

CHAPTER 11.

After the three bows, tears were swirling in Harold's eyes but he didn't dare to do anything rash now. He knew that his grandma was very disappointed and agitated at him now, so no matter what, he shouldn't enrage her any further.

Lady Wilson heaved a sigh of relief after seeing Harold bowing and admitting defeat. She didn't wish for his precious grandson to bow his head at Charlie the loser, but they had made a bet that involved her. She was a very devoted Buddhist. If Harold didn't keep his promise, she would certainly be so afraid of the retribution and karma to come at her that she would have trouble eating and sleeping.

Thus, she looked at Harold and said flatly, "Harold, treat these three bows as a lesson for you. Next time, don't bet on something that you have no absolute certainty of. Even if you wish to make a bet, keep your family out of it!"

With a pouty face, Harold grumbled, "Okay, Grandma, I know better now. I'll never do it again..."

As he spoke, his eyes glared towards Charlie viciously, thinking, 'You bastard! How dare you force me to kneel and bow before you. You made me lose face today, I swear I'll get right back at you sooner or later!'

Then, Lady Wilson stated, "It is a joyful day today, now that Claire has won the contract. Come on everyone, we must hurry and make our preparations now. We must take this opportunity to build a good partnership with Emgrand Group!"

Charlie reminded, "Grandma, since Claire has succeeded in striking the deal, don't you think you should announce the appointment of Claire as the director of the company as you've promised?"

Lady Wilson arched her eyebrows, thoughts were running in her mind. She did say that whoever won the contract would be appointed as the company's director. However, Claire was not her favorite all this while. Her loser husband had always irritated her too and some ideas were slowly brewing in her mind again. What if Claire got out of her control after she was appointed such a high position in the company? What would she do then? In that instant, she wanted to withdraw her promise. After all, she didn't swear on an oath when she made such a promise, so she wouldn't feel bad at all if she took it back.

However, saying such a statement right after Claire struck the deal would be unwise, so she said, "Let's do this instead. Tomorrow night, I'll hold a banquet, inviting all the prominent and influential people in Aurous Hill to the party. At the banquet, I'll officially announce our collaboration with Emgrand Group and the appointment of the new director."

Charlie was relieved with satisfaction after Lady Wilson's statement. Claire also smiled, reassured. Finally, the position of the director was hers. She didn't have to be elbowed and isolated anymore, and her parents could finally stand upright and be proud!

Lady Wilson turned to look at Claire and said, "Claire, I need you to do something for me."

"Yes, Grandma, what is it?"

"I want you to contact the chairman of Emgrand Group and invite him to attend tomorrow's banquet."

After a pause, she continued with anticipation, "If he is able to attend our banquet, it will be an extravagant boost to our family! It will also push our name out to the public, making us more famous!"

Claire pondered for a while and said hesitantly, "But... I only met Miss Young, the vice-chairman, I didn't see the chairman himself...By the way, don't you think it's a little too deliberate to organize the banquet when we've just gotten the contract..."

"So what? I want to tell the whole Aurous Hill that we're now bound to Emgrand Group. We're going to be very successful and rich!"

Lady Wilson continued, "Even if their chairman doesn't want to come, you can invite Doris Young, it's the same. She is the second person in charge of Emgrand Group, she would also be an honorable guest to have at our banquet."

She was already grinning in excitement when she thought of it. She felt her body pumping with hot blood when she imagined how those big cooperates and families who had discriminated against the Wilson family would have to humble themselves and serve under the Wilson family. The Wilson family would become more brilliant and lavish in her hands!

Claire pondered for a moment before answering gingerly, "Okay, I understand, I'll try..."

"Don't try it! You must!"

Claire nodded reluctantly, then turned to Charlie and whispered, "What should I do? What if the chairman doesn't attend? What if Doris Young doesn't want to come too?"

Charlie chuckled and said, "Just try and see. You have Miss Young's number, don't you? Maybe she'll agree as soon as you call her, who knows?"

The purpose of the banquet was not only to demonstrate the strength of the Wilson family but also to announce Claire's promotion to the director. As her husband, it would be a joyful event to support his wife and to celebrate her promotion.

At this time, Claire didn't know that her husband was the chairman of Emgrand Group. She fidgetted her fingers anxiously and sighed before saying, "He is the chairman of Emgrand, I heard that he is some young master from an extremely wealthy family in Eastcliff. This kind of person must be very busy with his daily business, how would he be able to spare the time to attend some whatnot banquet..."

Charlie laughed and said, "I don't think so. Perhaps he's someone who spends his time with his wife at home every day, cooking and doing the laundry all day long. Who knows?"

Claire rolled her eyes at him and teased, "Do you think everyone is like you?"

Charlie nodded. "Yes, maybe the boss of Emgrand Group is just like me..."

Claire pursed her lips and snorted, "Cut it out! That's impossible!"

CHAPTER 12.

Assuming that Charlie was simply joking, Claire didn't take it seriously. She walked aside and dialed Miss Young's Number. Soon, the call was answered.

Doris' sweet and pleasing voice resonated from the other end of the line. "Hello, Miss

Wilson.”

“Hi, Miss Young. I have a favor to ask from you,” Claire said timidly.

“Okay, what is it?” Doris Replied. .

Claire rehearsed the sentence in her head once again, taking a deep breath before she said determinedly, “May I know if the chairman is available tomorrow night? My family will be organizing a banquet tomorrow to officially announce our collaboration with Emgrand Group. I hope that the chairman would kindly accept my invitation...”

There was silence at the other end of the line before Doris spoke again, “Miss Wilson, I’m sorry but I cannot make the decision on behalf of the chairman. Or, perhaps I could ask him for you, would that be alright?”

Claire said respectfully, “Thank you, sorry for the trouble caused.” After the call was ended, Claire Held her phone nervously, anticipating her reply. Right at this moment, Charlie’s phone suddenly rang. Charlie, taken aback, quietly cursed himself for forgetting to mute his phone. It Must be Doris who was calling to ask for his opinion...

He pretended to answer the phone calmly and mumbled, “Yes?”

As expected, Doris’ voice came from the phone, “Mr. Wade, the Wilson Group will be holding a banquet tomorrow night. I Would like to ask if I would want to attend the banquet.”

Charlie replied, “Oh, is that so? Okay, I will...Alright, that’s it, bye...”

Then, he quickly hung up the call and mumbled, “These Marketing spam calls are really annoying...”

Claire didn’t suspect anything, but very soon, her phone rang again.

Doris’s voice echoed into her ear again. “Hello, Miss Wilson, our chairman has agreed to your invitation, he’ll drop by the venue then!”

“Huh! Really...that’s great...thank you so much for your help. Please thank Mr.Chairman on my behalf too...” Claire muttered in disbelief followed by an excited shriek. She didn’t expect

that the chairman would actually agree to come.

She hurriedly turned to Lady Wilson and said delightedly, "Grandma! The chairman of Emgrand Group has agreed to come!"

"Really!?" Lady Wilson was extremely thrilled!

She turned and ordered the family members on the floor immediately, "Quick, make the necessary preparations! Book The most luxurious hotel, order the best meals and drinks! Let's Make it big to welcome the chairman of Emgrand Group!"

"Next, contact all the big companies in the city and invite them to our banquet! Inform Them that Emgrand's chairman will be there!"

Then the office became very busy with everyone bustling here and there to make phone calls! Everyone was stoked, constantly contacting their business partners and the high-profile figures of Aurous Hill. The news exploded like an atomic bomb in the city that it spread like wildfire! In the blink of an eye, everyone in the Aurous Hill knew about Wilson Group's banquet. The mysterious chairman of Emgrand Group would appear at the Wilson family's banquet tomorrow night!

Lady Wilson responded to the countless inquiries over the phone with a wide smile on her face. She was over the moon right now, because she knew that after tomorrow's banquet, the Wilson family would surely become the most sought-after family in Aurous Hill!

She giggled earnestly and said, "Okay, that's it for today. Start Preparing for tomorrow's banquet. Dismissed!"

After the meeting, Lady Wilson Returned to her office. Harold looked around sheepishly and quickly followed her.

"Grandma, do you really want to appoint Claire as the director?" Harold couldn't help but speak directly when there was no one around.

Lady Wilson frowned and said in a cold voice, "I've promised Claire, why can't I appoint her?"

"Grandma, you can't make her the director!"

“Why? She has won such a lavish contract. Her contribution is significant and important and she deserves it.”

“She was only able to win the Emgrand contract because Wendell of the Jones family helped her. I heard that Wendell had gone to her place yesterday and Emgrand Group signed a contract with us today. The coincidence is quite odd, don’t you think? From what I see, she must have spent the night with Wendell Jones!”

Lady Wilson’s face slowly turned into a shade of brewing rage. “Is that true?”

Harold uttered firmly, “Of Course it’s true! Wendell did go to see Claire last night. You’ll Know if you look into it.”

He then continued, “Grandma, Claire is a married woman. If The skeleton in the closet is revealed, with people knowing this is how we had won the contract with Emgrand, what would they say about the Wilson family? What would they say about you?”

Lady Wilson’s frown wrinkles even deeper, buying Harold’s lie. She knew about Wendell’s feelings towards Claire. During her birthday, Wendell had given her a jade talisman worth three to four million dollars. It could also explain why Claire Was able to win the sixty million dollar contract.

Sensing the change in Lady Wilson’s expression, Harold quickly continued, “If you appoint such a shameless woman as the director, our reputation will be tarnished! At a time like this, you must appoint another person as the director and give that person the credit of the contract too. The best choice would be a man, it’s the best way to avoid gossip!”

Lady Wilson nodded slightly, pondering upon his suggestion. She believed 80% of Harold’s lies. Considering the circumstances, she should choose another candidate as the director to eliminate the rumors and gossip. If the public were to know that Claire had won the contract because of her affair with Wendell, she would state that the new director had won the project instead of it being the product of Claire’s affairs.

Moreover, the old lady was biased too. Honestly, she didn’t like Claire! In addition, she was a conservative woman with patriarchal thinking. She didn’t like the idea of Claire slowly growing her influence and power in the Wilson family. She must stop her growth within the

family to consolidate the Wilson family's assets. She had made up her mind silently as her thoughts ran wild.

She looked at Harold and said coldly, "Harold, from now on, you must listen to me. Do what I tell you to do, and don't do the things that I tell you not to do. Do you understand?"

Harold stood upright and said, expressing his loyalty, "Don't worry Grandma, I'll follow your orders like a loyal servant. I'll go wherever you point, I'll do whatever you say!"

"Okay." Lady Wilson nodded and continued, "At the banquet tomorrow, I'll announce that you're the new director and will be fully in charge of the project with Emgrand Group. But remember, you must be obedient and faithful. I can hold you up, but I can also bring you down!"

Harold shrieked gleefully and said, "Don't worry, Grandma! I'll be a good boy!"

CHAPTER 13.

Claire's heart was still thumping excitedly when she exited Wilson Group's office. Grandma would officially announce her new position tomorrow. Finally, she could hold her head up high!

She turned to Charlie and said gleefully, "Charlie, thank you! If it's not for your encouragement, I wouldn't have dared to step up and take the challenge."

Charlie replied with a smile, "Dear, you deserve this." He turned his head away, then turned back to her and said, "Oh yes, it's such a great and happy event. Let's celebrate, shall we?"

Claire nodded. "How do you want to do it?"

"Our third anniversary is around the corner, let's celebrate it together! I'll prepare everything, you just have to sit back and relax."

Claire gaped in surprise. "Are you going to surprise me?"

“Yes!” Charlie nodded and laughed. “I’m giving you a surprise!”

Claire felt a dash of warmth surging her heart. “Okay, I won’t ask you for any details then.”

“You don’t have to, just wait!”

Charlie had several plans lining up for the preparation of a special and exclusive wedding anniversary. Generally, compensation was the main objective. After all, he was very poor previously and he didn’t have the money to buy presents for his wife. In fact, he couldn’t even afford a formal wedding for her. Now that he was loaded, he wanted to compensate her earnestly.

After splitting with his wife, Charlie went to a jewelry store called Emerald Court in the center of Aurous Hill alone. Emerald Court was the most popular jewelry store in town. They had gold, platinum, diamonds, jade, and all sorts of gemstones and accessories that one could dream of. You name it, they’ve got it. Charlie wanted to buy a gift for his wife before heading to the best hotel in town to book a venue for their belated wedding.

When he walked into the stores, the sales personnel didn’t bother to entertain him when they saw him wearing four- striped – a.k.a. Counterfeit-Adidas sneakers. Regardless, Charlie looked around by himself for a long while until he saw a jade necklace locked in the glass cabinet. The necklace was made of the most exclusive icy jadeite. It was very elegant and exquisite, a perfect match for Claire’s aura. He peeked at the price tag. Thirteen million—which was a piece of cake for him.

He ushered for one of the sales personnel and said, “Hi, please take this necklace out, I’d like to have a look.”

The person glanced at him indifferently and muttered, “I don’t have the key, it’s with our manager.” Then, he spoke through the intercom and said, “Miss Wolfe, there’s a guy here who wants to see our most prized possession!”

Very soon, a very enchanting woman with a very thick makeup sprinted to the storefront enthusiastically. Her name was Jane Wolfe and she was the sales manager at the store.

“Which prestigious guest wants to see our prized collection?”

The personnel pointed to Charlie and said, "This man over here."

"Huh?" Jane shifted her gaze at Charlie and expressed a disgusted look as if she had just eaten a fly. How could this deadbeat loser afford the most prized treasure of the shop?

She turned to the male sales personnel and said, "Hey, Gill, you're kidding me, right?"

"No, it's true, this gentleman wants to see the necklace."

Jane chided rudely, "Are you telling me that this loser can afford the necklace? Are you blind? If you're blind, tell me so I can fire you right this instant and stop being annoyed!"

Jane thought that she could very accurately read people after years of working experience. She could see at a glance about what kind of person the buyer was and predict their purchasing power. So, from her observation, she could tell that Charlie was nothing but a poor loser. He couldn't even afford a 1,300 dollar necklace, let alone the thirteen million dollar necklace! He was just a waste of her time!

The male sales personnel kept quiet after the scolding, but Charlie frowned and asked her, "You opened the door to do business, right? I want to see the necklace, what's the problem?"

Jane sneered in disdain. "Yes, we did open our door for business, but we don't do business with the mentally retarded. You can't afford it, just get out of our store!"

The frown on Charlie's forehead grew deeper. "How do you know I can't afford it? Which pair of eyes did you use to judge me?"

"Haha!" Jane mocked contemptuously, "This jade necklace is worth tens of millions of dollars. Tell me, how are you going to pay for it? I know exactly what you want to do. You want me to take it out so you can snap a picture of it and post it on Instagram to show off, am I right?"

Jane crossed her arms in front of her chest and stood with her head held high, looking snobbish and pompous.

There were a few shoppers in the store. When they heard the price of the jade necklace, they gaped in awe and pointed at Charlie as they whispered, "That guy is so shameless."

Why does he want to look at it when he can't afford it?"

"You're right. Didn't he look into the mirror before he left his house? How can he deserve such a beautiful and precious gem with that low-quality outfit?"

"Let me tell you, there are so many of them nowadays!"

Charlie looked askance at Jane who looked back at him with the scornful smile on her face. He decided to teach the ignorant bitch a lesson! He retrieved his phone and dialed Stephen's number.

"I want you to prepare thirteen million dollars in cash and come to Emerald Court in ten minutes."

"Okay, Young Master, right on it."

The corner of Jane's lips twitched as she teased, "Wow, you're so indulgent in your acting, I'm impressed! Thirteen million dollars in cash? Haha, don't make me laugh. I haven't seen so much cash in my life, I do hope you'd let me open my eyes today! Don't you know that you'd need to make a prior appointment with the bank for any cash withdrawals above a million dollars? Hahaha, you're so funny!"

Charlie nodded inexpressively and said, "Since you haven't seen it before, you'll see it soon."

The shrill voices started to resonate across the store.

"It's okay to be poor, just don't be so puffed up..."

"Haha, this guy looks nothing like a rich guy at all! Thirteen million? I'll call him Dad if he can get thirteen thousand dollars!"

"Well, I'm curious to see what thirteen million in cash looks like!"

Listening to the crowd who was taking her side, Jane smiled satisfyingly. She couldn't wait to see how this poor loser would react when the cash wasn't here.

A few minutes later, several Rolls-Royce suddenly parked in front of Emerald Court's

entrance. Immediately after that, eight bodyguards in black suits came down from the two cars at the front. They were carrying a black leather suitcase, their muscles twitching, their expression solemn, a cold and murderous aura radiating from their body. It felt as if the temperature had suddenly dropped below zero. Everyone in Emerald Court was stunned in extreme shock upon the scene! Who was this guy? What's with the charismatic appearance?

CHAPTER 14.

Jane was taken aback by such an extravagant appearance, wondering to herself if these guys were here for him. She dismissed that thought very quickly! Impossible! The poor loser wouldn't know anyone so powerful. Stephen got out from the third car and strode into Emerald Court. Jane quickly got up to greet him, but he ignored her completely and went straight to Charlie.

“Young Master, I'm here with the money.”

Then, Stephen gestured with his hand. The studly bodyguards walked into the store, placed the suitcase on the floor, and opened it. It was full of cash to the brink! Everyone gaped in extreme shock! Damn it! The loser...oh no! What the guy had said was actually true! Oh damn! Who was he! Many people took their phones out, trying to take a picture or record a video. They wouldn't want to miss such a shocking scene. Stephen's bodyguards immediately cleared the scene and pushed them out of the store. All they managed to snap was the back of Charlie's head.

Charlie pointed to the cash and said to Jane, “You said that you've never seen so much cash before, didn't you? Take a good look at it now.”

In a shocked daze, Jane mumbled with vigorous nodding, “Yes, I see it, I see it now...”

Charlie said to Stephen, “I want to see the manager of this store.”

Stephen nodded, took out his phone, searched through his contact list, and made the call.

As soon as his call was answered, he shouted, “bastard, I am Stephen Thompson! I'm now

at Emerald Court. I'll give you one minute to get here now, or I'll have someone burn down the store and then break your legs!"

Blood drained from Jane's face, her eyes filled with horror when she looked at Stephen. Who was this guy? Was he that powerful? Her boss was a man of substance in Aurous Hill and he was also very well connected in the 'organized' group. Everyone treated him with great respect and honor! She couldn't believe that there were people who dared to talk to him like that!

It had not even been a minute when a middle-age obese man came running from the office behind the store. He sprinted as soon as he saw Stephen and said, "Mr. Thompson, it's such an honor to have you visit my shop. Why didn't you let me know earlier, I could've come to greet you."

Stephen hurled his hand across the man's face, slapping him, and growled furiously, "You're pretty cocky, aren't you? Your staff even dared to mistreat our young master like this. Are you getting tired of breathing?"

Stephen knew that the young master had undergone a miserable life in the past decade, so he was extremely agitated when a lowly staff member treated him so poorly. The chubby man was a little aggrieved when he was slapped hard on his face, but when he heard Stephen's remark. He recoiled in shock. Stephen Thompson's young master? Oh goodness, if Stephen's existence was already like a dragon in the mortal world, his young master would be the god from the sky then!

His body trembled in fear. He turned his head to look at Charlie, who stood next to Stephen. The young lad looked like an ordinary being, but he was Stephen Thompson's young master! The chubby man crawled to his knees and said, "Young... Young Master, I'm really sorry, please accept my apology."

He then turned his furious gaze at his staff and shouted, "Which ignorant bastard offended the young master? Show yourself!" All the sales personnel shifted their glances at Jane instantly.

Jane wanted to retreat, but the chubby man jumped at her, grabbed her collar, and slapped her face while cursing, "You ignorant bitch, how dare you offend our young master! You're blind and stupid!"

Jane crouched on the floor after the slap and wailed, "Boss, I'm sorry. Yes, yes, I'm blind and stupid, please forgive me, please!"

"Forgive you?" The chubby man grabbed her hair, pulled her face up, and punched her in the face with his giant fist. With one punch after another, blood started oozing from her face.

"Damn it you bitch! You want to drag me to hell, don't you? Before you kill me, I'll kill you first!"

Several teeth were knocked out of Jane's mouth, the nose bridge that she had spent a fortune on plastic surgery for was broken, and her face was literally covered in blood.

She struggled and managed to break free from the chubby man. She crawled towards Charlie, grabbed his leg, and cried, "Young Master, I'm so sorry. I won't do it again, I won't judge people as I had done ever again. Please, please forgive me."

Charlie glared at her coldly and uttered, "Serves you right!"

The chubby man gaped in shock when he saw her grabbing Charlie's leg. He quickly ran over and stomped on her head, and shouted, "How dare you touch the young master's leg! I'll kill you!" With the stomp, Jane fainted and became unconscious.

The man called for the guards at the door, "Throw this bitch into the garbage dump in the back alley!"

"Okay, boss!" The guards immediately picked the bloody Jane up and took her out of the store.

Charlie looked blankly at the chubby man and said, "My wife likes this jade necklace. Wrap it up."

The chubby man nodded vigorously and said, "Okay, I'll do it right away!"

Charlie retrieved the black card and said, "Swipe this card." Then, he turned to Stephen and said, "You can take back the cash now."

The chubby man quickly interjected, "Young Master, since you like the jade necklace, just take it, it's on the house!"

Charlie muttered, "I don't need you to give it to me for free."

The chubby man said timidly, "Young Master, please accept it as a token of gratitude from me!"

Stephen told Charlie, "Sir, since he wants to repent for his mistake with the gift, please accept it. Otherwise, I don't think he'll be able to sleep tonight."

After hesitating for a moment, Charlie nodded gently. "Okay, thank you for the generous gift."

The chubby man heaved a sigh of relief when Charlie accepted the necklace. If he didn't, he was genuinely afraid that Stephen would not let him off the hook. With his influence and ability, making him disappear off the grid was as easy as flicking his fingers.

Then, Stephen asked, "Sir, do you need a lift?"

"No thanks," Charlie shook his hand and said, "Where is your back door? I'll go by myself."

The onlookers felt as if they had entered a whole new world! Several Rolls-Royce came to deliver thirteen million dollars in cash just to buy a piece of jade. It turned out that the owner of the Emerald Court gave it to him for free! Who was the man who looked rather unremarkable and ordinary? What was his background? Many people posted the video of the incident on the Internet and it quickly became the hottest topic.

The people labeled the mysterious man as 'the ultra-rich man', 'willful boss', 'mysterious elite', and so on. There was even an activity called 'search for the mysterious rich man' that a lot of people were actively participating in. Fortunately, when these people were shooting the video, they were pushed out of the store by the bodyguards, so Charlie's image in their videos was very vague and blurry and it couldn't be used as a reference for the manhunt.

CHAPTER 15.

Charlie didn't return home right away after leaving Emerald Court. He wanted to give his wife a full package of surprise during their wedding anniversary celebration. The surprise was not limited to the precious jade necklace—he wanted to make up for his wife a romantic wedding. As he recalled the earlier days, Charlie and Claire rushed to register their marriage under the request of Lord Wilson, Claire's grandfather, and they didn't manage to hold a wedding.

Lord Wilson had intended to select a date for a lavish wedding, but not long after they got married, he was seriously ill and was admitted to the hospital. Hence, the wedding had to be delayed. Later, Lord Wilson passed away. Charlie was totally ignored by the Wilson family, so the wedding plan was flushed down the drain. However, it was different now. He was rich, so he could and must give his wife a wedding!

The first venue that popped right up his head when he thought of the wedding was Shangri-La's Sky Garden! Shangri-La Hotel was the best hotel in Aurous Hill at present. The hotel covered a large area with extravagant and luxurious decoration and had an upscale shopping mall located within. The Sky Garden was located on the highest level inside the mall. Its name came from its unique design. The exterior was constructed with crystal glass paired with fragrant flowers airlifted from abroad. It looks like a grand garden suspended in the sky.

It was also the grandest and most luxurious banquet hall Aurous Hill could offer. It would cost at least several million dollars to hold a wedding here. Since Charlie was rich now, several million dollars were just a piece of cake for him. The most important thing was that he could make his wife happy. Hence, there he was, standing at the entrance of the Shangri-La Hotel, intending to reserve the Sky Garden on his wedding anniversary.

However, Charlie wasn't aware that the hotel was an exclusive members-only hotel. One had to be a member to dine, stay, or hold an event here. Besides, there were different membership levels with different privilege service packages. Normal members could only dine in the lobby area and stay in standard rooms. Silver members could dine in private rooms and stay in luxury rooms. Gold members could dine in the deluxe dining room and stay in deluxe suites. Platinum members could dine in the Sky Garden and stay in the executive suites.

The highest members of them all were the diamond members. Only Diamond members were eligible to stay in the Presidential Suite, and only Diamond members could reserve the entire

Sky Garden for events. Moreover, one could not simply apply to be a Gold member and above. It was by invitation only and its members were only given to those with significant social status.

Before Charlie could enter the hotel, he was blocked by several men in black. "Excuse me, sir, please show us your membership card."

The outfit Charlie was wearing today was rather mediocre and cheap. They were a stark contrast to the other guests who dressed to the nines.

Charlie quickly said, "Hi, I would like to speak to your hotel manager regarding the booking of a venue."

The man said flatly, "I'm sorry, you can't enter without a membership card!"

"Can I apply for the membership now?"

The man shook his head and said. "I'm sorry, but you need to have a referral to apply for the membership."

Charlie frowned in agitation. Why was the Shangri-La so troublesome?

In the middle of this confusion, he suddenly remembered that when Lord Wilson enrolled him into the Aurous University and he was in his senior year with his wife, they had a coursemate named Sabrina Lee who worked here! Hence, he hurriedly took out his phone and called Sabrina.

After stating his situation about the application, Sabrina said, "Don't worry, class rep, I got this! I'll be there right now!" Charlie quickly thanked her.

It seemed that although they had only been coursemates for a year, the friendship was still sustained to a certain level. He would definitely return the favor to her in the future. A few minutes later, a woman's high-pitched voice suddenly echoed across the hotel entrance.

"Hey, class rep!"

Charlie looked up and saw a woman in an office lady outfit with heavy and whimsical

makeup coming from inside the hotel. Was that Sabrina? She had transformed so much that he barely recognized her!

As the voluptuous lady approached them, the two guards in black hurriedly bowed and greeted respectfully, "Miss Lee."

Charlie gaped in surprise, "Wow, Sabrina, it's been awhile since we last saw each other and you're now a manager in Shangri-La. It's so amazing!"

Sabrina replied with a smile, "Class rep, you're too polite. Actually, I'm just a small-time leader of the HR department, it can only be regarded as low to middle managerial level in Shangri-La."

Charlie complimented earnestly, "It's still very impressive. I heard that the requirements for the management in Shangri-La are very high, you're awesome!"

Sabrina laughed gleefully, she then turned to the guards next to her and said coldly, "Was it you who blocked my college class rep at the entrance, not letting him in?"

The guards exchanged nervous glances. One of them quickly said, "I'm sorry, Miss Lee, I didn't know that he was your college mate. Besides, he doesn't have a membership card, we're just following the hotel's protocol..."

Sabrina snorted, "The protocol is fixed, but people are not. Do You not understand this?"

Charlie thought that Sabrina would punish them for the matter, so he hurriedly uttered, "Sabrina, don't blame them, they're just doing their job."

Sabrina shifted her gaze at Charlie. Suddenly she laughed out loud, and at the same time, her expression changed and she started teasing, "My dear class rep, you really think you're somebody, don't you? Did you really think that I'll punish my subordinates simply because of you?"

Charlie frowned in dismay. What do you mean by that?"

"What do I mean?" Sabrina said with a disdainful grin, "Am I not obvious enough? Do you really think that a miserable loser like you can enter Shangri-La? Let me tell you something,

don't even dream about it!"

Charlie clenched his fists and asked, "What the hell do you mean?"

"I'm teasing you!" Sabrina grinned like a Cheshire Cat and said, "I despised you while we were in college. How could a loser who knew nothing but study and couldn't even afford a meat dish at the cafeteria be a class rep? Who were you to comment on my studies and results? Yuck! Didn't you look at yourself in the mirror?"

With a cold expression, Charlie said, "Sabrina Lee, I don't think I've ever offended you or provoked you, but why do you keep ridiculing me?"

CHAPTER 16.

Sabrina crossed her arms in front of her chest and said in a pompous tone, "Yeah, I despise you, so what? Can't you bear some criticism now, you loser? Everyone in college knows that you married Claire and became their live-in son-in-law after graduation! A miserable loser who couldn't even afford a decent meal in college and a toyboy after graduation! How dare you come looking for my help being such a big loser as you are? Who do you think you are?"

A rage of fury was slowly burning inside Charlie. One would not attack unless attacked first. Sabrina was going too far this time! Right at this moment, he received a text message from Stephen. "Young Master, the Wade family owns Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts. The Shangri-La of Aurous Hill is just one of our many Shangri-Las throughout the world."

Charlie's pupils shrink in astonishment! Did he just say that the Wade family owned Shangri-Las?

He responded reflexively, "You're not bluffing, are you?"

"Of course not. The person in charge of Aurous Hill's Shangri- La is Isaac Cameron, his number is 155..., please give him a call and he will settle everything for you."

"Okay."

Sabrina was a little agitated by Charlie's attitude, staring at his phone and texting while she

was mocking him. She felt like she was abusing a dog and of course, she wanted to hear the dog yelp. Unexpectedly, Charlie didn't say anything. It proved that in his case, time didn't change anything. He was a loser since college, and he was the same loser now who didn't even budge after being insulted.

Hence, she increased the cockiness in her tone and sneered, "Hey, Mr. Class Rep, you're pretty good at putting up with insults!"

"Oh yes, by the way. I heard that you and Claire have not slept together after being married for three years. Is Claire actually someone else's mistress and you're nothing but a smokescreen for her affairs? Hahaha!"

Charlie frowned indignantly. "Not only did you insult me, but you also insulted my wife. Sabrina Lee, you're digging your own grave!"

Enraged, he called Isaac Cameron's number. He stared at Sabrina and said flatly while waiting for the call to be answered, "I'm going to ask your person in charge about how Shangri-La recruits employees, for even people with a foul mouth like you can work here!"

"What? How dare you taunt me? You really need a beating!" Sabrina growled furiously and shouted to the guards beside her, "He's here looking for trouble, beat him!"

At this moment, his call was answered. "Hello, who is it?" A charismatic male voice came from the other end of the line.

Charlie said coldly, "Are you Isaac Cameron? I am Charlie Wade, I'm now at the entrance of Shangri-La. I'll give you a minute to get the hell here or you can just get out of Shangri-La!"

Upon hearing it, the man who was originally full of charisma immediately panicked and stuttered, "Young... Young Master? Are you really at the Shangri-La now?"

"Fifty seconds!"

The man yelled over the phone and blurted frantically, "Please Wait a moment, I'll be there right away!"

Sabrina smirked as she listened to Charlie's phone conversation and mocked

sarcastically, “Hey, Charlie, I didn’t know that you’re so good at blowing your own horn! Do you know who Mr. Cameron is? Even the most prestigious members of Shangri-La dare not be so pompous in front of Mr. Cameron! Do you really think you can fool me by pretending to make a call?”

Charlie glared at her and said faintly, “You’ll know in thirty seconds if I’m fooling you!”

Sabrina laughed contemptuously. “Okay, our beloved class rep! I’ll wait for thirty seconds! Oh no, let’s make it three minutes. If Mr. Cameron doesn’t show himself in three minutes, I’ll let the guards tear your bluffing mouth off your face, you lying little prick! Hahaha! This is so funny!”

Twenty seconds later, a middle-aged man in a top-of-the-line bespoke suit ran towards them in a panic. He was a dog who worked for the Wade family. He was also a very powerful dog. Ever since he had been appointed as the general manager of the Shangri-La in Aurous Hill, he became one of the most respectable icons in the city. When was the last time he was ever so panicked and anxious? However, his panic was understandable. He had never imagined that the young master of the Wade family would appear at Shangri-La, which was under his management...

Sabrina intended to continue insulting Charlie when she suddenly saw the guards looking pale and horrified as they glanced behind her. She followed their stunned gazes and turned around when she saw Mr. Cameron emerge. Her eyes opened widely as if she had been struck by lightning.

Then, she turned back at Charlie, her eyes full of horror. “This... how... how is it possible”

“Who is Mr. Charlie Wade?” Isaac’s voice was trembling in fear and disbelief.

Everyone stared at him in bewilderment, stunned. The man who could easily shake Aurous Hill by simply stomping his feet had become so terrified and frightened that even his voice changed!

Charlie said loudly, “I am!”

Isaac quickly rushed towards him and bowed. “Young...”

Charlie interjected immediately, “Mr. Cameron, some things are not suitable to be said out loud in public.”

Isaac was shaking with jitters upon the statement. “Oh, my goodness! I’m such a stupid dog! Young Master’s identity must be highly confidential, yet I almost called him out! If I offend Young Master, it will be the end for me!”

Thus, he hurriedly changed the address but still spoke in a respectful tone, “Mr. Wade, welcome to Shangri-La. Please Follow me to my office for further discussion.”

Sabrina was utterly stunned. She could not accept the fact but it had unfolded right in front of her eyes. Who was Charlie Wade really? What was his real background? How could he make the big boss of Shangri-La bow before him like a lowly peasant? He wouldn’t bear a grudge against her for her mockery, right?

CHAPTER 17.

Sabrina hurriedly put on a coy smile and said to Charlie in a flattering voice, “Class rep, welcome to Shangri-La. It’s our honor for you to visit us and it’s also my pleasure as your former college mate. Please Come in...”

She assumed that her compliments and gentle tone would make Charlie forget her rude behavior towards him earlier. Unfortunately for her, Charlie was not as kind as she thought he was.

Isaac gaped in surprise when he heard Sabrina’s remark and quickly asked, “Lee, you’re Mr. Wade’s college mate?”.

“Yes, yes!” Sabrina said frantically, “Mr. Wade was my class rep when we were in college, we’re quite close!”

Isaac announced instantly, “Go to the president’s office tomorrow. You’ll be the HR manager of Shangri-La!”

In Shangri-La, the promotion from team leader to HR manager was at least a three-tier

difference in ranking. Not only would her salary and welfare package increase by tenfold, but she would also control the manpower of most employees in the hotel. The HR manager was considered among the high-level executives at managerial level. Sabrina was so thrilled when she heard his statement that she almost fainted.

Charlie uttered coldly, "Mr. Cameron, do you know what kind of relationship I have with Sabrina Lee?"

Isaac assumed that Charlie was displeased with the arrangement and immediately said, "Mr. Wade, I can promote Miss Lee to vice president if it pleases you!"

Charlie said abruptly, "I called Sabrina Lee for help because I didn't have a membership card, but out of nowhere, she insulted me for no reason and even urged the guards to beat me. Yet, now you want to promote her to vice president? What do you mean by that? Do you want to intentionally piss me off?"

Isaac felt blood drained off his body. He had aimed his flattery in the wrong direction! Next, the glare he pointed at Sabrina was filled with wrath and fury. He swung his hand across her face and growled in great dismay, "How dare you offend Mr. Wade? Did you borrow your courage from a lion? You wish to die, don't you?"

Sabrina was so frightful that she knelt down on the ground, shaking in great fear as she wailed and pleaded, "Mr. Cameron, I'm sorry, I'm so sorry."

Isaac lifted his leg and kicked her fiercely, sending her a distance away, and shouted, "You ignorant bitch! I'll teach you a lesson today about the price you have to pay for offending Mr. Wade!"

He then turned to the security guards and shouted, "Give her a good beating! Don't be merciful, destroy that plastic face of hers and make an announcement to the entire Aurous Hill that whoever dares to hire her would indicate that they're going up against me, Isaac Cameron!"

Sabrina was extremely scared. She pleaded hastily, "Mr. Cameron, I'm sorry, please forgive me!"

Isaac's face blushed in a hot red shade as he shouted, "Now you know that you're sorry huh!"

What drains your brain earlier? How dare you provoke Mr. Wade? If it's not because of him, I'd kill you right now!"

Tears drenched Sabrina's face. Kneeling on the ground, she crawled in front of Charlie and bowed vigorously. "Mr. Wade, I'm sorry, I'm so sorry! I beg you, please, for the sake of our friendship..."

Charlie glanced at her coldly and said, "Sabrina Lee, we're friends, but why did you insult me and my wife just now?"

"Class rep, I was out of my mind just now. It's all because of my filthy mouth, please forgive me..."

"I wouldn't attack unless I'm attacked first. Since you've attacked me, I'll never spare you! You left me no choice!" Charlie then snorted in dismay. "Take a dose of your own medicine, you ignorant woman!"

Isaac growled, "Bitch! Don't you dare pester Mr. Wade again, I'll tear your mouth off your plastic face!"

Sabrina didn't dare to speak another word. She knelt on the floor and wept bitterly.

Charlie ignored her completely. He looked at Isaac and said flatly, "I want to talk to you about the Sky Garden, let's go to your office."

Isaac nodded vigorously as he led the way. "Of course, Mr. Wade, please come this way!"

Before he left, he turned to the guards and shouted, "Teach her a lesson and don't stop without my order!"

"Yes, Mr. Cameron!" The guards nodded frightfully. They dashed towards Sabrina, pressed her against the floor and gave her a good beating. Behind Charlie, Sabrina was wailing and screaming continuously, but he couldn't care less. Isaac escorted him into Shangri-La.

Once they were at Isaac's office, Charlie cut to the chase and uttered, "My wife and I will celebrate our wedding anniversary in a few days' time. I want to book the whole Sky Garden. May I?"

Isaac answered without a doubt, “Young Master, for the sake of fairness to all the premium members, we disallow the charter of the Sky Garden entirely, not even to prominent politicians in the city. However, the Sky Garden will be reserved for you and only you in the future!”

Charlie said flatly, “That’s not necessary, I just need it for my wedding anniversary. In addition, I need your help to prepare a surprise for my wife.”

“No problem! Please rest assured that all the staff of Shangri-La and I will always obey your orders and requests!”

After settling the matters in Shangri-La, Charlie hopped onto the bus and went home. He realized that almost all the passengers on the bus were watching videos and short clips on their phones. To his surprise, everyone was watching the same video! It was the video of him showing off the thirteen million dollars in cash in Emerald Court the other day!

The video began when Stephen and the team of security guards stepped out of the black Rolls-Royces. Then, the screen shifted to the guards carrying dozens of black suitcases into Emerald Court and hurled them all on the floor, humiliating the ignorant and cocky sales manager. The whole incident had been shot and posted on the Internet. However, the video failed to capture Charlie’s face.

The video spread across Aurous Hill like wildfire. Curiosity filled the city as people were speculating on who was the ultra-rich man behind all this. Many girls started to daydream about their own rags-to-riches Cinderella fiction, wishing they could meet the mysterious Prince Charming soon.

Charlie heaved a sigh of relief after repeatedly confirming that his face was too blurry in the video to be identified. When he finally got back home, it was filled with celebratory joy and excitement. Claire had won the Emgrand Group contract and was about to be appointed as the director of Wilson Group. Her parents burst into joyful tears.

After being taunted and ridiculed for so many years, they could finally embrace under the limelight and shine! Thanks to his in-laws’ pleasant mood, they didn’t find him despicable or

annoying like they used to.

Elaine said happily, “Hah, I’m so happy today! My girl is extraordinary!”

She then turned to Charlie and said with a smile, which was an extremely rare scene, “Charlie, despite your uselessness, I’ll give credit where credit’s due, Claire managed to succeed thanks to your motivation, so you don’t have to make dinner tonight. We’ll go out and celebrate!”

Claire chuckled. “Let’s go to Kempinski!”

“It’s too expensive!” Elaine blurted in shock. “It’s at least one thousand dollars per person, isn’t it?”

Claire laughed gleefully and said, “Mom, the salary of the director is very high, with an annual income of one million.”

“Wow!” Elaine clapped her hands and cheered, “That’s awesome! My dear Claire has finally accomplished something significant!”

After a quick thought, she continued, “But you’ll need to give me 70% of your salary. You youngsters don’t know how to manage your money, give me the money and I’ll manage it for you. I’m sure it’s more reliable than you saving it on your own!”

Claire nodded. “Okay, Mom. I promise to give it to you every month, but we’ll have to set some ground rules here. Don’t taunt Charlie again, he’s your son-in-law, for goodness sake!”

“Okay, alright! For your sake, I promise I’ll not criticize him as much as I usually do!”

CHAPTER 18.

Claire and her family went to Kempinski for dinner while Wendell was sulking at home. He saw the post from Emgrand Group’s official page, feeling very depressed and dejected. He thought that it would be absolutely impossible for Claire to win the contract, but unexpectedly, it had only taken her half an hour to score a sixty million dollar contract.

Recalling his harsh and scornful remarks at her place yesterday, he was extremely embarrassed as the remarks came back as a slap in his face!

Right at this moment, Harold called to whine about his situation. He said as soon as the call was answered, "Hey, Wendell, what the hell! I created opportunities for you to pursue my cousin, but you turned your back on me and helped her to win the Emgrand contract. How could you do this to me?"

Wendell shook his head in disdain. "What the heck? I didn't do anything!"

Harold asked again, "Wendell, be honest with me. Did you sleep with my cousin?"

At the same time, Wendell was too embarrassed to deny the fact that he had nothing to do with all this. It would mean that he was admitting his incompetence, wouldn't it?

Hence, he mumbled sheepishly, "Yeah. Harold, I'm sorry, I'll make it up to you whenever I have a chance."

"I knew it!" Harold sighed, and then hurriedly asked, "Wendell, my cousin was a virgin, wasn't she? I don't think she's ever slept with that loser. You struck the jackpot, you lucky dog!"

Wendell gasped in astonishment followed by excitement. Alright! Claire Wilson was still a virgin! Then, he might as well tell everyone that he had done the deed with Claire, in this way, he could estrange her relationship with her husband too.

As the cunning thoughts lingered in his mind, he giggled coyly and said to Harold, "Yes, your cousin was a virgin. She was so tight and cute I couldn't help it! Hahaha!"

Harold's bitter voice resonated, "If so, please don't forget about me whenever you have any benefits in hand, okay buddy?".

"Don't worry!" Wendell Exclaimed casually.

As soon as he ended Harold's Call, his father called him suddenly. His father's anxious voice entered his ear. "Wendell, we have a problem! The Emgrand Group has canceled all their projects with us! Did you offend anyone recently?"

Wendell fell into dead silence upon hearing this. Was it true? Didn't it mean that his family would suffer a great loss?!

He blurted hastily, "Dad, what's going on? No, I didn't offend anyone! Did you?"

His father sounded disbelief and bewildered. "Neither have I! I've been in the office these days so I didn't meet many people, let alone offend someone..."

"Hey, Dad, is it possible that Emgrand's new chairman is doing a major reshuffle after taking over the company?"

"Yes! You're right!" Mr. Jones exclaimed, suddenly coming to his senses. "I haven't had a chance to visit the new chairman since his appointment. I've spoken to Doris Young several times, but she said that their chairman doesn't take any visitors."

"Then what should we do?"

Mr. Jones fell into silence as he pondered the situation and then said, "Oh, yes. The Wilson family's banquet tomorrow night, they said that they've invited the chairman. Let's find a chance to meet him!"

"Alright!" Wendell agreed right away. "Let's go together tomorrow!"

The next day, the entire Wilson family was over the moon and extremely delighted. It was the most important moment in the family. Overnight, the news about the Wilson family winning the contract with Emgrand Group and the invitation of the chairman to the banquet had spread throughout Aurous Hill!

For this banquet, Charlie found his most expensive suit to wear and went to the hotel where the banquet was held. Charlie got out of the car after arriving at the hotel's entrance when a Porsche stopped abruptly in front of him. Then, Wendell Jones, who donned a meticulously expensive suit and slick hairstyle, came out of the car. A waiter marched forward and greeted him diligently.

Wendell saw Charlie too, apparently. There was a trace of disdain in his eyes as he scanned

him and said with a sly smile. "Where did you find this counterfeit suit? You look like a dog trying to play dress-up."

Charlie said flatly, "What does it have to do with you?"

Wendell twitched his lips, a dash of mockery painted his face. "You have nothing to do with me, but your wife is a whole new different story..."

Charlie frowned slightly and asked, "What story?"

The bystanders couldn't help but stop as the remarks echoed within their earshot. Starting last night, there was a rumor circulating among society. Rumors had it that Claire succeeded in winning the contract because of her intimate relationship with Wendell. Otherwise, how else could they explain the collaboration with Emgrand Group based on her and Wilson Group's competency? From the current looks of it, it sounded quite legit and reasonable.

Seeing that a crowd was slowly gathering around them, Wendell said loudly, "Why do you think Claire could win the contract with Emgrand Group?"

Charlie glared at Wendell coldly. "Why?"

Wendell curled his lips into a cocky smile and said, "Because of me, of course! Because Claire is my woman now, so I gave all I could for her to succeed in her negotiation with them! If you have any sense left, be a gentleman and divorce her as soon as possible."

Although they had anticipated the reason, the people couldn't help but gape in astonishment when they heard Wendell said it outright. Sure enough! Claire had won the contract by sleeping with Wendell Jones!

"Because of you?" Charlie chuckled sinisterly. "Who do you think you are?"

CHAPTER 19.

“Who do you think you are, then?” Wendell looked askance at Charlie as he said coldly, “You are nothing but a loser, you can’t even watch your wife stray around. It’s such a waste for Claire to be with you, why don’t you let her go for her to be with me? I can give her whatever she wants!”

A layer of ice hovered beneath Charlie’s face. He started with a cold and deep voice, “I’ll give you two choices. One, apologize to Claire and take back everything you said in front of everyone or two, I’ll make your family’s company go bankrupt. Decide now.”

“Hahaha! Are you kidding me? Who the heck do you think you are to make my family go bankrupt?”

Wendell laughed out loud as he shot a contemptuous glare at Charlie. Obviously, he did not take Charlie seriously.

“Are you out of your mind, you crazy piece of shit? Are you daydreaming? Do you have any idea what our company’s net worth is? What can you do to make us bankrupt? Haha!”

Charlie wore an inexpressive expression on his face while looking at Wendell for a while as if he was looking at an idiot. Then, he retrieved his phone and called Stephen.

“In three minutes, I want to see the bankruptcy and liquidation of the Jones family’s business. Let their debts hit the ceiling!”

Three minutes to make a company with a net worth of billions go bankrupt was utterly impossible!

Wendell glared back at Charlie in great dismay and said, “Damn, you are so full of lies! Do you really think you are the ultra-rich man on the Internet?”

Then, he continued coldly, “Loser, stop pretending, I’ll give you two choices too. One, kneel and apologize to me, then divorce Claire immediately. Two, I’ll get someone to beat the hell out of you and cripple you, and let you see for your pathetic self how lovely and sweet Claire is with me. Decide now! I’ll give you a minute to consider your options!”

Charlie glanced at his watch and said, “You have one minute left. Are you sure you don’t

want to save your company even a little?”

“Fuck off! You have thirty seconds to decide! If you don’t get on your knees right now, I’ll Make you regret it forever!” Wendell threatened, “Twenty seconds! Ten seconds! Five seconds! Time’s up! Don’t blame me for being cold blooded, you asked for it!” Wendell shook his collar and gestured at the bodyguards around him, he was ready to give the loser a good beating.

Right at this moment his phone suddenly rang. Wendell was caught by surprise. He looked at his phone and saw that it was his father, so he quickly answered it. “Dad, I’m at the hotel now, where are you?”

On the phone, Wendell’s father snarled indignantly, “Damn it! What the hell did you do this time? Who did you offend? Now all shareholders are selling our shares like hotcakes, our share price has fallen by more than 80%!”

Then, his growling pursued, The bank suddenly came to our door to demand debt repayment! All partners have suddenly suspended their projects with us and halted the settlement! Our capital chain is broken! We’re left with declaring bankruptcy and liquidation!”

Blood drained from Wendell’s face as he listened to the loud growl coming from the other end of the line. Cold sweat trickled down his forehead.

“We’re screwed! Completely screwed!”

Wendell opened his mouth, wanting to ask something when he heard through the phone a sound of a siren followed by the sound of breaking the door, and the police officers asking his father to come to the station for an investigation. Suddenly, his legs went jelly and knelt in front of Charlie. His phone fell to the floor and shattered. The night breeze was blowing lightly, his body and heart were cold as ice. Seeing such a scene, the bodyguards exchange cautious glances and dared not to step forward.

Trembling in fear, Wendell asked Charlie in a dispirited voice, “Who the hell are you, really? You did this, didn’t you?”

The onlookers were equally surprised. After taking a call, Wendell Jones suddenly knelt in front of the Wilson family son-in-law. What was going on?

Charlie looked down at him, then, he bent slightly and whispered, "I gave you a chance to choose your option, but you didn't choose wisely."

"I'm sorry, I'm terribly sorry. Please, please forgive me, please spare me! There's nothing between Claire and me, I never touched her. The contract with Emgrand Group, it wasn't me who helped her! Everything I said was just lies! I made them up! Please, please, I beg you! Please spare me and my family!"

Wendell knocked his head on the floor and apologized profusely. Never did he expect that a lowly son-in-law of the Wilson family could have so much power and influence in his hands! A simple phone call was what it took to make his family bankrupt! When he lifted his head to look at Charlie, he felt that the plain and emotionless face was more horrible than the devil! Someone who could ruin his family in a few minutes was out of his hands! He was not in the place to offend him!

Charlie shook his head and said, "You should be grateful, at least I spared your life! Otherwise, your whole family would be dead by now!"

Wendell's face was as pale as a sheet of paper and his body was trembling violently.

Charlie continued in his cold voice, "To tell you the truth, yes. I am the ultra-rich man in the video. If you don't want to die, don't tell anyone about my identity or I can't promise you and your father will be alive until tomorrow morning! Mum's the word!"

Then, he patted Wendell's face, stood upright, and walked into the hall, ignoring Wendell. As for Wendell, he crouched on the floor, completely stunned. He didn't dare to resist even the slightest against Charlie's act to humiliate him. He watched as Charlie walked into the hall and he quickly crawled into the hall too.

He looked around frantically until he saw Claire. Then, he rushed towards her, knelt at her feet, and wailed, "Claire, I'm sorry, I shouldn't have spread such ridiculous rumors about you. I have nothing to do with Emgrand Group's project. Please, please spare me!"

Claire was taken aback by his abrupt reaction that she quickly dodged backward and stumbled into a warm embrace. Claire looked back and saw that the person who was embracing her was Charlie. Charlie saw her as soon as he came in. She was dressed to the

nines and shone like a bright star in the crowd. She was so alluring and mesmerizingly beautiful. Seeing Wendell rushing towards Claire, he quickly hugged her in his arms to prevent her from falling and glared at Wendell in disdain. Wendell hurriedly crawled away, fearing that he might enrage Charlie again.

Claire frowned in confusion. "What's wrong with him..."

Charlie whispered while holding her, "There must be something wrong with his senses, just ignore him."

Although they were a couple, they did not have any intimate contact before. Claire blushed until her ears were red as she felt Charlie's warmth circling her.

Awkwardly, she wiggled her way out of Charlie's embrace and said, "Erm, Mr. Wade from Emgrand Group should be here already, I'll go have a look..."

CHAPTER 20.

When Wendell fled the scene, Harold was walking into the hall along with his sister, Wendy, and her fiancé, Gerald. Walking next to Gerald was a young man in a smart suit. There was a slight facial resemblance between the two of them. When Harold met Wendell head-on, he hurriedly approached him and said, "Hey, Wendell! When I came in just now, I heard that something happened to your family. Is it true?"

Wendell shoved him away hastily, mumbling, "I'm done, it's over, I'm done..."

Harold asked with concern, "Mr. Jones, what's wrong?"

Wendell shook his head in panic, not daring to say anything. Right now, he had no doubt that if he said something he shouldn't, he would be a corpse lying somewhere tomorrow. Thus, he pushed Harold's hands away and ran out of the hall like his life depended on it.

Harold looked the way he ran and sighed. "I bet it's really the end for the Jones family. Damn, isn't it all a little too fast? They Were still fine yesterday but they've gone bankrupt

today!”

Then, when Harold saw Charlie and Claire, a wicked thought appeared in his mind. He went towards Claire and ushered her with him “Claire, let me introduce you to our distinguished guests tonight. This gentleman over here is Gerald’s cousin, Kevin, the eldest son of the White family.”

“Kevin, this is my cousin, Claire,” Harold said to Kevin with a coy smile.

Ever since Kevin walked into the hall, he had been locking his gaze at Claire at all times. Upon Harold’s introduction, he quickly extended his hand and said, “Claire, hi. I’ve heard all about the gorgeous beauty of the Wilson family, your reputation precedes you.”

There was a trace of annoyance in Charlie’s eyes. This was the unfortunate perks of having a beautiful wife-suitors would come in all directions like flies and he couldn’t stop chasing them away.

Thus, he stepped forward, shook hands with Kevin, and said coldly, “Hi, I’m Claire’s husband.”

“You?” Kevin eyed Charlie from head to toe, disdain oozing from his expression. He retracted his hand and said flatly, “I didn’t know Claire was married. Such a waste for a beauty like her marrying someone like you...”

Wendy hurriedly said, “Kevin, the loser is our family’s live-in son-in-law, he does not have a job nor any skills!”

Then, she winked at Kevin and continued, “After Gerald and I get married, we will be one big family then. Let’s get together more often...”

Of course, Kevin knew what she meant instantly. She was encouraging him to pursue Claire. He smiled and said, Miss Claire is so beautiful and elegant, I’m certainly willing to get together more often.”

At this moment, Charlie saw his in-laws, Elaine and Jacob, walking towards them.

Elaine hastily said when she came over, “Claire, have you heard? The Jones family has

gone bankrupt!”

“Huh?” Claire gaped in extreme shock. “When did it happen?”

“Just now!” Elaine continued with a sigh, “I thought that when you divorced Charlie, you can be with Wendell. From the looks of it, the plan is going out of the window...”

Charlie felt agitated inside. Was his mother-in-law a fool? Didn't she know that her current son-in-law was the real catch?

Kevin quickly marched forward and introduced himself to Elaine. “Hi, you must be Claire's mother? I'm Gerald's cousin, Kevin. You're so beautiful, it's no wonder your daughter is as pretty and captivating as you are.”

Upon hearing that Kevin was Gerald's cousin, she made a quick mental calculation—eldest son of the White family, wealthy prince charming! She blinked in excitement and said happily, “Yes, yes, I'm Claire's mother. Are you Claire's Friend?”

Kevin nodded with a smile. “Yes we are, but we've just met today!”

Joy and thrill were written all over Elaine's face. She nodded vigorously and said, “Come, let's sit. Mr. White, my Claire's Beautiful, she's also as pure and honest as an angel. You youngsters should keep in touch more often...”

“Mom!” Claire chided in agitation, interjecting her mother's words.

Elaine was about to object when Claire tugged her gently and gestured to her to look at the stage. At this moment, Lady Wilson was standing in the spotlight!

She looked around in astonishment before standing in front of the microphone and said with a smile, “First of all, on behalf of the Wilson family, I welcome all our friends, partners, and esteemed guests to our banquet tonight. Next, let us welcome the vice-chairman of Emgrand Group, Doris Young, with a big round of applause!”

The spotlight shifted instantly, focusing its beam on the front seat.

Doris was wearing a black evening gown, emphasizing her perfect body figure to everyone's

eyes. She dazzled like a captivating fairy that all the men in the hall couldn't help but focus their gazes on her. The vice-chairman of Emgrand Group! An absolutely stunning beauty! Each feature of hers was enough to attract everyone's attention. Doris stood up, nodding gently towards the crowd. Her glance stopped at Charlie for a short while before moving away.

Then, Lady Wilson started again. "First and foremost, I Would like to express my gratitude to the Emgrand Group for entrusting us with such an important project. We will work our best and will not disappoint them."

"Next, we would also like to introduce to you an outstanding junior of our Wilson family..."

Elaine shrieked excitedly, Hey, Claire! It's your turn to shine now!"

Although Claire had prepared herself mentally to get onstage, she was still very nervous. Charlie cast a look of encouragement at her. Harold looked askance at the delighted Claire with a sneer at the corner of his mouth. Lady Wilson looked at their table top, smiling before she opened her mouth to speak again.

"... If it weren't for him, we wouldn't be able to collaborate with Emgrand Group. After much consideration from our board of directors, we've decided to elect him as the director of our Wilson Group and be solely responsible for the project with Emgrand Group!"

"Let us welcome the new director of Wilson Group, Harold Wilson!"

Claire froze like a statue instantly... She shifted her gaze in disbelief but saw Harold went on stage with the cocky smile on his face. A layer of ice immediately hovered beneath Charlie's eyes. How dare they burn the bridge after crossing it! After gaining their benefits thanks to Claire, the Wilson family had immediately ditched her regardless of her feelings!

Claire's eyes suddenly turned red, tears flooding in her eyes. Next, she stood up and ran out of the door without a second glance back. For her, the fall must be as devastating as the happiness she was in when she first arrived! Charlie groaned even more as he watched her leave. 'How dare you bully my wife? I'll kill you!'

Harold stood on the stage and said proudly, "Thank you for the honor. I'll do my best as the new director, and also accomplish the project with Emgrand Group perfectly!"

Lady Wilson nodded with satisfaction. She took over the microphone and said, "There is one more important matter for the banquet tonight, that is, we are honored to have invited the new chairman of Emgrand Group, Mr. Wade! Please Welcome him with generous applause!"

Thunderous applause echoed across the hall! All the guests tonight we're here to see the new chairman of Emgrand Group! They couldn't wait to see his true self! Everyone was looking around like meerkats, anticipating to see who would stand up at this moment!

Someone even said, "I suspect that the mysterious chairman is the same mysterious richman in Emerald Court!"

"Yes, I think so too! His back looks unfamiliar, I don't think he is one of the upper-class social circle in Aurous Hill!"

"Oh my god! Does that mean the chairman of Emgrand Group is the most powerful super-rich person in Aurous Hill?"

"Argh, I can't wait to see his face!"

Under the thunderous applause and the eager attention of the people, Charlie, with a cold face, slowly stood up...