Revenge 231

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Guido's face was etched with despair as fear surged through his entire body.

The color drained from both Ashwin and Michael's faces, and their hearts sank when they realized what happened.

Neither of them could understand why everything changed so abruptly. Things were going so well befor e, but Stanley's shifted allegiance ruined their plans!

The worse part was, what if Guido decided to betray them and expose their involvement in this to Iris?

"Tell me who ordered you to do this?" Iris was even more outraged to discover that other people besides

Guido were behind this.

"It's "Guido instinctively glanced in Ashwin and Michael's direction, but when he caught sight of the mur derous look in their eyes, he perked up and stopped himself from saying anything further.

"Tell me who is it, quick! If you don't want to say anything, I'll call the cops right now and let them arrest you under a fiscal offense!" Iris spat.

"It's..." Guido could not help shuddering when he heard this. He knew full well the extent of the Youngs' power, and if Iris were to hand him over to the police, his life would be ruined!

pressure, Michael immediately knew that there was no

both his knees. "It was me, Miss Young! I was

ordered Mister Boyd to do this!"

back from this, he was willing to

Ashwin.

only one of them get in

business world, and he was certain that

would come in

then and there, Ashwin would probably be able to find him a new job

you? How dare you, Michael!" Iris was fuming

that no amount of explaining would be able to change his fate, so he

keep quiet.

all, this was what he

don't think he'd be able to order Mister Boyd around just like this. I'm certain that there is someone els e behind all this!" Ariel said, sneering. Then, she

differences and that Ashwin was deliberately trying to trip Leon

not need to be a genius to figure out Ashwin was probably

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Michael shot Leon a murderous glare as he said this.

"You're insane! I've already clarified multiple times that Leon isn't my boyfriend, and nothing is going on between the two of us, so you're just spouting nonsense!" Ariel snapped.

"That's impossible! You were the one who introduced him to our company, and in doing so, you even got rid of Conrad! Why else would you do this for him if he wasn't your boyfriend? Do you think I'm an i diot, Ariel?"

Michael scoffed.

"What nonsense! Who told you I was the one who introduced Leon to the company, and what made you think I got Conrad fired because of him? Let me tell you this; Iris was the one who did all this, and none of it had anything to do with me at all! I was just the scapegoat for her actions!" Ariel fina lly exploded.

Being the scapegoat for somebody else was not a pleasant experience, and in doing so, rumors started ci rculating about her and Leon being an item, so this significantly impacted her reputation. It was a miracl e that she even managed to stay quiet about this until now!

Miss Young's doing? How... how can this be?" Michael's jaw

got Leon hired, and I was the one who relieved Conrad of his duties; none of this had to do with her at a II! Not only that, but she didn't even know Leon before this,

a bomb was dropped in the middle of the room, and everyone

and even the rest of the higher management were

everyone thought that Ariel was the one who supported and helped Leon all this while, but it turned out the person who backed

nurture Leon and would not change her

them underestimated

in a

which was why he deliberately picked on Leon many times and even went so far as to join in Ashwin's

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"Michael, Guido, Stanley, all three of you were involved in attempting to frame Leon for fraud, and in doing

this, you brought on a massive financial loss to the company, and

this cannot be forgiven! From today onwards, all three of you are officially fired, and you no longer have anything to do with Elegante Group!" Iris declared solemnly.

Seeing that the three of them gave their

service to the company for many years, Iris decided to show them mercy by firing them instead of pursuing legal prosecution for their crimes.

"Thank you, Miss Young-" the three of them thanked her grimly and stood up, getting ready to leave.

"Miss Young, wait a minute," all of a sudden, Leon took a step forward.

Iris glanced at

the ability to understand and rectify one's mistake is a quality that I feel everyone should appreciate. I'm sure that Mister Wallace was forced to take part in this out of his responsibility as the breadwinner of his

for Michael and Mister Boyd, these two deliberately tried to frame him and only came clean after seein g that their plans failed. Therefore, they did not

reputation, so why are you begging for mercy on his sake? Are you

he ruin. almost 7 million dollars worth of product, but we might even need to compensate 70 million dollars to Wick Group! What use is his remorse

the product that the company has ruined, I'm willing to give up ten percent of my yearly bonus to compensate for the company's loss. how does that sound, Miss Young?" Leon

and said through gritted teeth, "Your yearly bonus is a reward for your hard work, so I don't need you to give it

Leon was

which resulted in minimal financial

to Elder Wick about this, he would certainly be willing

not be too difficult

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Leon and Ariel followed her out of the room.

Ashwin clenched his fists as he watched their retreating figures disappear from view, his face ashen.

He planned this scheme down to the last detail in an attempt to get rid of Leon, but everything was ruin ed!

Even though he managed to get away unscathed, he knew that Iris already began to suspect him.

However, because he sacrificed and achieved so much for the company, and also because his grandfathe r was a shareholder of Young Group, Iris chose to give him another chance.

Rats!

Despite feeling defeated, Ashwin knew that he had no choice but to accept this.

The last look Iris shot him before leaving was a look of warning. If he dared to stir something up again, the ere was no guarantee that Iris would show him mercy in the future!

As soon as the meeting ended, Leon rushed to Wick Group to apologize to Elder Wick in person and clarify what happened.

did he choose not to pursue any responsibility, but he even comforted Leon regarding the

date for

making a mental note about Elder

to put all this in the past, Iris too, kept

another chance.

was fired, she

he even got a promotion, and because of this, he was even more grateful to Leon

same time, he became determined to turn over a new

iris for their kindness!

of herbal medicine and

scheduled to manufacture more products soon, he decided to contact

situation, benedict did not hesitate to help restock Elegante Group's

met up at

was none other than The Regency, one of the most famous

City.

hotel on his motorcycle, and he

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"Well, clearly fate wanted us to run into each other, so why don't we go inside together?" He said lighth eartedly.

"No thanks. I'm here for a meeting, so I won't be able to join, unfortunately." Leon shook his head.

Leon was an orphan, and the only way he managed to get into college was because he worked hard his whole life to save up for his college fund. However, because he hailed from poverty, he was always look ed down by his classmates and did not have many friends.

Not only that, but he was a shy person and mostly kept to himself.

Dominic was the total opposite; He hailed from a wealthy family who owned millions of dollars in assets. Therefore, Dominic was always the popular kid and the target of many girls' fancies during his col lege days.

Leon and Dominic were never the type of people one would expect to hang out together, but not only th at, Dominic used to pick on Leon a lot during college.

Besides, no one invited him to the gathering, so of course, he would not want to attend.

won't allow it! We haven't seen each other in such a long time, and it would

cancel..." Leon was just about to turn down Dominic's offer once more when Sean interjected, "That's e nough, Leon. All of us heard about what

happened, so you don't need to be embarrassed anymore! Besides, Janice is going

with his college mates, his marriage to Marilyn and subsequent

so

too?" a surge of warmth spread into Leon's heart

mind's eye.

even though she was a quiet girl, she was kind and thoughtful,

friends with her throughout college, but unfortunately, he lost contact with her

He finally

was doing. Therefore, he wanted

would call him once she arrived, so it would not be unreasonable for him to leave the gathering

and Sean entered a private booth

the guests were already

the room and quickly caught sight

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Dominic was always one of the popular kids in school, and he was the object of many girls' attraction back.

then.

This was made even more so prominent since everyone graduated and was now working, which resulted in their realization of the importance of money.

Even though Dominic's familial wealth faltered in comparison to some of the big names in Springfield Cit y, it was still far more than any of them could ever imagine, so his presence continued to stir up a storm wherever he went.

"Oh, Sean and I ran into Leon on the way here, so that's why we're a few minutes late," Dominic explain ed, curling his lips into a handsome, roguish smile..

"Leon?"

Everyone froze when they finally noticed the man standing behind Dominic and Sean.

contempt flashed across their faces, all except for

Leon's face, and she greeted him with a beautiful smile. "Long time

it's been three years..." Leon

Leon."

of his old classmates' disdainful gazes made him swallow his next words, and he decided to old friends by now, so we don't have to be so uptight with each other. Let's all sit down!" Dominic decla red,

you should sit at the head of the table." Sean knew that Dominic always had his eye on Janice, so expression of delight crossed Dominic's face as he shot Sean a

person in the class, but she was also one of

on her since their early college days, but despite having pined after her for

they graduated and eventually went their separate ways, he was forced to give up on

years, he could not help noticing how beautiful she became, and secretly hoped he would be able

and Leon, knowing his place, decided to sit down at the other end of the

side of him moved their chairs aside in distaste when

by this, and for a split second,

leave.

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"I'll pay for lunch today, so guys, feel free to order anything you want!" Dominic declared at the top of his lungs.

"Since you say this, Dom, I won't hold back!"

"This hotel is so luxurious and expensive; I haven't even been anywhere like this in my life."

"Me, too. The only reason we can eat here today is because of Dominic. Otherwise, why would any aver age white—collar worker like us be able to enjoy such expensive food?"

"That's right. We're so lucky to have a friend like Dominic."

Praises and words of admiration rang out throughout the table.

"There's no need to thank me. I don't think paying for everyone's lunch is anything difficult at all," Dom said, puffing his chest out in pride.

As he said this, he could not help glancing in Janice's direction, hoping that she would be impressed.

nothing to be afraid

in his direction. Instead, her attention was on Leon as she asked, smiling, "I haven't

alright..." Leon let out an awkward smile. He just got divorced and got kicked out of Marilyn's house not

finally free of suffering, he considered

I'm hoping we can stay in touch in the future," Janice

Leon quickly took out his phone to

he saw this, the color drained from Dominic's face, and all ounce of

wonder how

presidential secretary at

a prestigious

prestigious? Every company has a president or CEO,

fancy title for someone whose only job is

a woman's job. How can a man be

into laughter when they heard this, and the distaste in

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"Hey, Dom's right. We were all just joking, so you shouldn't take this all to heart."

"Besides, we haven't seen each other in such a long time, so it would be such a shame to leave so soon...
"

Protests echoed around the room.

Hearing this, Janice also began to think that Leon left out of anger, so she quickly added, "Leon, since you're already here, why not stay for lunch first? We haven't seen each other in three years, I want to ca tch up with you."

Janice was very earnest; the only reason she agreed to come to the gathering was to try her luck at running into Leon, and now that he was here, she did not want him to leave so soon.

"I'm sorry, Janice, but I have to run... Why don't we meet up in a few days, and we can catch up over a m eal? I'll be the host..." Before Leon could even finish his sentence, however, the door slid open, and Cynt hia strode into the room.

"Who are you?"

minds when they caught sight of the gorgeous woman who sauntered

beauty, and her grace and assertiveness made her so dazzling that

though Janice was also a pretty woman, she still faltered next to Cynthia, not to mention the other, less attractive women

up as

the most beautiful person they ever had the fortune to

today?" One of them asked gallantly, wondering if Cynthia wandered into their booth

Cynthia ignored him outright and strode in Leon's direction as soon as she caught sight

doing here in someone else's room? How dare

of mine, so I stopped by to say hi. I didn't mean to waste your time like this, Cynthia..."

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As for wanting to impress Janice-

no matter how he looked at him, Cynthia was far better than Janice in every aspect, and if he could win over Cynthia's heart, why would he settle for Janice?

"Who do you think you are? What makes you think I'd like to get to know you?" Cynthia scoffed. She was a spoiled, arrogant woman who did not give people the time of day, so how could one expect her to entertain Dominic's request?

"You..." Dominic froze when he heard this. He always regarded himself highly, so naturally, he would not take Cynthia's insult in stride. "Who the hell do you think you are? You're just this good—for—nothing tyke's girlfriend, so how dare you act like such a princess?"

"Fuck off!" Cynthia rolled her eyes and, without any warning, raised her arm and slapped Dominic across his cheek.

Smack-

The sound of skin-on-

skin echoed around the room, and Dominic was so taken aback that he almost fell backward from the impact.

he shrieked

Cynthia snorted in disdain, staring at Dominic in her high

surged through Dominic's entire body. Even though he was never an advocate of violence— especially not toward women, the idea of being humiliated in front of all his friends angered him so much that he, too, raised his arm

Thud-

however, Cynthia lifted her leg

him, and the back of

flightiness, and now that Dominic almost hit her, she did not even wait until he got up before slapping h im across

any further. "That's enough, Cynthia. He's my

wipe his forehead and found blood,

of this hotel, and I promise that neither of you will get

were an item, automatically assumed the two of them were