

## Chapter 307 Real Technology

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Lorraine was stunned to receive the message from Obot.

However, she didn't have time to question why it had disappeared and suddenly reappeared online. Anxiously, she asked, "Obot, what do you want to do?"

Paige thought Lorraine was about to attempt something, but couldn't help laughing when she saw Lorraine lower her head to speak to her phone.

"Lorraine, are you planning to show off your smart speaker in public? Do you think we have never used Siri before?"

The crowd burst into laughter.

Those invited to the exposition were either industry heavyweights or company leaders. They had a broad range of knowledge and didn't take the smart speaker seriously.

"Lorraine is too young and naive!"

"Not only was she late for the exposition, but she also dared to accuse Johnathan Group of plagiarism. She is making a fool of herself!"

Their laughter ceased when the entire exposition suddenly plunged into darkness.

"What's going on? Is the electricity out?"

Everyone panicked, unsure how to handle the unexpected blackout. In the chaos, the well-dressed businessmen nearly trampled one another, dignity forgotten.

In the darkness, a beam of light slowly rose, capturing everyone's attention.

The light emanated from Loraine's phone.

It gradually spread across the walls, outshining the items Johnathan Group had prepared.

The logos of Universe Group and Bryant Group appeared on the wall. Then, the planning and design for the new CBD, developed by the two groups, along with the concept map of intelligent applications, were vividly displayed. The virtual technology used made the images look almost lifelike.

The crowd was stunned, holding their breaths.

Those knowledgeable about such technology widened their eyes, eagerly absorbing the contents of the presentation.

The businessmen who had been laughing at Loraine were left dumbfounded. They took out their phones and snapped pictures.

After some time, the exposition's lights came back on, and everyone remained engrossed in Loraine's presentation.

Loraine cleared her throat and chuckled. "If we're going to hold an exposition, we should aim for at least this level of quality, right?"

Her clear laughter brought everyone back to their senses.

Even Davy's expression warmed. He looked at her excitedly



and couldn't wait to ask, "Are all those your designs? They're fantastic."

Lorraine nodded. "I wasn't fully prepared. This is just a general display. The complete version will be even better."

Davy nodded with great interest.

Eaton's face darkened as he noticed Davy, the person he had worked so hard to impress, becoming increasingly interested in Lorraine. Desperate to intervene, he hurried forward.

"Mr. Jones, with our current domestic technology, it's impossible to bring those concepts to life. Don't be deceived by Lorraine!"

Paige, having regained her composure, chimed in, "Indeed. Lorraine is notorious for trying to win public favor. She has a tainted reputation online. Mr. Jones, I believe she's merely bluffing with ordinary projection techniques."

Davy hesitated for a moment, but Lorraine held her ground, maintaining an air of confidence.

"Mr. Jones, you'll know the truth once you visit Vagow in person. And..."

Casting a dismissive glance at Eaton and his daughter, Lorraine sneered, "We don't need to hold an exposition, as we haven't copied other people's research and development achievements. Our completed first phase of the smart city project speaks for itself. The new CBD will undoubtedly surpass our previous endeavors."

Davy's eyes lit up, and he set aside his prejudices against Lorraine. Sincerely, he said, "I will consider your suggestion."

Frustration was evident on Paige's face.

This science and technology exposition had been her first significant project as the vice president of Johnathan Group. With Loraine now stealing the limelight, her efforts to establish her prestige within the company were thwarted.

Glancing at the phone in Loraine's hand, Paige smiled wickedly as an idea formed in her mind.

"Loraine, did you hack into the exposition's system just now and manipulate the power supply?"

Not allowing Loraine to respond, Paige said to the crowd, "Everyone, Loraine came to the exposition with malicious intent. She aims to sabotage our group's hard work with a virus program. I urge you all to check your phones immediately, lest you fall victim to Loraine's hacking."



## Chapter 308 Name Your Price

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The technology Loraine showcased earlier was undoubtedly impressive. At Paige's words, everyone's expressions changed, and they hastily checked their phones.

Even Davy was alarmed, and he checked his phone at once.

Lorraine's brow furrowed.

Paige easily smeared her reputation with a single rumor, while Loraine would need to expend great effort to clear her name.

As suspicious gazes fell upon her, a tall figure quietly stepped in front of Loraine.

Marco surveyed the room and said coldly, "Ladies and gentlemen, there's no need for concern. Loraine and I have neither the desire nor the motive to engage in hacking. We have no interest in such activities."

His composed voice caused many people to sheepishly lower their phones.

Yet, someone still challenged him, disbelief evident in their voice. "Why should we trust you?"

Marco glanced at the skeptic and continued, "Firstly, Bryant Group and Universe Group have no interest in acquiring those business secrets. Secondly, if we truly employed such a powerful virus, any attempts at guarding against it now

would be futile, right?"

Embarrassed, the crowd had no choice but to admit the truth.

Realizing what he meant, Paige clenched her teeth and asked, "Marco, what exactly are you implying?"

Marco replied indifferently, "I'm simply stating that Loraine and I have no interest in your company."

This time, both Paige and Eaton pulled long faces.

"All of you are professionals. You attended the exposition held by Johnathan Group with the intention of communication and development. However, at such an important event, even the most basic security measures were neglected, leaving vulnerabilities everywhere. Apart from the plagiarism, there are no exhibits or innovations that could impress us."

Though Marco was typically cold and silent, each word he spoke felt like a dagger plunging into Paige's heart.

"If we had truly hacked everyone's phone here, wouldn't Johnathan Group bear responsibility for that? Paige Johnathan, rather than casting suspicion and blame on us, perhaps you should reflect on your own actions."

Paige's humiliation turned to rage as she yelled, "It's my first time organizing an event like this, and I admit there are shortcomings. But you're being overly aggressive. It seems to me that you came here to undermine our efforts, didn't you?"

Changing the subject, Paige added, "I've meticulously prepared every exhibit. Can you afford to compensate for any damages you may cause?"



Marco had never been one to be threatened. He snorted and didn't answer her. His arrogant posture displayed his disdain.

He was the CEO of Bryant Group. Paige questioning whether he could afford it was practically an insult to herself.

Lorraine sneered, "So, you want money? How much do you want? Name your price!"

Lorraine and Marco stood together, one more domineering than the other.

Paige clenched her teeth in anger.

In terms of technology, Johnathan Group's leading position in their own territory was actually being eclipsed by Lorraine.

Paige was frustrated that she couldn't compete with them in terms of financial resources either.

The carefully prepared exposition had only served to showcase Lorraine and Marco's technology. Paige had planned to bask in the limelight, but now she was overshadowed by them.

Paige's anger made her eyes turn red. How could she bear this humiliation? Without a second thought, she pointed at Marco and Lorraine and cursed them.

"Let me tell you, you're not in Vagow. You can't act so arrogantly here. I'll call the police and have both of you arrested. I'll sue you for damaging my property."

Davy couldn't stand it anymore. He frowned and attempted to mediate. "You don't have to do this, do you? Lorraine just wants to share and communicate with us."

Noticing Davy's dissatisfaction, Eaton grew anxious and shot Paige a warning glance.

However, Paige, still seething with anger, retorted arrogantly, "If they apologize to me and beg for mercy, I can let them go."

Eaton forced a smile and said, "Young people can be impulsive. If you ask me, it's best to compromise. It'll make future cooperation easier. Fortunately, you're at our group's exposition. If it were any other group, it wouldn't be so easy to deal with."

His words seemed to be urging compromise, but in reality, he was attempting to oppress Marco and Loraine.

Upon hearing this, Loraine sneered, "You two can do whatever you want. Calling the police is also fine if that's what you want."

Seeing as Loraine was unwilling to back down, Eaton and his daughter were stunned.

At this time, Marco said, "Wait."

Feeling relieved, Eaton looked at him with appreciation.

"Marco, you're more reasonable. After all, you've been a president for a few more years than Loraine. You'd better persuade her; if she remains so impulsive, she'll suffer great losses."

Before he could finish, Marco interrupted, "I meant that we should be the ones calling the police. Johnathan Group plagiarized the designs of Bryant Group and Universe Group and violated our interests."



Eaton and Paige were left dumbstruck, unable to think of a rebuttal.



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## Chapter 309 Hero

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Marco showed Eaton absolutely no respect.

Eaton was a man of renown in Bluhm. After being humiliated by the two young people in public, he immediately rebuked them angrily.

"Lorraine, Marco, you two don't take me seriously, do you? In that case, I don't have to worry about your reputations. I'm calling the police."

He then instructed his men to call the police.

Paige felt like she had found someone to rely on and taunted Lorraine. "Just wait and see! This isn't your turf. Don't think you can get away easily."

She eagerly anticipated Marco and Lorraine begging for mercy, but there was no panic on their faces. Both of them remained as composed as ever.

Lorraine was even able to smile.

How ridiculous! The father and daughter were in the wrong. How could they have the confidence to call the police?

For the meantime, Paige eagerly awaited the police.

Minutes later, the police arrived.

Stunned by their prompt arrival, Paige asked, "Why are they here so soon?"

The moment she saw Trevor Gray, the police chief of Bluhm, step out of the police car, Paige was shocked.

Why would the chief handle a trivial matter?

Though she was still confused, she looked at Marco and Loraine as if she had already won. "Look! The police chief is here in person. In Bluhm, even he respects my father. You two are in big trouble!"

Eaton was also quite surprised. He was well aware that his relationship with Trevor wasn't strong enough to warrant the latter's support for such a trivial matter.

Regardless, in front of the public, he played along with his daughter's words. He straightened his clothes, put on a smile, and walked to the door. Approaching Trevor, he attempted to shake his hand.

"Mr. Gray, I didn't expect you to come here in person for a trifle such as this one."

But to his chagrin, Trevor ignored him and approached Marco and Loraine.

He took off his hat, solemnly bowed to the duo, and then smiled.

"I've been looking for you for a long time. Luckily, I managed to find you!"

Loraine and Marco exchanged puzzled glances.

Despite their earlier refusal of the police's gratitude, they were still found.

Witnessing the scene, Eaton was baffled. He pulled Trevor aside with a smile and whispered, "Mr. Gray, what's going



on? I'm the one who called the police. Why did you greet these two instead?"

Trevor raised an eyebrow and said loudly, "You called the police? Why would you do that?"

Eaton was dumbfounded.

Did Trevor not come here to handle his problem?

Eaton's face darkened.

Paige, however, remained oblivious. She shouted anxiously, "Mr. Gray, these two individuals deliberately sabotaged the exposition hosted by my family. Arrest them!"

Trevor was visibly displeased. "How dare you! They are heroes of Bluhm. Why should we arrest them? What happened here?"

Eaton's eyes widened in shock.

He had assumed that the police would detain Marco and Loraine for a few days, given the Johnathan family's prestige in Bluhm.

But now it seemed that Trevor had a good relationship with Marco and Loraine. That meant that his plan wouldn't work.

Paige, naive as she was, hadn't even considered this possibility and continued to shout.

"They're heroes? How is that possible? They hacked into the exposition's system and caused a blackout, nearly leading to a major accident!"

Trevor glanced around and asked, "A blackout? That's not possible. Haven't you conducted a risk assessment for such





a significant event? Show me the permit. Have you even passed the fire safety test?"

For a moment, Paige was stunned, and she quickly turned to her father for help.

As Trevor's words sank in, the others recognized the problem.

If a hacker could easily infiltrate and cause something of this scale, this exposition was nothing but a farce.

The organizers had been so careless and negligent that they disregarded the safety of their guests. Even if Loraine hadn't come, there might have been other hidden dangers at the venue.

With this realization, no one dared to stay any longer. They all sought to leave, rushing toward the door.

Trevor hurriedly directed the police officers to clear a passage and escort Loraine and Marco away to avoid being caught in the panicked crowd.

Paige glared at everyone leaving and yelled for them to come back, only to be met with a hard slap from Eaton.

"Shut the fuck up! This is all your fault!"

He glared at Paige and ignored her. He then rushed to the door and grabbed Davy before the latter could leave.

"Mr. Jones, my daughter was at fault. I'll do my best to make it up to you somehow. When your wife and daughter arrive, I'll ensure you're well-treated. I promise you won't regret it!"

The implication was that if Davy chose to cooperate with Johnathan Group, he would receive substantial benefits.





Davy was hesitant to agree. Although today's meeting hadn't gone as expected, Johnathan Group was indeed his best option in Bluhm.

Just then, he saw two people exit the police car and walk towards Loraine.

They were his wife, Sameen, and daughter, Amy.

His eyes widened in shock. He no longer listened to Eaton, pushed him away, and rushed to the police car.



## Chapter 310 Cherish

"I extend my utmost gratitude for rescuing my daughter and me," Sameen said to Loraine and Marco.

She was a thin woman with a warm smile.

Perhaps it was because she was frightened, her blue eyes were filled with tears.

She and Amy bowed deeply to Loraine and Marco, showering them with an endless torrent of thanks.

Loraine reassured them, "It's good that you're well. There's no need to thank us."

Sameen longed to say something more, but before she could, Davy rushed over and embraced his spouse tightly.

"Honey, what happened? Why did you and Amy get out of the police car?"

His voice quivered as he spoke.

At the sight of him, Sameen burst into tears and exclaimed, "Jones, you can't imagine the terrible things that have happened."

Trevor addressed Davy, "Mr. Jones, your wife and daughter's flight was hijacked, but Miss Torres and Mr. Bryant were also on board and managed to rescue everyone on the plane."

Sharp, icy pins pricked Davy's skin. He felt paralyzed with

terror at the news.

He pulled his wife closer, tightening his embrace.

"Didn't you tell me that the first-class tickets were sold out? Why did you still take this flight?"

Sameen's eyes welled up with tears as she whispered, "I'm sorry. I settled for the economy class."

Davy clasped his arms around her firmly and gave her a small kiss. He then scooped up his little girl, Amy, and showered her with kisses.

Nestled in his arms, Sameen said softly, "Without Miss Torres and Mr. Bryant, I doubt Amy and I would still be standing here unharmed."

With a remorseful look, Davy looked at Loraine, looking guilty.

Unbeknownst to him, Loraine and Marco had been delayed due to a hijacking and had managed to save his wife and daughter.

Davy winced as he thought of what he had told Loraine. Sighing deeply, he bowed to them with red-rimmed eyes.

"I offer my sincerest apologies for my rudeness earlier. My gratitude to you both for saving my family knows no bounds. Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything in the future. I will do my utmost to fulfill your wishes."

Davy was aware that Loraine and Marco were in Bluhm for the cooperation with Cheap and Fine Group. Therefore, he made a straightforward promise to them.

However, Loraine and Marco didn't present the conditions he had anticipated.

Loraine gazed intently at Davy and uttered with gravity, "Mr. Jones, I hope you can spend more time with your family. They wouldn't have selected the economy class today if they hadn't missed you so much."

Marco glimpsed at Loraine with despondency.

He had been too engrossed in his work and disregarded Loraine's needs.

With that in mind, Marco advised Davy, "Mr. Jones, it's never too late to amend your ways. Please cherish your family and spend quality time with them. Do not leave any room for regret, for it will haunt you in the future."

As he spoke, his eyes involuntarily fixated on Loraine with an intense and penetrating gaze.

A surge of strong emotion thundered behind his eyes. Loraine averted her gaze uneasily, fearful of misinterpreting his intentions.

Loraine and Marco refrained from explicitly requesting Davy to establish a branch of Cheap and Fine Group in Vagow, a decision that endeared them to Jones.

Davy reassured, "You need not worry about our partnership. I'll choose you."

Loraine's brows shot up her forehead. "We do not wish to coerce you into a partnership. We want our cooperation to be based on mutual interest."

Her candidness elicited a hearty laugh from Davy.

"Setting this matter aside, your designs and technology are among the finest I have encountered. Based on merit alone, I shall establish the first branch in Vagow."

Davy was already impressed by the technology Loraine had displayed. And his wife and daughter's accident only made him more certain of choosing Bryant Group and Universe Group.

Davy said earnestly, "I will comply with your requests and carry out your instructions to the letter."

Eaton and Paige seethed with envy as they strolled toward them.

They went to great lengths, including expending a significant sum of money, to impress Davy and gain his favor for cooperation. Their efforts were in vain, culminating in the triumphant victory of Loraine and Marco in the exposition.

Eaton was consumed with fury, clenching his jaw tightly. However, two law enforcement officers apprehended him.

Trevor said seriously, "Eaton Johnathan, Paige Johnathan, your call to the police has caused an unwarranted drain on valuable police resources. Moreover, you are now under suspicion for endangering public safety by your illegal exhibition. You must come with us."

Paige's face turned ashen and the blood drained from her cheeks. She shrieked in fear, "Dad, I don't want to be put in jail. You'd better get me out of this!"

In an agitated state, Eaton said, "Mr. Gray, this is all a misunderstanding. Marco, Loraine, please help us clarify the situation!"



Unconcerned with the pair's pleas, Loraine and Marco remained aloof. Silently, they observed the father and daughter being escorted to the police vehicle.



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