

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

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At that moment, Helena's phone rang. When she saw who the caller was, her face changed, and she immediately gave another hand signal.

The two bodyguards stopped in their tracks immediately.

"Michael!" Helena quickly took the call.

"Helena, are you with Charlotte?" Michael asked.

His question took Helena by surprise. She raised her head to look at Charlotte. Her eyes were cold, but her voice sounded sweet. "She told you about it?"

"Yes. Charlotte told me you asked her for lunch." Michael happily continued, "Before I left, I told you to take care of her. You definitely did not let me down."

"Of course, I have to take good care of your sweetheart." Helena's smile looked forced. "How is it over there? Is the weather in F Nation good?"

"It's alright. Helena, Charlotte is alone there, and I am worried about her. If you find out that she is having any difficulties in work or life, do try to help her," her brother requested.

"Sure, I understand."

"Pass the phone and let me speak to her," Michael asked.

"Okay." With that, Helena pushed the phone to the other woman.

Charlotte walked over and answered the phone. Turning it to speaker mode, she greeted, "Michael!"

"Charlotte, where are you ladies eating?"

When Michael was speaking to Charlotte, he sounded extra gentle.

"At Silver Diamond," Charlotte replied. "Hector comes to this restaurant quite often."

"Oh, I see." Michael paused for a moment in confusion before he asked, "I heard that he is divorced?"

"I think so." Charlotte glanced at Helena, who had an ugly expression on her face. The latter frantically gestured for her not to reveal too much.

"I also heard that..." Michael trailed off. "Nevermind. Charlotte, you don't have to be so polite to Helena. She is my sister, so she is also your sister. If you need anything, you can just let her know, and she will do as instructed. Right, Helena?"

"Yes," Helena replied as soon as she heard her name. Then, she deliberately mocked, "How can I not listen to the words of my future sister-in-law?"

"Stop messing around," Michael scolded. "Alright, I shall not disturb your ladies now. Charlotte, my hotline is open to you all day. If you need anything, feel free to call me anytime."

"Yes, sure. Be mindful of your health and take care," after Charlotte spoke, the call ended.

She passed the phone back to Helena.

"A smart move." Helena glared at Charlotte. "How dare you use my brother as your shield?"

"You are a dangerous person, so I have to do that." Charlotte growled, "Helena, I have never hurt you, but you treated me like your enemy. You had an affair with Hector, but you blamed it on me. Additionally, you even made Luna harm me. I have yet to settle the scores with you, and you want to threaten me? Do you think I am a pushover?"

"You never thought of harming me? I see that you have forgotten all about what happened." Gritting her teeth, Helena seethed, "Back then, I wrote a love letter to Hector, but he used it to lift the foot of your table.

"I prepared a lunchbox for him, but he gave it to you instead. In the end, you fed it to the dogs.

"I gave Hector so much, but he never looked my way. Everything I did for him went to you. Do you understand the pain and sadness I went through? Is this not harming me?"

"You are blaming me for all that?" Charlotte asked in disbelief.

"Of course, you are to be blamed. Without you around, Hector would probably love me from the start." Helena stubbornly insisted, "You have destroyed my dreams of having a beautiful first love. Regardless, God is fair. Your family business soon went downhill. I exhausted all my means to announce the bankruptcy of Windt Corporation and caused your engagement to be called off. Despite that, I never imagined that you would be so foolish to be deceived by Luna, who took advantage of the situation and reaped all the benefits from it.

"I hated you for four long years. After those four years, I finally found the opportunity to use you to destroy his marriage with Luna by making her turn against you. Finally, my goal has been achieved, and Hector is finally mine!"

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Charlotte was struck dumb. "You're the one who leaked the information about our family? You did all these behind our back?"

"That's right. I did it," Helena admitted. "Your father might have declared bankruptcy, but he was capable of hiding this from everyone, including the Sterling family. Initially, they even thought that they could benefit from working closely with your family."

"But once the information got out, the Sterling family immediately regretted. Hector, too, ditched you. Eventually, Amanda and Luna tricked you and caused you to lose everything. I was glad to see how things turned out, and seeing your clueless and dumb face makes me happy. But too bad—Luna got ahead of me and married Hector."

Charlotte gritted her teeth. "But Hector is yours now. You could have taught Luna a lesson if you wish to instead of destroying her. Why did you do that?"

"Excuse me?" Helena immediately spoke in a more hostile manner. "I've never done anything against the law, and you have no evidence against me. You better don't test my patience. I'm warning you!"

"You'll get what you deserve," Charlotte said and left.

"Don't you want to know who ruined your father's life?" Helena asked all of a sudden.

Charlotte stopped walking, but she did not turn around. "What makes you think I'll believe you?"

"Make your own judgment then. I'm sure you're not an idiot." Helena took out a letter and said, "Your father wrote this to my brother, and I have a copy of it. I'm sure you can recognize your father's handwriting, right?"

Charlotte took a glance at the letter and hesitated for a moment, but decided to turn around.

Just when she was about to retrieve the letter, Helena retracted her hand and raised her brows. "What can I get in return for giving you this letter?"

"What do you want from me?" Charlotte asked icily.

"I want you to stay away from Hector," Helena said condescendingly. "Even if he wants to see you, you have to think of ways to avoid him!"

"You don't have to tell me this. I don't even want to see him anymore," Charlotte said with disdain.

"And stay away from Michael," Helena added.

"That should be least of your worries."

Charlotte knew what was on her mind. Helena's family business depended heavily on Michael, and she would not allow anyone to sabotage her relationship with Michael.

Helena was worried that Charlotte might destroy this relationship if the latter decided to be with Michael.

This was why Helena had to be mindful of Charlotte.

"You better not break your promise." Helena then gave her the letter. "I'll destroy you if you dare. I still know your other secrets, mind you."

A line formed between Charlotte's brows. "What secrets?"

"You'll know on the day you break your promise." Helena let out a mirthless laugh. "You're one lucky woman, Charlotte. You have both Zachary and my brother on your side, so I'll spare you for now. But if you ever try stepping on my toes..."

Helena squinted her eyes and gave Charlotte a sullen glare.

Charlotte did not know what kind of dirt Helena had on her, but she decided to ignore this vicious woman.

She just wanted to stay away from her.

As Charlotte walked away, Helena looked at her back and put on a baffling smile.

Helena's assistant, who had been observing their interaction, asked, "Why did you give her the letter, Ms. Brown?"

"If you want her to stay away from Mr. Sterling and Mr. Brown, you should have just let her be with the man who killed her father."

"What do you know?" Helena glowered. "She being close with Zachary will only pose a greater threat to our future."

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With the letter in her hand, Charlotte left in a hurry. She opened and read it after she reached home.

"Hope this letter finds you well, Michael. I decided to write to you because I can't think of anyone else who can take good care of Charlotte."

"We're living in a dog-eat-dog world, and it can be cruel. This was why I've been steering Charlotte away from the business world."

"I want her to live a carefree life, but I can't be there for her anymore."

"I've always been very fond of you because you're a simple man with a pure heart."

"Unfortunately, we can't control how someone feels, like how I, the father, can't stop Charlotte from falling in love with Hector, even though I knew that's a bad choice."

"I can't help her make life decisions. She has to experience it herself and find the best answer on her own."

"I know I'm selfish for asking your help, but I have no other options. Please take care of Charlotte on my behalf!"

"Whenever she's in trouble, please lend her a helping hand!"

"She's the only person I worry about the most. I'm afraid people like the Nachts will take advantage of her when I'm not around anymore."

"I hope my passing can bring all the hostility and resentment to an end. I don't want the younger generation to suffer anymore."

"I'd probably be gone by the time you read this letter. Please note that I decided to end my life of my own accord."

"I have to do this to protect Charlotte."

"Take good care of Charlotte for me, Michael. Please keep an eye on her and make sure she stays away from the Nacht family so she can live an ordinary life."

Charlotte was utterly stunned. Michael had told her many times to stay away from the Nacht family, but all his warnings fell on deaf ears.

No wonder Michael had always been hostile toward Zachary and stirred up a lot of misunderstandings. Charlotte had always thought Michael acted in such a manner because he was jealous, but now, she finally knew there was more to this than meets the eye.

The Nacht family was Father's arch-enemy?

The letter stated the rivalry between the two families.

His father even wrote that the reason he sacrificed his life was to protect her from the Nacht family.

What was it all about?

Charlotte could hardly breathe at this point. She clenched her chest and tried to calm herself down.

Instead of letting her emotions get the better of her, she started analyzing the situation more objectively. Business rivalry might not be the sole reason for all that had happened, she believed. Something else must have happened between the two families.

But what exactly is it?

Why didn't Zachary tell me anything?

Unless he is not aware of it?

Charlotte unconsciously crumpled the letter. She thought for a while and decided to confront Zachary when he returned.

Yet, he did not come back.

On and off, Charlotte peeped out of the window to check if Zachary was home, but he did not appear.

Charlotte waited until three in the morning and accidentally fell asleep on the couch with a blanket in her arms.

At one point, a nightmare jolted her awake. She dreamt that Zachary pushed her father off a building. It was so terrifying that she broke into cold sweat.

She opened her eyes, looked around, and realized she was the only one at home. The clock struck six, yet Zachary was still not home.

Charlotte could not help but sent him a text: Are you coming back?

Zachary did not reply.

She sent him another text: Something happened?

Again, he left her hanging.

Perhaps Mr. Nacht is not feeling well, and Zachary had to take care of him.

I'm sure he'll be back.

Charlotte kept the letter away and went downstairs to prepare breakfast for the children.

During breakfast, Robbie asked, "Mommy, I tried calling Grandpa on the phone, but his phone was off. We're worried about him. Do you have any news about Grandpa?"

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"Nope." Charlotte rubbed Robbie's head gently. "Don't worry. I'm sure a lot of people are taking good care of Grandpa."

"You're right, Mommy." Robbie lowered his head and pouted.

"Why don't you call your ex-boss, Mommy?" Jamie suggested, "He's Mr. Henry's oldest grandson, right? I'm sure he can tell us more."

"But..." Charlotte thought about it and said, "He's a busy man. I'm not sure if he'll answer my call, but let's try."

"Ehm. Let's see what else we can do." Robbie put on his thinking cap.

"What is it?" Charlotte then gave him a serious look. "Grandpa will call when he feels better, so do not disturb him. You hear me?"

"Okay, Mommy." Robbie nodded.

"Come on, the school bus is going to be here soon," the medical staff urged.

"Okay."

The three children put down the utensils and put on their jackets and their bags. They waved their Mommy goodbye and left with the medical staff.

After bidding farewell to them at the elevator, Charlotte went home and remembered what the children said earlier. She sent Zachary another text message: Are you all right? Text me or call me when you read my message.

She waited a while but still did not get a reply.

Did something bad happen to him? Charlotte was worried.

Or was Mr. Nacht really under the weather?

As someone who grew up in a prominent family, Charlotte knew how chaotic a powerful family would become when the patriarch fell ill.

Not only would news like this instantly cause the Nacht Group's share price to fluctuate, but it also would attract the Natcht family members to fight for the inheritance.

Henry might have appointed Zachary as his successor, but the fact that he was not married and did not have his parents by his side could put him at a disadvantage. Besides, being a loner in the family would not do him any good as he would need to fight the battle on his own.

While Charlotte was worried about the battle that Zachary had to go through, she was still waiting for him to explain the things her father wrote in the letter. What exactly happened between the Windts and Natchts?

And didn't Father mention anything about this in his letter to me?

All of a sudden, Olivia called. "Hey, are you all right? Ms. Fuller told me something happened last night."

"Yeah, we had an accident, but I'm okay."

"That incident made headlines in social media, and netizens pinned the blame on both the Brown and Sterling families. Everything has been blown out of proportion..."

Upon hearing that, Charlotte froze for a moment. As someone who seldom used social media, she had no idea that it had snowballed into a big issue.

She took out her phone and started checking the news on social media. It was all about how Luna was gang-raped after she went to the banquet hall to look for Hector. The news also mentioned how Helena humiliated her publicly.

Now netizens pointed fingers at Hector and Helena, and they called a Hector heartless man and Helena a homewrecker. They also claimed that Helena was the mastermind who orchestrated the rape.

The news even included a flashback on Hector's sex scandal. A few months ago, the media thought the woman he had sex with was his secretary, but now, everyone knew it was Helena!

The news explained everything in detail and provided solid evidence to support their claims. This had led netizens to sympathize with Luna and berate Hector and Helena.

Clearly, the person who stirred up this chaos was Amanda. She must have resorted to this kind of dirty trick when she knew she could not take Hector and Helena down.

Now that Luna's life had been destroyed, Amanda would definitely make them pay the price.

Of course, it would take her a lot of courage to tell the world that her daughter was a victim of gang rape.

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Perhaps, Amanda had gone bonkers after learning about Luna's misfortune. Since there were other ways to take Hector and Helena down, she could only expose everything to the world and fight to the death.

Since Luna had gone mad and would not know what was going on anyway.

Charlotte could not help but feel sorry for the Whites. If Helena really was the mastermind behind the rape, then she had gone too far. This was why Charlotte could somewhat relate to Amanda's action.

Nevertheless, Charlotte believed Amanda was no match for Helena.

Amanda might outwit Helena, but she no longer had the financial means to take the latter down in the long run. On the contrary, Helena could easily crush Amanda at a snap of the finger.

If Amanda continued to play with fire, Helena would take action against her for sure.

"Charlotte? Hey!" Olivia raised her voice to get Charlotte's attention.

"Yes?" Charlotte answered. "I still have to deliver the costumes to Ms. Fuller today."

"You don't have to send them over anymore. She asked me to tell you," Olivia looked into Charlotte's eyes and said, "Ms. Fuller said you're a witness of the incident."

"Since you know both the victim and the aggressor, a lot of people even asked about you. Things have somehow spiraled out of control, so she said..."

"What did she say?"

"Ms. Fuller said she'll have to wait for the buzz to die down before she considers hiring you again. She also wants me to deliver the costumes to her instead," Olivia said sheepishly, "I tried talking to her, but she refused to listen."

"I understand," Charlotte responded with a wry smile. "Come to my place to collect the costumes when you're free then."

"I'll come over now then. Don't worry, I'll try to find you another job, okay?"

"Thanks, Olivia."

Charlotte ended the call and continued reading the news on social media.

The scandal had become the talk of the town now. Amanda must have dumped a lot of money to make the news go viral. She was willing to do everything to tarnish both Hector and Helena's reputation.

Everything that had happened recently got Charlotte emotional, but there was nothing she could do about it. At this point, she knew she had to stay away from the mess.

While Charlotte was still deep in thought, Jeffrey called. "Hey, Mr. Judd!"

"Hi, Charlotte. I'm in Yaleview now. The factory is ready to operate tomorrow."

"Glad to hear that!" Charlotte said, "Everything went well?"

"Yes. We've hired enough workers to start working on two big projects. I wanted to invite you to our opening ceremony tomorrow, but I guess you must be busy."

"No worries. Go ahead without me," Charlotte said with a grin, "I'll go over once I'm done with my work."

"Oh, yes. There's something else I wish to discuss with you."

"What is it?"

"Simon has three factories, right?" Jeffrey asked, "He initially quoted me a total of seventy million for all the factories and your villa. But since I didn't have that much money, I acquired only one of the factories. They didn't sell off the remaining two."

He continued, "But just a while ago, Simon called. He was willing to sell the two factories to me for ten million provided that the payment is settled at one go."

Upon hearing that, Charlotte kept mum for a moment. Amanda and Simon are really giving everything up to seek justice for their daughter.

"This is a good deal. Your uncles are interested in taking up this offer, and they're in the midst of raising money," Jeffrey said, "I just thought I should get your permission before we proceed with the acquisition."

"Go ahead," Charlotte said without hesitation, "It's great that you all are continuing my father's business. I'll call you again once I think of a way to raise money too."

"All right."