

Love at the Right Price Chapter 46

Chapter 46

"What did you call her?" Frank growled as he narrowed his eyes.

Evan immediately corrected himself. "I meant President Randall. I'm sorry. Please just let it slide."

"Let it slide? I think that she's the one who's picking on me." The corner of Tamara's lips curved upward.

"Let's go. I've called the police. They will deal with this case of an aggravated assault with a knife." Frank held Tamara and Tim's hands as he said that.

"Tamara Randall, I won't let you off the hook!"

"Lily, let's just see the way you talk after you get out of the detention center." Tamara's gaze was filled with pleasure.

After the trio left the Hardy Group, Evan slumped in his chair.

"We're doomed..."

"Evan, I can't end up in prison! You have to help me!" Lily finally realized what she should do at the moment, so she ignored the pain on her hand and hugged Evan in a fluster.

"Do you know who you offended?" Evan's face blanched as he questioned her.

"Tamara's merely a director of Colt Enterprise! Other than them, we can always find another company to collaborate with!"

"That man is Frank Holt, the successor of Cloud Industries," Evan muttered, causing Lily's head to go blank and rendering her speechless.

The leader behind Cloud Industries was a mysterious man. As the big boss behind the company, he seldom showed his face before the public. Even for those large banquets that required the presence of people with high positions, it would be the vice president who attended them on his behalf.

Nonetheless, Evan was lucky enough to have seen Frank's face in a photograph stored in the phone of an elderly president who had met Frank.

Some of the business under the Cloud Industries had indeed overlapped with the Hardy Group's business. Although they were competitors, the latter was still weak compared to Cloud Industries. The

able to gain an upper hand in the market was through decreasing the prices of their goods.

They would be fine if they only offended Colt Enterprise but if they had offended the Cloud Industries, they were practically doomed in Deacon Town!

Lily screamed. "How could that be real? That's impossible! We were the ones who got her that male escort, so how could he turn out to be Frank Holt from Cloud Industries?"

Lily found the reality unacceptable. How could Tamara possibly transform from a peasant into a wealthy person?

Her heart was filled with resentment and jealousy, while a sinister gleam flashed across her eyes. How can I just sit back and watch Tamara live a better life than me?

When Evan lowered his head, he happened to take in her resentful look, which made his expression fall. "You'd better not think about taking action on Tamara. The Holt Family is not someone we can afford to offend!" he reprimanded in a stern voice.

At that point, they couldn't afford to go head-on with Tamara as they were no match for

her at all. It would be akin to an ant facing an elephant. Tamara? A sharp Lily noticed the change in the way Evan addressed Tamara, which caused the resentment inside her to grow. However, she put on an ingratiating smile and purred, "Evan, of course! know what I should and shouldn't do at this point, but you have to help me to settle with the police."

"Don't worry. Leave the rest to me. You are my woman, so I won't just stand by and watch you go to prison." Evan reached out to pat her on her head.

That being said, he had another scheme in mind. Tamara was my woman for a few years and she was once head over heels in love with me. Although there were some misunderstandings between us before this, if I have the chance to spend some time alone with her, she will more or less listen to me, right?

Meanwhile, Tamara was totally clueless about Evan's scheme. Currently, her attention was captured by the large and small figure in front of her.

"Frank, can you explain to me why you show up at the Hardy Group? I thought that you worked in Cloud Industries!" Tamara peered at Frank and asked in an interrogative voice.

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Tamara had merely started to take a liking to Frank. If she found out that he was still lying to her, she had to reconsider whether she should accept that man.

"For work, of course. A lot of companies are scrambling for the Colt Enterprise case. Our firm values this collaboration as well. Therefore, when we heard that the Hardy Group is meeting up with the person-in-charge of Colt Enterprise, the management ordered me to try to fight for the case again," Frank explained with a stern look as he took out one of the documents in his hand and handed it to Tamara.

"You may look at this. I even brought along Cloud Industries' letter of intent and proposal," he added.

Tamara suspiciously took the documents from him and carefully read through them. Indeed, it was clearly stated on the document that it was a proposal about collaboration between Cloud Industries and Colt Enterprise. It even contained the Cloud Industries official stamp as well.

"If the truth is like how you explained, whereby the Cloud Industries values this collaboration, why would your company allow a new employee like you to handle this case alone?" She appraised Frank from head to toe, and the suspicion in her heart grew stronger.

A company as large as Cloud Industries wouldn't make such an amateur mistake. Goodness, I miscalculated! Frank's heart skipped a beat when he heard Tamara's question. He never expected that he would give himself away because of this.

Nonetheless, he remained as calm as before and indifferently glanced at her. "Harold is supposed to hold these documents; I'm merely assisting him in this task."

"Is that so?" Tamara raised an eyebrow at him, to which he nodded in response.

"As I have performed well lately, the company is also starting to give me more important tasks. I believe that I will soon be promoted. I'll treat you guys to a meal by then."

"Wow! Are you going to be promoted, Daddy? That's awesome!" Tim interrupted while

clapping his hands. Mommy is already suspicious of Daddy's identity. The truth may be revealed if she continues to question further. Now that Mommy has yet to open her heart to Daddy, the perfect family that I have been looking forward to all this while will certainly go down the drain if she learns that he has been lying to her all along.

Upon hearing Frank's explanation, Tamara nodded thoughtfully.

Thereafter, her gaze landed on Tim, who was standing beside her. "Tim Randall, shouldn't you explain to me why you are here?"

Her attention had been focused on Frank earlier, so she had momentarily forgotten about Tim. If it hadn't been for the boy's interruption earlier, she wouldn't have remembered about him.

Mommy called me by my full name, which means I'm screwed! His heart leapt into his mouth. Before he could explain himself, Frank responded on his behalf, "When I was on a call with Harold, Timmy happened to be beside me. As I was on loudspeaker, he heard our conversation. When he heard the two companies' names, he claimed that you might be in danger so he insisted on tagging along. That was when I learnt that you are the person-in-charge for Colt Enterprise."

Although Frank had managed to find out some superficial information, he was still confused.

Even if Tamara was the person-in-charge of the Colt Enterprise, she shouldn't be that wealthy. On top of that, the fact that she was a new hire of the firm was rather baffling as well. There must be other reasons behind her sudden appearance in Deacon Town after disappearing for five years.

The two of them each had their own queries in mind, but neither of them pressed on. Meanwhile, Tim held his chest as he stood off to one side. It's so tough to be a double agent!

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Chapter 48

After getting into the car, Frank looked at Tamara and suddenly asked, "Since the collaboration between Colt Enterprise and Hardy Group has fallen through, would you consider collaborating with Cloud Industries instead? In terms of qualification and publicity, I believe that we are not inferior to any other company."

"Do I discuss this with you?" Tamara turned to look at Frank.

Upon seeing that, he nodded. "If I manage to contribute to this, I believe that it will be of great help for my promotion."

"Are you able to make a decision?"

"I'm close with Harold, so I suppose that I'm able to have at least this amount of authorization."

A thoughtful look flashed across Tamara's face when she heard his reply.

Because of personal reasons, she had never planned to work with the Hardy Group since the very beginning and in terms of business, Cloud Industries was certainly a much better bet.

Cloud Industries was a good choice no matter for personal or business reasons.

Coupled with the fact that Frank's career was on the rise, which would stop him from loitering around all day doing nothing and becoming a bad influence to Tim, working

with Cloud Industries was indeed a better choice. And so, Tamara agreed graciously. "Sure. We can meet up some time to talk about this. Just tell me the date and time. However, in exchange, you have to attend a charity banquet with me." She pretended to casually suggest after some thought. Truth was, Lucy had specifically requested for Tamara to attend the charity banquet before the latter headed out that day. After all, it was no secret that the Colt Enterprise had had a change in management. The fact that Tamara had made a scene in Evan's office would soon spread out, and she wondered how Evan and the others would slander her. Thus, her first appearance in the public's eye at this point in time was especially important, and the charity banquet was just the right event for that purpose. She could even gain a good reputation by attending it. Nevertheless, Tamara didn't want to attend the banquet alone, so she naturally thought of Frank. "No problem!" Frank unhesitatingly agreed. If his memory served him right, the charity banquet would be held that night. Normally, his assistant would arrange someone to attend this sort of event on his behalf. However, it seemed like the company had to get someone else to attend the banquet to prevent anyone from recognizing his identity. It would be a hassle if that were to happen. "Let's arrange a meetup at 2.00 PM in my office in three days' time to talk about the collaboration. Is that alright?" "Sure." Frank nodded in response. The two of them then talked a bit to decide on the details. "Mommy, can you two talk about work some other time? It's a rare opportunity for our family to all sit together, so can we talk about something else that will strengthen our bond?" Tim pouted in displeasure. Tamara turned to her and narrowed her eyes menacingly. "Hmm-what do you want to talk about, then?" "Nothing." Tim shuddered and he shook his head firmly. That night, Frank and Tim, who were dressed in suits, sat in their positions and stared eagerly up the stairs. "Thank you for your patience." Following her crisp voice, Tamara, who was dressed in a white evening gown, slowly walked down the stairs. Her long black hair cascaded over her fair shoulders and at the end of her slender legs were a pair of crimson heels that made a clear tapping sound when she walked. "How do I look?" Looking at the tall and tiny figures, she lifted her skirt and spun in a circle. "Mommy, you look breathtaking!" Tim immediately praised. Frank stared at her for a while before he uttered, "I kind of regret agreeing to attend the banquet with you."

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“What’s wrong?” Tamara touched her hair. “Am I not beautiful?”

“With a gorgeous wife by my side, I will become the enemy of all men tonight. There will be many people who will try to strike a conversation with you,” he muttered.

She blushed at that. “You should be glad that you are lucky enough to have such a stunning partner at the banquet.”

Frank chivalrously extended his hand to her, gesturing at her to hook her arm through his. “It’s a great honor to be able to stand beside you, my queen.” There was a slight curve at the corner of his lips on his handsome face.

At the entrance of the charity banquet, many reporters crowded both sides of the red carpet. The cameras in their hands kept flashing as they chattered among themselves quietly.

“Have you heard about the news? It’s rumored that Lily Hardy from the Hardy Group is being held in the detention center. She can’t even attend the auction today. I wonder who she offended.”

“That’s old news. I heard that she offended the new person-in-charge of the Colt Enterprise. Nobody knows who in the world this person is. This person’s surely is powerful.”

The reporters continued to gossip with each other.

When Tamara slowly walked into the hall holding onto Frank’s arm, the charity banquet had yet to begin and the guests were still chatting among themselves in small groups.

As soon as the duo stepped into the hall, the good-looking couple instantly became the center of attention.

The man was dressed in formal suit and he had a hand shoved in his pocket as he slowly entered the hall holding the woman’s arm. The moment he showed up, he emanated a strong, intimidating presence—it was a presence that only belonged to those who had been in a high position and status for a long time.

With his tall build, he cast a simple glance at the crowd that revealed his arrogant demeanor and made him seem condescending in character,

The man instantly attracted the gaze of many. Some of them even whispered among themselves as they tried to guess his identity.

Shirley, who was surrounded by a large crowd, was having a great time chatting with the people around her when from the corner of her eye, she happened to notice the couple who was walking into the hall. Her expression instantly fell and she headed toward Frank.

“Tamara, I didn’t expect that you would show up here. I’m assuming you came in together with Frank? You’re really shameless.” Shirley snorted and chuckled coldly. To Shirley, Tamara was nothing but someone who deliberately approached Frank because she coveted his power and wealth. As for the boy, he might even be another man’s offspring.

“It’s you.” Tamara appraised Shirley from head to toe. Then, the former shook her head and said to Frank as she completely ignored the other woman, “Let’s head inside. The auction is about to start. Let’s not waste our time on insignificant people.”

“Insignificant people?” Shirley growled through gritted teeth. Just as she was about to step forward to reason with Tamara, she was stopped by Frank. “Miss Goldie, please show some respect.”

With that, he turned around and walked in Tamara's direction.

"Tamara Randall, just you wait!" Shirley clenched her fists, her chest heaving when she breathed.

Frank looked back at Shirley with a freezing gaze that made her shudder involuntarily.

Who is she to have the guts to threaten my woman?

Seeing that Shirley had averted her gaze, Frank retracted his gaze and continued to look at Tamara, who was moving forward while holding his hand. His gaze was gentle.

Meanwhile, the discussion among the crowd grew louder, so Harold naturally took notice of Frank. The corner of his lips twitched at the sight of the man. No wonder I was suddenly told that I have to replace the other person to attend the banquet. It turns out that he's afraid that the other person from Cloud Industries would expose his identity. He ruined my plan of having a date with a pretty lady tonight and spending a romantic night together with her!

Frank, who seemed to notice a gaze on him, glanced in that direction, causing Harold to immediately straighten up and wave at him with a smile.

Tamara saw that scene and she asked, "Is that Harold?"

"Yes." Frank nodded.

However, she was puzzled. "He's your superior, but why does it seem as though he's afraid of you?"

"Maybe it's because I had always hit him when we were little," Frank responded.

Tamara, on the other hand, didn't press on. She merely found herself a seat and sat down.

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Chapter 50

After the two of them took their seats, the auctioneer appeared on the stage.

"Welcome, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for your participation in this event-".

"Let me know if you see anything you like. I'll buy it for you since it's for charity purposes anyway!" Tamara generously offered.

I have nothing but money! If I don't spend them this month, the dividend will be paid again next month. Ah

-it's tough to spend money.

"There's no need. It's enough to have you by my side. You should see if you like anything," Frank whispered softly.

The man's voice was low and sonorous, and it was even more attractive when coupled with the dim lights. The way Frank stared at her was as though he was admiring a precious treasure.

Tamara felt her heart start to pound faster and louder, so much so that she couldn't hear what the auctioneer on the stage said.

She tilted her face in a fluster, but her mind was miles away. Upon seeing how embarrassed she was, Frank curled up his lips, then he sat up straight and listened attentively to the auctioneer's introduction.

Items after items were auctioned off. Tamara remained seated, feeling bored and even a little exhausted.

"Coming up next, we have a pink diamond from Alder up for auction. I believe that

everyone here knows how rare a pink diamond is, so I won't elaborate further. However, please be informed that this pink diamond is crystal clear with a perfect shape. It is a 3 carat diamond, so it's a rare find indeed! The starting bid is 3 million, and the minimum bid increment is 100 thousand."

Upon hearing that, Tamara perked up. She straightened and raised an eyebrow, looking interested as she mumbled, "A pink diamond?"

Upon hearing her voice, Frank unhesitatingly raised his bid card. "3.5 million."

"You like that?" She turned to him and asked in a strange tone. Normally only girls would like pink diamonds, no? Why is he suddenly interested in it?

"You seem to like it, so I'm going to buy it for you," he casually replied with a shake of his head, as if the amount he was about to splurge was 300 instead of 3 million.

"But that's more than a month of your salary! You don't have to do this..." Tamara felt speechless. She only spent a couple million to keep Frank with her, but he was going to buy her a diamond that would cost more than what he earned.

"Six million!" A clear female voice rang out, interrupting the conversation between Tamara and Frank.

Tamara looked behind her and met Shirley's eyes.

A complacent smile was playing by the woman's lips as she looked in their direction. Is she going to go against me head-on? Tamara shook her head, finding it amusing.

"Let's buy it since we like it. I'll pay for it."

"Seven million." Frank nodded. He continued to raise his bid card and nonchalantly named his bid. At the same time, he was rather curious about what exactly Tamara wanted to do.

It was obvious that she had wanted him to stop bidding for the diamond, but the moment Shirley decided to bid for the diamond as well, Tamara started showing a deeper interest in it. Based on his recent understanding toward her, she was not one who would make rash decisions on a whim.

As pink diamond was indeed a rare find, other people started bidding for it as well. The price soared and then gradually eased with only a few bidders who increased the bid by 100 thousand each time.

Upon seeing how eager Shirley was to go against Tamara till the very end, Tamara lifted her chin at Frank. "Carry on. Eighteen million."

"Eighteen million? The market value of the pink diamond is around 15 or 16 million. Miss, you are going to make a loss like this." A kind person beside Tamara chose to remind her.

However, Tamara waved her hand like a rich woman who showed no concern about her spending.