the favour of Mr. Hill.”

The two hurriedly went up to them, while Adam and Jeremy followed closely behind.

Madeleine yelled from afar, “You're here, Mr. Hill. Excuse me for not welcoming you earlier.”

“Mr. Hill, we've reserved the suite. Let's have our talk at the suite,” Adam said respectfully.

Douglas nodded his head and said to Zeke, “I shall get going, Williams, see you.”

Madeleine was displeased.

Zeke actually makes Douglas mistakenly think that

they have a good relationship with us. He treats them so politely. What the hell did he say to Douglas?

Madeleine hurriedly explained, “Just ignore them, Mr. Hill. Did he say something to make you misunderstand that they have a good relationship with our family? To tell you the truth, we're actually enemies.”

Douglas was stunned for a moment. “Enemies? Why would Mr. Hinton...”

Why would Zeke's grandpa be with their enemies?

Adam hurriedly said, “They're disloyal, unrighteous, and unfilial. We've already severed our relationship with them.”

The realization dawned on Douglas. “I see.”

Trying to stand up for Douglas, Emily condemned Zeke, “How dare you deceive Mr. Hill, Zeke.” She went on to say, “Mr. Hill, this kind of person should be punished by law! Would you want me to call the police for you?”

Douglas replied indifferently, “Sure, go ahead.”

“Okay.” Emily was overjoyed.

Douglas then added, “The police really should arrest you all, so that you can learn your lesson.”

Emily's hand trembled. "What do you mean by that, Mr. Hill? Why arrest us?"

"Humph, it's you who's deceived me, not Williams," said Douglas angrily.

Emily was confused. "When did we deceive you, Mr. Hill?"

"I agreed to attend the dinner this time because Williams' grandfather, Adam, will also be there. I didn't expect that Adam had already severed ties with Williams!" Douglas rebuked, "You knew the truth, but you didn't tell me and have wasted my time. Isn't this a deception? "

Emily asked with a trembling voice, "So, you agreed to come out of respect for Zeke? D-Do you know him?"

"Of course, Williams and I are good friends!"

Good friends!

Emily released a cry of desperation.

It's because of Zeke again! How much power does this guy actually have in private? He's now totally different from the man he used to be when he dated me!

How much power does this guy actually have in private?

He's now totally different from the man he used to be when he dated me!

All the abilities, courage, financial resources, and even connections he demonstrated prove that he's a good catch!

Yet, I broke up with him.

She was filled with remorse.

Meanwhile, Madeleine started to feel abashed.

If Zeke was still her son-in-law, he would definitely be able to collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical.

But because of her greed for the three hundred thousand back then, she now lost a deal worth tens or even hundreds of millions!

She had suffered a loss of one hundred million!

Douglas said indifferently, "Now get out of here before I call the police."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Emily and her mother no longer had the nerve to stay there, so they scurried away.

Whereas Adam and Jeremy stood rooted to the spot, not knowing what to do.

Initially, they didn't come to the coming-of-age ceremony with the excuse that they had received an invitation from the Clemons.

But after this incident, the two of them felt extremely embarrassed.

At this time, Susan arrived.

Upon seeing Douglas, she hurried over. "Mr. Hill, sorry for keeping you waiting."

Douglas politely replied, "It's okay. I've just arrived as well."

Susan then glanced at Daniel and said, "Mr. Hinton, what a coincidence. You're here too. I was about to call you."

Daniel was dumbfounded. "Call me? For what?"

Susan explained, "I'm going to collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical soon, but I'm afraid that I will not be able to do this job well on my own. Therefore, I want to work with you!"

W-What!?

Daniel was so excited that he became incoherent.

Susan has just invited me to collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical together!

Being able to collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical was the dream of Daniel and even every single TCM practitioner.

And now, his dream had come true!

“I-I'm in!” Daniel hurriedly said, “Why don't we go and talk in detail inside the suite, Mr. Hill, Ms. Raynor?”

Douglas looked at Zeke with a worried expression. “I-Is this okay? We can perhaps talk after you're done with the coming-of-age ceremony. We'll be waiting for you outside.”

Zeke nodded his head. “Sounds good.”

“That's great.” Douglas smiled, also nodding his head.

They returned to the Couleur together.

Adam and Jeremy decided to leave after giving it some thought.

They still refused to give Lacey their blessings.

Lacey's grandmother called after them, “Mr. Hinton, are you really not attending Lacey's

coming-of-age ceremony?”

“We're not free,” Adam replied in an indifferent manner.

Lacey's grandmother was disappointed. “Okay.”

However, Zeke suddenly raised his voice at them, “Come back inside, and sit!”

Adam was furious. “Such an ill-mannered bastard. This is outrageous! We will leave whenever we want. What makes you think you can order us around?”

“Because Lily owes us one hundred million dollars.” Zeke threatened, “If you dare leave, I will call the police now and ask the police to arrest Lily!”

Due to the dowry incident with the Williams family of Atheville, Lily still owed Zeke one hundred million dollars.

Hannah's siblings were stupefied.

Lily actually owes them one hundred million dollars!

Adam chickened out.

They could barely even take out ten thousand dollars, let alone one hundred million!

However, Adam said, with a false sense of pride,

“Humph, of course, we will attend Lacey's coming-of-age ceremony. But our decision to stay has nothing to do with you.”

The two of them obediently entered the Couleur.

Zeke made the two stay not because he wanted them to give Lacey their blessings. It was because he simply wanted to flaunt Lacey's current capital and power to intimidate them, lest they continued to bully Lacey unscrupulously in the future.

Lacey's grandmother looked at Daniel with mixed feelings.

She didn't expect that this useless son-in-law whom she had despised for a long time would have such great ability to work with Reinz Pharmaceutical.

Alas, I've underestimated him too much.

Lacey's grandmother put some food on Daniel's plate, and said meaningfully, “Eat more, Daniel. I didn't expect you to actually collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical. You've really earned it. Forgive me for underestimating you previously.”

The words of Lacey's grandmother gave Daniel and Hannah mixed feelings.

Daniel's eyes even brimmed with tears.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Despite having been married for decades, they had always been looked down upon by Lacey's grandmother. She had treated them in an indifferent manner due to Daniel's ineptitude.

They had never expected that she would suddenly change her attitude toward them. Even going as far as taking food for Daniel and apologizing to him after so many years.

Their hard days had finally come to an end.

However, Daniel knew Zeke was the one who helped him to get a contract with Reinz Pharmaceutical.

Not wanting to the credit, he said, "Mom, in fact, it's all thanks to Zeke."

"Thanks to Zeke?" Lacey's grandmother asked in surprise.

Daniel nodded his head. "Zeke, you asked me to increase staff yesterday. The more the better. You even said that Reinz Pharmaceutical may have already gotten the contract for me ready. If I'm right, you're the one who arranged for everything, aren't you?"

"Dad, you're thinking too much. I've only suggested to Susan to work with you," Zeke said with a smile. "The main reason she offered is that you have got the outstanding ability and hence, won Susan's favour."

“Really?” Daniel doubted it.

All signs indicated that Zeke did all of this.

He didn't believe what Zeke had said.

Douglas and Susan smiled wryly to themselves.

Why's Zeke so low-key? He's clearly the owner of Reinz Pharmaceutical, and yet he doesn't want to take the credit.

I really can't understand the world of the rich.

Zeke asked Lacey, “Lacey, our business now covers construction, food and beverage, and healthcare. It's a bit too complicated. Can you manage it alone?”

“Yes, our business is indeed kinda messy.” Lacey massaged her temples. “But it's okay, I'll just sacrifice some of my free time to manage it.”

Zeke shook his head. “I think that isn't very good. Why don't we integrate these businesses into one, and set up a conglomerate? I've even come up with a name - Linton Group. You will be the director of the group, while Dad will be responsible for the healthcare industry. As for the shares of Grand Millenium, I will manage it.”

Lacey's eyes instantly lit up. “That's right. Why didn't I think of this? We have the capital and are now fully capable of conglomeration. Once our

group is listed, its market value will soar to at least tens of billions. By then, our family will soon become a second-rate family. However, there's a flaw in your suggestions. How can a talent like you be a branch manager of F&B? This kind of job should be done by Dawnie."

Zeke asked curiously, "Oh, what kind of job do you think a talent like me should do?"

"Continue to be my salesperson," Lacey concluded.

Zeke was rendered speechless.

Lacey added, "You, as a salesperson, have gotten me Hamilton Construction, the Love in a Fallen City Project, 30% shares of Grand Millenium Hotel, and the contract with Reinz Pharmaceutical. Perhaps, you will get me some bigger projects next time. It'll be a waste of talent if you don't work as a salesperson!"

Everyone was stupefied.

That's right. It's really a waste of talent if he doesn't work as a salesperson!

No, it's not only a waste but an intolerable act!

Lacey must have saved the world in her previous life. That was why she could have such a capable salesperson.

Although Zeke was dissatisfied with this work arrangement, he did not object to it.

Glancing at Hannah, he noticed that she seemed a little down.

It was normal for her to feel down. As an under accomplished housewife, she must feel bad at heart seeing her family members thriving in their own favourite field.



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“Mom, weren't you an archaeologist when you were younger? It just so happens that some of my friends are archaeological tycoons. I'll help you set up an antique shop someday, and ask my friends to support you. Your business will definitely bloom.” Zeke comforted her.

Lacey asked curiously, “Zeke, why do you seem to have friends in every industry? Tell me the truth, how many friends do you... No, is there an industry that you have no friends in!?”

“I have lots of friends all over Eurasia,” Zeke replied with a smile. “As an old saying goes, 'there's always someone send me toilet paper no matter where I shit'.”

Lacey pouted. “Ugh, gross.”

Haha!

The whole room burst into laughter.

Of course, the whole room only referred to Lacey's grandmother, uncle, and the Hinton's.

As for the others, their expressions looked as if they had just eaten shit.

Meanwhile, Hannah was touched. “I appreciate your intention, Zeke, but we don't have to open the antique shop so soon—at least not before the integration of our businesses. My main task now is to take good care of you all by ensuring that you

eat and live well so that you can do better business.”

Zeke nodded his head. “Okay, anything you say, Mom.”

Hannah looked at her mother again, and said, “Mom, since I'm free during this period of time, you should come and live with us. I'll take care of you.”

The frown disappeared from her mother's face. “Okay, I'll live with you then. However, I'm not old that I need you to take care of me. I can help you with some housework as well. Lacey, don't you like eating the red velvet cake I make the most? I'll make it for you tonight.”

Lacey was excited, and immediately said, “Thanks, Grandma.”

Since Daniel and Hannah got married, Hannah's mother had never been to their home.

Now that she was willing to live with them, it meant that they had finally buried the hatchet and reconciled.

Meanwhile, Hannah's brother panicked as he blurted out, “Mom, you still have to look after my child and cook for us. What about your grandson if you go and live with them?”

His mother was in a dilemma.

Lacey took out 20,000 dollars from her pocket and slapped it on the table. "Uncle, hire a nanny, I will give you more money if this isn't enough."

Zeke was rendered speechless.

She's started to become ostentatious, hasn't she?

Lacey's uncle hurriedly declined. "Haha, Lacey, I was just joking with your grandma. I'm mainly worried that your grandma's stay will cause trouble for your family. But, since you're so determined, I have no problem with her living at your place. Take the money back, I can't accept it... By the way, Lacey, could you ask Zeke if he knows someone in my department? Having been in the position of section chief for almost ten years, I really wish to move up the hierarchy."

Lacey glanced at Zeke.

"I'll ask my friend," said Zeke.

"Oh, okay." Lacey's uncle beamed with delight.

His reply hinted that he did know someone in the department of Lacey's uncle.

Lacey's uncle then suddenly handed Lacey the makeup set that he had given to Shirley. "Lacey, you can have this. I'll get you more once Estee Lauder launches new products."

Shirley was displeased with his action. "Uncle,

didn't you give me the makeup set?"

Her uncle sternly said, "Don't be ridiculous, Shirley. It's Lacey's once-in-a-lifetime coming-of-age ceremony today. Can't you just let her have it? I'll get you a new set after this."

Shirley and her mother felt helpless and bitter at his fickleness.

But they didn't dare to talk back, because Lacey's husband was overwhelmingly powerful, and they did not dare trifle with him.

It was the first time that they were catastrophically defeated by the Hinton.

However, Adam and Jeremy had even more complicated feelings than Shirley and her mother did.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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For the longest time, they had wanted to marry Lacey to Jackson, and use the power of the Hamilton family to help the Hinton family.

But now, the Hamilton family had collapsed, while Lacey quietly developed her company and grew it to such a degree. She even wanted to establish a conglomerate and surpassed the Hamilton Group when it was at its peak!

Life is ever-changing, and fate does deal some people a rotten hand.

The two of them secretly regretted antagonizing Lacey and her family.

Otherwise, they would now be able to get part of the shares as well, instead of owing her family one hundred million dollars!

The coming-of-age ceremony soon ended.

After their relatives and friends had left, Hannah asked for the car key and threw it to Daniel.

“Zeke, we don't have enough bedrooms at home, so I will temporarily let your grandma stay in your room. You and Lacey can spend the night in a hotel.”

Then, without giving them a chance to refute, she got into the car with Daniel and her mother before driving off.

After a while, Daniel whispered, "Hannah, why didn't you let them stay at home? You and Mom can share the same room, while I sleep on the sofa. Lacey and Zeke can still have their room."

Hannah rolled her eyes at Daniel, and said, "I really think your brain is mush. You can't even understand such a thing. Let me ask you, don't you find it strange that Lacey is still not pregnant even though Zeke has been living with us for a few months?"

Daniel replied thoughtfully, "Oh, yea, we should get a doctor to examine Lacey."

"You're unbelievably stupid." Hannah's face darkened. "I mean, the pair is too embarrassed to get intimate as they live under the same roof with us. Let them have their own space outside so that they can let go of any worries they have."

"Oh, Hannah, you are so thoughtful." It finally dawned on Daniel.

Hannah's mother also said, "You should really urge Lacey to have children, Hannah. I'm not old yet; I can still help look after the baby when it's born. Looks like I'll have to talk about this with Lacey someday."

Hannah smiled and said, "Mom, Lacey has always obeyed you since she was a child. I'll entrust you with this task then."

Standing at the entrance to Grand Millenium Hotel, Zeke was secretly delighted, yet he dared not show it. He was holding back so much, it was killing him.

He feigned innocence. “Tsk! Mom is really doing everything to have a grandchild, isn't she? Lacey, although I want to fulfil Mom's wish, I will still respect your choice.”

Lacey rolled her eyes. “Pfft! Stop being hypocritical. You must be bubbling with joy deep down. Your expression says it all!”

“Huh?” Zeke panicked, and quickly put on a straight face. “No, I'm not! Cut the nonsense! There's no such thing!”

He still denies it! Lacey chuckled.

The Great Marshal would never let his face show any emotion whenever he was strategizing and facing the enemies.

Yet he was still a rookie in terms of romantic relationships, so he completely lost all self-control and became flustered.

However, Lacey thought that his natural reaction was kind of cute.

As the car had been driven away by Daniel, Lacey had to take the taxi.

“Sir, Westlake Road, please.”

“Alright.”

Zeke breathed a sigh of relief. *Luckily, we're not going home.*

While on their way to the destination, Lacey asked, “Tell me, where did you get the money to buy 30% shares in Grand Millenium?”

“Buy? I didn't buy them. Susan gave them to me for free,” Zeke replied.

Lacey didn't buy his words. “Hah. Why would she give you such a huge gift when she doesn't have any relationship with you?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zeke explained, "I knew Douglas from Reinz Pharmaceutical. Douglas only agreed to collaborate with Susan out of respect for me. For Susan, the opportunity to collaborate with Reinz Pharmaceutical is not something that money can buy, so comparatively, it didn't hurt her to give me some shares."

Lacey thought for a moment. "It kind of makes sense. But how do you know Douglas?"

"Douglas was my cellmate," Zeke said matter-of-factly.

Pfft!

The taxi driver couldn't hold it anymore as he chuckled.

Why are the youngsters nowadays so impetuous?

Is this something you can boast about?

He couldn't help but think of a young couple who had ridden in his car last time, who actually boasted that they would get the Love in a Fallen City project.

What a joke.

This taxi driver would probably never know that the couple who rode in his car last time was also this same couple in his car now.

Besides, they weren't boasting at all!

Soon, they reached Westlake Road.

After getting off the car, Zeke looked around with a puzzled expression. *There isn't any hotels or guesthouses nearby, so why did she bring me here?*

It wasn't until he saw Dawn and found out she rented a place nearby that it dawned on Zeke—Lacey wanted to spend the night at Dawn's.

Zeke was utterly disappointed.

Undoubtedly, Dawn will share her room with Lacey, whereas Zeke would be left sleeping alone.

In fact, Lacey and Dawn didn't sleep at all the whole night.

The conglomeration plan made the two of them so excited that they worked overtime to write up a proposal.

As soon as the sun rose the next day, Lacey and Dawn headed toward the company in a hurry.

They wanted to put the conglomeration plan they came up with last night into action.

Zeke only woke up two hours after the two of them left.

Looking at the empty room and kitchen, he knew

that both of them had skipped breakfast.

Hence, he had no choice but to order two sets of breakfast from a Michelin star restaurant in a takeaway container for them.

Starting the morning right by having breakfast was important as it determined the productivity for the rest of the day.

Upon arriving at the project site of Love in a Fallen City, Zeke heard someone shouting, "Help, Cripple is passing out again!"

Zeke instinctively came to a halt, frowning.

It was the nature of a doctor to save lives, so he couldn't turn a blind eye to this kind of thing.

He turned his head toward the voice.

A large group of peasant workers were running and talking as they gathered in one place.

"Damn, how many times has Cripple passed out?"

"Jeez, just to make money, he really doesn't care about his life, does he? He's sick, and yet doesn't want to stay in the hospital, but comes to work instead."

"Why am I so damn unlucky to be on the same shift as he is? Because of him, we're making lesser money."

A potbellied contractor made his way through the crowd.

Seeing the cripple fainted on the ground, the contractor suddenly became angry. He kicked the cripple hard. "Hey, Cripple, wake up!"

The sharp pain caused the cripple to slowly open his eyes.

He looked around in confusion. It took him a long time to finally come back to his senses.

"Oh, sir, I went to bed too late last night and fell asleep as I was too sleepy today. I'll get up and work right away."

He struggled to prop up his body, trying to stand up.

But he was so weak that he couldn't stand up after two attempts, so he could only kneel on the ground, catching his breath.

Meanwhile, Zeke's heart skipped a beat when he heard Cripple's voice.

His voice is kind of familiar. He sounds like my high school best friend, Hudson Callum.

He then recalled how Olivia and Dylan had told him that Hudson had a broken leg now and became disabled. *Could it be...*

With a ghastly expression, Zeke hurriedly rushed over.

The contractor kicked the cripple again, and the man fell back hard on the ground. “Hey, Cripple, can you still f*cking work? I think you come here to get free medical treatment, don't you? You're fired. Don't die here. Get out of here!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The cripple panicked when he heard that he was fired.

Gritting his teeth, he stood up, while his body was swayed. He looked like he would fall anytime.

“Sir, I-look, I-I'm fine now. Please don't fire me. My daughter is in the hospital, and I'm in urgent need of money to save her life. If you fire me, my daughter will really die soon.”

The contractor said indifferently, “What does that have to do with me? You have delayed the progress of the construction, so I will never hire you again. Get out of here now!”

Then, the contractor even rubbed his shoe against the body of the cripple. “Damn, you dirtied my shoe. Disgusting!”

Seeing that the contractor was about to leave, the cripple got down on his knees and wrapped his arms around the contractor's legs.

“Please, sir, give me one last chance. I'm really fine now! I won't ever affect the construction period again.”

Smack!

Without any hesitation, the constructor slapped the cripple in the face. “Did you not hear me asking you to get out of here? If you keep f*cking pestering me, I won't give you the salary you've

earned this month.”

The cripple was so desperate that he cried out, “It's my fault! Gosh, I'm useless. I've failed you.”

Men wouldn't shed tears easily, but at this moment, the cripple was devastated.

Meanwhile, Zeke finally managed to wade into the crowd.

After seeing the face of the 'cripple', Zeke was heartbroken.

I was right. This 'cripple' is really my high school best friend, Hudson Callum.

However, Hudson looked like a completely different person now.

Zeke couldn't have recognized him if it weren't for the fact that he used to be very close with Hudson.

Although Hudson was the same age as Zeke, he now looked so old that he could be Zeke's father.

Most of his hair had turned grey, while his skin was tanned and rough, with nothing but bones underneath it.

His clothes were ragged and his exposed skin was covered in scars.

His appearance was not much better than a beggar on the street.

Time had left a deep mark on him.

Zeke couldn't imagine what he—his used-to-be best friend—had gone through all these years!

The contractor, whose patience had been exhausted, raised his hand high, about to slap the cripple again.

Zeke rushed up and stopped the contractor. “Stop it!”

The contractor shot Zeke a disdainful glance. “Go away. I'm teaching my dog a lesson. It's none of your business!”

The others also gave Zeke a strange look, wondering why this man was standing up for a lowly cripple.

Raising his head, the cripple glanced at Zeke. He then shuddered, hurriedly bowed his head, and turned to leave!

He had recognized Zeke at once.

He was now embarrassed to see his old classmate and best friend!

Zeke hurriedly shouted, “Hudson, stop it right there!”

“You've got the wrong person. I'm not Hudson, but Cripple!” said Hudson hastily.

“I said, stay where you are!” Zeke's eyes reddened slightly.

His voice was loud like a great bell, exuding the majesty as the God of War in an extremely imposing manner!

Everyone at the scene felt a chill running up their spines. They couldn't help but feel terrified as if a mouse had seen a cat!

They were overawed.

Hudson also instinctively came to a halt.

Zeke walked up to him and gave him a bear hug.

Hudson hurriedly struggled. “Hey, Zeke, I-I'm dirty. I'll stain your clothes!”

Zeke yelled angrily, “A**hole, why didn't you contact me even when you're doing so badly? You have my permanent email address!”

Hudson touched his broken leg, choking up. “I'm embarrassed to see you, Zeke!”

“As long as you don't steal, rob, cheat or lie, you'll always be my best friend!” Zeke said, “Don't you fu*king treat me as your best friend, huh?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Hudson was at a loss for words.

Suddenly, the contractor shouted, "Get out of here now. Don't f*cking waste my time."

Zeke then let go of Hudson and lightly punched his chest. "You must have suffered a lot all these years. Don't worry, I will help you to settle all the scores today!"

Panicked, Hudson hurriedly tugged at the hem of Zeke's top. "Zeke, let's go. We can't mess with him."

Ignoring Hudson, Zeke looked at the contractor with a cold gaze. "Get on your knees, kowtow thrice to my best friend, and apologize!"

Pfft!

The contractor actually sneered. "Haha! What are you? A lunatic?" He added, "Oh yea, since you're friends with Cripple, you're definitely not a normal person as well. You guys better leave before I get angry, otherwise, I'll get tough on you."

Zeke walked toward him with a sneer. "Great, I'd like to see how tough you can be!"

In a panic, Hudson hurriedly reached out to stop Zeke. "Zeke, don't mess with him..."

But his action caused two buns to fall out of his pocket.

The buns looked dry and hard with mould on them. Obviously, they were long past their 'best before' date.

There were also several visible teeth marks on them.

Zeke felt even more heartbroken. "Is this all you eat, Hudson?"

Hudson bowed his head in silence.

Slowly squatting down, Zeke picked up the bun and took a bite.

It was dry, hard, bitter and had a pungent smell.

However, compared with the bitterness he felt at heart, this bitterness on his tongue was nothing.

The contractor was hooting with laughter. "Turns out you like eating dog food as much as Cripple." He corrected himself, "No, wait, even dogs won't eat this!"

"Do you wish to die?" Zeke was fuming with rage this time.

He made a dash for the contractor, and grabbed his throat, lifting him off the ground easily.

"Let go of me!" The contractor was terrified; he had expected this lunatic to attack him. "Believe it or not, I'll kill you!"

“Okay, I'll give you what you want. Just come and seek revenge from me once you've become a ghost,” Zeke said.

With a force, he flung the contractor away.

The contractor then fell directly into a concrete mixer on the side, which had been rotating quickly to combine cement and sand.

As soon as the contractor fell inside, he got drawn in it and was instantly covered in cement.

Everyone was stupefied.

*Lunatic! This man is really a f*cking lunatic!*

He will really kill him.

The worker hurriedly flipped the switch, and the concrete mixer slowly stopped rotating.

With the help of the workers, the contractor managed to climb out of the concrete mixer.

He was now covered in concrete, looking like a mess, while half lying on the ground, and vomiting.

The concrete was mixed with his vomit, so it was an extremely disgusting sight.

The contractor was now losing his cool, so the first thing he wanted was to seek revenge, instead of cleaning himself up.

He took the walkie-talkie and shouted into it, "Wolves, come here and help me kill a man."

Before long, three strong men in security uniforms ran over.

They were stunned at the sight before them.

Damn, who has beaten the boss up?

If they failed to protect him, they might be fired. Therefore, one of the guards ran up to him and asked, "Who did it, sir?"

The contractor pointed at Zeke. "It's him. Kill him."

The three security guards were furious. "He's asking for it."

They then rushed toward Zeke with a murderous look on their faces.

Hudson was terrified, and quickly pulled Zeke away. "Zeke, you must go now. The three of them are veterans. You can't beat them."

"Don't worry. They dare not do anything to me." Zeke replied indifferently, "They're nothing but three peasants. I don't even bother getting my hands dirty just for them!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The crowd burst into laughter!

This guy really knows how to brag, doesn't he?

These three security guards, who were given the nickname the 'Three Wolves of Oakheart City', used to defeat a team of fifty people!

Therefore, Zeke's plan to take them down on his own was just wishful thinking!

Standing still, Zeke remained undaunted.

After the three security guards were within two meters away from him, he tapped his right foot on the ground three times.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

Three stones were kicked up by him and were sent flying straight toward the three security guards.

In the next second, a puffing sound was heard as the three stones directly penetrated the thighs of the three of them.

The stones then landed far away, and their blood splattered around them.

Their wails filled the air.

With their hands holding their injured thighs, the three security guards fell on the ground and howled in pain.

The atmosphere immediately tensed as everyone looked on in disbelief.

Is this man a demon?

The stones he had kicked out were as powerful as bullets! They've directly penetrated human flesh!

How can a human have such a huge burst of energy!?

The contractor was instantly overwhelmed by a deep sense of fear.

He realized that he had gotten himself into deep trouble.

Damn it, why would Cripple know such a powerful man?!

He wanted to run away, feeling terrified.

Moreover, the concrete on his body was about to set, so if he didn't clean up himself quickly, he might end up being trapped by concrete.

“Stop right there!” Zeke said indifferently, “Did I say you could leave?”

The contractor ignored Zeke and made a run for it. “Stop this lunatic! Stop him!”

Before the others could react, Zeke tapped the tip of his foot on the ground again.

A stone was kicked up and directly pierced through the contractor's chest!

A crisp cracking sound was heard as the contractor's rib was broken.

“Ah!” With a scream, the contractor fell to the ground with his hands covering his chest.

Blood seeped between his fingers.

“Kneel and apologize!” Zeke was seething with anger.

“F*ck.” The contractor was losing his mind. “You can't kill me! Y-You can't! I know the project's person in charge, Zeke Williams! So if you dare to hurt me, he will definitely kill you!”

Zeke was stunned.

He knows me? Why didn't I know about it?

Hudson also glanced at Zeke, feeling puzzled.

Is Zeke the person in charge of this project or does he happen to have the same name as he does?

Zeke tentatively asked, “Why? Is Zeke Williams very powerful?”

The contractor replied with a sneer, “Of course, he knows Evan Schneider, the richest man in Oakheart City, and he also has a certain amount of

influence in officialdom! Everyone knows Evan can do whatever he wants in Oakheart City. You're a good fighter, but can you fight the entire Oakheart City?"

"Evan Schneider? Sorry, he's also just a peasant to me!" Zeke said indifferently.

"Haha, how dare you insult Mr. Schneider. Boy, you're so dead," said the contractor arrogantly.

At this time, Dawn came after hearing the commotion. "What are you all doing here? Hurry up, and go to work!"

The contractor immediately clung to the lifeline and shouted, "Ms. Castaneda, help me! Help!"

Dawn glanced at the contractor and was suddenly at her wit's end. "What happened? Did you fall into the concrete mixer?"

The contractor pointed at Zeke. "H-He did this to me. He trespasses on the construction site, and I wanted to drive him out, but he threw me into the concrete mixer and even injured my men!"

Dawn glanced at Zeke, and widened her eyes in surprise. "Zeke, why are you here?"

Zeke?

Everyone was dumbfounded.

Could the man before them be Zeke Williams?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The contractor asked in a frightened voice, “Ms. Castaneda, who is this man?”

“He's, of course, the person in charge of this project, Zeke Williams,” Dawn stated matter-of-factly.

What!?

The contractor's pupils constricted.

This unassuming guy is actually the Zeke Williams who has been in the limelight recently?!

That lowly Cripple actually knows the person in charge of the project!

I've even made a fool of myself by using the name of Zeke Williams to intimidate him...

The contractor felt awful.

He somehow found it harder to breathe, either due to the fear or the concrete setting that was blocking his nostrils.

Dawn asked cautiously, “Zeke, what's going on?”

Zeke took a deep breath. “This bastard bullied my best friend!”

“Oh, Zeke, you know Cripple,” Dawn said, intrigued. “I feel bad for him, you know, his daughter is sick and is hospitalized, so he has to work to make

money for his daughter's medical treatment. However, he himself is in poor health and very weak. He can't bear such heavy physical work and has passed out several times in the past few days. I feel sorry for him, so I paid him two months' salary in advance and asked him to go back to take care of his daughter, but he insisted on coming to work..."

Hudson said, baffled, "Ms. Castaneda, I-I didn't get my salary."

Dawn was stunned. "How is this possible? I personally asked the contractor to give you. Or maybe—"

She shot the contractor an angry look. "Hey, Fatty, did you f*cking do as I said?"

The contractor's face went pale in fright. "Ms. Castaneda, I haven't had time to arrange—"

Dawn was furious and rushed over to kick the contractor. "You're f*cking animal! How dare you take his wages! Get out of here! We don't want to have a scum like you working here!"

The contractor was dumbfounded. "You can't fire me, Ms. Castaneda, I have to fend for my parents and child—"

Dawn scolded, "Is Cripple's daughter not as precious as your child, eh? Get lost! How can there be such a cruel animal like you in the world?!"

“Kneel and kowtow a hundred times. Then, finish these two buns, and get out of here!”

The contractor was stunned.

The concrete on his body was about to set. He might be trapped in the concrete after kowtowing a hundred times!

Therefore, he pleaded, “Mr. Williams, I was wrong. Let me clean myself up first before I kowtow.”

“If you utter any more nonsense, you will kowtow another two hundred times!” Zeke warned him.

Terrified, the contractor immediately got on his knees and began to kowtow.

He might have a chance of surviving after a hundred kowtows, but with two hundred kowtows, he would definitely be completely trapped by the concrete.

Zeke said, “Dawn, keep an eye on him. Hudson and I will go see his daughter.”

Dawn nodded her head. “Don't worry, Zeke, I won't let this guy off if he tries to cheat.”

Zeke took Hudson to where he had left the breakfasts he bought from the Michelin-starred restaurant.

The breakfasts were initially for Lacey and Dawnie,

but it now seemed that Hudson needed them even more.

He handed the breakfast to Hudson. “You haven't eaten your breakfast yet, have you? Eat this.”

Hudson took it from him carefully, and said, “I-I want to bring it to my daughter, Zeke. She has never eaten anything so good.”

Zeke sighed. “It's okay. You have them first. I'll get you a new set later.”

“Don't spend any more money,” Hudson hurriedly said. “I have brought my own breakfast.”

Then, Hudson took out a plastic bag from a corner.

Inside the plastic bag, there were instant noodles, some pastries, and biscuits.

Zeke noticed that the words 'Blood Donation Goodies' were printed on the plastic bag.

He grabbed Hudson by the arm and took a close look at his arm, only to find that his skinny arm was covered in puncture marks!

Obviously, this guy had sold his blood in exchange for these pastries he planned to give to his daughter.

He didn't even rest after donating his blood, and

had come to work at the construction site!

Even a man of steel couldn't be able to cope with such a hard life.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zeke felt a lump in his throat. "You must have suffered a lot, friend."

Grinning, Hudson replied, "It's worth it as long as it's for my daughter."

"Let's go and visit my goddaughter," Zeke said.

When they were in high school, they had promised each other that the children of one of them would be the godchildren of the other.

"Once Sharon knows she has a godfather who's a boss, she will definitely be very happy!"

While on their way to the hospital, Zeke asked him about his daughter.

Hudson's daughter was named Sharon. Her name had been decided on after he had looked up in the dictionary for two days.

When she was born, she weighed 3.5 kilograms and had always been healthy.

But when she was three years old, she suddenly developed a high fever that wouldn't seem to go away. So she was sent to the hospital for an examination, only to find out that she had congenital heart disease.

This kind of disease required a large amount of money for surgery, and Hudson simply couldn't afford it.

However, he didn't give up. He had sold off all he owned to treat his daughter, but even so, the money he had was still not enough to pay for the surgery.

Hudson was now left with his body and strength only. To scrape together enough money, he could only work day and night and only had two meals a day.

He even sold his blood to obtain supplementation for his daughter.

Therefore, his health had long been affected. He looked like an old man even though he was now on the edge of middle age, and was often mistaken for Sharon's grandfather.

Zeke patted Hudson on the shoulder. "Where's your wife? She must be keeping your daughter company in the hospital, right?"

Hudson suddenly fell silent, while his eyes reddened slightly.

After a long pause, he said through gritted teeth, "She's already dead."

"Huh?" Zeke frowned.

Judging from the reaction of Hudson, there must be something more to his wife's death.

However, Hudson must have his reason for not

telling him, so Zeke couldn't force him to say and could only change the subject by asking, "Who's usually taking care of Sharon at the hospital then?"

Hudson said, "I don't have the money to let Sharon live in the ward, so she has to temporarily stay in the hospital's utility room. The cleaner who's in charge of the utility room is from my hometown. She will take care of Sharon when I go to work."

She's staying in the utility room!

It struck a chord with Zeke.

At such a young age, this child had already suffered more than an adult could barely endure.

This reminded him of himself, and he felt as if he and she were on the same boat.

Before long, Zeke and Hudson arrived at the hospital.

Unexpectedly, the hospital was the Heartland Hospital, where Daniel used to work.

The assistant director of this hospital thought of himself as Zeke's apprentice, even though Zeke had refused to accept it.

Hudson brought Zeke to the utility room and knocked on the door gently.

Soon, a harsh voice of a woman was heard saying, "Who is it? You're disturbing my rest."

Hudson hurriedly replied, "Jennifer, it's me, Hudson. Where's my daughter?"

"Why are you here? Aren't you supposed to be working at the construction site now?" Jennifer asked, impatient.

"Oh, I ran into a friend, so I took a day off," replied Hudson.

Jennifer said meanly, "Oh, you still have the audacity to take leave. Your daughter is dying! Why don't you make more money and save her? How heartless of you."

"Jennifer," Hudson said in a pleading tone, "Please open the door, my friend wants to see my daughter."

Jennifer replied impatiently, "That beggar girl is in the room across the hall."

"Huh?" Hudson suddenly became a little anxious. "Jennifer, h-how could you let my girl stay there?"

"I'm taking my break in the utility room, and that beggar girl keeps making noises. She disturbs my rest," Jennifer said matter-of-factly.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zeke hurriedly turned to take a look.

The room across the hall was a public toilet!

Is Sharon really in the toilet?

This is impossible. How could a person be so cruel that she would leave a young girl in the toilet alone?

Lowering his head, Hudson went into the toilet.

Zeke followed him, with an aching pain in his heart.

A skinny girl was curled up in a corner inside the toilet, twitching from time to time.

She was wearing a simple and plain outfit, which was loose yet clean. It looked like it was adult clothes that had been taken in.

Although her face was pale, she had delicate facial features that made her look pretty.

With teardrops still on her long eyelashes, she was asleep holding half of an apple in her hand, looking pitiful.

The most intolerable thing was that she had an iron chain attached to a sewer pipe tied to her neck.

Only a monster could do this to a child!

Zeke clenched his fists tightly; veins were bulging from his arms.

Bursting into tears, Hudson hurried over and carried Sharon. "Sharon, wake up. Daddy's here."

The girl opened her eyes.

Her pair of big eyes was clear and bright, making her look even prettier.

Realizing that it was her father, Sharon smiled and wrapped her arms around Hudson's neck. "Carry me, daddy."

Hudson forced a smile. "Let's go outside, Sharon. I've brought you something nice to eat."

Suddenly thinking of something, Sharon hurriedly showed Hudson the apple she had been holding. "Daddy, Grandpa Ford gave me this. It tastes so sweet."

Then, she took a light bite and chomped on it.

Hudson asked, "Did you thank Grandpa Ford?"

Sharon nodded her head. "Yes. I'm a good girl."

"That's good," Hudson said. "Daddy has brought you something even tastier. Let's go outside and eat."

Zeke quickly stepped forward, trying to remove the

chain from Sharon's neck.

To his surprise, Sharon suddenly became nervous. "I can't go out. Aunt said I can't go out if she doesn't come."

Zeke asked, "Aunt?"

Hudson heaved a sigh. "It's Jennifer."

Suppressing his anger, Zeke assured her, "Hey, girl, I saw Aunt just now. She said you can go out."

Sharon still had a fearful look on her face. "No, I can't. Aunt will prick me with a needle. It hurts."

Needle!

Shocked, Zeke asked, "Where does Aunt prick you with a needle?"

After a moment of hesitation, Sharon extended her hand.

There were a few puncture marks on her fingers. Although there wasn't any blood, it must have been painful.

Hudson burst into tears and kissed Sharon's fingers. "It's my fault. I'm so sorry, Sharon."

With a wrathful spark in his eyes, Zeke said, "Hudson, wait for me here. Cover Sharon's ears later."

Then, he turned to leave the toilet.

Hudson hurriedly asked, "What are you going to do, Zeke?"

"No one can bully my best friend and my goddaughter," Zeke stated.

"Zeke, it's okay. We still need to beg her to treat her," said Hudson hastily.

Zeke announced in a commanding tone, "Shut up and leave everything to me from now on!"

Tears rolled down Hudson's cheeks again.

When he was in high school, Zeke often said to him, "Leave everything to me".

He had mixed feelings after hearing the same phrase after so many years.

Zeke directly went to the utility room and kicked the door open.

"Get your ass out here!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The cleaner, Jennifer Smith, was sleeping soundly when the sudden loud noise woke her up and caused her to jump out of the bed. "Who is it?"

Zeke replied indifferently, "Someone who wants you dead."

After seeing that it was a stranger, Jennifer grew even angrier, and scolded while pointing at Zeke, "Who the hell are you? Get out of here!"

She then went up to push Zeke out of the room.

However, Zeke simply grabbed her shoulder and threw her outside the door.

Jennifer was sent flying directly out of the utility room. She hit the wall before she fell to the ground. She was screaming in pain as she cursed, "Bastard, who the f*ck are you? How dare you hit me? You wish to die?"

Zeke said angrily, "Go to the toilet and apologize to Sharon."

Zeke knew Sharon had been traumatized by Jennifer.

If her psychological trauma wasn't relieved, it might affect her worldview and future personality.

Jennifer scolded, "I get it now. You're Hudson's friend, aren't you? Want me to apologize to a beggar girl? Ha! In your dreams."

Zeke gave a chilling smile. "Then, die!"

Zeke kicked Jennifer again and sent her flying several metres.

He didn't want Sharon to hear the noises outside, lest she would be afraid of him.

Therefore, he wanted to deal with the problem somewhere further from the toilet.

The kick was more powerful than the first. After Jennifer fell to the ground, she curled up into a ball and vomited mouthfuls of blood. She could hardly breathe as her face turned pale.

Such a ruckus attracted the attention of many people as they looked on and whispered to each other.

"Who is this man? He actually has the nerve to hit Jennifer."

"Everyone knows Jennifer's husband is the security chief of the hospital, while her elder brother is the director of the hospital. A person like her isn't someone to be trifled with."

"Alas, this young man is too reckless. He should know that being reckless brings trouble!"

Jennifer gritted her teeth and said with a gruesome expression on her face. "You've got to die! Brandon, get your ass over here now!"

Someone is bullying me.”

Very soon, several security guards elbowed their ways through the crowd.

The scene that met their eyes made them furious.

The security chief, Brandon, rushed up to Jennifer and asked, “Darling, who the f*ck did this to you?!”

Jennifer pointed her finger at Zeke. “It's him!”

Standing up, Brandon took out his electric baton and walked toward Zeke with a murderous look on his face. “Boy, you know, the hospital is a place to save lives, and I rarely hurt people. However, you've hit my wife. So I'll make an exception today and kill you! Guys, bring out your batons.”

The security guards he had brought with him took out their electric batons and surrounded Zeke.

Zeke disdainfully said, “You have no rights to talk to me, peasants. Get your director to come over. If I don't see him in ten minutes, he'll be fired.”

Pfft!

Brandon chuckled. “I admire your courage. Even on your deathbed, you're still saying something so ridiculous! Guys, get him!”

Moving faster and closing in on Zeke, the security guards lunged toward him holding electric batons.

Everyone at the scene gasped in shock as they broke out in a cold sweat.

It was impossible for this young man, who was fighting several security guards holding electric batons with his bare hands, to win.

Everyone could even imagine how miserable Zeke would end up later.

Many people couldn't bear to see the cruel scene that followed, so they closed their eyes.

Zeke stood still and only moved when the guards were about three meters away from him.

He shook his arms, and a dozen silver needles appeared between his fingers.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Ammo Needle could save a person, so could it kill a person.

He skillfully moved his palms and launched the silver needles. They managed to hit the security guards' acupoints accurately.

Zeke was the one who had created Ammo Needle. He had long achieved the state of unison which enabled him to launch the needle even in the middle of the air.

That particular ability signified the state of unison between the user and the needles.

Suddenly, the security guards fell to the ground and shrieked in pain as their bodies spasmed.

“What the hell? What's wrong with me? It freaking hurts!”

“It feels as though a million ants are savouring my organs!”

“It hurts! Help! Help me!”

Zeke managed to hit them on their pain acupoints. What they were currently going through was on par with what a barren woman felt during labour.

The security guards would be good as gone soon, while the onlookers were dumbfounded.

What the hell? What's going on?

Zeke had merely moved his arms. He didn't even come into contact with his foes, but they were now paralyzed and had fallen to the ground.

It looked like a scene from an action movie.

T-This... is absurd!

Most of them didn't notice the existence of the silver needle due to its size and the speed at which the needles had been launched.

Mr. Winston embarrassed himself in front of others. He couldn't hold back the urge to pee due to the excruciating sensation he felt.

He lost his cool and shouted, "Where's the receptionist? What the f*** do you think you're doing? Go get my brother!"

"My brother is the director of the hospital! He knows someone from the Public Security Bureau. I want him to be sent behind bars!"

The receptionist finally returned to her senses and reached for her phone. She called the hospital's director, Morgan Tucci, immediately.

In the meantime, the hospital's director, Morgan, was in the middle of a meeting in the conference room.

Although he was the director of the hospital, he wasn't the focus of the meeting.

He had put in a lot of effort in order to hire the TCM Practitioners Association's director, Shawn Thompson, to join them at Heartland Hospital.

Shawn was a highly reputable figure. Morgan wouldn't be able to steal the limelight as long as Shawn was present.

Shawn got worked up all of a sudden as they were talking about Dr. Williams' performance and how he managed to turn the tide of discussion all by himself during the Global TCM Forum. He got full of himself as though he was the one who defended the TCM Practitioners against the Western doctors back then.

Morgan asked him carefully, "Mr. Thompson, do you know how to get in touch with Dr. Williams?"

"We would like to hire him as an honorary director of Heartland Hospital. Of course, we don't need him to be on shift. He doesn't have to carry out any duty. All we need is to prove that he's affiliated with Heartland Hospital."

"As for the remuneration packages, we'll offer him the best according to the industry benchmark."

Shawn heaved a long sigh. "Sigh. Although Dr. Williams is an exceptional TCM Practitioner, he's an extremely humble man. He doesn't even want to be affiliated with the TCM Practitioners Association, let alone such a small hospital."

All present were disappointed when they heard Shawn's words.

Suddenly, Morgan's phone rang.

He received a call, but he hung up on it almost instantly.

Morgan dared not pick up the call with Shawn present in the meeting.

However, the person on the other end of the call made another attempt after Morgan hung up.

It went on repetitively for quite a few times.

Shawn smiled, "Morgan, you should answer the call. Perhaps someone needs you badly to save their life."

Morgan smiled apologetically before he picked up the call.

He scolded the person on the other end of the call, "What's wrong? I've told you not to interrupt me when I'm in the middle of a meeting, haven't I?"

The receptionist immediately told him what happened, "Director! Your sister and brother-in-law were paralyzed by someone! Please hurry up over and have a look."

"What?" Morgan lost his cool all of a sudden.

Who the hell has the guts to make a move against my siblings and relatives on my domain?

“Alright,” Morgan replied and hung up the call.

He told Shawn with an apologetic look on his face, “Mr. Thompson, I'm afraid I have to take my leave. Something's happened in the hospital...”

“I'm so sorry! I'll be back as soon as I'm done!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Shawn nodded, "Mm. Please take your leave."

Morgan rushed out of the conference room almost immediately.

Shawn tapped on his head after Morgan left. "Oh! We should have followed him to check out what happened!"

"I'm sure it's an accident since it occurs at the hospital. Perhaps we can be of help!"

Everyone nodded and expressed their agreement, "Yes!"

Shawn led everyone out of the conference room and headed over to the diagnostic department.

Morgan made it to the scene soon.

He was enraged when he saw what was going on.

Her sister had been beaten to a pulp, and blood frothed at her lips.

Although his brother-in-law seemed to be fine, he was shrieking hysterically as though he was in great pain. It was obvious he had sustained some serious internal injuries.

"Who the hell did this to both of you!" shouted Morgan angrily.

Jennifer shouted immediately, "Morgan, it's that

jerk! He's the one who has beaten us!"

"Get the cops immediately! Get them to arrest him!"

Morgan glared at Zeke and shouted angrily, "You damned thing! This is a hospital! This is where we save the injured ones and bring the ones on the brink of death back to life!"

"I want you to apologize to my sister and my brother-in-law immediately! You have to compensate for their injuries and cover the medical bills! Otherwise, don't blame me for what's in store for you!"

Zeke replied, "I was about to tell you the same thing."

"You better compensate for my brother's injuries, both me mentally and physically. Otherwise, don't blame me for what's in store for you."

Morgan shouted, "Fool! You insolent fool!"

"It seems like you want to spend some time behind bars, huh? I'll grant you your wish!"

Morgan reached for his phone and was about to call the cops as soon as he finished his sentence.

Zeke went on, "As the director of the hospital, you decided to jump to conclusions without bothering to figure what exactly happened. It seems like

something's wrong with your personality as well.”

“I'm sure people like you have committed a lot of crime throughout your career, right? You should get yourself ready for the investigation in store for you.”

Morgan hesitated all of a sudden.

Why does he sound like he's a prominent leader? To think that he's actually said something about an investigation.

Could it be... Is he related to some big shots?

Jennifer shouted immediately, “Morgan, don't listen to him! He's bluffing!”

“He's a friend of Hudson! What could he possibly be capable of?”

Morgan felt a sense of relief and made the call almost instantly when he heard Jennifer's words.

A friend of Hudson? The peasant that has to sell his blood in exchange for food?

I'm sure his friend is as useless as him! He can't possibly mean what he has said!

The onlookers couldn't stand it anymore and tried to persuade Zeke.

“Young man! You should know when to stop! It's

better for you to apologize and admit your fault!”

“You're still young! If you're really arrested, the criminal records will affect you for the rest of your life!”

“That's right! You shouldn't offend Mr. Thompson! He's someone beyond our reach!”

Zeke had a poker face as they spoke, as though he didn't hear their words.

Actually, he paid no heed to such an insignificant character like him.

Suddenly, an old man showed up and made his way through the crowd.

“What are you guys doing here? Return to your positions immediately!”

He was none other than the ex-assistant director of the hospital, Anderson Ford. He was also the one who tried to persuade Zeke to take him in as his apprentice.

Morgan had demoted Anderson to an administrative position because of a disagreement they had.

Anderson saw Zeke the moment he made his way through the crowd.

He was delighted and rushed towards Zeke's side

immediately, “Master, what are you doing here?”

Zeke nodded indifferently, “Don't call me master. You have no rights to address me in such a manner.”

Anderson replied with an awkward look, “Ha... Ha... It's fine, master. I'll acknowledge you as my master no matter what, although you have been denying it all along.”

Morgan's eyes gleamed all of a sudden.

Anderson is Zeke's apprentice? God bless! Luck is on my side!

Morgan had always wanted to terminate Anderson, but he needed a reason to justify his action.

Since the reason he needed all along had shown up, he wouldn't miss it.

He shouted angrily, “Anderson Ford, on behalf of the board of directors, I hereby terminate your role as the hospital's personnel. Pack your stuff and get out of our sight immediately!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Anderson got anxious all of a sudden, "Terminate? Why? You can't terminate me without any solid reason!"

It would be tough for him to secure another job if he were to be terminated as he was growing old.

No one would employ him because they would perceive he was only there for the remuneration package.

Morgan explained, "He's your master, right? As part of the hospital, you fail to defend our rights and benefits. In fact, you allowed your master to wreak havoc and disrupt the operation of the hospital. These are the reasons why you're terminated."

"Wreak havoc?" Anderson burst into laughter after he took a peek at the people who were on the floor. "Good job, master! Serves them right!"

"They're Morgan's cousins and relatives. They've been leveraging on their relationship with him and have been doing whatever they want in the hospital! This arrogant bunch used to harass the nurses as well! However, everyone in the hospital is afraid of them. No one dared voice out about what has been going on all along! Those tyrants deserve it!"

"Morgan is but a materialistic man! You have no idea how many people he has sacrificed to achieve his goals! Master, why did you let him off

the hook?"

"I shall stop holding back today! Even if it's going to cost my job, I'll unveil the truth and show everyone that dark side of yours!"

Morgan flushed with anger. "You damned thing! How dare you insult me!"

"Wait for it! I'll terminate you! I'll get the cops to arrest you! I want you to spend your time behind bars as well!"

"The TCM Practitioners Association's director, Mr. Shawn, is here for an inspection as well. I'll get him to expel both of you from the healthcare industry! I will ensure both of you don't get to be a doctor anymore for the rest of your lives!"

Zeke smiled and thought to himself.

Shawn is here? That just makes things easier for me!

However, Anderson felt apprehensive all of a sudden.

If Mr. Shawn were to make a move against us, we will definitely be expelled from the healthcare industry!

My life is as good as gone! There goes the rest of my life!

Speaking of the devil, Shawn showed up at that moment with a bunch of people behind him.

They made their way through the crowd and saw what happened.

“Morgan, what's going on?”

Morgan immediately explained, “Mr. Shawn, there are two gangsters in the hospital! They've assaulted the hospital's personnel in broad daylight.”

“Don't worry! I've already notified the cops about their presence. I'm sure they will be here soon.”

Shawn got angry all of a sudden. “Hmph! The hospital is a sacred ground where we save lives! We shall not condone such brutality! They have to be punished!”

Morgan went on and provoked Shawn, “Mr. Thompson, they're also from the healthcare industry. I suspect that they're here to compete with us. Hence, they wreaked havoc on purpose.”

“Please allow me to suggest their expulsion from the healthcare industry!”

“What?” Shawn got even more irritated. “As fellow healthcare personnel, they should focus on their tasks to save lives! How dare they have such villainous thoughts in mind! I will never forgive them!”

“Who are they? They have to be punished and bear the consequences of their actions!”

Morgan pointed in Zeke and Anderson's direction.
“It's them!”

Anderson felt a chill run down his spine all of a sudden.

It's over for me if Shawn decides to make a move against me!

Shawn's mind was blown away when he saw Zeke the moment he looked in the direction Morgan pointed at.

What the heck? Isn't that Dr. Williams? He's the one who turned the tide against the Western doctors during the TCM Practitioners Forum.

Damn it! Does that mean the person Morgan has offended is Dr. Williams?

Dr. Williams is the future of us TCM Practitioners! I have to try my best to flatter him! Who the hell does Morgan think he is? He should have just stayed out of Dr. Williams's sight!

Shawn rushed over to Zeke's side. “Hello, Dr. Williams! I have been searching for you for quite some time! I definitely wouldn't have expected to run into you here! It's a pleasure to make your acquaintance.”

Huh?

Everyone was dumbfounded because of how Shawn reached.

The president of the TCM Practitioners Association. An elite amongst the elites greeted a youngster in such a polite manner?

Who exactly is this young man? How prominent is he?

No wonder he showed no signs of fear at all back when he was confronting Morgan! It turns out he was playing dumb!

Morgan's mind was blown away as well when he heard how Shawn address Zeke as Dr. Williams.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Never would he expect the legendary Dr. Williams to be such a young man.

Damn it! He's just like any other ordinary man! The honourable Dr. Williams whom Shawn respects wholeheartedly is such a humble man?

Morgan regretted his actions. He wouldn't have offended Zeke if he knew he was Dr. Williams.

He knew how important Dr. Williams was because Shawn deemed him the future of fellow TCM Practitioners. In fact, Shawn prioritized Zeke above everything else, including his life.

I'm done!

Zeke mocked in a callous tone, “Shawn Thompson, you're such an exceptional leader.”

“A doctor's role is to take care of their patients. What sort of doctor would lock their patient up in the toilet?”

“Mr. Thompson right here actually tried to expel someone from the healthcare industry without figuring out what has happened. Isn't it obvious he's trying to cover up the truth on behalf of his subordinate? Do you really think a person like him deserves to be the director of this hospital?”

“All it takes to ruin the reputation of this hospital is a troublemaker like him.”

The onlookers were abhorred when they figured out what had happened. They then took Zeke's side and condemned Morgan instead.

Locking a patient in the toilet? What the heck! Seriously? That's inhumane!

Shawn could no longer hold back his anger. “Morgan, you damned thing! How dare you do such a thing! You're a shame to us doctors!”

Morgan stuttered as he tried to explain himself, “Mr. Thompson... I-It must have been a misunderstanding... I-I'm sure it's a misunderstanding... I-I would never have locked my patients in the toilet...”

Jennifer was displeased and rebutted Shawn, “He can't afford the fees to stay in the hospital! We're kind enough not to chase him out of the hospital! He should be grateful he gets to stay in the toilet!”

Morgan could barely suppress his anger.

Damn it! Jennifer, you incompetent fool! Why the hell did you admit what happened?

I'm good as done because of you!

Shaw cast a stern gaze at Morgan. “You don't deserve to be a doctor at all! How dare you put a person's life at risk because of the potential benefit you get to reap!”

“You no longer qualify as healthcare personnel. I'll remove you from the healthcare industry from today onwards. You should get ready for the investigation in store for you!”

Morgan felt despair because he knew he couldn't possibly withstand the investigation due to the secret deals he had done back in the day.

In order to protect himself, he had decided to sacrifice his sister.

He rushed over to Jennifer's side and kicked her. “You damned thing! How could you do such an irresponsible thing?”

“I'll teach you a lesson on behalf of all the victims today!”

“Dr. William, Mr. Thompson, Jennifer was the one behind this particular incident! I have no idea what's going on at all! Please forgive me!”

Morgan didn't hold back as he kicked his sister with all his might. Jennifer groaned in pain and shrieked repetitively.

She felt aggrieved and thought to herself.

How does that fella with a broken leg know such a capable friend? He's but a beggar and peasant!

Jennifer refused to give in to them, but she had to because of the excruciating sensation she felt.

“Y-Yes... I-It's my fault... P-Please, forgive me, Dr. Williams...”

“Dr. Williams, you want me to get Sharon, right? I'll go get her immediately! “

Zeke replied with a callous tone, “Stop! Get your ass over here right now, Jennifer!”

I need to get rid of Sharon's phobia as soon as possible. I have to let her know good people exist in the world. It's not as terrible of a place as what she has in her mind!

Jennifer crawled all the way over to Zeke.

Zeke instructed her on what to do and told her to carry out her own instructions instead.

Jennifer nodded quickly and rushed to the washroom.

Hudson covered Sharon's ears as they were inside the washroom. Tears streamed down the former's face.

He didn't expect his best friend, who used to share a similar fate as him, had turned into someone who was beyond his reach.

From the bottom of his heart, he was proud of his best friend.

Jennifer made her way into the washroom at that

moment.

Sharon shuddered the moment she saw Jennifer. She held on to Hudson with all her might.

Jennifer forced a smile on her face, “Sharon's amazing! You did a great job hiding! It took me such a long time to find you!”

“Sharon, do you like to play hide and seek?”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Sharon was stupefied for a moment. “Hide and seek?”

She lowered her volume and asked, “Aunt, are you playing hide and seek with me?”

Jennifer nodded. “That's right! Your dad told me you hide well during a game of hide and seek. Hence, I have always wanted to play it with you.”

Sharon got worked up and clapped her hands. “Aunt Jennifer is amazing too! Several aunts passed by my side, but they failed to locate me just now!”

She took a deep breath due to the excruciating sensation she felt as she had accidentally torn her stitches on her fingers while clapping her hands.

Jennifer asked immediately, “Sharon, do your fingers still hurt?”

“You know what? It's actually part of your treatment!”

Sharon was delighted and replied with a bright smile on her face, “It's part of my treatment? T-Thanks! Thank you so much, aunt!”

“I'll try my best not to cry next time!”

Jennifer praised, “Sharon is such a brave girl! You managed to hold your tears and even braced yourself through the treatment!”

“You managed to beat me in hide and seek as well! As a reward, I'll allow you to stay in a large room, okay?”

Sharon was overjoyed, “Large room? Is it like the one grandpa has?”

“That's great! I will get to dance in the large room!”

Jennifer assured, “That's right! You're a really great dancer! You have to show me your dance, okay?”

“Let's go! I'll bring you to the large room!”

Jennifer brought them over to the VIP ward as soon as she finished her sentence.

Meanwhile, Morgan was begging Zeke to let him off the hook. Suddenly, the captain from the Public Security Bureau showed up with his men.

The captain was shocked when he realized Shawn's presence. He rushed over and greeted him humbly, as though he was his servant.

Shawn was, after all, an elite amongst the elites. Meanwhile, he was a mere captain. His position was nothing as compared to a reputable figure like Shawn.

Shawn didn't bother to return the favor at all. He instructed the captain to arrest Morgan immediately.

He was determined to get rid of a parasite like Morgan. Shawn didn't want another person like Morgan to show up in the healthcare industry.

Morgan felt despair because he was the one who had called the cops.

What the hell! Is this a joke? I got the cops over to arrest Zeke! Why am I the one being arrested instead?

Shawn replied respectfully with a smile on his face, "Mr. Williams, the TCM Practitioners Association is the sole proprietor of Heartland Hospital.

"I believe you deserve to be credited for what you have done to defend us TCM Practitioners during the conference. Apart from that, you helped us smoke out such a troublemaker within the healthcare industry."

"On behalf of the TCM Practitioners Association, I'd love to present this hospital to you. Please accept our token of appreciation, Mr. Williams."

Zeke replied indifferently, "Nope. I'm not interested at all."

Shawn tried his best to beg Zeke, "Mr. Williams, you must accept it! Otherwise, we will feel bad because of what happened!"

The onlookers were speechless at the absurd

situation.

One of them was trying his best to give the other a present worthy of tens of millions while the other party on the receiving end denied the gift no matter what.

Finally, Zeke couldn't stand with it anymore and told Shawn, "Fine! I'll ask my dad and see if he's interested to take over the position."

"Yes! Sure!" Shawn nodded immediately.

Zeke reached for his phone and called Daniel. However, Daniel didn't pick up Zeke's call even after he dialled him multiple times.

Zeke ran out of options and had to call Lacey instead. "Lacey, is everything fine with Linton Group? How is it coming along?"

Lacey replied, "We're almost there, but there are several trivial matters remaining. I'll sort it out soon."

"Mm. Great!" replied Zeke.

"I have a question in mind. There's another hospital available. Do you think it's possible for you to incorporate it into our group?"

Lacey's heart pounded furiously as she thought to herself.

Another hospital? He's such a hardworking executive, as busy as a bee!

This hardworking executive of mine is contributing to the family assets on a daily basis!

In fact, each of his contributions is worthy of tens of millions!

I can't possibly say no to it, right?

Lacey nodded immediately. "Yes! Sure!"

"Why don't you share with me which friend of yours is it that gives you a hospital?"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Zeke replied with a bitter smile, "I'll tell you once I get home, okay? Sigh! I don't want it either, but they insist on presenting it to me."

"People like this barely qualify as a friend of mine. I mean, they cause me nothing but trouble."

Lacey was speechless.

Stop getting full of yourself, Zeke!

Meanwhile, Hudson passed by with Sharon as they were making their way to the VIP ward.

Sharon stretched her arm and shouted the moment she saw Anderson, "Grandpa Ford! Please cuddle me!"

"Sure, Sharon. Did you behave and listen to your father's words today?" Anderson held Sharon in between his arms lovingly.

Sharon nodded and replied, "Grandpa, I have been a good girl today! I didn't even cry when I was pricked by a needle!"

"Oh! Grandpa! I've finished the apples you have given me as well! I didn't waste any of them!"

Anderson replied with a bright smile, "Good! Sharon is such a good girl!"

It seems like Anderson has been helping Hudson all along.

Zeke thought to himself and said, “Anderson, I'll have you take over the position of the director since the hospital has no director as of now.”

Huh?

Anderson shed tears of joy when he heard Zeke's words because his initial plan was to hold on to his position until the age of retirement since he was getting old.

I can't believe it! I'm actually getting promoted! It's not the end of my career yet!

Thank God... No! It's all thanks to my master!

I'm glad that I have long acknowledged him as my master!

Zeke brought Sharon to the VIP ward after he appointed Anderson as the director.

He told Sharon to take good care of herself before leaving.

Sharon had been diagnosed with congenital heart disease. It was indeed considered as a chronic disease amongst healthcare practitioners, but it was but a piece of cake for Zeke.

Zeke would treat Sharon once her body returns to its prime.

Hudson tucked Sharon into bed before he dropped

by to visit Anderson.

He handed over a debit card and a suitcase to Anderson, "Uncle Anderson, I have saved all my savings under this particular account."

"The clothes in the suitcase are the ones I've made for my daughter. It will be able to last until she's twelve years old."

"Please hand all of these to Zeke and get him to raise my daughter once I'm dead."

"Please tell him on my behalf that I will return the favor in the upcoming life."

Anderson was heartbroken. He tried to persuade Hudson, "I don't think you should give up just yet."

"My master's is a capable doctor! Perhaps he will be able to get rid of the cancerous cells in your body."

Hudson replied with a bitter smile, "Uncle Hudson, you don't have to comfort me anymore."

"The cancerous cells are all over my body. Even God can't do anything about it."

"Sigh... I will be able to rest in peace as long as my daughter is able to live a carefree life."

Anderson got emotional all of a sudden. "Sigh... God is such a judgmental person! Why does He

have to take away such a kind soul like you!”

...

Steamed pork ribs and fish, roasted chicken, stir-fried vegetables...

Hannah had prepared all sorts of Zeke's favourite dishes for dinner at Lacey's place.

The red velvet cake prepared by Lacey's grandmother was the only dish Lacey enjoyed eating.

However, she didn't get worked up over it either. She decided to reward him with a meal since Zeke got another hospital for her today.

Madeleine broke the silence right before they could dig in. “Let's set another rule. No matter how busy everyone may get, everyone must make it home for dinner. This rule will take place from today onwards.”

“Alright.”

“Sure.”

Everyone raised their hands to express their acknowledgement.

“Let's dig in.” Madeleine helped herself while others chomped down the feast she prepared as soon as she finished her speech.

She felt a sense of relief when she saw how everyone took a liking to the dishes she had prepared.

Lacey's grandmother had a bright smile on her face as well. In fact, it had been quite some time since she last smiled.

She was glad her daughter had a happy family.

This family would be perfect with a child's presence.

Lacey placed her utensils aside after she finished her meal. “Zeke, it's about time you to tell me what's going on with the hospital, right?”



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Zeke replied nonchalantly, “Actually, it isn't a big deal. I reported the ex-director of the hospital who has been involved in bribery to Shawn. He lost his cool and decided to terminate the ex-director. Hence, he decided to hand over the hospital to me instead.”

Lacey voiced out her doubts, “He actually gave you a hospital because of the report you made? You must be lying!”

Zeke replied, “That's not the sole reason! Do you remember the Global TCM Forum held previously? I was the one who defended the TCM practitioners' dignity and turned the table on the Western doctors instead. In the end, they had to apologize to us fellow TCM practitioners.”

“Shawn had offered me the position of the TCM Practitioners Association's president back then, but I turned him down. He had to give in to me then, so he decided to give me this hospital instead.”

Lacey finally figured out what had happened. “Oh... That's more like it.”

Thump!

Daniel's chopstick and bowl fell to the ground all of a sudden.

Hannah scolded him, “What are you doing? I've never seen someone of your age dropping their

food!”

Daniel ignored Hannah's word and stared at Zeke instead. “Zeke, w-what... did you just say?”

Zeke tapped on his head and replied, “Oh, right! Dad! I didn't get the chance to tell you yet because you didn't pick up my call back when I had called you in the afternoon!”

“Shawn handed over Heartland Hospital to me. You're the boss of the hospital from to...”

...

Daniel immediately rushed into his room and searched high and low for his tuxedo. He was about to rush out of the house right after he found it.

Hannah stopped him, “Hey! Where are you going?”

“The hospital! Where else can I possibly go? I have to carry out my duty as the supervisor!” replied Daniel.

Hannah scolded him, “Supervisor? Stop bluffing! You merely want to show off, right?”

Suddenly, Daniel rushed back into the house moment he made his way to the entrance and shouted, “Thanks, Zeke!”

His eyes brimmed with tears; he could barely hold

back his excitement.

Zeke replied, "You're welcome, dad."

Lacey's grandmother couldn't hold back her emotions as well. "Sigh... I can't deny the fact that I have belittled Daniel back in the day. I didn't expect the day he becomes a hospital's boss would ever come."

Hannah replied, "Mom, he got the position thanks to Zeke. I mean, he didn't get to be the boss of the hospital through his own effort, right?"

"If it weren't because of Zeke, Daniel would have long lost his job as a doctor..."

"Hmph! How dare he get ahead of himself when he's not even officially the boss yet? What a wimp! He's no match for Zeke at all!"

"That's enough, mom! Let's forget about it!" Lacey stopped her mother and stood up for his father.

"Dad has always been a wimp ever since he got attached to that particular hospital for thirty years. It's normal for him to get rid of his grudges he has been holding now that he's the boss, right?"

They wrapped up their dinner session soon after.

Dawn packed a piece of red velvet cake and brought it home with her as a late-night snack.

Hannah and her mother slept in the same room.

Zeke would get to spend a night in Lacey's room again.

However, Lacey held her ground and insisted on Zeke sleeping on the floor.

Zeke felt helpless because he couldn't get around his wife. "Lacey, when do I get to join you in bed?"

Lacey sized her husband up. "It seems like you're keeping a lot of things from me, huh? There must be plenty of secrets yours which I have yet to figure out!"

"I'll allow you to join me in bed once I've figured out everything you have been keeping from me!"

"That's simple! I'll just tell you everything! Actually, I'm a super-wealthy man! I can easily outmatch the country in terms of money!"

"Hmph! Why don't you tell me that you're the Great Marshal instead?" asked Lacey sarcastically.

Zeke was speechless because she managed to hit right on the spot.

Zeke received a text from Olivia, his ex-classmate, the moment he got everything ready.

Mr. Williams, I've already figured out the things you requested me to work on. Are you free at the

moment?

Zeke replied.*I am. Tell me. Who was the one who broke Hudson's leg?*

Olivia replied.*It's a tyrant from the Hill village. His name is Jayden Hill.*



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Jayden Hill!

Zeke cast a murderous gaze.

What an annoying bastard!

Hmph! It has been quite some time since he has gotten in my way! I think it's about time to get rid of him!

Olivia then texted. *Mr. Williams, will you be joining us at the classmate's gathering tomorrow?*

Nope.

Hudson had always been the reason behind his participation in the classmate's gathering.

He didn't have to show up since he had already bumped into Hudson in advance.

Olivia texted again. *Mr. Williams, I think it's necessary for you to show up tomorrow because Hudson's wife will be there too.*

Hudson's wife?

Zeke was intrigued by that particular phrase.

Zeke asked. *What's going on? Hudson told me his wife is dead.*

Olivia replied. *Actually, Hudson's wife is a classmate of ours as well. She's none other than Carmen. Hudson used to*

be a wealthy corporate leader back in the day. She got married to him because of his wealth. We have no idea how, but Jayden has managed to win Carmen over eventually. They worked together and embezzled Hudson's assets apart from breaking his leg. Apart from their daughter, she left him with nothing.

Damn it! How dare a woman ruin my best friend's life!

I can't believe she's an ex-classmate of ours!

I have to avenge Hudson, or else he won't be able himself up for the rest of his life.

Zeke replied. *I'll be there tomorrow.*

Olivia replied with a smiling face emoji.

Zeke tossed and turned. He couldn't bring himself to sleep because of what had happened to Hudson.

He decided to strike up a conversation with Lacey since he couldn't sleep. "Lacey, would you prefer a son or a daughter?"

Lacey replied, "It goes without saying! A daughter!"

"I want to get her all sorts of dresses, style her hair, and doll her up into a little princess!"

Zeke replied with a grin, "Sure! I'll go get you a little

princess sometime in the future.”

Lacey's cheek blushed all of a sudden. “What sort of nonsense are you talking about? Hurry up and sleep!”

Zeke was nonplussed because Lacey had misinterpreted his words.

He was merely trying to get Lacey to be Sharon's godmother.

Meanwhile, Madeleine, who was staying in the same residential area, had been stressed out since a few days ago.

She suffered a huge loss because had to close her clinic. Madeleine's herbs had cost her a fortune, which she paid in advance using her rental for the month.

To make ends meet, Emily succumbed to a low-wage job to support her family.

Look at Lacey and her family! She's way ahead of us in terms of living conditions due to Zeke's aid!

I heard he managed to get his hands on Heartland Hospital today!

Madeleine was engulfed with all sorts of negative emotions: envy, jealousy, and hatred.

One particular emotion that reigned above all was

regret.

If I have gotten Emily to get married to Zeke back then, I would be the one living the lush life instead!

Madeleine knew she should stop crying over spilt milk because it would be impossible for Emily to marry Zeke.

She was determined to turn their life upside down since she was one of the beneficiaries.

Madeleine's son, Sam, who was a sergeant, was her only hope.

She asked carefully, "Sam, I thought Officer Hugh is going to make a move against Zeke? What's taking him so long?"

Sam scoffed, "Mom, it takes time to get everything ready."

"We have a huge surprise in store for him."

"He'll get to spend another carefree day before his death tomorrow."

Madeleine was thrilled, "Sam, does that mean you guys have developed a plan to deal with him?"

Sam nodded. "Of course! Officer Hugh, Jayden, and I have come up with a fantabulous plan today!"

Madeleine could no longer hold back her joy.
“Hmph! No matter how capable Zeke is, he's but a wimp in front of my powerful son!”

“He's no match for my capable son at all!”



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Sam reached for his phone and called Jayden. He wanted to confirm everything for one last time to ensure that everything would go according to the developed plan.

“Jayden, is everything ready?”

Jayden replied, “Everything is ready! Our target is the only one missing!”

“I'll get Zeke on his knees and beg for mercy tomorrow during our classmate's gathering.”

Sam sneered in a vicious manner.

Jayden shared a similar expression on the other end of the call.

I didn't expect a loser like Hudson to play such a vital role in our plan!

Thankfully, I merely broke his leg instead of ending his life back then!

...

Olivia called Zeke first thing in the morning on the next day.

“Mr. Williams, they will hold the gathering at Neon Nights tonight.”

“Hudson's ex-wife, Carmen, is the one who setup the bar with his money.”

Zeke nodded and replied, "Mm. I'll be there on time."

Olivia offered, "Mr. Williams, I'm quite busy today. I'm afraid I will only show up after the designated time."

"Do you want me to get in touch with our ex-classmates and announce your presence in advance?"

Olivia was afraid others would tease Zeke because he was an ex-convict.

Zeke replied in a callous tone as usual, "Stop poking your nose into my business."

Olivia nodded and replied, "Understood."

Zeke called Evan right after he hung up his call with Olivia. "I want you to investigate Neon Nights for me. Shut it down within two hours. I want the shop to declare bankruptcy."

Evan replied, "Yes, Mr. Williams."

"Actually, I can get it done within half an hour..."

Zeke replied, "Prolong it. I want you to make the move against them after two hours."

"I want to torture them slowly to get rid of the grudge I have been holding against them all along. I desire fear and sorrow to engulf them."

Although Evan was clueless about the person Zeke was referring to, he took note of his instructions without any hesitation.

Finally, Zeke got into his ride and made his way to Neon Nights.

Carmen, Jayden! I want you guys to return everything which belongs to my best friend! I will get everything back on his behalf! No! I will snatch everything from both of you and give it to him!

Meanwhile, in Neon Nights.

Jayden got up from the bed and slapped the sexy woman beside him on the butt. “Carmen, it's time to get ready.”

The woman who was beside Jayden was none other than Hudson's ex-wife, his lover, Carmen.

Carmen moved her body in a coquettish manner as she tried to seduce the man, “Jayden, I'm thirsty.”

“How am I supposed to get ready for work if you refuse to feed me?”

“You naughty girl!” scolded Jayden with a grin on his face before he got on top of her to continue their intimate session.

Finally, they were done after half an hour. They were both drenched in sweat as they tried to catch

their breath.

Jayden instructed, "I'm sure that's enough, right? Hurry up and call that handicapped man!"

Carmen replied, "Jayden, you have to get it out! I'm afraid I can't pull through the action because I don't feel comfortable when it's inside me!"

"Nope! I'm not getting it out!" assured Jayden as he laughed viciously.

"I'm having fun with Hudson's woman while she's on the phone with him! It feels... Urgh..."

Carmen rolled her eyes, "Jayden, you're a playful one!"

She reached for her phone and called Hudson as instructed.

It took her quite some time before her call was picked up.

Hudson asked with a heart of stone, "What do you want from me?"

Carmen replied, "U-Uh... N-Nothing... A-Arggh... Why does it sound like I only get to call you when I want something from you?"

Hudson knitted his eyebrows and asked, "What are you doing?"

“A-Arggh... I... I-I'm eating a spicy sausage... Arghh...” replied Carmen.

“I-I'll be holding a classmate gathering at Neon Nights tonight... A-Arggh... M-Make sure to get here before everyone else... A-Arggh...”

Hudson declined her invitation, “I won't be there.”

He definitely wouldn't show up because Neon Nights had been set up by Carmen using the money she had embezzled from him.

Carmen scolded him, “Damn it! How dare you reject me, you loser!”

“A-Are you sure y-you're not c-coming...? I-Initially... I was about to g-give up S-Sharon's custody to you...”

“S-Since... you refuse to show up... I-I... guess let's j-just forget about it...”

Her words enraptured Hudson. “Really? You're going to give up Sharon's custody as long as I show up?”



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Hudson knew what would await Sharon should she be placed in the custody of Carmen.

Sharon's life would be over if that's the case. Carmen could barely qualify as her mother.

Hence, he was determined to win Sharon's custody no matter what.

“Of course!” replied Carmen.

“Fine! I'll be there soon!” replied Hudson.

“M-Mm... I-I'll be waiting for you... S-Slow down... It hurts...” replied Carmen.

Hudson silently hung up the call as tears streamed down his cheeks.

Sigh... It's such an unfair world! God... Why? Why me?

Sharon, who was beside Hudson, asked gently, “Daddy, who's on the line?”

“It sounds like mommy.”

Hudson forced a smile on his face and held Sharon in between his arms, “Sharon, mommy's dead. Forget about her, okay?”

“Oh... Mommy is no longer around...” Sharon was disappointed; it was all over her face.

Hudson's heart wrenched when he saw his daughter's expression. He turned around immediately and wiped his tears.

He instructed Sharon to listen to others' words in the hospital before rushing over to the gathering.

Jayden and his men made their way to the hospital right after Hudson left.

He had a vicious smile on his face the moment he saw Hudson making his way out of the hospital. "Hmph! Thank you so much, Hudson! You're doing me a huge favour!"

"Guys! Let's go!"

He brought his men with him as they rushed into the hospital.

...

Although Neon Nights wasn't one of the top-notch bars in Oakheart City, it was one of the more famous ones.

Back in the day, all sorts of luxurious cars would be parked in front of the said bar. It had always been a lively bar, but it seemed to be relatively deserted today.

The bar's owner, Carmen, had reserved the bar for herself for a day to host a classmate's gathering. Actually, all she had in mind was to show off in

front of her classmates.

Everyone reached the venue before the designated time.

Indeed, Carmen became the center of attraction once again.

Firstly, she was the one who had the best living condition amongst all because she was a millionaire.

Secondly, Carmen had always been a gorgeous woman who knew how to doll herself up. She had always been the most attractive one who would steal the limelight where ever she was.

Apart from her highly sensitive parts, her figure, cleavage, and belly button were all exposed.

The men's eyes gleamed as Carmen's busty figure charmed them. It seemed as though they were willing to carry out her instructions.

Although the women disliked how slutty Carmen was, they forced a smile on their face and tried to flatter her.

Ivan was the one who exaggerated things the most amongst others.

“Carmen, you're getting prettier day by day!”

“You're such a capable woman! Look at this bar

you've set up on your own! I'm sure you're the one who's doing the best amongst us all!”

Everyone played along when they heard what Ivan said.

“That's right! Carmen, you're so rich and pretty! I'm so jealous!”

“Haha! I don't think we have the rights to be jealous! After all, Carmen is the chosen one! We're definitely no match for her!”

“I'm sure she stands out even amongst peers, let alone us classmates! No one can surpass her achievement!”

Carmen was in seventh heaven when she heard what they said, but she tried her best to put on a humble front. “You guys are exaggerating things! This humble business of mine is nothing!”

“Zeke's the one who's living the lush life! I'm sure he's doing great!”

Everyone got intrigued all of a sudden. “It has been a while since any of us got in touch with Zeke. I wonder what he's up to?”

“I heard he had been arrested and sent behind bars right after graduation. Does that mean he has been released?”

“You must be kidding, right? I mean, Hudson and

Zeke have always been the losers in our class back in the day!”

Carmen told everyone, “He has gotten married to a gorgeous woman and has been living off her ever since.”

“He's nothing like us! We have to struggle to meet ends, but all he has to do is to stay home!”

Pffft! HAHAHAHA!

Everyone laughed when they heard what Carmen said.

That loser has been a live-in-son-in-law all this while?

Ivan asked, “What about Hudson? I mean, Hudson barely qualifies as a live-in-son-in-law due to his appearance!”



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Carmen replied, "Hudson? He's working as a construction crew. Someone once told me he had to trade his blood to acquire food!"

The crowd got full of themselves and laughed once again.

Although they weren't a match for Carmen, they were doing fine as compared against Zeke and Hudson.

A loser would always be a loser. They were certain they would always be ahead of Zeke and Hudson.

Carmen made a sudden request, "Guys, I need everyone to do me a favour!"

Ivan replied, "Sure! What is it, Carmen?"

"I need to get Zeke drunk! Please help me!" requested Carmen.

Ivan got curious all of a sudden. "Huh? Why do you want to get him drunk?"

"I have a score to settle with Zeke and Hudson. I want to punish them for what they've done."

Ivan lost his cool all of a sudden. "Hmph! Who the hell does Zeke think he is? How dare he offend you?"

"Don't worry! We'll definitely try our best to get them drunk!"

“Guys! I have a plan! Let's get them to drink a toast with each and every one of us! I'm sure they will pass out halfway through!”

Everyone expressed their agreement. “Sure!”

“That's a good idea!”

“You're right!”

Carmen laughed wickedly all of a sudden because everything was going according to plan.

She was certain she could pull things through since things started on a great note. In fact, Zeke was good as gone in her mind.

Hudson and Zeke were the last ones to reach.

Ivan teased them to please Carmen, “Oh? Isn't this our most reputable Mr. Williams?”

“What are you doing here? Why aren't you home by your wife's side? I mean, we can't possibly allow you to live off us.”

Zeke replied with a poker face, “Ivan?”

Ivan replied, “Oh? You're right! I'm surprised you still remember me!”

“Good.” Zeke reached for the pen and notebook he had and jotted down Ivan's name.

He was determined to settle the scores he had with everyone by the end of their session.

Everyone was dumbfounded because of Zeke's odd behaviour.

They burst into laughter soon.

What? He's actually jotting down names?

What are we? High school students? Is he going to hand over the name list to the teacher and get them to teach us a lesson?

What a childish man!

Carmen broke the silence all of a sudden. "Guys, I believe that's enough! Please have a seat!"

Everyone took their seats around the round table.

Hudson rushed over to Carmen's side and whispered, "You do remember what you told me, right? You will be surrendering custody over Sharon as long as I'm here, right?"

"I have brought the agreement with me! Please sign!"

Carmen was irritated, "Why are you in such a hurry? I'll sign once we wrap up the session!"

"Return to your seat at once!"

Hudson couldn't do anything about it and returned to his seat by Zeke's side.

Carmen took her seat as well. "Waiter, please serve us our drinks."

The waiter immediately served everyone their glasses of wine.

Ivan led everyone and drank a toast. "We don't get to gather around often! Let's bottom-up this drink to celebrate this joyous occasion and to prove the validity of our friendship!"

Everyone played along with Ivan, "Yes! Cheers!"

Ivan finished the glass of drink he had almost instantly.

Everyone, including Zeke, followed suite.

However, Hudson had an odd expression on his face as though he was stumped. "Erm... Everyone, I'm so sorry! I can't drink because I'm currently on medication!"

"I-I... I'll replace the drink with tea instead!"

"That won't do!" One of their classmates called Yvonne got up and scolded Hudson, "Everyone finished their drinks except you! Does that mean we're not worthy of your presence?"

It soon turned into a witch hunt.

Hudson was in a tight spot. He had no idea what he should do next.

Zeke narrowed his eyes and looked at Yvonne. "You are?"

Yvonne replied, "I'm Yvonne! What's wrong? Have you forgotten me?"

Zeke nodded. "Good."

He jotted down Yvonne's name again as soon as he finished his sentence.

Pffft!

Yvonne laughed and replied, "What the hell is wrong with you? Have you lost your mind? What do you think you're doing by jotting down our names?"

"Are you going to hand it over to our homeroom teacher? I'm afraid that's impossible! He's long gone!"



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HAHA!

Everyone laughed at Zeke once again.

Suddenly, Carmen broke the silence. “Hudson, we'll let you off the hook, but you have to get someone else to finish the drink on behalf of you!”

Ivan knew what Carmen was up to and played along. “Hudson, why don't you get Zeke to help you? I mean, you guys used to be each other's best friends back then, right?”

Everyone nodded and expressed their agreement.

Hudson had to give in to them and said, “Forget about it. I'll finish the drink on my own.”

He didn't want to put Zeke in a tough spot, but Zeke tapped on Hudson's shoulder and told him, “Don't worry. I'll finish the drink on your behalf.”

“However, this isn't how I'm going to finish the drink.”

“Waiter, come here.”

The waiter rushed over immediately, “Sir, how may I help you?”

“Go get me a pot,” replied Zeke.

The waiter was confused. Nevertheless, he did as instructed and got Zeke the pot he requested.

Ivan teased Zeke once again, “Are you going to puke?”

“That's disgusting! Please don't do it in front of us! Rush over and get rid of it in the toilet instead!”

Zeke ignored Ivan's words and poured Hudson's drink into the pot.

Suddenly, Ivan got worked up and shouted, “Zeke, what the heck do you think you're doing?”

However, Zeke poured another glass of drink and gulped it down.

Only then did Ivan feel a sense of relief.

I don't care what he's up to as long as he finishes the drinks!

Ivan raised the glass once again almost instantly right after Zeke finished the drink, “Zeke, I heard you're currently someone else's live-in-son-in-law? It seems like you're living off someone else?”

“I'm impressed! To be honest, that's an impressive capability as well! This is for you!”

Everyone burst into laughter again.

Zeke asked, “Are you sure?”

“Of course! Why wouldn't I?” asked Ivan rhetorically.

“Sure!” Zeke agreed without any hesitation.

However, he didn't finish the glass of drink right away because he poured it into the pot once again before filling his glass and finishing the drink.

Zeke's method of drinking had befuddled everyone. *What's wrong with him? Why is he drinking in such a manner?*

Why does he have to pour it into the pot before he serves himself another glass of drink? Whatever! As long as he drinks, right?

I have plenty of drinks to serve him! He can't possibly finish them all, right?

One of their male classmates got up right after Ivan wrapped up his session with Zeke. “Zeke, as a fellow man, you can't possibly live off another woman, right?”

“I'm the human resource manager of Oceanic Enterprise. Join me for a glass of drink, and I'll get you a job.”

Everyone got worked up all of a sudden.

“Oceanic Enterprise? That's one of the fortune five-hundred companies!”

“Amazing! Such a young man like him is actually Oceanic Enterprise's manager? He has a bright future ahead of him!”

“Zeke, it's best for you to do as instructed! A random job he gets you will allow you to live a carefree life for the rest of your life!”

Zeke took a peek at the man and asked, “You are?”

“Pffft! My name is Calvin! I have always gone with the same name! Are you going to jot down my name as well?”

Calvin from Oceanic Enterprise. Zeke nodded and jotted down his name.

“Haha! Impressive! Join me!” Calvin finished his glass of drink immediately after he finished his sentence.

Once again, Zeke poured a glass of drink into the pot before he poured himself another glass and finished it.

Suddenly, one of their female classmates got up from her seat and greeted, “Zeke, it has been a long time! Do you still remember me? I used to sit beside you back in the day!”

“This one is for you! Cheers to our friendship!”

Zeke sized her up and asked, “Kimberly?”

Kimberly replied with a smile, “I can't believe you still remember me! It's a pleasure to make your acquaintance.”

“I'm currently working under Olivia. Do you still remember Olivia Graham? You used to write her love letters back in the day!”

Everyone got psyched once again when Kimberly talked about Olivia.

“What's Olivia currently up to?”

“That's right! Why isn't Olivia here today?”



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Kimberly told everyone, “Olivia's the branch manager and one of the shareholders of Grand Millenium Hotel. She's pretty occupied, but she will be joining us soon.”

“Zeke! Join me for a glass of drink, and I'll try to matchmake you and Olivia.”

Everyone chortled at her words.

Olivia? It's Olivia we're talking about! She's always been known as the prettiest amongst us!

Since she's one of the shareholders of Grand Millenium Hotel, she's super-duper rich!

Seriously? Olivia and Zeke? Impossible! I mean, he's but a live-in-son-in-law!

Zeke jotted down Kimberly's name on his notepad once again.

As usual, he had poured a glass of drink into the pot before pouring himself another glass of drink.

Hudson tried to stop him, “Zeke! I-I... I'll finish it up on your behalf! You should stop drinking!”

Zeke replied with a smile, “Don't worry, Hudson. I'm fine.”

He raised his head and finished the glass of drink without any hesitation.

Before long, everyone who was present had already got Zeke to join them for a drink.

However, there were two female classmates of Zeke who refused to play along with Carmen's plan.

Meanwhile, Zeke would jot down everyone's name whenever they tried to get him to join them for a glass of drink. As always, he would pour a glass of drink into the pot before serving himself another class of drink.

The pot had already been filled up by then. That would indicate the fact that Zeke had already finished up a pot of drink.

Carmen was delighted when Zeke swayed slightly on his feet.

His face turned red as though he was about to pass out soon.

So far, everything had been going according to the plan they had. In fact, it was better than what they had in mind.

Carmen raised her glass as well. "Hudson, we used to be husband and wife. This is for you and me."

"Don't worry! I won't force you to drink since you can't drink! Why don't you get Zeke to drink on your behalf again?"

Everyone lost their cool when they heard Carmen's words.

What's going on? Hudson and Carmen used to be husband and wife?

What the hell! Hudson is such a loser! He doesn't deserve to lay a finger on our diva!

Everyone fell silent because of the scene they had in mind. The thought of such a handicapped man on top of Carmen disgusted them.

Another round of witch hunt began as everyone stared at Hudson.

“Damn it! You have to finish this glass of drink, you damned handicapped man!”

“Carmen is being courteous to offer you a drink! You should do as instructed to return the favour!”

“Fine! If you can't drink, get Zeke to finish the glass of drink on your behalf!”

Hudson's eyes brimmed with tears as they had cornered him. “Fine! I'll drink it! I'll finish this glass of drink!”

Zeke stretched his arm and stopped Hudson. “No, Hudson. You can't finish this glass of drink.”

“Your dignity will go down with this glass of drink if you finish it.”

Ivan got up and scolded, "You're good as dead if you refuse to finish up the glass of drink!"

"Your life or your dignity? Your call!"

Zeke sneered as he looked at Ivan in the eyes. He crossed out Ivan's name on the name list immediately.

Once again, Zeke poured another glass of drink into the pot and poured himself another one. "I'll drink on Hudson's behalf!"

He finished it up almost instantly again.

Halfway through the session, he had already finished up at least two hundred pounds of hard liquor.

Finally, Zeke could no longer pull himself together. He swayed on his feet once again and passed out on the table.

"Zeke, are you okay?" Hudson was terrified and tried to wake Zeke up by tapping on his shoulder immediately.

Whoosh!

Carmen heaved a euphoric sigh of relief.

This jerk has finally passed out! It's time to move on to the next stage of our plan!

Carmen waved and beckoned others to calm down.

“Hudson, I heard you've been diagnosed with cancer?”

Hudson lowered his head and replied, “That's none of your business!”

Everyone was delighted because they had derived pleasure from Hudson's misfortune.

Even if he has spent countless nights by Carmen's side, it doesn't matter anymore because he's about to drop dead!

Death is such an easy way out for a loser like him! He has no right to lay a finger on Carmen at all!

Carmen asked, “What do you mean by it has nothing to do with me? If you're dead, who's gonna take care of our bedridden daughter? Who will raise her?”

“I'll give you another chance to secure Sharon a carefree life for the rest of her life. All it takes is your life!”

Hudson had to take the matter seriously because it was their daughter they were talking about.

“What do you mean?”

Carmen took a sip of the drink she had, “I'll be able to grant Sharon a carefree life for the rest of her

life as long you commit suicide by jumping off the tower crane at Love in a Fallen City.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Jayden and Carmen had already come up with a perfect plan.

The villainous duo would recreate the murderous scene and frame Zeke for Hudson's death once the latter committed suicide at the site of Love in a Fallen City.

Carmen and Jayden wanted Zeke to bear the consequences with his life and to halt the construction of Love in a Fallen City.

What!

Hudson raised his head all of a sudden.

This cruel woman actually wants me dead?

He scoffed, "In your dreams!"

Carmen sneered, "Are you sure? I hope you won't regret your decision."

She reached for her phone and called Jayden as soon as she finished her sentence.

The call was picked up before long. Jayden, who was on the other end of the call, asked, "Carmen, how are things going on your end?"

Carmen replied, "Everything is ready! What about Sharon? Put Sharon on the phone, Jayden."

They could hear Sharon's naïve and helpless voice

as she wailed, "Daddy! Where's daddy! I-I want daddy to cuddle me..."

Sharon!

She's kidnapped! They've kidnapped Sharon!

Hudson raised his head and stared at Carmen with his bloodshot eyes. "Sharon! Y-You kidnapped Sharon!"

He pounced on Carmen and tried to snatch her phone, but Carmen turned sideways and evaded his attack.

She managed to trip Hudson up at the same time. Consequently, the man fell to the ground and broke his teeth.

He ignored the excruciating sensation he felt and shouted hysterically, "Carmen, she's your daughter too! H-How can you be so cruel to our daughter?"

Carmen replied in a callous tone, "What sort of nonsense are you talking about? I wasn't the one who kidnapped our daughter! It was Jayden!"

"I'm trying to save Sharon too! I'll be able to save her as long as you're willing to give up your life!"

"Fine! I'll give it to you! I'll surrender my life!"

Hudson reached for the glass bottle next to him and broke it. He placed the shattered piece of glass on his neck and told Carmen, "I'll kill myself

right now! Get him to set our daughter free!”

Carmen told Hudson, “Not here! I don't want you dead just yet!”

“You have ten minutes to rush over to the side. I'm afraid they will finish Sharon off if you fail to reach the designated location within ten minutes.”

Hudson felt despair all of a sudden, as though his whole world was collapsing.

He got on his knees and wrapped his arms around his head as he wailed, “I-I'm such a loser... I-I'm a useless man... I-I'm so sorry!”

Hudson couldn't make the call because, on one hand, it was his one and only daughter. On another hand, it was his best friend who had been through many difficulties with him.

Everyone was horrified because of what was going on.

They didn't expect Carmen to be such a wicked woman.

She actually tried to threaten her ex-husband to end his life with her biological daughter.

Carmen's actions are really too much!

Some people lowered their volumes and tried to persuade her, “Carmen, forget about it... I mean,

the child is innocent.”

“Shut up!” Carmen scolded them in return, “You have no rights to poke your nose into our business!”

However, several sympathetic female classmates of theirs ignored Carmen's words and tried their best to talk some sense into her.

Meanwhile, Ivan got up and scolded, “Hmph! Hudson is but a loser who has defiled our diva! He should atone for his sin with death!”

“I'm sure his daughter is a loser like her father! They should have seen this coming their way!”

Everyone remained silent as no one dared to talk back against Carmen and Ivan anymore.

Carmen opened a bottle of wine and poured it all over Hudson's head, “You know what? The sheer thought of how we've been together in bed disgusts me. I feel like puking whenever I recall it.”

“I'll only feel better if you're dead!”

“You have nine more minutes. Your life is all it takes in exchange for our daughter's life. That's the least you can do for her, don't you think?”

Suddenly, Hudson laughed hysterically, “HAHAHAHA! Carmen! Do you really think I have no idea what you have in mind?”

“You're trying to frame my best friend up using my death, right?”

“My best friend has been a righteous man throughout his life! He hasn't had it easy in his life either! I will not allow him to die a miserable death!”



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Carmen shouted angrily in return, "Fine! Don't forget you're the one who'll be responsible for Sharon's death!"

"I won't! Finally! What a relief! Let's put an end to everything!" shouted Zeke.

"Sharon, you've always wanted to reunite with your mother, right? We shall reunite soon! Let's reunite in hell!"

"Sharon! Please don't blame me for what's about to happen! I can't possibly drag others into this affair!"

Hudson got up and made his way towards Carmen.

Carmen took a step back. "W-What... What are you trying to do!"

Hudson shouted, "If that's the case, I'm bringing you down to hell with me!"

Someone clapped all of a sudden right when Hudson was about to make a move.

Everyone turned and looked in the applause's direction because it came out of the blue, especially during such a tense situation.

Zeke! It's Zeke! He's the one who's applauding!

How did he manage to return to his senses so

soon?

Actually, Zeke didn't pass out in the first place.

He had always consumed such hard liquors to keep himself warm back when he was on duty at the Southern border.

The ones Carmen had in store for him were but a piece of cake.

He pretended to pass out because he wanted to figure out the intention of the crowd.

Zeke wished to know why they tried to get him drunk.

Finally, he figured out what they were up to.

He was disappointed by the truth in store because such a mean woman like Carmen shouldn't have been given the rights to enjoy the peace he defended with his men.

The blow Carmen dealt Zeke was far more serious than the ones Eurasia's enemies dealt.

Zeke made his way towards Carmen with strong murderous intent.

“Great! Marvellous!”

“Carmen, you've just redefined what cruelty means to me!”

“I can't possibly coin a term to describe how cruel and mean you are!”

Carmen took a step back as she was intimidated.
“Zeke! W-What do you want!”

“Your life!” Zeke shouted.

He reached for Carmen's hand as soon as he finished his sentence.

Carmen was horrified because she knew Zeke was coming after the phone. Hence, she held on to it with all her might.

Meanwhile, Zeke moved his wrist nonchalantly.

Crack!

Carmen's hand was dislocated.

Arghhhhhhhh!

Carmen shrieked and let go of the phone involuntarily.

Zeke took over the phone and took a peek at Jayden's number before he reached for his phone and called Lone Wolf.

“I want you to pinpoint this number. 135*****”

“My goddaughter is with him. Bring him to me within ten minutes.”

“Yes!” replied Lone Wolf.

Everyone's pupil constricted because Zeke had actually dislocated a person's arm in front of them.

He's so strong! How did he dislocate her arm when he merely moved his wrist?

I-Is this the defenceless wimp we used to know?

Who the hell did he call? It sounds like he's giving an instruction! How domineering!

Hudson was anxious. “Zeke, I...”

Zeke comforted Hudson, “Don't worry! Sharon will be fine! Trust me!”

Hudson clenched his teeth, “Alright! I have faith in you!”

Zeke kept his phone and looked at the list of names he jotted down previously, “In the meantime, shall we settle the scores we have between us?”

Carmen yelled angrily, “Zeke! Have you lost your mind?”

“Let's wait and see! How dare you break my arm! I want you dead as well! You want to settle the scores between us? Go ahead and wait for me in hell!”

Ivan scoffed, “Hmph! How dare you harm a defenceless civilian under broad daylight? I'll call the cops immediately and send you behind bars!”

“You have no idea, don't you? I'm a forensic pathologist! I know those from the Public Security Bureau!”

Ivan was about to reach for his phone and call the cops as soon as he finished his sentence.

“Call the cops? Forget about it. I'll get the cops to get rid of your corpse once you're dead!”

Zeke flicked the chopsticks on the table with his middle finger all of a sudden.

Whoosh!

The chopstick shot out like a bullet and penetrated Ivan's wrist almost instantly.

Zeke had managed to hit him on the wrist, that he was holding on to his phone with.

Arghhhh!

Ivan held on to his arm as he shrieked. Blood could be seen squirting out of his wound.

His artery was severely injured as it was penetrated.

He would bleed to death if he couldn't get a doctor

to tend to his wound soon.



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