

## Chapter 266 Little Family Affection

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A burning pain came from Laura's swelling face. She covered it with her hand, tears in her eyes, and looked at Liza in disbelief.

"Why did you slap me?"

Liza had a long face. Laura had no idea how much Liza had just heard. Liza scolded, "How dare you? You risked Bryant Group's reputation. Do you still care for Marco's father?"

Laura realized Liza was angry when she heard her mention Marco's late father, and she shed tears of grief.

"I've devoted many years of my life to the Bryant family. I've worked hard even if I haven't contributed anything significant." She glanced at Marco. "Everything is in his hands. Marina and I got nothing..."

Marco frowned slightly.

He didn't know why his mother seemed to be excluding him from their family.

Laura didn't seem to be close to Marco, which became more apparent after Marina's birth.

Laura had never approached him except to ask him

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for money and help her and her daughter clean up the mess.

Laura always looked at him with calculating eyes, which is not how a mother should look at her son.

Since he was a child, Marco had known that she didn't like him. He gradually grew accustomed to it and grew quieter.

His grandmother later sent him abroad to study and start up a business. As a result, his relationship with his family was even more alienated.

Fortunately, he was no longer depressed over Laura's cold treatment of him and her preference for Marina.

Marco remained silent. Liza gave him a worried look before glaring sternly at Laura.

"You heartless thing! How much money did Marco give you and your daughter over the years? Are you still not satisfied?"

"Marina and I deserve it!" Laura exclaimed in a raised voice.

Liza's face darkened and she roared, "Bryant Group would have gone out of business if it weren't for Marco! How do you think you and your daughter are able to share in the company's profits while living in luxury today?"

Laura couldn't retort.

Liza snorted. "The only ones who cause problems for Bryant Group are you and your daughter. Not only that, you also pressured Loraine into divorcing Marco. What a useless loser you are!"

She made no mention of what she had previously done to Loraine.

Laura was enraged since Liza put all the blame on her.

She complained, "It's not all my fault! It's Loraine's. While she was married to Marco, she concealed her true identity and background. She restored her identity as soon as they got divorced. And she even pestered Marco. I'm just defending Bryant Group against her."

Liza hesitated when she heard this.

Seeing her hesitation, Laura continued, "As you can see, Loraine is solely to blame this time. Without her, Bryant Group was perfectly fine."

Suddenly, Liza frowned.

"Shut up! How dare you mention the company? Bryant Group is the one that is affected the most in this situation."

Laura was shocked. "That's impossible!"

"Are you nuts? Or do you simply not have a brain?" Liza said crossly. "The company's lab failure is a significant scandal. Thankfully, the news of Marco and Loraine having dinner has diverted the attention of the public. Otherwise, Bryant Group's stock would drop in

Chapter 266 Little Family Affection 🎁 +120 Points at most price. If that happened, I'd see how you could make up for the group's losses!"

When Laura heard that, her legs grew weak, and she collapsed to the floor. "I just circulated some rumors. How could it have such a great impact?"

Liza snorted. "All the losses that occurred due to this will be deducted from your stock bonus. Just bear in mind that you shouldn't blame me for kicking you out of the family if you make trouble again!"

Laura's face had lost color.

Marina was secretly standing against the wall near the stairs, gnashing her teeth.

She was furious as she listened to everything. She dared not challenge her grandmother, and she harbored a deep hatred for Lorraine.

Even after the divorce, Lorraine still made her and her mother live in hell.

Marina grit her teeth as she sent a message to a group of her friends.

"I'll make anyone who can help me teach Lorraine a lesson my sister-in-law!"

For a while, everyone in the group was silent. Nobody dared respond to her.

No matter how avaricious her friends were about her being Marco's wife, they dared not offend the Torres

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Furthermore, Marco gave Loraine the diamond mine that Marina had been boasting about.

They were all aware that Marco still had feelings for Loraine.

Nobody dared to provoke Loraine because it was risky. It would also frustrate Marco. They couldn't afford handle such consequences.

After a long time, a person responded to her.

"Marina, I'll help you."

## Chapter 267 Food Court

People's attention was shifted from the accident at Bryant Group to the news that Bryant Group and Universe Group cooperated again and that Loraine and Marco had dinner together.

Gossip was, after all, more entertaining than financial news.

Gossip that Loraine and Marco had poached the restaurant's chef and had plans to develop a food court quickly spread. People predicted that the new CBD the two families were building would quickly become a new landmark in Vagow.

As Loraine saw how the cooperation was trending, she thought for a while and then contacted Bryant Group's project director.

They discussed it, and both sides agreed to capitalize on the current hot topic.

Loraine decided on launching the food court plan and holding an investment-attracting meeting.

Marco seconded her plan.

As there was an agreement between the leaders of both sides, the work efficiency was very high. In two days, the meeting room was prepared and the first investment-attracting meeting was held.

The meeting that day was more popular than expected. All the big catering groups showed interest and sent their representatives to participate in the meeting.

All were present, from fast food chains to cafeterias.

Those looking to join were all big shots in the catering industry. No business district had ever had such popularity from the beginning. The value of the new CBD that Bryant Group and Universe Group worked on was known.

The meeting went on enthusiastically. From the stage where she sat, Loraine spotted Tonio and greeted him.

Tonio was not in a chef's suit today. He wore casual clothes, which in a way stood out from the serious business representatives around him.

When he saw Loraine, he walked over with a smile.

Loraine pulled out the contract and showed Tonio. "The first spot has been saved for you!"

Tonio took the papers, ready to sign.

Right then, someone sneered.

"I thought you were different, but now I can see you're still narrow-minded, Loraine."

A woman, adorned in a white suit from a famous brand, stared at Loraine with contempt.

"The food court was developed on hype and boasts. However, it seems it only attracted low-end and unknown restaurants. It's hilarious."

Loraine raised her brows at the woman's brazen hostility and asked, "Who are you?"

For a couple of seconds, the woman froze, then she snarled angrily, "Stop with the pretense, Loraine. I'm Colette Moreau. My father owns Moreau Group. Marina and I are close friends, and I visited her a lot. How could you not know who I am?"

Loraine carefully thought on her words. She then recalled something.

There had indeed been a person who visited the Bryant family often to get close to Marco under the guise of being a close friend of Marina's. However, Marco quickly exposed her intentions and rejected her firmly.

Thus, this so-called best friend of Marina had not reached out to the Bryant family for a long time.

Loraine couldn't tell if Colette was here for Marco or for food court.

Loraine's eyes narrowed and she smiled. "Ah, I remember. You are Colette Moreau. What's causing you to be so pissed off? If you're only here making trouble, then I'll have to call the security to escort you out."

"Of course I have a valid reason to be here!" Colette



cleared her throat and her tone was daring and shrill. "I came here on behalf of Moreau Group to discuss joining the food court. However, I'm having second thoughts now seeing how you recruited such a small and shabby solo-run restaurant. Won't it be degrading for Moreau Group to join in such a project?"

There were whispers from all other representatives around.

The marketing director beside Loraine whispered in her ear, "Moreau Group is extremely powerful in the catering industry. We'll benefit a lot from a cooperation with them. Wouldn't it be best we reconsider the contract with Tonio Pavani?"

Colette smugly took in the reactions of the people around, triumphantly waiting for Loraine to plead for her cooperation.

Loraine would have to endure it due to the overall situation in the name of cooperation whether she liked it or not!


Adding to that, Colette could use this opportunity as well to get close to Marco.

Just as Colette's mind was imagine her bright future ahead, she was suddenly pulled out of her thoughts by Loraine's nonchalant response.

"Stop joking around here. I don't have any intentions to cooperate with Moreau Group. You can head back now."

Colette's expression changed dramatically. "What did

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you just say?"

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