

My Bossy CEO Husband, Chapter 276: Quit The Showbiz

"It's okay!" Wendy agreed without hesitation. She had been staying at the hospital recently doing nothing but wait for Raymond to recover.

'If I'm busy with other things, my mind won't be filled with nonsensical things,' she thought.

Since she didn't have many scenes left, it wouldn't take long for her to finish the shooting. It was advantageous for her since she would have more time to accompany Raymond in the future.

"That's great. Then it's decided. Wendy, after your shooting today, you'll go back to pack up."

"Okay."

Carter was more satisfied with Wendy.

Because of the recent news, Wendy's popularity had skyrocketed. She was one of the most trending actresses right now.

Lots of opportunities were waiting for her, including variety shows and interviews.

If she chose to take them, she would certainly become very busy.

When she signed the contract to play in the Story of Concubine Ivanka, she got paid similar to what the newcomers were getting.

In contrast, the money she would get from a variety show would be a lot more.

Because of that, Carter was afraid that Wendy would refuse his request.

He never expected that she would agree without hesitation, which meant she was likely to put aside all other work and focus on shooting this play. He was surprised that Wendy could stay true to her heart despite the temptation of fame and fortune right in front of her.

He had always thought highly of her, but more so now.

"Okay. Let's get ready for today's shooting," Carter said to everyone present.

"Sure!"

After a while, Carter left.

The next scene to be filmed was Daisy and Mason's.

Both of them quickly practiced their lines with each other.

After them, only Odette and Wendy were left. Wendy nodded at her and pulled a small stool where she sat down. She began to silently recite her lines written on the script.

Suddenly, a figure stood in front of her.

When Wendy raised her head, she saw Odette looking at her inquisitively. She was wearing a denim coat and a pair of casual pants.

Her hair was tied into a ponytail, which made it hard to tell that she was in her early thirties.

She looked like someone who had just graduated from college.

'Why is she looking at me like that?' Out of courtesy, Wendy nodded at her.

"Miss Finch, I've heard a lot about you."

Odette reached out her hand, which stunned Wendy for a moment.

She held Odette's hand politely and, in a self-deprecating tone, said, "My reputation really isn't worth mentioning..."

The two of them shook hands and separated as soon as they touched each other.

Odette sat down beside Wendy.

Her assistant immediately opened the sunshade to shield her from the sunlight. She tilted her head and kept staring at Wendy without blinking.

Odette's stare was so intense and persistent that it was hard to ignore.

Wendy sighed, closed her script, and asked, "Miss Haska, is there something you'd like to say to me?"

Odette shook her head.

"I'm just curious about you."

"What are you curious about?" Odette smiled but said nothing.

Wendy took a breath and tried to calm herself down.

This interaction completely changed her impression of Odette. She didn't like her now.

'She's so strange! Although we're in the same company, we've neither known nor seen each other before. From what I know, she's one of the company's top stars. Why is she paying so much attention to me? And her eyes... I don't sense any malice in them, and yet they're making me feel a little uncomfortable.' Wendy's intuition told her that Odette was hostile to her.

'This is the first time we've met! Why is she being so hostile to me?' Wendy couldn't figure it out, but did not press to find out more about it.

As long as Odette didn't cause her any trouble, she would have no need to provoke her.

Wendy lowered her head and continued reading her script, ignoring Odette in the process.

However, Odette's attention towards her did not falter.

"Miss Finch, you are so beautiful."

"Thank you," Wendy replied coldly without raising her head.

Watching this interaction, Odette's assistant took a step forward and was about to scold Wendy before she was stopped by Odette.

Odette stood up from her seat and said, "I hope we'll enjoy our cooperation. I won't disturb you anymore. Goodbye."

Wendy nodded.

Once she was gone, Wendy frowned.

"She looks very kind and amiable. But I don't think it's that simple. She entered the entertainment industry at the age of sixteen and stayed there for sixteen years. She must be a smart woman to achieve her current status. Alas! Eris might be gone, but here comes Odette and her hostility!"

Thinking about it just made Wendy exhale a heavy sigh.

'All I want is to shoot and pour my heart out during my scene. Why does trouble keep coming my way?'

On the other hand, Eris was standing in front of the mirror, drawing the last line of her eyebrows. She had just finished changing her clothes.

Once she was done, she looked at herself in the mirror and smiled.

However, her eyes looked blank and vacant.

Her apartment was robbed! She called the police, and because of the huge loss she garnered, the police treated her case with utmost importance.

However, since the apartment was close to the suburb and there were only a few CCTV cameras, it was not an easy thing to find the thief.

The police recorded her statement and asked her to come back to wait for the news.

Eris sneered.

'Wait for the news, you say. Ha! That's just an excuse. I know that I won't be getting anything in the end'

The thought of all the luxury goods she had accumulated over the years being instantly gone made her heart ache.

'I've got no money! No job! And now, all of my valuables were stolen!'

The only things she had now were the apartment left by her parents and the two cars she owned.

In order to make a living, she started advertising that her apartment was for sale. She also managed to sell one of her cars.

But because she sold it in such a hurry, she didn't get a good deal out of it.

Normally, she wouldn't sell it.

But because she was short on money, she had no other choice. She looked at herself in the mirror and made sure that she looked good.

Once she was satisfied, she headed out.

Today, she made an appointment with many reporters. She was going to hold her last press conference.

Forty minutes later, Eris drove to the press conference. She used to avoid reporters, but now, she was the one inviting them.

The irony of it all made her snort in derision.

As soon as Eris arrived at the scene, reporters flocked towards her from all sides. It didn't take long for her to be completely surrounded

"Eris, do you want to prove your innocence by holding this press conference today?"

"Do you know that the director of the Story of Concubine Ivanka has issued a statement saying that you've been replaced as the leading actress, and now, the actress taking the role of Lady Ivanka is Odette? Do you have anything to say about that?"

"Eris, are you here to repent?"

Eris "..."

The reporters threw all of their questions simultaneously.

Normally, Eris would have security guards to shield her from them.

But right now, she couldn't afford such a luxury.

She only asked people to set up a simple open-air stage, and then put a table in the center filled with microphones from various media outlets.

The reporters were so unruly that Eris ended up being pushed onto the stage by them.

"Everyone, be quiet. Please listen to me," Eris said to the microphones.

Her voice was heard all over the place, but reporters continued throwing their questions at her.

When she saw that the reporters were ignoring her, Eris pressed her lips and declared in a loud voice, "Today, I called you to officially announce that I quit the showbiz today!"

It worked.

Those words managed to catch everyone's attention.

The reporters, who had been so noisy the entire time, were all stunned in silence as soon as they heard the announcement.

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My Bossy CEO Husband, Chapter 277: Low Spirits

After what Eris said, a stunned silence lingered for a few seconds. Then, the place erupted with enthusiastic roars.

All the reporters stood up and shouted their questions.

Their voices were so intermingled that it was hard to tell where they were coming from.

“Eris, do you think you’ve done something so bad that you’re unable to stay in the show business?”

“Have you realized your mistake?”

“Eris! You’ve been banned by the company and have been replaced in the Story of Concubine Ivanka. Is that the reason why you decided to quit?”

“Eris, please explain!”

“Eris…”

“Eris…”

“Please be quiet and listen to me!”

Eris shouted at the top of her lungs, effectively penetrating through the noise.

One by one, the reporters lowered their voices into a murmur.

Anticipating Eris to give a speech, they aimed the cameras at her and started recording.

Eris showed up in a different style today.

In the past, she always wore a white dress, which perfectly complemented her long straight black hair. She looked like an angel straight from heaven, an authentic dream girl that captured everyone’s heart.

But today, her face looked pale and haggard.

She was wearing a tight black sweater partnered with a black woolen coat and a pair of leggings that accentuated the shape of her thighs.

Her hair was tied into a ponytail, revealing her bony cheekbones and sunken eyes. She lowered her head and smiled bitterly.

“Over the past few days, I have been under the spotlight. First of all, I’d like to apologize to my fans. I’m sorry for letting you down.”

Eris looked straight into the camera and bowed deeply.

The reporters began to look at each other, not sure what to make of this demonstration.

Eris' eyes looked slightly wet.

Then, she looked at the reporters and continued, "Secondly, I want to apologize to all of the netizens. I'm sorry for flooding your timeline with too much news about me. I'm sorry!"

She performed another deep bow. She came off extremely sincere to everyone watching.

When Eris stood straight, tears were starting to roll down her cheeks.

"Lastly, I want to apologize to my sister, Wendy! Wendy, I admit that it was all my fault. From the very beginning, I already knew that Brian was your boyfriend. I should've never liked him, nor should I've been close to him in the first place. But more importantly, the thing that I regret the most was drugging you with the hopes that the two of you would break up. I should've never put you in danger..."

A chorus of gasps erupted in the crowd.

Before, Eris refused to admit her crimes no matter how much she was pressed by the reporters.

But now, she was admitting it right in front of them.

All of them had their mouths wide open.

Eris covered her face and cried behind her palms.

"Sorry! I'm truly sorry! I had no idea that the consequences would be so serious! I've been haunted by my conscience over the past few days. I know that no matter what I say or do, there's nothing that will change the fact that I did something horribly wrong. I no longer want to explain my side. I just want to admit to all the mistakes I've made. I'm willing to take all the criticisms from the public. I want to appease everyone's anger, that's why I'm willing to quit the show business..."

Despite the range of emotions she displayed in her speech, the reporters didn't feel an ounce of sympathy towards her.

They began rebuking her, with much more venom in their voices. "Eris, did you just confess to your crime?"

"Your mother killed Wendy's mother, and then you stole her boyfriend. How dare you ask for forgiveness?"

"Shame on you!"

"You're disgusting!"

Eris pursed her lips as she let the curses from the crowd rain down on her.

She wanted to tear their mouths apart, but had no choice but to remain quiet and look remorseful. The only emotions she could show in front of the cameras were regret and self-blame.

With tears streaming down her eyes, she performed another deep bow, her head almost reaching her knees.

“I’m so sorry.I had no idea what my mother had done.I was only a child at that time.Wendy, I’m really sorry.I don’t expect you to forgive me.The reason I said this in front of the media today is that I want to make myself feel better.”

The rage in the reporters’ voice began to wither. Although they hated Eris, they hated Cacia even more.What Cacia had done were too vicious for them to forget.

She killed Wendy’s mother and then took her property.

After that, she pushed Wendy and Reese into a dangerous situation! With Cacia already in prison, the reporters could only vent all their anger and hatred on her daughter, Eris.

But after Eris show of remorse, they began to see things a little bit differently. Some reporters in the crowd nodded their heads in agreement. The video that showed Cacia killing Cassie was shot a long time ago.

At that time, both Wendy and Eris were still kids.

It was too far-fetched to say that Eris was involved in her mother’s crimes.

If they were really accomplices, Eris would’ve already been arrested by the police.

The reporters looked at Eris, whose eyes were red and marred with tears.They fell silent.

Eris had already been punished.

At first, this A-list actress was at the peak of her glory.

But now, she had become everyone’s target.Her parents were imprisoned.She lost her job.

And then, her fiance left her.

In the past, she refused to admit any of the things she had done.

But now, she apologized to the public in front of the media.

She even said that she was willing to quit the show business.

The reporters didn't hate her that much anymore.

Eris' press conference lasted for two whole hours.

She kept bowing and maintained an apologetic air, constantly regretting her own behavior.

Her attitude appeared so sincere that no one could find anything wrong with it. As soon as the press conference was over, videos of it began to go viral.

When Wendy received the news, she was in the middle of filming at the set.

During the intermission, Daisy ran towards her, with her mobile phone in her hand.

"Wendy, Wendy! You have to watch this video!"

It was an edited version of Eris' press conference.

It was cut down into three minutes, and Wendy was able to finish it quickly.

Once she was done, she raised her eyebrows.

"Wow! Can't you believe Eris' audacity? She even held a press conference to announce to the public that she's quitting her job. What an idiot!"

'Idiot? I don't think so. In fact, I think Eris made a really wise decision. She put herself in a very sympathetic position and won everyone's heart"

Daisy took back her phone and said in a disdainful tone, "It's good that she quit the business. You no longer have to deal with such a two-faced b***h in the future."

The thought of how fake Eris' show of gentleness was and comparing it to how vicious she was in reality sent shivers down Daisy's spine.

'D**n! Women like her are too scary! If you offended her even by accident, you'd probably die and never see it coming"

"Eris was making an unnecessary move," Daisy commented.

"She was not." Wendy placed her hand on her chin and was deep in thought.

"What?" Daisy looked confused.

“Check her Weibo page. You’ll see what I mean.”

Immediately, Daisy opened Weibo on her phone.

The top video on the page was her announcement that she was quitting the show business.

Daisy scrolled down to the comment section and was shocked by what she saw.

The netizens who had been cursing her angrily seemed to have a change of attitude once they saw the video.

The situation had now been reversed. “Ah...get what you mean. Watching this video, I don’t know why but I suddenly feel sorry for Eris!”

“Me too. Now that I think about it, the only thing that Eris did wrong was to fall in love with Brian. And can you really blame her for that? After all, no one really has control of their own heart. On the contrary, I think it’s Brian who’s the jerk. S**t! If he hadn’t given Eris so much hope of being with him, she would’ve never done so much for him!”

“You’re right. Now that Eris has realized her mistake and been punished for it, I no longer hate her.”

“She was just implicated by her mother. If not for that, robbing her sister’s boyfriend wouldn’t be as big of a scandal. How could such a thing cause a huge impact?”

Daisy was speechless, her face housing a shocked expression.

“What?”

Wendy wasn’t as shocked as Daisy was. She was lost in her thought.

‘After what happened this time, Eris seems to have become smarter’

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My Bossy CEO Husband, Chapter 278: The Biggest Crisis

In the apartment, Eris leaned against her sofa and looked through the comment section of her Weibo page.

When she noticed how most of them had turned supportive of her, the tension in her body ebbed away.

‘It worked!’ she thought in victory.

During the past two days, she had lost too many things and had to find a way to break out of her downward spiral.

After careful planning and thought, she decided to hold the press conference.

And just as she expected, she was able to win a lot of sympathy from her fans thanks to that press conference.

As she continued looking through the comments, the smile on Eris' face grew colder and colder.

'Me? Repent? Ha! I didn't even do anything wrong! Why should I repent? The only thing I regret is that I wasn't discreet enough when I did it! If I were, I would've never been found and exposed'

The phone started to ring.

When Eris saw the caller ID, she answered the phone.

"Hello!"

"Congratulations, Eris!"

Eris leaned against the sofa and began playing with her nails.

"Thank you for your advice."

The woman on the other end of the line smiled gently.

"Why did you help me?" Eris asked.

It was never her idea to hold a press conference in the first place.

The night before that press conference, this woman called her and offered her help.

At that time, Eris didn't trust this woman's intention.

However, she was able to assure Eris that she didn't mean to bring any harm.

That was when she first brought up the idea of holding a press conference.

"This press conference would lead to a very unexpected result," she had said to her.

Using the money she got from selling her car, she began arranging the press conference.

And just like the woman had told her, it was successful at rehabilitating her image to the public.

Now, she no longer had to worry about people recognizing her and throwing rotten eggs at her.

Moreover, even though she told everyone that she was willingly quitting the show business, the reality was she had no other choice.

Her contract was under Starlight Media.

Since the company had decided to banish her from the entertainment industry even though she still had two years left in her contract, it would be more strategic for her to withdraw from the contract herself.

That move made her look more decent.

But she wasn't planning on leaving the show business forever.

When her contract with Starlight Media expired, she would naturally find a way to make her comeback.

The purpose of this press conference was to change her fans' impression of her.

She was laying the foundation of her eventual comeback a couple of years ahead.

"Eris, are you still there?"

"Yes?"

Eris snapped out of her own thoughts as soon as she heard the woman's voice. She crossed her legs and repeated her question.

"Why did you help me?"

"Simple. We have a common enemy!" Eris frowned.

After a short pause, she asked, "Wendy?"

When she didn't hear anything on the other line, she assumed she was correct and laughed.

"How did Wendy offend you?" Eris asked.

"That's none of your business."

Eris shrugged and ignored the way this woman was talking to her.

'It's really true what they say. The enemy of your enemy is your friend! As long as she remains Wendy's enemy, then I'll play nice with her.

After all, everything that has happened to me is all Wendy's fault! After what had happened, Wendy would have a bright future in the showbiz.

This made Eris angry.

However, thinking of the woman on the other end of the line, Eris realized that Wendy's miserable life was yet to end.

"Anyway, I owe you a favor. If you need help in dealing with Wendy in the future, you can come at me any time!"

"If that's the case, then let's work together."

"Exactly!"

After Eris' press conference, the one who was most negatively impacted was Brian. He had been in a relationship with Wendy, while at the same time having an affair with Eris. He had hurt the feelings of two women.

Even though Eris was pitiful and hateful, the only reason she did all those things was because of him.

As for Brian, he had been in a relation with Eris for three years.

During that time, they had shown off their love in front of the media numerous times.

But as soon as the scandals came out, he broke up with Eris.

To make things worse, he even pretended to be a victim right after.

This made him look like a total douchebag.

The negative publicity for Brian was so bad that it even started affecting his company.

On the other hand, Nellie's face turned ghastly pale as she watched on her laptop the price of the company's stock continuously go down.

She couldn't believe what was happening.

Recently, the company was awash with troubles.

After returning home from abroad, Jaylen only attended one meeting in the company because he needed to rest.

Since then, Nellie was in charge of the company.

Nellie was a strong, independent woman with a better work ethic than Jaylen.

As soon as she came back, she apologized in public as the official representative of the company.

That fixed the previous incident where a customer discovered a dead mouse in the hotel room.

However, things didn't go smoothly. She had just apologized, and yet something happened in the hotel again.

It was much more severe than the last incident.

This incident involved a young girl.

She was traveling alone and booked a room at their hotel.

One evening, when she swiped the card into the elevator and was about to go back to her room, a strange man began following her.

He then proceeded to seize her, forcefully trying to drag her out of the exit passageway.

The woman struggled and fought back desperately but to no avail.

During the confrontation, a cleaner appeared but only watched and did nothing.

The woman was almost dragged away several times.

Finally, another customer living in the hotel saw what was happening and immediately called for help.

The strange man let go of the woman and ran away.

As soon as the man bolted, the woman called the police.

After that incident, the woman demanded the surveillance video of the hotel and uploaded it online.

One storm had just subsided.

And then this video went viral, putting them under the spotlight once again.

This situation was a lot worse.

Before, it was just a sanitary problem.

But now, it was a matter of life and death! Understandably, the people who watched that video were terrified and angry with the hotel.

As the video circulated, more and more people started to put forward their concerns and suspicions.

“If the girl hadn’t struggled desperately and hadn’t run into a customer who just happened to see her, she would’ve been dragged away by that strange man. Who knew what terrible thing would’ve happened to her next?”

“How could the strange man go upstairs without a room card?”

“The cleaner of the hotel saw everything that happened but did nothing. Why did she just ignore it?”

“Maybe the hotel is in cahoots with that strange man!”

“How could such a terrible thing happen in a five-star hotel?”

“This is such a creepy hotel.”

As soon as that video went viral, the names of the many hotels owned by Brian’s family were posted on the Internet.

There were many comments that expressed how they would never choose to book a room in any of the mentioned hotels.

As this scandal raged on, the hotel involved had been suspended while the police were investigating the whereabouts of the strange man.

That incident gained so much traction on the internet.

Various female stars started to repost the video, reminding women to pay attention to their surroundings whenever they were outside.

It was only a matter of time before the company’s stock plummeted.

The occupancy rate of their hotels was the lowest they had ever been.

Nellie gritted her teeth and balled her hands into fists.

This was the biggest crisis the company had ever faced since its conception.

My Bossy CEO Husband, Chapter 279: Disaster

Nellie had been very busy recently due to this matter.

On top of that, Brian had made such a massive trouble for her.

Now, everyone's eyes were on their company.

Everyone was talking about her family.

It was no wonder that she was fuming with rage.

The more Nellie thought about the situation, the angrier she became.

Bang!

She smashed the laptop in fury.

The laptop fell on the floor, its screen shattered into fragments.

It made such a booming sound that it startled the servants.

They watched with lips pursed, afraid that they might get punished by Nellie if they came even close to her.

Nellie was so angry that she also smashed the entirety of the tea set on the table.

"Leah!" she shouted in rage.

"Yes..." Leah hurried over.

"Has Brian come back?"

Leah answered, "Not yet. I just called him and he said he was on his way."

"How about Bruce? Where is he?"

Leah stopped for a second, reluctant to answer.

"He..."

"Tell me!"

Leah trembled and promptly said, "He told me that he didn't care about the company's affairs."

Bang!

Nellie smashed another glass into smithereens, causing a loud shattering sound. Her face turned ghastly pale.

"Call him again! Tell him to go home right now! If he doesn't come back, I will disown him."

"I'll call him right away," Leah said.

After half an hour, Brian finally arrived, and Leah was already waiting for him at the door.

Leah was a servant Nellie hired when Nellie married Jaylen.

She had worked for the family for so many years and had personally watched Brian and Bruce grow up.

She cared for both of them.

That was why as soon as Brian came back, she grabbed his arm and whispered, "Brian, be cautious with what you say. Your mother is really angry right now."

Brian took a deep breath.

"Thank you, Leah."

He walked into the villa stone-faced, as though he was bracing himself for his punishment.

When he entered the living room, he saw shards of glass scattered all over the floor.

The sight of it sent a shiver down his spine. He could not recall a time where his mother was this angry.

Things didn't look like it would be settled easily.

"Mom..."

When Brian entered the living room, an apple came flying towards him.

It hit him hard in the face.

“Brian!”

Leah shrieked as she rushed towards him.

“Are you okay?”

“I’m fine, it’s nothing,” Brian said as he pressed his cheek and took a deep breath.

He gritted his teeth and slowly walked forward.

“Mom...”

“Kneel!”

Brian complied and knelt on the floor. He didn’t dare to disobey his mother when she was this enraged. He could feel the shards of glass digging into his knees, making him grimace in pain.

“Mom!”

“You disgraceful son!”

Nellie was so angry that she kept pacing back and forth in the room. She pointed at Brian with her bony finger and cursed him relentlessly.

“How could I give birth to a worthless b*****d like you? Do you have any idea how bad the situation is right now? Both our family and our company are at the center of attention. Didn’t I already tell you to be extra careful with what you say during this time? I kept reminding you not to make any mistakes when doing interviews!”

Brian lowered his head and clutched his thighs.

“Mom, I’m sorry.”

“Your apology is useless to me! You told me that you’ve already solved your problem with Eris! Is this how you solved it? You gave her an apartment as compensation for your break-up. But that b***h held a press conference and made our family the media’s focus. Brian, do you want to see our family’s company go bankrupt?”

Brian wanted to defend himself.

“Mom, I didn’t—”

“Shut up!”

Brian could do nothing but shut up.

Ever since he was a child, his mother had always been very strict with him.

Maybe it was due to the fact that he was the family's firstborn.

He wanted his mother to be proud of him, so he always listened and obeyed everything his mother made him do.

Everything, from what he ate and what he wore every day, all the way to what university he could choose, was all dictated by his mother.

The only time in his life that he rebelled was dating Eris and Wendy.

Now, he regretted ever disobeying his mother.

He should've listened to her, especially when she talked about Eris.

Who would have thought that Eris would stab him in the back like this? His mother scolded him harshly, but Brian was used to it.

Half an hour later, Nellie finally calmed down after smashing more things around her.

"Get up!"

Brian's legs felt numb as he staggered his way up.

Leah, who was standing beside him, held his arm and helped him up.

The pair of creamy white trousers that Brian was wearing was now stained with blood.

Leah gasped.

"Brian, your knees! You better sit down."

"I'm fine..." Nellie looked at him.

When she saw the blood on Brian's pants, she was stunned and felt sorry.

However, she was so used to being tough on him and she couldn't bring herself to be gentle.

"Why are you still standing there? Hurry up and deal with the wounds!" Nellie told the servants.

Immediately, Leah helped Brian to the sofa while another servant brought a first-aid box.

When Leah rolled up Brian's trousers, her heart sank at the sight of the broken glass sticking out of his skin.

"Brian, I have to remove the broken glass first before I bandage your wounds. It's going to hurt a little. Bear it."

"Don't worry, I'll be fine."

As Leah began to treat his wounds, Brian kept quiet the entire time.

However, cold beads of sweat were forming on his forehead.

Nellie couldn't bear to see her son in pain.

"Are you stupid? When I asked you to kneel, why didn't you find a clean spot? Why did you kneel where there was broken glass?"

"Mom, I made a mistake. I should've never disobeyed you and bring trouble to our company. It's all my fault! I'm willing to do anything to appease you."

Nellie's anger had mostly dissipated, and her temper cooled down further when she heard what Brian said.

She let out a long sigh.

"Mom, is the trouble of our family really serious this time?"

"Serious doesn't even begin to describe it. It's a disaster"

"Mom..."

"Almost all the A-list actresses forwarded that video. It was such big news that it even alarmed those in the upper class! All the powerful newspapers in the country have reported it. Even the national news broadcasted it"

"How about we hire the most experienced PR team." Nellie pursed her lips and said, "Not even the best PR team can avert this crisis! What's worse, Eris held the press conference. What a mess! If we can't handle it properly, I'm afraid the company will..."

She didn't have the heart to continue what she was about to say.

Despite that, Brian understood what she meant.

If this crisis couldn't be handled well, it was very likely that the company would go bankrupt. He clenched his fists, his eyes filled with hatred.

'Eris! You b***h! This is all your fault! Since you made trouble for me, I'll make sure to make your life a living hell!'

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"Mom, what should we do now?" Brian asked.

Nellie wanted to ask the same question.

However, she remained silent as she, herself, did not know the answer to that. Silence descended over the room. Nobody said a word until a servant trotted into the room and announced, "Ma'am, Mr. Bruce is back."

"Let him in," Nellie replied at once.

Her face slight lit up, and she looked somehow relieved.

At that moment, Jeffrey entered the room casually. He was wearing a printed T-shirt with a skull on it, a denim coat, and a pair of black Harem pants. He had dyed his hair green. He reeked of alcohol, and its smell grew stronger as he got closer. His face was pale and gaunt.

Nellie was shocked to see him like this.

Jeffrey had always been full of vitality regardless of what happened. His mood was buoyant all the time, that was, until now.

Nellie could not help but be concerned about her son. She quickly got to her feet and strode towards him.

"What's the matter? What happened to you?"

"I'm fine," Jeffrey replied while ruffling his hair.

The truth was, he was going through the pain of unrequited love.

He believed that it was not worth making a big deal out of it.

His love was over before it even started.

At the thought of this, Jeffrey felt more crestfallen than he was before.

"Why did you ask me to come here? I'm busy with work, and I have to shoot a commercial tomorrow. If there's nothing else, I have to leave now," he said, playing with his car keys.

Nellie scoffed, "Bruce! Do you have any idea what's going in the company? Your father has just finished his treatment abroad, and yet he has to clean up the company's mess. Look at you! What have you done to yourself? How could you drink and shoot commercials like nothing's happening to your own family? How much do you earn from a commercial? Do you have any idea how much the market value of our company drops every day?"

Jeffrey merely shrugged his shoulders.

"Does it have anything to do with me?" Nellie couldn't believe her ears.

Jeffrey sighed and replied, "Mom, I don't know much about business. But I know that if anything goes wrong, you have to find a way to solve it. You need to give the public a reasonable explanation and find the person so that you can reach a settlement."

"Your father is dealing with the matter."

Jeffrey asked, "Then why on earth did you ask me to come back? Will the company's stock price stop plummeting just because I'm here? Will the loss lessen because of me?"

Nellie was so mad that her chest ached.

"Bruce, shut the f**k up!" Brian interjected.

Jeffrey stopped talking at once, but he did not even look at his brother.

He was disgusted by his brother.

'D**n! Brian is a jerk, and yet Wendy was in love with him for three years. How ironic!'

At the thought of this, Jeffrey felt more miserable.

'Argh! Just thinking about this makes me want to go to a corner and cry. I don't mind a fair competition. But, d**n it! She already has a son and a daughter. And I've already lost many years ago'

The more Jeffrey thought about the past, the more heartbroken he became.

It felt as though every cell in his body was crying because of grievance.

To him, Ryan was so sly.

His uncle had sent him to the US to shoot a film when he actually planned on winning Wendy's heart.

Not only that, but he had also asked Ransom to block the news about Wendy, so it would not reach abroad.

What a shame! When Jeffrey returned, there was nothing he could do about it.

“Compete? My chance of winning is slim. But if I give up, Wendy will become my aunt”

“Bruce. Bruce!”

Nellie shouted. Her mother’s loud voice brought him back to reality.

Jeffrey lifted his gaze and saw that she was livid.

With a sullen look on his face, he walked to the sofa and sat down.

“You asked me to come here, so I’m assuming that there must be a reason. What is it? Tell me. I won’t say no as long as I can do it.”

She was his mother, after all.

His parents had run the company and made his life comfortable. He would not be who he was now if it were not for them.

Nellie sighed in relief and sat in between her two sons. She held Brian’s hand with one hand and held Jeffrey’s with the other.

“Brian, Bruce, your father and I are getting old. We will have to rely on you two to run the company in the future, so—”

Before she could finish her words, Jeffrey suddenly pulled his hand back and slightly moved away from her.

“Mom, don’t say that. I’m not interested in the company at all!”

Nellie suppressed her anger with all her might and calmly replied, “Are you going to continue living like this?”

“I have my own career!” Jeffrey reasoned out.

“What career? Come home and take over the family business! That’s what you should do!” Jeffrey rolled his eyes in annoyance.

“Whatever. I won’t argue with you anymore. You can say whatever you want, but don’t expect me to work in the company. My life will be better this way.” Nellie felt a pang in her heart, infuriated by what her son had said.

'His life will be better? Does he know that he's just an entertainer in the eyes of the upper class? Does he know that rich people despise his line of work? "Bruce!"

"We've been arguing about this for years! Sorry to say, but you can't convince me otherwise. I think it's better if we drop this. What do you think, Mom?"

Nellie drew a deep breath as she held back her anger.

"Fine! Let's circle back on the company's affairs then."

The two brothers had no choice but to listen to what their mother had to say.

"From now on, you two should go on blind dates," Nellie said with a smile.

Brian did not reply.

Jeffrey, however, was furious. He pointed at his own nose and asked, "You want me to go on a blind date?"

"Yes. In fact, I've already found you some good candidate."

Without a word, Jeffrey stood up and walked towards the door.

"Where are you going?"

"I'm going home!"

"This is your home!" Nellie fired back.

"I'm going back to my own home!"

Just as Jeffrey was about to walk out of the door, Nellie warned, "Bruce! If you take another step, don't ever come back again!"

Jeffrey stopped in his tracks. He put his hand over his head and felt a headache coming on. He was frustrated as his mother always made him do things against his will.

Jeffrey gritted his teeth and thought for a while.

When he was finally calm, he turned around and asked, "What do you want, Mom?"

"Promise me you'll go on a blind date!"

"Never!"

But as he looked into his mother's eyes, they suddenly brimmed in tears.

Nellie could not keep calm anymore. She looked exhausted.

“Mom!” Jeffrey was panicking.

His mother was on the verge of crying. He had only seen his mother cry once, and that was when his father suddenly fainted. He came back and sat down beside her.

“Mom, why are you doing this?” he asked exasperatedly.

“Bruce, I know that you’re mad at your dad and me. But, we’re going through a hard time. We can only count on the two of you. The company is on the rocks right now. Nobody knows how it will play out. The companies that we’ve cooperated with before are just taking a wait-and-see attitude. Not only that, but the banks also refuse to lend us money.”

The brothers were silent.

Seeing this, Nellie held their hands again.

“That why your dad and I have no other choice but to rely on you.”

“Mom, what do you want me to do?” Brian asked.

“I have found good matches for you. They’re all from famous families in Ywood. If you two marry them, their families will help us. Banks and our partners will also give us a hand. Doing this will solve our pressing problem.”

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“Mom, what should we do now?” Brian asked.

Nellie wanted to ask the same question.

However, she remained silent as she, herself, did not know the answer to that. Silence descended over the room. Nobody said a word until a servant trotted into the room and announced, “Ma’am, Mr. Bruce is back.”

“Let him in,” Nellie replied at once.

Her face slight lit up, and she looked somehow relieved.

At that moment, Jeffrey entered the room casually. He was wearing a printed T-shirt with a skull on it, a denim coat, and a pair of black Harem pants. He had dyed his hair green. He reeked of alcohol, and its smell grew stronger as he got closer. His face was pale and gaunt.

Nellie was shocked to see him like this.

Jeffrey had always been full of vitality regardless of what happened. His mood was buoyant all the time, that was, until now.

Nellie could not help but be concerned about her son. She quickly got to her feet and strode towards him.

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