

## Amazing Son-In-Law Chapter 5781 - 5790

### Chapter 5781

Charlie believed that this was the perfect opportunity for the Wade family and the Evans family to reconcile.

Although he needed to remain hidden for now, the Wade and Evans families had been connected through marriage for many years. Despite past grievances, it was only natural for the Evans family, who had come to China, to seek to repair their relationship with the Wade family. This would not raise any suspicions from the outside world.

Without hesitation, Charlie agreed and planned for his grandfather to go to Aurous Hill to meet with the Evans family and discuss their cooperation.

Mr. Riley also made the decision to resign from Aurous Hill Finance and Economics in order to fully devote himself to assisting the Evans family and developing their car manufacturing business.

With the direction set, Charlie asked the Evans family, “Since we're creating a new car brand, have you thought of a name?”

No one had any ideas at the moment.

Tece, who had been silent, spoke up, “Since it's a collaboration between the Evans family and Charlie, why not call It Evans-Charlie Automobile?”

Charlie smiled and replied, “Aunt, I can't personally invest in this project, so it has to be done through the Wade family. Calling it that might not make sense to outsiders.”

Tece suggested, “Then how about Evans-Wade?”

Desmond shook his head, “Evans-Wade doesn't sound quite right for a car name. It lacks grandeur.”

Marcus chuckled, “Xiaomi Automobile is named after food, and it sounds fine.”

Desmond responded, “That's because they've been in the mobile phone business for many years and have already established their enterprise and brand reputation. It's a different situation.”

As everyone struggled to come up with a suitable name, the old patriarch suddenly spoke up, “I have a suggestion.”

All eyes turned to the old man, waiting for his words.

The old patriarch sighed softly and then exclaimed, “Let's call it Bruce Automotive!”

Bruce Automotive?

Everyone was momentarily stunned. No one expected the old patriarch to suggest the name of his late son-in-law, who passed away nearly thirty years ago.

The old patriarch continued, “Bruce... Bruce, this name has lingered in my mind for nearly thirty years. Whenever | think of the spirited and fearless figure he was, | feel ashamed and burdened by the debt | owe him. If we can use his name to create a world-class car brand, It would be a tribute to him, as well as to me and all of you.”

He added, “Moreover, the name Bruce holds extraordinary significance for us. A great man once said, ‘Today, with Bruce in hand, when will we bind the Azure Dragon? These two characters not only represent revolutionary power and spirit but also embody fearlessness and heroism on the battlefield. When I close my eyes, | can almost see a young ancient general riding on a warhorse, sweeping through

thousands of troops, with a pair of red ribbons fluttering behind his helmet, inspiring and captivating!”

As the old patriarch described the scene, tears welled up in everyone's eyes.

Bruce Wade, the second son of the Wade family, was a remarkable figure among the global Chinese community. Sadly, he passed away at a young age, unable to showcase his talents on the global stage.

The imagery painted by the old patriarch was truly awe-inspiring. It was as if everyone could see the general on the battlefield, riding a galloping horse, with a red ribbon flowing in the wind.

Desmond was the first to express his agreement, enthusiastically declaring, “Fantastic! This is perfect! Bruce Automotive, | have no objections!”

“I'm on board too!” Marcus raised his right hand. “My brother-in-law is the person | admire the most, and I fully support using his name. I'm one hundred percent in agreement!”

Martel, the third uncle, chimed in, “I have no objections either!”

“Count me in!” Tece quickly raised her hand.

Mr. Riley couldn't help but admire, “Bruce Automotive, what a wonderful name! Absolutely perfect! If we can design a logo with a flowing red ribbon, it will definitely make a statement!”

Jack, feeling a bit embarrassed, raised his hand and said, “Uhm... Even though it's not really my business, I still want to say that Bruce Automotive is indeed impressive! Perfect! It has to be you, Uncle Evans!”

Samuel smiled and said, “Hey don't flatter me, kid!”

He then turned to Charlie and said earnestly, “Charlie, Bruce is your father’s name. Whether we use it for our car brand or not, it's up to you. You have the final say!”

Tears filled Charlie's eyes at this point. His parents had been gone for nearly thirty years, and he had never considered how to honor their memory. Now, his grandfather proposed using his father's name for the upcoming car brand, and Charlie was excited about it.

If one day, Bruce Automotive could spread throughout China and the world, it would be a tribute to his father's spirit.

With this in mind, Charlie spoke up, “I have no objections!”

Samuel had been waiting for Charlie's response.

Upon hearing his agreement, he slammed the table and declared, “Since Charlie has no objections, it's settled! The company will be registered as Bruce Automotive Co., Ltd., and the brand will be Bruce Automotive. Let's arrange the trademark registration as soon as possible and secure all the trademarks associated with Bruce!”

He continued, “We must find the best design team to create the most impressive logo. We'll follow Professor Riley's idea of a flowing red ribbon, in the color of Chinese red. Whoever can design a logo that satisfies me will receive a personal reward of ten million!”

Mr. Riley couldn't help but exclaim, “After Mr. Evans decided on the name, I suddenly feel a surge of excitement and confidence. It's as if this project already has a soul, and with a soul, it will undoubtedly succeed!”

He spoke sincerely, without any flattery. He truly believed that once the name was decided, it added the finishing touch that elevated the project.

Bruce Automotive, not to mention anything else, the grandeur and symbolism of the name alone made it unparalleled among domestic new energy vehicles. Moreover, this name held great significance for Charlie, the Wade family, and the Evans family.

It was the name of Charlie's father, the second son of the Wade family, and the son-in-law of the Evans family!

With the combined efforts of Charlie, the Evans family, and the Wade family, using the name Bruce, if they didn't succeed now, it would be a grave injustice.

Mr. Riley also felt the weight of the trust placed upon him. He must give his all and not disappoint the expectations; otherwise, he would have no face to stand before the people of Aurous Hill. At that moment, upon hearing Mr. Riley's words, the old patriarch was filled with excitement.

Tears streamed down his face as he exclaimed, "Professor Riley is right! Bruce is the soul of this brand! Now that we have the soul, I urge Professor Riley and all of you to gradually perfect the body and essence of this brand. As an old man, I have only one request... No matter what, we must not let down these two words, Bruce Automotive! The temperament of this brand should mirror that of Bruce himself-fearless, unbeatable, and invincible!"

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When Charlie informed his grandfather over the phone about his plan to establish Bruce Automotive with the Evans Family, Lord Wade on the other end of the line couldn't help but burst into tears. And when he learned that the name was actually Samuel's suggestion, he cried even harder.

Bruce Wade was his beloved son, a wound that could never heal. He had always believed that only the Wade family would mourn Bruce's

death, while the Evans family seemed indifferent and even held a grudge against them for Lily's demise. But he never expected that the Evans Family's patriarch held a special place in his heart for Bruce, and it seemed to be a significant one.

Later, when Charlie invited him to come to Aurous Hill to sign the contract with the Evans Family, he immediately agreed without hesitation.

As for the specific signing time, Charlie wasn't in a rush. These days, the Evans Family would first sort out their related assets and resources. It wouldn't be too late to sign the contract after everything was settled.

Moreover, Charlie wanted to create some buzz. He planned to release the news of the Evans Family and Wade Family jointly establishing an automotive company to shock the entire industry before having his grandfather come to Aurous Hill to sign the contract.

Another reason for doing so was to allow Mr. Riley to complete his wedding and honeymoon without any interruptions from this matter. Once everything was confirmed, Charlie and Mr. Riley bid farewell to Lord Wade's house. They had both consumed quite bit of alcohol due to their excitement. Although Charlie could easily metabolize the alcohol with his reiki, he chose not to. Instead, he savored the intoxicating numbness it brought to his brain, his mind filled with various thoughts. He specifically asked Don Albert to drive them, first dropping off Mr. Riley at his home.

Mr. Riley was now living with Matilda. When Charlie brought him to the door of his home, Matilda immediately came out of the villa. Seeing Mr. Riley's flushed face from drinking, she showed no reproach towards Charlie and instead said, "Charlie, thank you for bringing John back. You didn't drink too much tonight, did you?"

Charlie smiled and replied, “I didn't drink much, Matilda. Professor Riley didn't drink too much either, just a little tipsy. You don't have to worry.”

Matilda nodded and supported Mr. Riley, saying to Charlie, “Would you like to come in for a cup of tea? | brewed some green tangerine Pu'er, which can help with a hangover.”

Charlie politely declined, “Aunt Matilda, it's late, and | don't want to trouble you by coming in. It's chilly outside, so you and Professor Riley should go back inside quickly. We'll also head back.”

Matilda didn't insist further and nodded, saying, “Then take your time on the way back. See you tomorrow night.”

“Okay, see you tomorrow night.”

Charlie said to Mr. Riley, “Professor Riley, I'll head back first.”

Mr. Riley, though a little intoxicated, was still clear-headed. He looked at Charlie and asked, “Charlie, our previous agreement, has anything changed? If not, I'll talk to Matilda about it later.”

Charlie knew that Mr. Riley was referring to the request to reveal his identity to Matilda. He had already promised him before and wouldn't | go back on his word.

However, at this moment, he raised an eyebrow and smiled, “Uncle Riley, regarding our agreement, nothing has changed. But as the | future CEO, have you considered inviting Matilda to be the Vice President in charge of legal affairs?” |

For a large enterprise, the legal department was crucial. The work of the legal department covered a wide range, and legal issues related to intellectual property were of utmost importance. Therefore, it was necessary to have an experienced legal expert overseeing it. |

Charlie believed in Matilda's legal expertise, especially considering her years of work in the United States. |

The future direction of Bruce Automotive was globalization, which meant the company's legal department must be well-versed in Western | law. Once they penetrated overseas markets, local competitors would undoubtedly use various legal traps to hinder outsiders, and the government of those countries might even use unfair laws to restrict the development of foreign companies and curb their impact on local ones. |

Therefore, overseas companies needed experienced legal personnel ready to sue and defend at any time. |

Charlie thought that Paul was still young and likely lacked experience, not to mention he had his own family's law firm, so it was impossible for him to give up his own career. Bringing Matilda into Bruce Automotive to oversee legal affairs seemed like the best solution. |

Matilda was still in the dark. She didn't understand what kind of game the two were playing, and she even doubted herself.

She asked, puzzled, “Charlie, do you want me to be the vice president of legal affairs? Are you starting a business?”

Charlie smiled and replied, “Matilda, let Professor Riley explain everything to you when you get back.”

Then, he turned to Mr. Riley and asked, “Professor Riley, what do you think of my proposal?”

Mr. Riley knew Matilda well and was aware of her professional expertise. If she could join Bruce Automotive, it would undoubtedly strengthen the company.

Matilda had recently retired and, aside from volunteering to teach at the University for the Elderly, she spent her time exercising and gardening. She had plenty of free time, but he was unsure if she would agree to the proposal. So he said to Charlie, “You can rest assured that | will have a good talk with Matilda later.”



Matilda, still unaware of what the two of them were alluding to, couldn't help but say, "What secret are you two hiding? You're acting like a couple of detectives."

Mr. Riley pretended to be mysterious and said, "I have a big secret to tell you. Let's go inside and talk!"

"Okay..." Matilda nodded and helped Mr. Riley sit on the sofa.

She handed him the pre-prepared tea and said, "John, what secret are you and Charlie plotting?"

Mr. Riley said seriously, "Honey, | plan to resign from the school..."

"Resign?" Matilda responded in surprise. "Didn't you say before that you planned to teach until you retire? Why did you suddenly change your mind?"

Mr. Riley sighed and said, "Teaching and education are certainly important for our country's future, but compared to the path of becoming an industrial powerhouse, it's a bit indirect. Charlie wants to invest in a new energy automotive company and has invited me to be the CEO, and | have agreed!"

Matilda couldn't believe her ears and exclaimed, "Charlie... He... He wants to invest in a new energy automotive company?! But... But that requires billions of dollars in investment. How can he afford it?"

"Billions?" Mr. Riley waved his hand dismissively. "Billions are just the entry level. Their total planned investment should be over 300 billion dollars, with the first phase of investment exceeding 150 billion dollars. And Charlie owns half of it." |

Matilda looked at him, dumbfounded. After a long pause, she said, "John, are you confused? Although Charlie is quite capable and a good young man, how could he have the resources to invest in such a large company? Did you two get drunk together today?"

Mr. Riley looked at Matilda and asked, "Wife, when you and Paul's father started your business in the United States, you had a lot of contact with the financial, venture capital circles, and large enterprises. Think back to when you were in the United States. Who was the

most famous Chinese person in the financial and venture capital circles?” Without hesitation, Matilda replied, “That must be Lily from the Evans family. She's about the same age as us. When we were still expanding our customer base little by little, she was already an angel investor in half of the Silicon Valley companies. Many classic cases in business school textbooks cite her as an example. They say she is the female version of Buffett, and it's not just talk.”

After a moment, she added, “Lily should be your schoolmate, right? | remember you mentioning her before.”

“Yes,” Mr. Riley said with emotion. “Lin was my classmate and the idol of our generation.”

Matilda asked in surprise, “Aren't we talking about Charlie's investment in the automobile industry? Why are we suddenly talking about Lily?”

Mr. Riley looked at her seriously and said, "Honey, i want to tell you a secret, but you must promise me you won't tell anyone except Paul.”

Matilda nodded without hesitation. “Don't worry, since it's a secret, | won't even tell Paul.”

Mr. Riley said, “Actually, Paul needs to know as well. After all, we are a family now, and from a legal standpoint, he is my stepson.”

Matilda nodded. “Since you want to share the secret, it's up to you to decide who to tell.”

Mr. Riley nodded slightly and said, “Aren't you curious how Charlie can afford to invest in a new energy automobile company worth hundreds of billions? That's because Charlie is Lily's son...”

“What did you say?” Matilda's eyes widened in shock. “Charlie is Lily's son?! John, wait a moment, the Charlie you're talking about is the same Charlie who just sent you back, Jacob's son-in-law?”

“Yes,” Mr. Riley confirmed. “The very same Charlie.”

Matilda continued to ask, “This Charlie, he's Lily's son? The Evans family's grandson?!”

Mr. Riley nodded again and said, “Not only is he Evans Family's grandson, but he is also the current head of the Wade family in Eastcliff.

You may have only heard of his mother, Lily, as you have been living in the United States for a long time and may not be familiar with his father, Bruce Wade.”

“Bruce Wade...” Matilda exclaimed, “The one who dared to challenge the Rothschild family and had a back-and-forth with them without losing, Bruce Wade?!”

Mr. Riley confirmed, “Yes, that's him! The Charlie you know, the one who just brought me back, is Bruce and Lily's only son. Not only does Wade Family belong to him, but Emgrand Group in Aurous Hill is also his.”

Matilda was almost dizzy and asked, “Emgrand Group is also Charlie's?! It's the largest local enterprise in Aurous Hill!”

Mr. Riley smiled and said, “It's not just the Emgrand Group. You know BAIT Shipping, where Zoey works? It's now one of the largest shipping companies in the world. In the past two years, shipping prices have soared, and the profits of BAIT Shipping are incredibly high.

On the surface, it seems like a joint venture between the Banks Family and the Ito family, but In reality, Charlie is the major shareholder behind the scenes.”

Matilda rubbed her temples and sighed, “Oh my god... This... This is too unbelievable...”

“Itis quite unbelievable,” Mr. Riley agreed, smiling. “Oh, by the way, you must have heard of Dragon Temple, which is currently providing

armed escort services for BAIT Shipping, right?”

Matilda looked at him, asking tentatively, “Are you going to tell me that Dragon Temple also belongs to Charlie?”

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In response to Matilda's question, John nodded slightly and said, “The Dragon Temple also belongs to him.”

“Oh my goodness...” Matilda whispered, her voice filled with astonishment.

“This.... This news is absolutely mind-blowing... Lily's son, the grandson of the Evans family, is actually Charlie...”

Confused, she then asked, “Considering Charlie's strong background, why did he settle in Aurous Hill... And why did he marry into the Jacob family? Does Jacob know his true identity?”

“He definitely doesn't know,” Mr. Riley replied. “Charlie has his own reasons for settling in Aurous Hill, and his true identity is still highly sensitive. That's why | specifically told you not to tell anyone, except Paul. And even Paul can only know if you're certain he can keep the secret.”

Being intelligent, Matilda immediately grasped the crux of the matter and questioned Mr. Riley, “Charlie's need to conceal his identity must be related to the murder of his parents, correct?”

“Yes,” Mr. Riley confirmed. \*He has his own plan for revenge, and unfortunately, | can't offer much assistance in this matter. That's why | refrained from asking for further details.”

“Understood,” Matilda nodded solemnly. “Don’t worry, | will keep this secret.”

She then inquired, “Earlier, you mentioned that you want to resign. Is it because Charlie and the Evans family have invested in automobile manufacturing and require your expertise?”

“Yes,” Mr. Riley apologized. “I should have consulted you before accepting their request. But this opportunity is extremely rare, and | couldn't find any reason to refuse or hesitate...”

He continued, “Charlie and the Evans family possess substantial financial resources, and they are committed to establishing a truly renowned domestic automobile company. If this company succeeds, it will create hundreds of thousands of high-quality job opportunities in China and greatly contribute to the development of Aurous Hill. | also want to be a part of this project and contribute to China's progress.”

Without hesitation, Matilda immediately replied, “John, this is a fantastic opportunity. As long as you've made up your mind, | will fully support you.”

John expressed his gratitude with a nod and said, “Thank you for your unwavering support, my love!”

Matilda smiled and remarked, “Since | met you, you've often talked about the advancement of industrial power. Despite working in finance for many years, | can sense that you prioritize industrial development over financial growth on a societal level...”

“Frankly, | believe you'll excel in this endeavor. However, given your background, it may be difficult to find another opportunity to manage a billion-dollar industrial project if you let this one slip away. This is an exceptional chance for you to prove yourself.”

Mr. Riley sighed and replied, “You always understand me.”

Recalling Charlie's words before departing, he quickly added, “By the way, my dear, Charlie wants you to oversee the legal affairs. It's not just a suggestion. The automobile manufacturing industry involves an extensive supply chain, encompassing tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands of people. Once operations commence, numerous legal issues concerning intellectual property, company law, patent law, labor law, and various business regulations will arise...”

“Handling all these legal matters requires someone with comprehensive knowledge of company law, patent law, labor law, and other business regulations. If we expand globally in the future, we will also need to familiarize ourselves with the import and export trade regulations, as well as the anti-monopoly and anti-dumping regulations of various countries. It's an arduous task for most individuals.”

Matilda nodded and replied, “I've worked as legal support for General Motors for a considerable time. Automobile manufacturing and sales undoubtedly involve numerous legal regulations. In the United States, laws differ from state to state. Dealing with labor unions alone presents a significant challenge. Investing in and establishing factories worldwide necessitates a profound understanding and analysis of local laws and regulations. It's certainly not an easy undertaking.”

After a brief moment of silence, she asked John, “Do you believe I am capable of handling this?”

Mr. Riley immediately responded without hesitation, “I have complete faith in your abilities!”

Matilda sighed and said, “Both of us went abroad to study when we were young, and instead of returning to our homeland to contribute, we remained overseas. Thirty years have passed, and now, coincidentally, we have both returned to China, hoping to contribute to our motherland's development. Now that we have such a remarkable opportunity, it would be remiss of me to decline.”

She continued, “However, many major companies have policies regarding relatives working together. Even legally married couples are often required to have one person resign if they are employed within the same company. Furthermore, since we are already married, it might not be appropriate for us to work together. Moreover, once we set this precedent, it would be challenging to enforce the policy of avoiding relatives on those below us. As the future CEO, you need to carefully consider this matter.”

Mr. Riley responded, “Most companies implement policies to prevent collusion and the exploitation of company interests among relatives. While this approach has its merits, it can also create a cold atmosphere and stifle the natural emotions of employees...”

He continued, “Furthermore, we are distinct from those internet companies. Our future employees will primarily be involved in production. Most of them won't have control over core production materials and resources; they'll spend the majority of their time shuttling between the factory and the dormitory. In such a scenario, having relatives within the company won't have any adverse effects.”

Matilda smiled and declared, “This is an exceptional opportunity, and I don't want to let it slip away, just like you. If Charlie and you are comfortable with it, then I am as well.”

“That's fantastic!” Mr. Riley exclaimed excitedly. “I'll inform Charlie right away!” Meanwhile, Charlie was on his way home, feeling an immense sense of relief upon hearing the news that Matilda had agreed to become the Director of Legal Affairs for Bruce Automotive.

Both John Riley and Matilda were seasoned professionals who had dedicated decades to their respective fields. Their involvement with Bruce Automotive would undoubtedly provide invaluable assistance and support.

Thus, Charlie called his uncle, Marcus, to discuss the next steps. It was time to generate excitement and lay the foundation for Bruce Automotive.

That night, major news apps simultaneously released a groundbreaking headline, the most influential Chinese family in the world, the Evans family from the United States, announced their joint venture with the Wade family in China to invest in new energy vehicles.

This investment was projected to exceed 30 billion US dollars, making it the largest single investment in China's automotive industry. Initially, people were curious as to why the Evans family chose to collaborate with the Wade family in China. However, insiders soon revealed the historical background between the two families. Many individuals were introduced to the events that transpired two decades ago and the deep-seated enmity between the families.

Those who were aware of the long-standing feud between the two families found it difficult to believe that they had suddenly announced a partnership after twenty years.

At that moment, on the edge of Antarctica, Aemon Mirren, the descendant of the Mirren family, hurriedly made his way to Morgana's chamber. He tentatively knocked on the door and respectfully said, "Master, I have important news to report!"

Morgana remained silent, yet the heavy wooden door slowly swung open with an invisible force.

Aemon entered and discovered Morgana seated in a cross-legged position on the floor, cultivating her reiki in the expansive front hall.

At that instant, Morgana had her eyes closed, and she calmly inquired, "What is it? Speak..."

Aemon relayed, "Master, there is news from China that the Evans family intends to collaborate with the Wade family and invest in new



energy vehicles.”

Morgana displayed little surprise as she slowly opened her eyes and remarked, “What's so astonishing about that?”

Aemon nodded and explained, “Master, | didn't mean to make a fuss. I simply found it sudden for them to announce their partnership. | That's why | rushed to inform you as soon as possible.”

Morgana responded, “I have made numerous attempts to eliminate the Evans family, but they have yet to return to the United States.

Instead, they have chosen to invest heavily in China, seeking protection. | believe they view China as their future development direction.

Haven't they made several recent investments?”

“Now, they are collaborating with the Wade family, which is not surprising. After all, the Wade family can be considered the hosts in China, and the Evans family undoubtedly wishes to establish a positive relationship with them for their own advancement in China.”

Aemon nodded and asked, “Master, should we still take action against them now that they have returned to China?”

In a cold tone, Morgana replied, “We will strike sooner or later, but not now. They are currently the largest source of foreign investment in China. If we attack them on Chinese soil, won't that deeply offend China? The reason | wanted to eliminate them was to force Lily to reveal himself. We don't want to attract unnecessary trouble. If we become China's public enemy, China will undoubtedly show us no mercy!”

Aemon quickly inquired, “Master, are you truly certain that Lily is still alive?”

Morgana stated, “For the past twenty years, whenever | think about the deaths of Bruce and Lily, | sense that something is amiss.”

Aemon respectfully questioned, “Master, why do you believe something is amiss?”

Morgana explained, “Bruce Wade is no ordinary individual. He can be considered a talented and insightful person. How could he have been easily killed by Gideon along with his wife? He must have known that he was no match for us. With his character, he would have undoubtedly made proper arrangements for his wife and child. It's inconceivable that the entire family would have surrendered so easily.”

She continued, “Consider this: if Bruce hadn't prepared, how could his son have vanished for so many years? An eight-year-old child doesn't possess the capability to disappear so swiftly and completely without meticulous planning.”

Aemon pursed his lips and respectfully responded, “Master's words are logical. The child disappeared twenty years ago, and despite numerous efforts to locate him, no one has been successful. If I recall correctly, he was at most eight years old when he vanished. An eight-year-old child certainly doesn't possess the ability to disappear in such a manner. It must have been orchestrated by Bruce.”

With a cold expression, Morgana declared, “If he made arrangements for his son, there's no reason why he wouldn't have left an escape route for Lily. Additionally, Gideon mentioned that Lily was burned beyond recognition at the time of his demise. This is the most perplexing aspect. What if it wasn't Lily who died that day, but rather a substitute arranged by Bruce?”

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For twenty long years, Morgana had been weaving intricate conspiracy theories about the death of Lily. |

Despite Aemon's exhaustive investigation, which confirmed the identity of the woman who perished alongside Bruce as a match for Lily in age, physique, and skeletal features, Morgana adamantly refused to believe it. She was convinced that Bruce's disappearance with Lily's son was a premeditated act. The fact that Bruce had chosen to save her son but not her wife baffled Morgana. Moreover, the unrecognizable face of Lily only fueled her suspicion. |

Throughout the past two decades, Morgana had kept a vigilant eye on the Evans Family. She had even managed to infiltrate two carefully | chosen “scholars” into the family, hoping to unearth the truth and ascertain whether Lily had faked her demise. Unfortunately, both

informants had met their demise, leaving Morgana without any insider sources within the Evans Family. |

At present, Aemon still harbored doubts about the theory of Lily's survival. | Respectfully addressing Morgana, he said, “Leader, | believe that Lily must have perished at the hands of Gideon. Otherwise, she would have maintained some form of contact with her family over the past twenty years. What kind of person can live in isolation after the death of their spouse without reaching out to their loved ones?”

He continued, “Moreover, our two infiltrators spent many years embedded within the inner circle of the Evans Family, conducting extensive | analysis and investigations for over a decade. They even administered your specially concocted drugs to Martel while he was | unconscious, hoping to extract information about the whereabouts of Lily and her son. But throughout the years, Martel's response has | remained consistent, Lily is dead, and her son's whereabouts are unknown.”

Morgana responded coldly, “If a person is alive, they would undoubtedly make contact with their family. But Lily is no ordinary woman. Her | cunning and patience are comparable only to that of Maria Clark, that conniving little wench.”

She clenched her fists, anger seeping through her words as she exclaimed, “Our Warriors Den boasts over 100,000 troops and bases | scattered across the globe. Yet, for over 300 years, we have failed to capture Maria! They are all a bunch of imbeciles!”

Aemon swiftly dropped to his knees, cautiously interjecting, “Leader, Maria is exceptionally crafty. There have been instances when she | vanished for decades without a trace. Capturing her is no easy task. We came close last time, but she managed to slip away.” |

With a sinister tone, Morgana stated, “Maria's escape must be linked to the mysterious individual who saved the Evans Family. Consider this, the cavalry we dispatched to apprehend her in Cyprus was a temporary detachment. After Maria evaded capture, the cavalry | vanished as well. Not long after, Jarvis Delgado's death squad in Cyprus fell into an ambush and was obliterated. This must be the work of that enigmatic person.”

She continued, "And the Evans Family, we nearly wiped them out on two separate occasions, but both times, this person intervened. In the end, even Gideon couldn't survive. This individual has eliminated four of our Warriors Den's marshals without leaving a single trace! have led the Warriors Den for over 300 years and have never suffered such losses and humiliation! It's inconceivable!"

Aemon, still puzzled, asked, "Master, this person saved the Evans family from dire situations twice. He must have a close relationship with the Evans family. Could he be an old subordinate of Bruce and Lily?" "Impossible!" Morgana dismissed the notion with a wave of her hand. "He was able to force Gideon to self-destruct, indicating his strength surpasses that of Bruce. How could Bruce possess such a powerful subordinate? Even for a prodigy, it would take at least fifty years to reach such heights!"

Aemon asked, "Should we take action against the Evans Family again to draw out this mysterious person?"

Morgana shook her head and replied, "No! The circumstances surrounding the Evans Family have changed. Last time, when we sent Gideon to eliminate them in Aurous Hill, it was a temporary operation against an American Chinese family residing in China. Killing them then wouldn't have caused much trouble..."

"But now, they represent the largest foreign investment in China in nearly thirty years. If we were to take action against them on Chinese soil, we would undoubtedly face retaliation from the Chinese government. The Warriors Den has no allegiance to any nation. Once we initiate hostilities in China, the Chinese government can rightfully label us as stateless pirates and mercenaries, and launch military operations against us."

Pointing to the ground, she added, "This place represents a century of my efforts. It took a hundred years to build, yet it could be destroyed with just a few missiles. Thus, we mustn't provoke the Evans Family at this moment..."

“Let them enjoy a few peaceful days in China. If we wish to eliminate them, we must first eliminate that mysterious person. Only then can we find solace in the future. Otherwise, even if we were to send someone to assassinate the Evans Family now, we might not reap any benefits under his control.”

Aemon nodded and questioned, “Leader, how can we locate this mysterious person?”

Worry tinted Morgana's expression as she replied, “There's no need to rush for now. There are still some things | haven't unraveled yet. Until I do, we must maintain a firm grip and not provide any openings to others.” She then instructed Aemon, “Keep a vigilant eye on the movements of the Evans Family and the Wade Family. If any new information arises, inform me immediately.”

“Yes, | obey...”

The next day, as the news spread, more and more media began reporting on the cooperation between the Evans family and the Wade family. However, neither the Evans family nor the Wade family revealed any additional details to the public, such as the name of the car brand established by the joint venture, its market positioning, or who would serve as CEO. The outside world remained very curious, but no further information was available.

The city of Aurous Hill took this news very seriously and visited the Evans family early the next morning, demonstrating exceptional sincerity. They decided to offer nearly two million square meters of land next to the city's south beltway free of charge for a thirty-year lease, provided that the Evans and Wade families could fulfill the widely circulated news that the actual investment in Aurous Hill would reach \$15 billion over the next five years.

Aurous Hill's only requirement was to include the investment amount in the agreement to ensure that the land was not given away without the promised investment being made.

The Ring Expressway connects to Aurous Hill's comprehensive expressway network, making highway transportation very convenient. In China, automobile logistics primarily relies on land transportation, which is more flexible and maneuverable than railway transportation. From Aurous Hill, one can reach East China within the same day, North and South China by evening, and it takes only two days to drive from the southwest to the northwest.

The Evans family was naturally very satisfied with this location. With an area of two million square meters, it was almost twice the size of the Tesla Gigafactory, providing ample space for their needs.

As for the agreement, the Evans family had no objections. The five-year investment of \$1.5 billion was feasible; once the project was officially launched, the funds would be readily available. Charlie's second uncle, Marcus, shared the news with Charlie, who agreed without hesitation.

According to his plan, after Mr. Riley completed his honeymoon and resigned from his job, they could have his grandfather come to Aurous Hill. Together with his grandfather and Mr. Riley, they would hold a press conference to officially announce the Bruce Automotive brand.

However, the investment agreement with the city could be signed first. The city wanted to secure the \$15 billion investment, and the agreement would reassure them and lock in the land.

Therefore, Marcus signed an investment memorandum with the city on behalf of the Evans family. Once the joint venture company

between the Evans and Wade families was registered, they could directly sign the agreement.

In the afternoon, Charlie was about to attend a banquet hosted by Professor Riley's family when he suddenly received a call from Mr. Riley.

On the phone, Mr. Riley sounded very apologetic. "Charlie, I'm really sorry, but Paul's uncle suddenly arrived from the United States, and our dinner tonight may have to be canceled."

Charlie smiled and said, "It's okay. If you have something to attend to at home, take care of that first. But If you have time, send me a list of tomorrow's procedures so I can prepare in advance." "Okay," Mr. Riley replied with a sigh of relief. "Thank you for understanding! I will send you the schedule shortly!"

## Chapter 5785

Due to Mr. Riley and Matilda both being remarried and living overseas for many years, the wedding ceremony this time is much simpler compared to the traditional customs in China.

There is no formal bride and groom welcoming ceremony. They simply greet the guests at the hotel and hold the wedding ceremony at an auspicious time.

The number of invited guests is not large, including their children, close friends, and a few colleagues of Mr. Riley from Aurous Hill University of Finance and Economics.

Charlie's role as the Officiant is not too demanding, mainly serving as the host. Therefore, the next morning, Charlie packed a suitcase and went to Shangri-La.

The reason for packing a suit instead of going directly in was mainly to prevent his wife, Claire, from knowing that he was attending Matilda's wedding. Arriving at the air garden of Shangri-La, it was not yet time for the guests to arrive, and Mr. Riley was busy with the staff here.

Seeing Charlie, he took the initiative to greet him, "Charlie, you came so early, thank you for your hard work."

Charlie saw that he looked a little tired and asked with concern, "Did you not rest well last night, Uncle Riley?"

Mr. Riley nodded and sighed, "Paul's uncle caused a ruckus at home all night, making both me and your Matilda exhausted."

Curiously, Charlie asked, "Why did Paul's uncle fly over from the United States at this critical moment? What trouble is he causing for you guys?"

Mr. Riley said, "He wants to split the business of the Smith Law Firm in the United States from Paul's hands. In other words, he wants to divide the family assets."

Charlie frowned and asked, "Since the Smith Law Firm was created by Paul's father and Matilda, what qualifications does Paul's uncle have to divide it?"

Mr. Riley sighed, "That's the reasoning, but when they established the law firm, Paul's grandfather had provided some startup capital and used some connections to help them. He thinks of it as angel investment. Now that Paul has left the United States and, in fact, left the Smith family, plus Matilda is going to rebuild a family with me, he feels that Paul cannot take the entire Smith Law Firm with him. He must split the part in the United States and return it to the Smith family."



Charlie asked curiously, “What is the main business of the Smith family? Has their family fallen on hard times?”

Mr. Riley said, “From what Matilda told me, the Smith family itself is a family of lawyers. Paul's grandfather was a well-known lawyer, but he didn't start his own business. Instead, he became a senior partner at a top law firm in the United States and became a personal lawyer for some celebrities and political figures. Paul's uncle followed the same path, but his grandfather passed away a few years ago.”

Charlie nodded and said, “I guess the family has fallen on hard times and wants to fight for some benefits from Matilda and Paul. We don't need to pay too much attention to such people. Since he came at this time, invite him to attend your and Matilda’s wedding. After the wedding, you can go on your honeymoon and let him do whatever he wants. Don't pay attention to him.”

Charlie smiled and said, “Don't worry, Uncle Riley. This is Aurous Hill, not the United States. Even the famous Steve Rothschild would have to be polite here. Besides, he is just an unknown person. Let him come, and if he dares to cause trouble here, there will be someone to deal with him.”

Saying that, Charlie asked, “Did you and Matilda invite him to the wedding?”

Mr. Riley said, “I didn't want to invite him because he looks like trouble. But since he came on his own after hearing about the wedding, out of courtesy, we should still invite him. Even if we don't invite him, he would probably come uninvited. He agreed to come to the wedding today. Paul arranged for him to stay at Shangri-La last night, so he will probably come this morning. But I suspect that even if he comes, he will definitely cause trouble.”

Charlie nodded and said, “Let him come. As long as he dares to be unruly here, someone will be able to handle him.”

After saying that, Charlie added, "I'll call Steve later and ask him to come again. If the people in Aurous Hill don't know him, he definitely will once he sees him."

Mr. Riley hesitantly asked, "Is this... Is this appropriate?"

"There's nothing inappropriate about it," Charlie said with a smile. "He came to Aurous Hill to play a minor role. If he finally gets the chance to be a significant figure, he'll definitely want it."

Then, Charlie asked, "By the way, Uncle Riley, where is Matilda, Paul, and Zoey?"

Mr. Riley said, "They are in the dressing room getting ready. Zoey is going to be a bridesmaid today, and Paul will be my groomsman."

"Great." Charlie nodded and smiled, "Don't worry, Uncle Riley. Today's wedding will be successful and perfect."

While they were talking, Matilda, wearing a white wedding dress, walked out of the dressing room with the company of Zoey and Paul.

When she saw Charlie, Zoey politely said, "Hello, Mr. Wade!"

Charlie nodded slightly in acknowledgement, and Paul, who seemed nervous and awkward, said softly, "Mr. Wade... Hello..."

Charlie noticed Paul's discomfort and guessed that he must already know his identity. He himself was still adjusting to it, so he smiled and said, "Paul, why are you still so restrained?"

Paul hurriedly said, "No, no, it's just that I heard my mom talking about you last night, and I haven't fully processed it yet."

Charlie smiled slightly and said, "Don't worry too much, we are all friends."

"Yes," Paul quickly agreed. "You are right, we are all friends!"

Matilda spoke up, "The guests will arrive soon. John, let's go to the door and wait to welcome them."

"Okay," Mr. Riley nodded and said to Charlie, "Charlie, let's go out and welcome the guests. You three can continue chatting."

Charlie nodded, "Okay, Uncle Riley, please go ahead."

Mr. Riley and Matilda walked out of the hall arm in arm.

Paul looked at Charlie and whispered, "Mr. Wade, my mother said that you are from the Wade family of Easteliff. Is it true?"

Charlie smiled and asked, "Do you doubt what Matilda said?"

Paul quickly responded, "No, no, I just find it incredible and wanted to confirm it with you. But it seems there's no need to confirm it now..."

Charlie smiled and said, "My identity won't affect our cooperation and friendship. Matilda will be in charge of the legal affairs of the new company in the future. If she gets too busy, we may temporarily recruit your law firm. You can't refuse."

Paul said without hesitation, "No problem! The entire Smith Law Firm is at your service anytime!"

Soon, guests started to arrive one after another, and Charlie changed into his suit, waiting for the official start of the wedding ceremony.

Just when most of the guests had arrived and the atmosphere was harmonious, a blond American walked in and sarcastically said, "I thought Professor Riley had a good network, but I didn't expect his wedding to have so few guests. Is he planning to live off my sister after marriage?!"

## Chapter 5786

The voice of the blond man immediately grabbed everyone's attention, his Western appearance contrasting with his fluent Chinese. Yet, he strutted around with an air of arrogance and disdain etched on his face.

Paul's expression shifted upon seeing this, and he hurriedly made his way over, with Charlie trailing behind.

But before Paul could utter a word, Charlie intervened, frowning his brow at the man before them. "Sir, is it appropriate to attack others on such a joyous occasion?"

The man, oblivious to Charlie's standing, sneered, "Ah, you must be from the groom's side, right? Please inform the groom that he is unworthy of my sister-in-law."

Charlie responded calmly, "The worthiness of someone is not for others to decide. As long as two people love each other, worthiness becomes irrelevant."

The man glanced around, sneering, "Look at this shabby wedding. Held in Aurous Hill, a city unknown to anyone. Are there any celebrities among the guests? Is the mayor in attendance? Are there any council members? Is there a CEO of a local company here?"

Charlie smiled and replied, "The wedding is an intimate gathering of family and close friends. Why would we need the mayor and council members? Are we conducting a business meeting?"

The man scoffed, "Our Smith family holds a prominent position in the American legal world. As a member of my sister-in-law's family, want to ensure that the groom can provide her with a worry-free life after marriage."

He pointed to the simple decorations and sneered, "This shabby wedding proves their lack of financial strength. And not a single celebrity in sight, which indicates their lack of connections. Without money or connections, how can they guarantee a quality married life?"

Paul finally spoke up, "Uncle Jimmy, today is my mother's big day. Please don't cause trouble."

"Cause trouble?" Jimmy Smith sneered. "Paul, | flew over for more than ten hours just to congratulate your mother on her wedding. How can you say I'm causing trouble?"

Paul quickly replied, "We're glad to have you at the wedding, but your earlier comments were inappropriate."

Jimmy laughed, "Paul, did i say anything wrong? Your mother is one of the founders of Smith Law Firm, with a net worth exceeding 100 million dollars. It's not an issue for her to remarry, but she should marry someone of equal status and position, right? Marrying a university professor, particularly one from an unknown university in Aurous Hill that doesn't even rank in the top 100 in China, what prospects does

he have? He's just a loser.”

Paul's anger surged, and he retorted, “Uncle Jimmy, my mother's marriage to Mr. Riley has nothing to do with his occupation. It's her own choice, and as her son, I have no right to interfere, let alone outsiders.”

Jimmy immediately countered, “Paul, I don't want to meddle, but your mother and you leaving the United States and bringing the law firm named after our family to China, without a word of explanation, is it appropriate?”

The guests looked somewhat surprised by Jimmy's words.

Seeing this, Paul said angrily, “Uncle Jimmy, although Smith Law Firm carries the Smith name, it was built entirely through the hard work of my parents. As their only child, I have the absolute right to make decisions about it. Do I need your permission to come to China?”

Jimmy quickly retorted, “Paul, what you're saying is heartless. You don't understand how the Smith Law Firm was established. How could your mother not know? If it weren't for your grandfather's connections, this law firm would be a joke! The Smith name in the American legal industry was built by your grandfather's hard work. Your parents used that name to leverage the power of the Smith family. This law firm carries the reputation of the entire Smith family. Is it really appropriate to take the family's name and reputation away like you say?”

Paul was about to argue, but Charlie once again halted him, locking eyes with Jimmy. “Weren't you here to attend the wedding as a family member? Why bring up the issue of the law firm's ownership? Do you have ulterior motives, perhaps hoping to claim a share of Smith Law Firm?”

Caught off guard, Jimmy couldn't maintain a composed expression. He argued, “The ownership issue is a matter within our Smith family. It can be discussed after the wedding.”

Charlie nodded, “So, your main concern is the wedding, correct?”

“Yes,” Jimmy seized the opportunity and nodded. “My sister-in-law is one of the co-founders of Smith Law Firm, with a net worth exceeding 100 million dollars. It's not an issue for her to remarry, but if the other party lacks money or status, he's just a freeloader, isn't he? After all, he might take advantage of the inheritance my brother left for her!” Just then, Matilda and Mr. Riley, who had been receiving guests outside, rushed in upon hearing the commotion.

They overheard Jimmy mocking Mr. Riley as a freeloader, prompting Matilda to scold angrily, “Jimmy, if you came to attend the wedding sincerely, then stay. If you have ulterior motives, then leave. | don't want to discuss the issue of the law firm's shares and business with you today. If you wish to talk about it, we can do so tomorrow!”

Jimmy sneered, “Matilda, when you married into the Smith family, we treated you well, didn't we? Let's not forget that our whole family learned Chinese for you, showing how much we valued you. It's precisely because we care about you that we care about your well-being after your second marriage. If your future husband lacks the ability to provide you with a stable life, who knows, maybe he's eyeing the half of the shares of Smith Law Firm that you still own!”

Matilda responded coldly, “You mentioned Smith Law Firm three times in your speech. It's clear who is truly interested in the law firm. | don't need to say it; everyone can see it”

Jimmy immediately said, “Matilda, you said earlier that today is not the time to discuss the issue of shares and business, so we can talk about it tomorrow.”

“Fine!” Matilda declared. “Then please refrain from criticizing my husband. We have obtained our marriage certificate and are a legally married couple recognized by Chinese law!”

Upon hearing this, Jimmy's anger flared, and he retorted, "Matilda, should you not have informed us before obtaining the certificate? We respect your right to choose, but don't forget, you still own half of Smith Law Firm! If your husband is genuinely a freeloader, what will happen to the shares my brother left for you?"

## Chapter 5787

Jimmy came to China with one purpose in mind: to assert his rights to a share of the equity of Smith Law Firm. His plan was to force Paul and his mother, Matilda, to split the firm in half, with him taking control of the North American business while Paul retained the Asian business.

In Jimmy's eyes, it made more sense for him to handle the North American business, as Paul and his mother were planning to settle in China and might not be able to manage it effectively. He believed it was only fair that the business returned to its rightful owner.

However, Jimmy was well aware that although the law firm bore the Smith family name, it was actually built by Matilda and his late brother, with only minimal assistance from their father. So, legally and morally, there was no basis for him to sue for a portion of the firm's equity. No judge in the world would support his claim.

Knowing this, Jimmy saw Matilda's upcoming marriage as an opportunity to create trouble while she was vulnerable. If he could cause financial losses for this widow and orphan, it would be even better, as they would have no use for all that money.

Matilda was well aware of Jimmy's intentions. In fact, she had brought Paul to China after her husband's death because the Smith family had always been concerned about their law firm.

The Smith family saw nothing wrong with their desire to benefit from a dying family member. They believed that as the owners of the family business, they couldn't let an outsider, regardless of family or ethnicity, take it away.

But Paul, despite being a descendant of the Smith family, chose to stand with his mother. He didn't want his parents' hard work to be divided among a few uncles. That's why he made the resolute decision to move to China with his mother and bring the law firm with him. Paul didn't inform the Smith family about his mother's marriage, but somehow the news leaked out and Jimmy flew over to confront them. After causing a commotion for a while, Jimmy finally focused the discussion on the equity of Smith Law Firm.

Matilda responded coldly, "Since you keep mentioning the equity of Smith Law Firm, let's discuss it."

At this point, Matilda cleared her throat and continued, "Smith Law Firm was established by my late husband and me over decades of hard work. The equity structure is quite simple."

"We each initially held 50% of the shares. As the firm grew and many talented lawyers joined us, we allocated 30% of the shares to encourage those who made significant contributions and were promoted to partners."

"Currently, that 30% is in the firm's option pool. Out of the remaining 70%, my late husband and I each held 35%. According to his will, after his death, his shares were divided equally between me and our son, Paul. So, the current equity structure of Smith Law Firm is: 30% in the option pool, 52.5% held by me, and 17.5% held by Paul."

"Throughout our development, we have not received any investment from investment banking institutions, funds, or individuals. Therefore,



not a single bit of equity belongs to the so-called Smith family. How we dispose of these shares has nothing to do with you or the Smith family.”

Jimmy was taken aback by Matilda's detailed explanation and felt embarrassed.

He raised his voice and said, “Sister-in-law, it's heartless of you to deny it. When my brother and you started the business, my father gave you one million dollars as an investment for the family. It was agreed that this one million dollars would represent a 49% stake in Smith Law Firm. You can't deny that, can you?”

Matilda, furious at Jimmy's false accusation, rebuked, “Jimmy, you're spouting nonsense! That one million dollars your brother borrowed from your father was meant to be repaid within three years. But your brother actually repaid it in just one year. To avoid any suspicion among you brothers, I arranged for your brother to return the one million dollars in cash in front of all of you. How dare you claim it was an investment?”

Jimmy insisted, “Sister-in-law, do you have any evidence that my brother repaid that one million? Our entire family can testify that the money was never returned!”

Matilda sneered, "Are you resorting to being a scoundrel? Your brother didn't keep any loan agreement when he borrowed the money, nor any repayment agreement when he returned it. He believed that borrowing and repaying in front of the family would be enough to prove his innocence. I didn't expect you to stoop so low!”

Jimmy earnestly said, “Sister-in-law, let's stick to the facts. I hope you won't resort to personal attacks. I won't say much more, but that one million was never repaid, and all members of the Smith family can testify to that. If you want to deny it, we can see each other in court.

Even if we lose the lawsuit, it doesn't matter. After all, we were once family. If we can't get it back, consider it a wedding gift from the Smith family to you.”

Jimmy was well aware that his brother had already repaid the one million dollars, but he intentionally made this false claim to publicly humiliate Matilda. He wanted to tarnish her reputation, even if it was all a lie, knowing that it would still make her look bad.

He knew that Matilda was an expert in law and realized he had no chance of winning this lawsuit. So, he flew over from the United States and publicly exposed his shortcomings to pressure Matilda into giving up some of her benefits in exchange for his concessions.

A few days ago, another top law firm in the United States approached him with an offer to acquire all the businesses and teams of Smith Law Firm in the United States for \$800 million in cash. The merger was motivated by their knowledge that Paul had already decided to move the law firm to China, and they wanted to seize the opportunity to become the most powerful law firm in the country. However, Paul immediately rejected the acquisition offer.

The other party then sought other avenues, approaching other members of the Smith family, hoping they could persuade Paul to agree. They believed that if Paul didn't agree, the Smith family might be tempted by such a substantial acquisition offer and would consider taking control of the law firm back to sell it themselves.

Determined to get a share of the \$800 million, Jimmy was ready to play the rogue to the end and grab whatever he could.

Matilda had also guessed his tactics but he had clearly misjudged her character. No matter how much trouble he caused, she would never compromise with him even in the slightest.

Matilda knew that he was threatening her, so she firmly said, “Jimmy, since you mentioned seeing each other in court, I don't think we have any need for further discussion. If you have any objections, say it in front of the judge.”

She continued, “Today is my wedding with my husband. You are not welcome here. Please leave immediately!” |

Jimmy, seeing that Matilda had no intention of resolving the matter peacefully, sneered and said, “Matilda, you are a treacherous woman. |

The Smith family has done so much for you and my brother. Now that you have turned your back on us and even want to kick me out, do you really think the Smith family will just let it go? No, they won't! We will do everything in our power to seek fairness and justice. We won't let you succeed! And let me tell you, my father has been keeping the contract my brother signed when he borrowed the money. It will be the strongest evidence in court!”

After saying this, Jimmy turned to leave.

The words he said were a threat to Matilda. He didn't actually have any contract, but he knew that Matilda was well aware of this.

However, he wanted to create a spectacle by publicly accusing her.

Creating a spectacle like this, even if it's all lies, would tarnish her reputation. He made his intentions clear because he wanted Matilda to know that if she didn't make compromises and concessions, he and the Smith family would continue to hound her relentlessly.

Even if they couldn't force her to hand over the Smith Law Firm's United States operations, they hoped to at least force her to cut them a piece of the pie. If she refused to budge, he intended to ruin both Matilda and the Smith Law Firm. In short, he was determined not to make this easy for her.

Matilda recognized his threats and coldly replied, “Get out of here!”

Jimmy nodded and shouted before leaving, “Then we'll see each other in court!”

He looked around at everyone and declared loudly, “Everyone, pay attention to the lawsuit between the Smith family, Matilda, and the |

Smith Law Firm. This will become a landmark case in the United States judicial field!”

The crowd whispered among themselves. Some believed Jimmy was full of nonsense, while others thought his confident assertion might hold some truth. Maybe Matilda had indeed taken the family business as her own and moved it to China, making the family's current actions reasonable.

Some even argued that if a woman marries into a man's family and the man dies, she should only take her children and dowry, not the entire family business. After all, the man's family had already lost a son, why should they lose both his life and wealth?

Charlie, who had been silent, saw that Jimmy was about to leave and quickly stepped forward with a smile, "Mr. Smith, please wait a moment..."

Jimmy stopped, frowning, "What do you want?"

Charlie smiled and gestured for him to stay calm, then turned to Matilda, "Matilda, Mr. Smith has come all this way to attend your wedding.

If you just kick him out, he might think poorly of our hospitality. Why not let Mr. Smith stay for the wedding?"

Matilda didn't understand why Charlie wanted Jimmy to stay.

Jimmy had already made a scene, and she knew the guests would gossip about this. Allowing him to stay could lead to more trouble and more people believing his lies.

Jimmy, sensing an ulterior motive, responded, "Since my sister-in-law feels guilty and wants to kick me out, there's no need for me to stay and cause her trouble. After all, today is her wedding day, and I shouldn't reveal too much truth. I'll give her some face."

Charlie hurriedly said, "Mr. Smith, you mentioned there are no important guests here today. Actually, a significant figure is on the way. He's a close friend of the groom, Professor John Riley. I just told him about the situation on the phone, and he asked me to keep you here until he arrives to speak with you personally."

Jimmy frowned, “Are you threatening me? Do you think bringing some people to scare me will make me afraid? Even if you gang up and beat me, | won't be scared!”

Charlie smiled, “You're mistaken. This is a law-abiding society, unlike the States, where everyone has a gun. if anyone dares to beat you here, just lie down and call the police. Whoever attacks you will face serious consequences, possibly even jail time.”

He continued, “I asked you to wait because I'm not trying to intimidate you. I believe you're underestimating Professor Riley's connections. Though he's just a professor, his network is extensive, enough to overshadow even someone as prominent as Bill Gates.”

“Ridiculous!” Jimmy scoffed. “Do you know who Bill Gates is? Even the President of the United States shows him respect. Are you saying this professor is more connected than Gates? Are you stupid, or do you think | am?”

Charlie maintained his composure, He's on his way. He'll be here in a few minutes. You might as well wait and see for yourself. If you don't want to wait here, | can arrange for him to meet you in your room.”

Jimmy knew Charlie wasn't going to back down. Though annoyed, he didn't take the threat seriously. He doubted that a mere professor could have more connections than him, the son of a legendary American lawyer with strong ties in the judicial field.

“Fine!” Jimmy said, “You're not scaring me. As you Chinese say, ‘A clear conscience has no fear of shadows.’ | don't fear trouble, and | won't be bullied. Let's see what you can pull off. If you think you can intimidate a lone foreigner, you'll only embarrass yourselves when word gets out!”

Charlie noticed that Jimmy Smith appeared slightly anxious, so he flashed a reassuring smile and said, “Don’t worry, nobody will harm you. The emergency phone number in China is 110. If you ever feel threatened, you can call the police anytime.”

Jimmy felt a wave of relief wash over him as he realized that Charlie had no intention of causing trouble. He straightened his collar and spoke, “I didn't come here to stir up any problems today. I'm glad my sister-in-law has found true love again, so I'm willing to put our disputes aside for now and attend this wedding. It can be seen as a representation of the Smith family and our well wishes for my sister-in-law.”

With a mocking look, he glanced at Mr. Riley and continued, “Honestly, I'm quite curious about this Professor Riley. | wonder what kind of connections he has that even Bill Gates can't compare to. I'm really excited to see for myself.”

Charlie nodded and replied with a smile, “You'll find out soon enough.”

Jimmy remained skeptical and sneered, “I don't believe it. In a small city like Aurous Hill, there's no way someone can make Bill Gates bow down.”

Just as Jimmy finished speaking, a figure burst into the room. It was Steve Rothschild, who had received the message from Charlie.

Ever since drinking the medicinal wine given by Charlie, Steve regarded him as a savior. When Charlie sent him a message asking him to come to Shangri-La, he rushed over as quickly as he could.

Luckily, the hotel he was staying at was just a stone's throw away, so it didn't take him long to arrive.

As soon as Steve entered the room, he spotted Charlie.

Following the instructions in Charlie's message, he made a beeline for Mr. Riley, who was dressed in a suit and wearing a groom's boutonniere. He approached with excitement and exclaimed, “Mr. Riley! Congratulations on your wedding!”

All eyes turned towards Steve, a middle-aged man in his fifties with a fair complexion. However, most people in the room, including Jimmy, Paul, and Matilda, who had lived in the United States for many years, did not recognize him. This was because their status paled in comparison to the Rothschild family.

The Rothschilds had their own team of lawyers, whose level of expertise and status far surpassed that of the Smith family. Although the Smith Law Firm was already one of the top law firms in the United States, it couldn't hold a candle to the Rothschilds.

Mr. Riley, despite making a name for himself on Wall Street through years of hard work, had never had the opportunity to interact with the Rothschilds.

It was only during a dinner at Charlie's grandfather's house that he learned about Steve's background and realized he was now under Charlie's control.

Seeing Steve in person confirmed his identity. He glanced at Charlie subconsciously and, seeing Charlie nodding at him, his confidence solidified.

Charlie approached Mr. Riley and whispered in his ear, “Uncle Riley, this is Steve Rothschild, the person I told you about. | asked him to pretend to be your good friend from Wall Street. Make sure you don't slip up.”

“This...” Mr. Riley hesitated. He knew Charlie had the influence to boss Steve around, but he didn't expect that Steve would actually come over to help with the act.

But now that Charlie had brought him here, Mr. Riley knew he couldn't back down and risk messing up the performance.

Stealing himself, he turned to Steve and said, "Thank you very much, Steve! | didn't expect you to come..."

Steve walked up to him, warmly shook his hand, and then pulled him into a hug. He smiled and said, "With our relationship, how could | not attend your wedding?!"

Jimmy was taken aback. He didn't recognize Steve at all, mainly because the Rothschild family kept a low profile.

Finding specific information about the Rothschilds online these days was impossible. Most of the information available was a mix of half-truths, rumors, and gossip. The online profiles of Rothschild family members mostly focused on the older generation who had passed away, along with some unrelated individuals. Core members of the family, like Steve, were nowhere to be found on the Internet.

Matilda was also perplexed. She had no idea who Steve was and couldn't find his name on the guest list she and Mr. Riley had compiled. Steve noticed the bride's confusion and smiled as he said to Mr. Riley, "John, why don't you introduce me to the bride?"

After saying that, he turned to Matilda and said, "Honey, this is Steve Rothschild. He is... My good friend from... The United States..."  
Upon hearing Steve's full name, everyone was shocked.

The Rothschild name was renowned worldwide, especially for those familiar with the United States like Matilda, Paul, and Jimmy. They had heard of the Rothschild family's reputation. So, the fact that an actual member of the Rothschild family was present seemed unbelievable.



Moreover, there had been recent scandals involving the Rothschilds in New York, which had been widely exposed. Although they hadn't seen any visual evidence of the Rothschilds, they were aware of the names of key family members, such as their current family head, Howard Rothschild, and the designated heir, Steve Rothschild. Putting the pieces together, Jimmy's initial thought was, "Impossible, absolutely impossible! What is Mr. Riley compared to the Rothschild family? How could he be on such familiar terms with the heir and second-in-command of the Rothschild family? Do they think 'm a fool?" With this in mind, he sneered, "The Rothschild family's name has been exploited far too much lately. Anyone can claim to be a member of the family. But you, you're even more audacious, pretending to be the second-in-command of the family. Do you realize the kind of influence the Rothschilds wield? Once they find out, you'll be in grave trouble!"

Steve looked at him and smiled, "To tell you the truth, our Rothschild family never bothers with those who pretend to be us because the people they can deceive have nothing to do with us. Besides, there are so many people pretending to be from the Rothschild family in this world, how could we possibly control them all?"

When Jimmy heard this, he was even more convinced that Steve was a fake. He sneered, "Exactly. I think people like you dare to cheat in China. If you came to the United States, I'd call 911 and have you sent to jail!"

Steve looked at him with interest and asked, "Seems like you know quite a bit about the law."

Jimmy immediately boasted, "Of course! I am Jimmy Smith, the heir of the Smith family. I am a senior partner at Ellis Law Firm, the largest law firm in the United States. The Smith family has been at the forefront of the American judicial field for three generations and has an impeccable reputation."

After that, he looked at Steve and threatened, “You dare to pretend to be a Rothschild in China? You'd better pray that I don't find out your true identity. If I find out you've returned to the United States, you'll be in big trouble!”

Steve smiled and said, “So you are from Ellis. Your boss has been serving as a legal advisor for the Rothschild family. Ellis owes its current success to the Rothschild family’s support. If you doubt my identity, why not give him a call and see what he says.”

## Chapter 5789

Steve's words didn't rattle Jimmy in the slightest.

With a mocking tone, Jimmy looked Steve up and down and retorted, “You really think I'd call my boss to verify your claim just because I met some lunatic who insists they're the second-in-command of the Rothschild family?”

Steve nodded, a smile playing on his lips. “No worries, I'll have him call you instead.”

Jimmy laughed, his amusement evident. “I was giving you an out, but it seems you're eager to climb higher. Since you're leaving no room for doubt, I'm curious to see how you'll dig yourself out of this hole.”

He then pointed at Mr. Riley and smirked, “This is also a great opportunity for me to see how capable my sister-in-law’s new husband really is.”

Jimmy couldn't fathom how a professor from Aurous Hill would have any connection to the second-in-command of the Rothschild family. Based on his assessment of Mr. Riley, he firmly believed that Steve was a fraud. After all, there had been countless cases of people impersonating members of the Rothschild family outside of the United States.

Jimmy suspected that the person before him was undoubtedly a scammer, and their knowledge of his boss's relationship with the Rothschild family was likely the result of thorough research. Scammers always prepared meticulously to improve their success rate. Furthermore, in Jimmy's eyes, Steve had a glaring flaw. If he truly held such a high position in the Rothschild family, he would never attend a wedding alone, like this. Although he had never seen the core members of the Rothschild family, he had witnessed the entourage | accompanying extended family members. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the number of bodyguards surrounding those individuals rivaled that of the President of the United States.

Thus, in Jimmy's mind, Steve was undoubtedly a scammer. Since he insisted on making a spectacle of himself, Jimmy saw an opportunity to expose him and the hypocrisy of Mr. Riley.

If he could ruin Mr. Riley and Matilda's wedding, it would prevent the ownership issue of Smith Law Firm from becoming even more convoluted. Even if the ownership of Smith Law Firm was ruled as Matilda's pre-marital property, once they were married, Mr. Riley would still have a significant chance to interfere.

Steve hadn't encountered a loser like Jimmy in a long time. Incompetent and prone to playing games, he piqued Steve's interest, like a superior being discovering a new specimen of lower life.

As an heir of the Rothschild family, Steve had only interacted with the elite from all walks of life. People like Jimmy had never crossed his path. After all, the Rothschild family had cultivated a group of elite individuals, completely filtering out individuals like Jimmy.

Intrigued, Steve asked Jimmy, "I'm curious, how would you react if | did turn out to be a member of the Rothschild family? Once | prove it, what will you do?"

Jimmy sneered and replied, "I'm a cautious person. Unless I'm 100% certain about something, I tread with extreme care. But unfortunately, in my eyes, the possibility of you being a member of the Rothschild family is zero."

After his retort, Jimmy impatiently questioned Steve, "Are you just spouting nonsense to find an excuse for yourself? Sorry, but it's too late now. Let's see how you handle this!"

Steve nodded and calmly stated, "To be honest, I don't have your boss's phone number."

Jimmy burst into laughter upon hearing this. "Haha! What's this? Are you scrambling for excuses again? You don't have his number? I can give it to you. What other excuses do you have? Are you going to tell me that you've been in China for so long that you can't speak English anymore? Well, let me remind you that our boss speaks Chinese fluently. Our law firm has provided legal advice to many American companies investing in China for the past twenty years. Chinese is a necessary language skill for our senior partners. I can give you his number, and you can call him directly in Chinese."

Steve waved his hand dismissively and calmly responded, "Ellis Law Firm is just another watchdog for the Rothschild family. He isn't worthy of me recording his phone number, let alone calling him directly."

Infuriated, Jimmy said to Steve, "If you insist on this charade, I'll call my boss and let him speak to you directly."

Steve smiled and replied, "No need. He has never met me or spoken to me. He won't recognize my voice."

Jimmy laughed angrily at Steve, nodding repeatedly. "You're something else. I let you say anything, and you come up with this? You don't

have his phone number because he's not qualified? If you don't want to call him, it's because he's not qualified? | offer to call him for you, and you claim he can't recognize your voice? How do you plan to solve this? You say you're from the Rothschild family, so prove it. Isn't that right?"

Steve reached out to interrupt him. "In that case, I'll ask the housekeeper to call your boss and let your boss talk to you directly."

Jimmy seemed to hear the biggest joke of his life and laughed. "A housekeeper? Really? You... You can sure pretend! Alright, I'm waiting right here for my boss's call. | want to see just how capable your housekeeper is, or rather, how capable you are!"

Steve paid no attention to Jimmy and reached for his phone, dialing his butler's number.

The call connected swiftly, and a respectful voice came from the other end.

"Young Master, how can | assist you?"

Steve replied calmly, "Call the boss of Ellis Law Firm and inform him that one of his employees, Jimmy Smith, has greatly displeased me. If he fails to handle this employee appropriately, he and his law firm will no longer have any association with the Rothschild family in the future."

The person on the other end responded immediately, "Please wait a moment. I will call him right away!"

Without saying another word, Steve ended the call, turning to Jimmy with a reminder, accompanied by a smile. "Remember, you brought this upon yourself..."

Jimmy didn't believe a word Steve said. He laughed disdainfully and retorted, "I am one of the top ten senior partners and a key player at

Ellis. | even have a chance to be promoted to the board of directors at the end of the year. If you say you can get rid of me, then go ahead and try.”

Steve nodded calmly. “If Ellis’s boss doesn't get rid of you, then I'll get rid of him.”

Jimmy was about to continue taunting Steve when his phone suddenly vibrated. He picked it up and was stunned to see that the caller was none other than his boss.

Jimmy couldn't believe his eyes as he stared at his buzzing phone and then back at Steve.

Panic began to set in, and he couldn't determine if this was an incredible coincidence or if the other party truly possessed such power. Seeing Jimmy standing there dumbfounded, Steve prompted him with a smile, “Hurry up and answer the call. Your boss is growing impatient.”

## Chapter 5790

Although the phone's ringing and vibrating were no different from usual, to Jimmy, it felt faster and more urgent. The anxious ringing finally stopped, leaving a missed call on his screen. Immediately, he received a text message from his boss that read, "Answer your phone! Immediately!”

Seeing this message, Jimmy's mouth went dry, but he swallowed hard. He had talked so much earlier that his throat felt raw and painful. But he couldn't worry about that now, as the phone started ringing again.

Because of the text message, Jimmy didn't dare hesitate any longer. He answered the phone in a panic, his voice trembling as he said, “Boss...”

A hysterical roar came from the other end: “Smith, what on earth did you do?! Why did someone from the Rothschild family call to say the eldest Young Master is very dissatisfied with you? I've served the Rothschild family for years and never had the chance to meet the eldest Young Master. How did you manage to offend him?!”

Jimmy's heart sank. He had hoped this call was just a coincidence and had nothing to do with the man in front of him claiming to be a core member of the Rothschild family. But as soon as his boss mentioned the Rothschilds, he knew he was in big trouble.

He looked at Steve with eyes full of despair and pleading, and stammered, “Boss, this... This is a misunderstanding. I'll explain it to Mr. Rothschild personally...”

“Explain?!” his boss shouted angrily. “You think it's your turn to explain? I'm telling you, you are fired from Ellis Law Firm! You don't need to come in to go through the resignation procedures. I'll have someone send your things to your home. From now on, I don't want to see you again, and you better hope | never do!”

Jimmy, in shock, protested, “Boss, you can't do this! I've always done an excellent job. | get A+ in every annual assessment, and | have options in the firm. I'm a senior partner; you don't have the authority to fire me directly! If you try to force me out, I'll sue the firm and demand huge compensation!”

“Am | not qualified?” his boss sneered. “Jimmy, let me remind you, in the years you've been at the firm, you've crossed the line with clients more than five times. Take last year's patent dispute between Mel Goodman and IBM. If remember correctly, our firm offered him a risk agency with a 20% share. But you, through a private deal with your college classmate's small law firm, settled for a 10% share. You managed the case secretly and reaped \$45 million in royalties. | have all the evidence needed to send you to jail for just this one case!”

Jimmy broke into a cold sweat, stammering, "That's not true! What you're saying is nonsense! Goodman felt his chances of winning were high and didn't want to give up 20% to Ellis. He chose to work with another firm, and I had nothing to do with it. You're slandering me!"

His boss chuckled. "Jimmy, we're adults here. Mel Goodman met you and your classmate in private multiple times. We have recordings of your meetings discussing the case strategy, and they're all in my hands."

Jimmy, terrified, exclaimed, "You... You must be lying! This can't be true!"

"Jimmy, grow up. Every partner wanting to be promoted to senior partner needs to have enough leverage in my hands. That's to prevent any senior partner from trying to take my resources or backstab me. Think about it. When did you become a senior partner? After Goodman's case, wasn't it?"

Jimmy murmured in shock, "I was promoted the second month after Goodman's case ended... Was this all arranged by you?"

His boss smiled. "Now you're catching on!"

Jimmy gritted his teeth. "Ellis, you bastard! We work diligently for the firm, and you framed us on purpose!"

"It's not framing," his boss said. "I just want security. I have leverage over you, but I wouldn't use it unless necessary. You offended the Rothschild heir, and that's your problem now!"

Then he added, "Jimmy, being fired is just the minimum punishment you'll face. The Rothschild family won't make it easy for you!"

He continued, "By the way, I've handed over all the evidence about Goodman to the Rothschild stewards. If they're not satisfied with my handling, you might end up in jail. I suggest you don't return to the United States. With such evidence, you'd face a life sentence. Even if you get paroled, you'll be 75 by then. Good luck!"

Jimmy was shaking, sweat pouring down his face. His boss hung up, leaving him in chaos. He never dreamed he would offend the second-in-command of the Rothschild family.



Looking around the world, there were few people who could match Steve Rothschild's status. The chances of provoking him were lower than winning the Powerball lottery.

Jimmy's arrogant demeanor disappeared. He turned to Steve with fear and said, "M-Mr. Rothschild, I'm really sorry. I didn't realize it was you... It was a misunderstanding. Please don't hold it against me."

Steve, who had been pretending to be the Rothschild heir in Aurous Hil, was furious. He had no outlet for his anger after Jimmy's mockery.

Seeing Jimmy begging for mercy, Steve's anger flared. "As old as I am, you are the first person to dare yell at me like that!"

Realizing his mistake, he glanced at Charlie, who was watching with a puzzled, mocking expression.

Steve coughed and corrected himself. "There are people who dare to yell at me, but they are people respect. You, a little lawyer, who do you think you are?"

Just then, Steve's phone rang. It was the housekeeper. He answered respectfully, "Young Master, I've informed Ellis's boss. Jimmy Smith will be fired immediately and banned from the legal industry in the United States..."

Steve asked, "Anything else?"

The housekeeper replied, "Ellis's boss sent me documents proving Jimmy Smith's economic crimes. These can be handed over to the FBI at any time, ensuring Smith stays in jail until he's 75."

"Good," Steve said. "Give all the information to the FBI and have them supervise this personally. I don't want this guy returning to America."

"Understood, Young Master," the housekeeper said. "I'll arrange it immediately..."

Steve hung up and looked at Jimmy with a sarcastic smile. "After today, you'll be on the FBI's wanted list. If you return to the United

States, you'll be arrested the moment you step off the plane. You'll face a 20 to 30-year sentence. | suggest you stay In Aurous Hill. China doesn't have an extradition agreement with the US.... As long as you're not deported, you won't have to go to jail.”

Jimmy was terrified, bursting into tears. His legs gave out, and he knelt, begging, “Mr. Rothschild, please let me go. You can hit me, scold me, but please don't hand over the information to the FBI. My life will be over!”

Steve shrugged with a smile. “I want your life to be over. If you're not finished, where wil | save my face?”

Seeing Steve's determination, Jimmy turned to Matilda, crying, “Sister-in-law, please help me. | just want to return to the US. safely and reunite with my family. | don't want to go to jail or stay in China forever!”

Matilda, still recovering from the shock, didn't know how to respond. “Jimmy, | don't know Mr. Rothschild, and | can't comment on your conflict.”

Matilda knew that with a man like Steve, she and her husband could only be acquaintances through Charlie.

Jimmy, desperate, placed all his hopes on her, crawling to her on his knees and crying, “Sister-in-law, please help me beg Professor Riley for mercy. | won't be greedy for the shares of Smith Law Firm anymore. | just want to go back to the US. safely. | don't want to stay in China forever! Please!”