

Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort

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"What's wrong? Do I have to repeat myself?" Henry exclaimed in anger.

"No!" The bodyguard looked down hurriedly before saying, "Yes, sir!"

With that, the bodyguards grabbed their guns.

Outside, Ben and Marino had closed the gates, blocking Charlotte and her entourage outside.

Outside, the women were yelling, "Didn't Henry Nacht ask us to apologize in person? Here we are. Why are you refusing us entry?"

"Right! You kept warning us, saying our pet eagle scared your kids and pet. We're here now to apologize with our pet eagle in tow. Why aren't you welcoming us?"

"Open the door! Open the door!"

The women banged on the iron gates forcefully and shrieked.

In the car, Charlotte folded her arms smugly and watched the entire debacle with a smirk.

Henry knows I'm a Lindberg, but sent someone to warn me on purpose. If I do nothing, he'll think we're cowards.

He wants me to apologize in person, right?

Well, I'm here.

Let's see how the Nachts deal with this.

"They don't look like they are here to apologize," Marino declared with his teeth gritted.

"They are here to gloat!"

"We need to make them leave now," Ben replied anxiously. "If Mr. Nacht sees Ms. Lindberg, we'll be in deep trouble."

"If they are men, I can start a fight!" Marino seemed furious. "But they are women. We can't convince them to leave or start a fight with them. Nothing will make them leave. This is seriously frustrating!"

"That's true..." The other bodyguards nodded in agreement.

"Cowards!" Ben glared at them indignantly. He went up to Charlotte's bodyguards and told them, "Apology accepted. You can leave now!"

He was trying to make them leave.

"We haven't met Mr. Henry Nacht. Who are you to say our apology has been accepted?" Lupine arched a brow and sneered, "What if Mr. Henry Nacht sends someone to reprimand us after we leave?"

"Yeah!" Morgan chimed in. "Ms. Lindberg is here to offer her sincerest apology."

"Yes. Well, we accept your sincere apology. So you can leave now."

Just then, Ben spotted Henry's men coming out armed with guns, so he pushed the iron gates frantically, trying to chase those women away.

Alas, the women stood their ground and hurled insults at them.

Marino and the other bodyguards balled their hands into fists, enraged.

Noting that Henry's men didn't appear, and Zachary deliberately avoided her by sending his bodyguards to dismiss them, Charlotte grew increasingly impatient.

She opened her convertible top and released her eagle.

The eagle let out an ear-piercing shriek which echoed across the hill before it headed straight for the Nachts.

"Be careful!" Ben deftly avoided the eagle's attack as he was behind the iron gate. Failing to attack him, the eagle swoop down and targeted the other bodyguards.

After successfully clawing Marino and the others, the eagle flew inside the villa.

"Hurry, shoot it!" Spencer's subordinates raised their guns and aimed.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

A few shots rang in the air. The eagle's wings were hurt, but it still headed straight into the villa without hesitation.

At the sight of the eagle, Jamie and Ellie were screaming at the top of their lungs and shivering in fear.

Spencer was standing beside Robbie to protect him, but after hearing the gunshots, the little boy dashed out to see what was going on. Instantly, his unprotected figure became the target of the eagle.

As soon as the eagle flew into the villa, it came for Robbie.

Robbie's eyes widened. He looked up and gaped at the eagle, aghast.

"Robbie!" Henry howled.

At the same time, Zachary stepped out of his room to witness this horrible scene. He wanted to rescue his son, but it was too late.

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"Robbie!" Jamie wailed desperately and tried to run to his brother, but Henry refused to release his grip on him.

"Ahh!" Ellie covered her face and screamed in terror.

The eagle was about to attack Robbie when a whistle sounded outside in the nick of time.

Immediately, the eagle came to a stop and hovered midair, gazing sharply at Robbie.

Robbie met its gaze, utterly petrified.

It was a stalemate between an eagle and a six-year-old boy. A tensed silence hung in the air.

“Robbie!” Suddenly, a high-pitched wail broke the silence.

A little green figure darted toward the eagle like an arrow and started pecking on the eagle’s wings.

The eagle turned slowly and stared at the parrot coldly.

Both Jamie and Ellie were dumbfounded as they stared at their pet parrot, Fifi.

After all, Fifi was throwing its tiny figure in front of the predatory eagle without any hint of fear.

As expected, the eagle flapped its wings lightly and sent Fifi flying through the air.

“Fifi!”

Ellie dashed out to catch her beloved Fifi. She lost her balance and toppled to the ground. It didn’t hurt, but when the eagle’s sharp gaze landed on her, she burst into tears.

Upon hearing her wails, the eagle tilted its head curiously and flapped its wings to fly toward her.

“Ah! Ahh!” Ellie’s shrieks turned louder.

As her face turned red, she trembled profusely in horror. Her grip on Fifi tightened, nearly breaking Fifi’s neck in half.

Right then, Zachary sprinted downstairs in time and stood in front of Ellie in a protective stance. He flung his fist at the eagle.

The eagle narrowed its gaze and flew out at once.

It had learned its lesson after being punched by Zachary back then.

“Ellie, Robbie!” Henry called for his great-grandchildren anxiously. “Are you alright?”

Ellie couldn’t stop sobbing as the dread remained in her heart.

Outside, the children’s faint cries stabbed straight into Charlotte’s heart like an iron shard, causing her to wince in pain.

Looking down at her chest, she realized there was a void in her heart, as though she had lost something important.

I think I forgot something significant in my life.

The eagle screeched noisily as it flew out.

Spencer’s men were about to shoot it, but Bruce stopped them. “That’s enough. If something happens, the consequences will be horrible!”

The eagle crashed into the car with blood seeping out from its wings.

“Fifi’s hurt!” Morgan’s expression contorted in anger upon seeing the blood. She entered the car and grabbed her gun. “How dare they bully us? I’ll make sure they pay for it!”

“Stop it!” Charlotte roared suddenly.

Morgan froze in her tracks and turned back in bewilderment. “Ms. Lindberg!”

“Let’s go back,” said Charlotte as she pressed a hand against her chest. With her brows knitted together, she seemed to be in extreme anguish.

“Ms. Lindberg, what’s wrong?” Lupine sensed something was amiss.

“Let’s go!” Charlotte growled out lowly.

“Yes!”

Everyone got into their vehicles immediately and drove away.

Seeing their departure, Ben heaved a sigh of relief.

Bruce scurried over and caught a peek of Charlotte in the car. "No wonder you said she resembles Ms. Windt. This is Ms. Windt, no doubt!"

"I'm still wondering if she's indeed Ms. Windt. Otherwise, why didn't she recognize her kids?"

Ben frowned as he watched Charlotte's convoy sped off.

"That was weird."

Bruce was puzzled, too. It seemed strange that Charlotte would take revenge on the kids, no matter how mad she was at Henry and Zachary.

That was close!

That eagle might be her pet, but it's still a wild animal.

Mr. Robbie would have been hurt if it didn't stop in time just now.

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"Is it gone?" Spencer rushed out to check.

"It's gone, Mr. Spencer," reported Bruce.

"Mr. Nacht is furious, so you better lay low," suggested Spencer before he turned to enter the house.

"Well, I'm done for."

Ben knew that although Spencer had not explicitly mentioned it, Henry could still tell. His subordinates had failed to prevent the eagle from flying in because Spencer had blocked them on multiple times.

Thus, Henry was definitely going to unleash his wrath on Spencer.

"You'll just have to bear a bit of caning," comforted Bruce as he patted his shoulder. "Mr. Nacht is old enough to not have the strength to draw blood."

"Take the child to the room," Zachary said as he made a gesture.

Mrs. Rawlston and a few maids rushed to bring the three kids to the room.

Ellie was not crying anymore. Rather, her entire body was ice cold, and her face was devoid of color.

"Don't be afraid. I'm here. Everything is going to be fine." Zachary hugged her and gently soothed her. "Be a good girl and go rest in your room. I'll join you soon."

"Okay." Ellie's small face was still streaked with tears, but she nodded bravely.

Zachary shook his head and then looked at Robbie. His heart ached as he uttered, "Are you okay?"

Robbie seemed out of sorts as he shook his head silently.

"That eagle was so scary," whimpered Jamie who was clutching a shivering Fifi. "We were already scared when we heard noises in the car. I can't believe it flew into the house today."

Ellie whimpered, and she was on the verge of tears again.

"Don't be scared, Ellie. I won't talk about it." Jamie hurriedly comforted her.

"Daddy, who does the eagle belong to?" Robbie asked with a frown.

"I'll explain it to you later. Go to your room for now." Zachary said as he stroked Robbie's head.

"Mrs. Rawlston!" Henry shot her a look.

Mrs. Rawlston brought several maids with her as they coaxed the three children upstairs.

"When will Raina arrive?" Henry asked Spencer.

"I called her, and she said that she's bringing the child psychologist with her. They should be here soon," replied Spencer respectfully.

"Fine." Henry nodded and turned his attention to Ben. At once, he called out angrily, "Kneel!"

Ben was petrified, and he hastily dropped to his knees.

Following that, Marino and the eight bodyguards knelt in two neat rows.

"You too," barked Henry as he glared at Bruce.

"Me?" Bruce was completely taken aback. "Mr. Nacht, I didn't..."

Before he could finish speaking, he saw Spencer shaking his head and shooting him a look.

He immediately snapped his jaw shut and fell to his knees as well with a clean thud.

Likewise, his eight subordinates followed suit.

Henry's sharp gaze scanned the group. After a while, he turned to stare at Zachary and said, "Tell me the truth now. What's going on?"

Zachary frowned, and he lowered his gaze. He was trying hard to temper his emotions.

Previously, he hid the matter to avoid a confrontation with the Lindberg family. He did not want Henry to know Charlotte's identity.

However, Charlotte had charged into the house and caused such a commotion. Hence, Henry could no longer ignore the matter.

Henry had been in the business industry for some time and had learned to read people well. When he first saw that silver Rolls-Royce, he had suspected that they were from Lindberg Corporation. Later, he had sent someone to look into the matter, but Zachary had hidden everything.

He had long suspected that there was more to the story than what met the eye.

After Charlotte's incident, Henry had stopped micro-managing Zachary. He kept one eye closed on most matters. However, he did not expect that the Lindberg Corporation would use the opportunity to provoke them.

Besides, Zachary's people did not handle the situation promptly, and instead, they allowed it to become a mess.

There must be something wrong.

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Although Henry guessed that something was wrong, he would never expect that the person living in Northridge was Charlotte.

Perhaps he'll find out eventually, but I can only hide it for as long as I could.

"I have my plans. It's not the right time to have a conflict with the Lindberg family," replied Zachary.

"They're completely taking advantage of you! What do you mean by the right time?" Henry was quaking with anger at that moment. "If it wasn't for luck, Robbie and Ellie would be in trouble."

"You're right. They went too far this time. I can't ignore this anymore," said Zachary as he nodded.

It was out of character for Zachary to patiently explain as he did. He was not his usual argumentative and arrogant self.

Nonetheless, Henry was no longer as sharp as he used to be. He turned to glare at Ben and said, "You, continue kneeling outside. Make sure you keep watch so those disgusting things don't come flying back in. If even one feather makes it in, I'll chop off your hand!"

"Yes, sir!"

Ben's reply was forceful but bright. It indicated his resignation to receive his punishment bravely.

"Get out!" Henry bellowed.

Ben immediately led the rest of the men out. They dashed out the metal door and kneeled in neat rows.

Meanwhile, Spencer went to check and reported their actions to Henry. "They've assumed the kneeling positions and are currently as straight as arrows!"

Henry's enraged gaze fell on Bruce. "From now on, if I find out that you're keeping any secrets from me, you'll be immediately kicked out of the Nacht family!"

Bruce shuddered and shot a fearful look at Zachary.

My punishment is so much worse than Ben's!

Zachary silently looked away.

"Don't look at him," said Henry to Bruce as he coldly shot daggers at Zachary.

Bruce looked pleadingly at Spencer, and the latter nodded slightly.

Then, Bruce dipped his head and said, "You're right, Mr. Nacht. I understand!"

"Get out," sneered Henry.

Bruce immediately backed away with his men. Although he had not been punished, the threat was far more terrifying.

From that day onward, he knew his life was going to become even more challenging.

"Come with me to the study room."

Henry gestured for Spencer to push him into the study room, with Zachary following behind.

When the study room door closed, Henry fixed his baleful eyes on Zachary.

“If you have something to say, just spit it out. Why are you staring at me?” Zachary’s brows were deeply furrowed.

“Are you being lenient with the Lindberg family because they’re that woman’s family?” Henry asked his grandson in a low voice.

Zachary froze. Wow. I was racking my brain for a passable excuse, but Grandpa delivered one right to me.

“I was right.” Henry sighed heavily. “Although she’s a member of the Lindberg family, she was never recognized as one of them. She doesn’t have any emotional attachment towards them, so you don’t need to make allowances for them.”

Zachary kept his head low and his lips sealed.

It’s better to say less now since silence is gold.

Grandpa will come up with a reason on his own if I just stay silent.

“You have to remember that the Lindberg family is our archenemy!” Henry reminded him earnestly. “You can’t allow your feelings to cloud your mind. Business is business, and if you make allowances for them, you’ll be treated as easy prey. Every life tied to the Nacht Group is your responsibility. You’re in charge of the rise and fall of the company and the future of those three children!”

Zachary had heard those words repeatedly over the years. He had memorized them by now.

Any idiot would be able to recite the entire spiel by heart now.

“That woman is gone. You should let her go and start a new chapter of your life.”

This was the first time in two years that Henry had brought up the topic.

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In the past two years, they had avoided the topic in order to preserve their relationship.

Although it had hit a nerve for Zachary, he still could not find it in himself to blame Henry.

What am I supposed to do?

It's not like I can kill Grandpa...

I can only exact my revenge through aloofness.

"I know you resent me." Henry let out a deep sigh. "However, hating me won't change anything. You can't bring her back. You can only pour all your emotions onto the three children, but don't waste any of it on the Lindberg family."

"I know! I know what to do." Zachary finally blurted out.

"Are you sure?" Henry was obviously not convinced.

Upon that, Zachary silently frowned at him. He seemed to be in silent protest.

"Okay." Henry sighed helplessly. "You better know what to do. Otherwise, I'll squeeze the life out of the Lindberg family if it's the last thing I'll do!" Henry warned threateningly.

After pausing for a moment, he turned to glare sharply at Zachary. "You know that it's not in my nature to show mercy."

"I know."

Of course, I'm aware. Grandpa started fighting with the Lindberg family during his era of power. He forbade dad from fraternizing with Isabella and resulted in that tragedy...

There's no way he'll be letting his guard down when it comes to me. He forbids me from making a connection with any of them.

I bet he never expected himself to fail after all the precautions he took.

When Zachary met her in Horington, she did not seem affiliated with the Lindberg family at all. Little did he know she was estranged from the family. Eventually, she even gave birth to three of his children.

This must be what they mean by being trapped by fate.

“Leave,” ordered Henry sternly.

Zachary had intended on persuading Henry to return to M Nation. However, the words seemed to become stuck in his throat.

He knew Henry’s temperament, and there was no way he would be willing to return after today’s incident. His three great-grandchildren were all shaken to the core, after all.

I better give it some time.

Zachary walked out of the study room to see Raina charging in with the doctors. She bowed quickly to Zachary before rushing upstairs to attend to the three children.

Henry was worried that the children would be traumatized by today’s incident. Hence, he told Spencer to ask Raina to come.

Zachary then ascended the stairs and watched the children from the entrance of the study room.

Once Raina and the child psychologists assessed the children’s mental well-being, they instructed the children to describe the experience like they were telling a story.

Jamie and Ellie described the experience like they were talking about the plot of a cartoon they had watched. This method alleviated some of their fear as they vividly brought the incident to life.

Soon, the study room was filled with their laughter.

Hearing that, Zachary smiled and turned to leave.

The Nachts don’t get scared so easily.

“Are you leaving, Mr. Nacht?”

Bruce hastily followed Zachary. Since he had been punished to kneel today, he had to stick close to Zachary.

"Louis is waiting for me." Zachary glanced at his watch. "Let's head to the Prince Hotel first."

"Yes, sir."

In the study room on the second floor, Robbie was standing next to the window. With a troubled expression, he watched Zachary's car drive further away.

"What's wrong, Robbie?"

Raina had noticed that Jamie and Ellie had recovered quickly, while Robbie seemed distracted. It was like he had put up walls to keep the child psychologists away.

"Nothing." Robbie turned and walked out.

"Robbie, where are you going?" Jamie asked.

"Back to my room."

When Robbie returned to his room, he took out a new mechanical dove and set it free outside his window. He maneuvered it to the north villa because he wanted to find out the identity of the person who had come to start trouble.

Why did the eagle have Mommy's ring on its leg?