

Chapter 681: Compensation

As the general manager of the Heavenly Pavilion, she could completely ignore what the customers said.

But these two came with Lucas after all. Moreover, Jane was worried that Brian might have received some misleading news and mistakenly thought that there would really be an auction after the exchanges. Thus, she decided to give him a kind reminder.

But when Brian heard her words, his face instantly turned gloomy.

“What did you say?” There was anger in his voice.

Jane thought that Brian was displeased to learn that there was no auction, so she explained further, “Sir, I can confirm that there are no plans for an auction after both exchanges today.

“But there are Heavenly Pavilion exhibition halls set up in the venues of both exchanges. The items there are similar to the ones in our store, except that the prices of the items in the exhibition hall are slightly more expensive than the prices in our store out of consideration for the venue fees and other reasons. If you’d like to get anything, it’s more cost-effective to buy it in our store,” Jane said, fulfilling her duty.

Brian's face turned even uglier, and his eyes were about to burst with anger.

Both Charlotte and Lucas had been invited to the ordinary business exchange and the Elite Business Exchange respectively, so they were extremely clear that there indeed wouldn't be an auction after the exchanges.

If there really was one, then it would have been advertised early on so that those interested would be able to prepare for it in advance.

At this moment, even Charlotte could tell that what Brian said about the Heavenly Pavilion's items being mediocre and his promise to buy Vanessa a piece of top-grade jewelry at the auction after the business exchanges were excuses.

Brian was currently incredibly furious.

He had painstakingly found the perfect excuse to get this silly woman Vanessa to stop pestering him to buy expensive jewelry from the Heavenly Pavilion. Yet Jane had actually exposed him directly to his face. How could he go on then?

"Hah, look at you sounding like you know it all. Do you know a lot about today's exchanges? Did you also receive an invitation?" Brian questioned hostilely.

Jane shook her head and said honestly, "I'm just an employee of the Heavenly Pavilion, and I'm not qualified to represent the Heavenly Pavilion to attend the exchange."

"Hmph, since you don't even have an invitation, how can you conclude that there's no auction after the exchanges? Who told you there isn't?"

Brian strained his neck and said forcefully, “You’re just an employee of the Heavenly Pavilion. How dare you talk back to me? Do you know who I am?”

“Let me tell you. I’m the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation in LA. Have you heard of the Solar Corporation? It can afford ten Heavenly Pavilions! I’m here to attend the exchange on behalf of the Solar Corporation. Of course, I know the program lineup of the exchange better than you. What a joke!

“Do I need someone like you to teach me what to do? How ridiculous! Vanessa, I think this person is just trying to fool us into buying things from the Heavenly Pavilion. She keeps saying that the things here are cheaper. Psht! Am I the type to go for cheaper things?”

“Let’s go, Vanessa. We won’t buy anything from Heavenly Pavilion! I’m going to drive them mad!

“Don’t you just want a pair of top-grade emerald bracelets? Let’s go to the auction, and I’ll buy you the most expensive pair! Even if they cost dozens of millions, I’ll buy them for you! When the time comes, let’s see what she has to say!”

When Vanessa heard that Brian was leaving, she thought she wouldn’t get any bracelets today. But when she heard the last sentence, she was overjoyed. “Okay, let’s go to the auction to buy the most expensive bracelets. Honey, you’re so nice to me...!”

Bang!

Before Vanessa could finish speaking, she was suddenly interrupted by the loud sound of something cracking.

She had been in a hurry to catch up with Brian and didn't watch where she was walking, so she had accidentally swung her arm and knocked the vase on one of the display cases onto the floor. It immediately shattered.

The loud sound instantly attracted the attention of many people around.

In particular, when some people saw the broken vase fragments on the floor, they inhaled sharply.

“Oh my God!”

“No way. She actually broke that vase? It seems she has to pay for it!”

“I just don't know if this woman can afford it. The vase is really expensive! My dad liked it a lot, and he hesitated for a long time, but he didn't buy it!”

...

Several people around them began discussing.

When Vanessa discovered that she had accidentally broken something in the store, she panicked a little. But when she saw that she had merely broken a vase, she was a lot less flustered.

“It's just a vase. What's the big deal?”

“My boyfriend is rich, and he's even going to buy me a pair of jade bracelets worth several dozen million. What's the big deal about breaking a vase? Right, Honey?”

“You just want me to compensate for it, don’t you? We’ll just do it. God knows how long this lousy vase has been on display here. Maybe no one wants it at all. You’ll be making a huge profit when I compensate you!

“Honey, let them swipe your card!” Vanessa said with great confidence and arrogance.

Not only did she not apologize for accidentally breaking something in the Heavenly Pavilion, but she was even nonchalant and behaved as if the store was receiving a huge advantage from her.

“...” Brian was incredibly gloomy.

If he could, he really wanted to slap the foolish Vanessa several times on her mouth!

If she hadn’t walked without watching where she was going, he wouldn’t have to compensate such a large amount for nothing.

He even had the impulse to leave right away.

But when he noticed that Charlotte was still looking at him and that the guests around him seemed to be figures of status, he felt that it would be extremely embarrassing if he met them on any other occasion in the future.

He couldn’t afford to be that embarrassed.

After thinking about it for a long time, Brian finally took out a bank card from his pocket with great reluctance and said through gritted teeth, “Swipe this card!”

Jane walked over and was about to take the card from his hand. But Brian suddenly glowered at her and threw the card onto the floor.

Anyone could tell that it wasn't a slip of the hand but that Brian did it on purpose!

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 682 – Falling Out

Chapter 682: Falling Out

Jane was just a young woman who had just graduated from college. Now that she suddenly suffered such humiliation, her face instantly flushed red.

At the same time, she felt very aggrieved and bewildered.

She had just given him a kind reminder on account that he was Lucas's friend. She couldn't fathom Brian's anger toward her.

Did I really anger Mr. Gray's friend because I was too nosy?

Jane felt aggrieved. But when she thought about how it was commonplace for many wealthy people to be temperamental and enjoy trampling on the dignity of others, coupled with the fact that Brian was Lucas's friend, she had no choice but to force herself to endure the humiliation. She bent down to pick up the bank card on the floor.

"Wait. Don't pick it up," Lucas suddenly interjected coldly.

Although she didn't quite understand why Lucas suddenly stopped her from accepting the humiliation his friend was subjecting her to, Lucas was her great benefactor, who had helped her a lot yesterday. So she subconsciously obeyed and stood up again.

Brian was displeased with Lucas.

“Punk, what are you doing?” Brian chided unceremoniously.

Lucas looked at Brian and Vanessa coldly. “Since you’re compensating for something, you should swipe your card properly. Such behavior is unacceptable. You’ve gone overboard.”

The Heavenly Pavilion was the property of the Parkers from LA, and the Parkers had already submitted themselves to Lucas. Thus, it could be said that Lucas was the biggest boss behind the Heavenly Pavilion and that Jane was his employee.

How could Lucas stand by and watch Brian take his anger out on his employee after breaking something in his store?

“Damn it. Who are you to lecture me?!” Brian flew into a rage and cursed at Lucas while pointing at his face.

Vanessa chimed in angrily, “My boyfriend is a thousand times better than you. How dare you teach us what to do when you’re just a penniless man? You must be joking. If it wasn’t for Charlotte, a loser like you wouldn’t even be qualified to speak to us. Who gave you the audacity to denounce us?”

Still not appeased after lashing out at Lucas, she turned around and vented her anger on Charlotte. “Charlotte, it’s not that I have to keep criticizing you, but look how terrible your boyfriend is! My boyfriend and I were kind enough to bring him to the Heavenly Pavilion for an eye-opener so that he wouldn’t be too embarrassing when he’s out with you, but what about him? How dare he help an outsider criticize us and say that we’re overboard?! He’s too ungrateful.

“Worst still, how did he get the courage to criticize my boyfriend? My boyfriend is so young, but he’s already the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation, a huge company worth billions, and his net worth is hundreds of millions. What about your boyfriend? I’m afraid all the clothes on his body add up to less than a hundred dollars. Even if you marry him, you’ll have to suffer with this penniless man, and in no time, you’ll become old and haggard!

“Back in high school, you were the school belle and star student. So many boys courted you every day. Why has your taste in men become so terrible?

“They all say that the gap between people will widen five years after graduation, and it really seems to be the case! When I marry my boyfriend, I’ll be the wife of the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation. Furthermore, in less than two years, I might become the wife of the general manager! And you? You won’t be able to get ahead in life if you marry this penniless man!

“If your man has so much time and effort to spare on reproving my boyfriend, he might as well spend it on improving himself and learning how to behave!

“If he’s willing to admit his mistakes and apologize to my boyfriend, I might even ask Brian to arrange for him to become a driver or take on random jobs!”

Vanessa said a long list of words, which she had been curbing the urge to say for a long time.

Anyway, she had shown off enough to Charlotte, and she was already getting ready to leave now. So she didn’t bother to pretend to be extremely close to Charlotte anymore, and her words became harsh and sarcastic.

Charlotte didn't expect Vanessa to suddenly fall out with her and even speak in such a callous manner.

At first, Charlotte was actually elated to see Vanessa, her former best friend in high school. But as she continued to chat with Vanessa, she began to find her intolerable.

Given the way Vanessa behaved, she clearly didn't have any intention to chat with her at all. Instead, she was just flaunting.

Charlotte had been tolerant toward her on account of their friendship. But now, Vanessa had not only taken the initiative to fall out with her, but she even nitpicked on Lucas and humiliated him greatly.

She was not a good-tempered person in the first place, and at this moment, she was exasperated.

"Enough! Vanessa, what are you putting on airs and flaunting in front of me for? What does my life have to do with you? Can't you live without putting me down? Do you have to be so vicious?"

"Don't think I couldn't tell why you dragged me here today. Wasn't it just to show off to me? You just wanted to show off how rich your man is and how much he loves you. But what's there to show off? Do those things belong to you? Without your man, what do you have to show off in front of me?"

"What about your own job? How about your salary and savings? Do you dare to show them off? Do you have what it takes to show off?"

“In my eyes, you are just a parasite sponging off a man. If your man leaves you one day, won’t you immediately end up with nothing? I really don’t know why you have the courage to show off in front of me when you’re living such a life!

“Also, do you know anything about us? Do you even know who Lucas is? You don’t know anything, but you jumped to conclusions. All you do is judge others by their appearance and mock them as you please. In my opinion, you two are the greatest jokes ever!”

Charlotte was a hot-tempered person to begin with, and now that she had lost her temper, she was definitely an even match for Vanessa. Every single word of hers hit the nail on its head, and she even called Vanessa out for being a parasite who was nothing without a rich man.

Charlotte’s words struck a sour note within Vanessa, and she immediately flew into a rage and hollered, “Hah, I bet you’re just being sour grapes! My boyfriend is just that capable. If you have what it takes, find yourself a boyfriend who’s rich and loves you! You’re just saying that because you’re inferior to me. You’re the joke!

“Just hold on to your poor boyfriend and live the rest of your life in misery! If you ever end up being too poor to eat and become a beggar showing up at my house, I won’t give you a morsel of food!”

“Haha!” Charlotte sneered. She suddenly felt that there was nothing for her to talk about to Vanessa, who wanted nothing but to rely on a man and viewed money as the most important criterion. They weren’t on the same page at all, and it would be a waste of time for her to say anything more.

Seeing Charlotte stop talking, Vanessa immediately felt that she had won the argument.

But when she noticed that everyone else around them seemed to be watching a drama, she no longer wanted to stay here. She rebuked Jane, “What are you waiting for? Hurry up and pick up the card on the floor and swipe it. I don’t want to stay in this lousy place for another second!”

Jane was stuck in a dilemma, unsure if she should pick up the card or not.

At this moment, Lucas stopped her again and said to Brian, “Pick up the card yourself and apologize to this young lady!”

“Damn it! You’re pushing your luck.. Do you believe I’ll beat you to death right now?” Boiling with fury, Brian rolled up his sleeves, raised his fist, and glared at Lucas threateningly.

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 683 – Insufficient Balance

Chapter 683: Insufficient Balance

Afraid that Brian and Lucas would really get into a fight, Jane quickly said with composure, “Don’t fight! I’ll pick up the bank card now.”

She bent down to pick up the bank card at Brian’s feet.

In fact, Jane’s thought process was simple. She thought that since Lucas was not only a valued guest of Kenneth, the owner of the Heavenly Pavilion, but also her benefactor, she couldn’t let Brian really beat up Lucas no matter what.

As long as she picked up Brian’s bank card as soon as possible and swiped it to complete the compensation procedure, they could leave quickly, and everything would be fine.

Lucas once again reached out to stop Jane. “I appreciate your attitude toward customers, and that’s why you’re now the general manager of the Heavenly Pavilion. However, that’s also why all your words and actions now represent the Heavenly Pavilion and no longer just yourself personally.

“Today’s incident is their fault in the first place, so they should compensate for breaking the vase in the store. If you really give in and submit to someone humiliating you and the Heavenly Pavilion, it means that the Heavenly Pavilion is stooping low to bow down to them. In that case, how can the Heavenly Pavilion’s image be preserved in the hearts of the customers? Will there be more and more people coming here to cause trouble and take the opportunity to trample all over you?

“I know you’re putting up with this today for the sake of settling this matter peacefully, but others may not think so. They’ll only think that you and the Heavenly Pavilion are weak pushovers!

“If he accidentally dropped his bank card, it would be understandable for you to help him pick it up. But he’s clearly the one who made a mistake in the first place, yet he’s still acting all high and mighty. Since he doesn’t treat you as human, you don’t have to be nice to him! Respect between people is mutual, and we are all born equal. You work hard to make a livelihood, and you’re not inferior to them at all!

“Besides, you’re the general manager of Heavenly Pavilion. How could you really be afraid of him? If someone really dares to cause trouble here, the Parkers will definitely not ignore it!”

Lucas would rarely say so many words at once.

But Jane was a talent he recognized, and he didn’t want to see this intelligent girl with a strong backbone getting bullied like this. He wanted to nurture and train her.

Moreover, Lucas really couldn’t tolerate Brian and Vanessa.

After hearing what Lucas said, Jane looked extremely touched.

During the time she had worked as a sales assistant, she had often been bullied by others and ordered around by haughty customers. No one had cared about the dignity of the sales assistants. Lucas was the only one who had stopped her from bending down to pick up the card to protect her dignity, and not just once.

Charlotte was also looking at him with glistening eyes and admiration written all over her face.

At the same time, the people who had witnessed the entire incident around them stood on Lucas and Jane's side. They couldn't stand the arrogant and domineering behavior of Brian and Vanessa.

"Those two people are really outrageous! They spent so long browsing through the items here, but they refused to buy anything using all sorts of excuses. They knocked over the vase, but not only did they not apologize, they're acting so snobbish. They even deliberately threw the bank card to the floor. How uncultured!

"God knows where they're from. Do they think they're a big deal just because they have some money? Those who can enter the Heavenly Pavilion are all rich, but no one is as arrogant as them!"

"Hah, I think it's hard to say for sure that they're really rich! These look like they're wearing designer clothing, but they're actually high-end knockoffs! My family is the agent for a luxury menswear brand, and I can tell at a glance!"

"Wow, they're really something. They're wearing counterfeit products, yet they still have the audacity to be so arrogant. I saw them being picky and criticizing the items without buying anything. I bet they're really too poor to afford anything."

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Countless accusatory voices came from all around.

When Brian heard the first few remarks, his face turned beet-red with anger. But when he heard the next few, he felt so ashamed that he didn't even dare to lift his head.

Reason being, these people were right. The designer clothes and accessories he was wearing were actually all high-end counterfeits that cost only a few hundred

dollars. The customers of the Heavenly Pavilion in front of him were genuinely wealthy, so they could definitely expose his lies.

At this thought, Brian couldn't care less about Jane. Now, all he wanted to do was immediately settle the matter and leave.

"Fine, I was wrong!" he said through gritted teeth. He picked up the bank card on the floor, handed it to Jane, and quickly said, "I'll compensate you for it. Quickly swipe my card!"

Brian began chickening out and wanted to leave as soon as possible. But Vanessa felt that he was greatly wronged, and the ones responsible were Lucas, the culprit, and Charlotte, his accomplice.

"Lucas Gray, do you think you're really great? Do you think we're afraid of you? Let me tell you. My boyfriend just doesn't want to create unnecessary trouble. That's why he apologized. It's not because he's afraid of you!"

"After leaving the Heavenly Pavilion, my boyfriend is still the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation. He's in charge of thousands of employees and has an annual salary of millions! He also easily earns more than ten million a year just from bank deposit interests, stock options, and investments!"

"But what about you? After you leave the Heavenly Pavilion, you're still just a bottom feeder of society. Do you even make more than minimum wage?"

"Charlotte Carter, you're really blind to have fallen for such a man! You deserve to be unlucky for the rest of your life and never make a comeback! Haha, I really find it amusing when I think about how I used to be your best friend! You and I belong to two different worlds, and I will never speak to you again!"

Facing Vanessa acting like a mad dog barking, Lucas and Charlotte didn't bother to pay any attention.

From now on, Charlotte would no longer see Vanessa as her best friend. Besides, their situations were completely unlike what Vanessa said, so she obviously wouldn't care about what Vanessa said.

"Sir, I'm sorry, but the balance in your bank card is insufficient to pay for the vase..." Jane suddenly walked back from the cashier with Brian's bank card, looking rather awkward.

"What? How is it possible that the balance is insufficient? I have a million in that card! How can it be insufficient for that stupid vase?" Brian immediately shouted angrily.

Jane said with an apologetic look, "If you really only have a million in your card, it's indeed insufficient because the vase you two just broke is a blue-and-white porcelain vase from the Ming Dynasty, which is extremely rare and precious. Its retail price is 2.8 million dollars, and the balance in your card is quite far from this."

Brian and Vanessa widened their eyes in shock, almost wondering if there was something wrong with their ears!

Chapter 684: Severing Ties

“How much did you say it costs?!” Brian asked in disbelief, his voice about to crack.

“2.8 million dollars, Sir,” Jane repeated, deliberately slowing down her speech to quote the price carefully.

“How is that possible?! It... it’s just a vase. How can it be so expensive?!” Brian yelled hysterically, almost on the verge of breaking down.

If the vase was sold at a less prestigious place, he might have thought it was only worth a couple dozen dollars. But since it was placed in a store like the Heavenly Pavilion, where cheap goods didn’t exist, Brian had braced himself and raised his expected price to about \$150,000.

Thus, he gritted his teeth and took out his bank card with a balance of one million, thinking that it should be more than enough.

But to his surprise, the vase had a staggering price tag of \$2.8 million! The money he had was less than half of the vase’s price!

How could he afford to compensate for it?

He didn't have that much money.

With shock written all over her face, Vanessa questioned aggressively, "Are you people trying to extort us? It's just a stupid vase. How can it be so expensive? Are you deliberately raising the price because you saw that we agreed to compensate for it? I'm telling you. I won't tolerate such behavior! I'm going to sue you! Don't think that we're pushovers!"

Facing her harsh voice and threats, Jane kept a straight face and said calmly, "Miss, the prices of the items in our store are all marked very clearly. The price of this Ming Dynasty blue-and-white porcelain vase is also clearly indicated on the display stand. You may take a look at it yourself.

"In addition, the price of an antique is not determined by its actual use but by its age, craftsmanship, and collection value. This Ming Dynasty vase has been in our store for some time, and no one has ever said that it's not worth the price. We also have an appraisal certificate issued by the authorities, and you may also bring the broken pieces away for authentication later. This should prove that what you just broke is indeed a precious Ming Dynasty blue-and-white porcelain vase.

"The Heavenly Pavilion has always marked our prices very clearly, and we would never cheat anyone. We are definitely trustworthy, and we will absolutely never commit deliberate extortion."

Jane was neither servile nor overbearing during her speech, and she also managed to refute Vanessa's accusatory remarks about the Heavenly Pavilion extorting them.

Some guests gathered around them also spoke up in agreement. "Indeed, the porcelain vase has been here for about half a month. My father used to come here every day to look at it, and he really wanted to buy it. But unfortunately, it was too

expensive, so my father was hesitant about it. If he hears that this vase was broken, he'll probably be so upset that he won't be able to eat..."

"It's a precious porcelain vase from the Ming Dynasty and extremely valuable, so it's reasonable for it to be priced at 2.8 million dollars. I can also vouch that the vase has always been sold at this price. The Heavenly Pavilion didn't deliberately increase the price to extort you!"

"If a vase from the Ming Dynasty were sold for only a few hundred thousand dollars, it would definitely be a crazy sale. Anyone selling it at this price, please give me a dozen of them. I'll take everything!"

People spoke up one after another.

Vanessa's face suddenly flushed red. She really didn't know the value of these antiques.

She only knew that the luxury goods such as jewelry and gemstones were expensive. She hadn't expected that an unassuming vase she didn't even take a liking to was worth so much money.

"Hmph, isn't it just a few million? My boyfriend is worth hundreds of millions. He can easily afford to pay for it." Vanessa rolled her eyes at the people around her with disdain.

She turned her head and said to Brian, "Honey, you must have taken the wrong card just now. The one million in this card should be the spending money for me, right? Give me this card and quickly take out your other card with a large balance! Hmph, it's merely a few million. It's peanuts to you!"

Then Vanessa hurriedly snatched that bank card from Jane's hand and held it tightly with sweet bliss written all over her face.

A few days ago, she had coquettishly asked Brian for some spending money after they were intimate with each other. He had agreed to give her a card with a million for her to spend as she pleased. She thought that he was trying to give her a surprise by hiding it from her even though he had already prepared it.

Vanessa indulged in her thoughts happily.

Charlotte couldn't contain her amusement any longer and burst into laughter.

She wasn't trying to be rude, but rather, Brian's current expression was just too hilarious. It was almost as if he was full of resentment as he stared at Vanessa gripping the card tightly in her hand, wishing he could snatch it from her right away.

But Vanessa was still obliviously showing off Brian's wealth. It was really funny!

Hearing Charlotte's laughter, Vanessa immediately rebuked in anger, "Charlotte Carter, why are you laughing? My boyfriend can casually give me a million as spending money. Can yours do the same? I'm afraid your penniless boyfriend won't even give you a thousand, huh?"

Charlotte had a hard time holding in her laughter before saying, "Haha, you... should ask your boyfriend if the money in this card is for your spending money or not. I'm afraid it's all the money your boyfriend has. You'd better hurry up and return it to him. Otherwise, he'll eat you up immediately. Haha!"

Vanessa was further enraged. She turned to complain to Brian, “Honey, look at her! She even said that the money in this card is everything you have. How can she insult you like that? You obviously have at least a few hundred million in your card. How can you possibly only have a million?!”

Brian gritted his teeth and ordered, “Give me the card!”

His eyes were menacing, and he wished he could kill the stupid Vanessa on the spot.

“Huh? Honey, what... what’s wrong with you?” Vanessa finally discovered something amiss with Brian’s expression. He was glaring at her like she was an enemy, making her frightened.

“Honey... what... what’s gotten into you? I... I’m your precious sweetheart!” Vanessa said carefully.

“My sweet bullshit! Return the card to me immediately!” Brian could no longer contain his anger. He cursed at her and grabbed the card back from her by force.

Vanessa was still stunned and bewildered.

Brian said, “This woman is the one who broke the vase. If you want compensation, get her to pay for it! I have nothing to do with this woman from now on. You don’t have to let me know regardless of what happens to her!”

With that, Brian glowered at Vanessa before turning around to leave.

He actually broke up with Vanessa and severed ties with her at this juncture!

Everyone was stunned.

Meanwhile, Vanessa's jaw dropped, and she was completely dumbstruck, unable to process what was going on!

Chapter 685: Exposing The Truth Himself

Just as Brian was about to walk to the elevator, the elevator doors suddenly opened, and a young man with a cold and hostile aura walked out. He hollered, “Who is it? Who dares to cause trouble on the Parkers’ turf?!”

Six tall and burly bodyguards followed him out of the elevator. They were firmly blocking the elevator as a murderous tension filled the air.

Brian panicked and took several steps backward, his heart full of nervousness and panic.

As someone from LA, he naturally recognized at a glance who the nobly-dressed young man in front of him was.

“Mr... Mr. Parker!” Brian hurriedly greeted him.

The young man was none other than Kenneth, the scion of the Parkers and the owner of the Heavenly Pavilion. Brian didn’t dare to offend him in the slightest.

“Brian Klein, what exactly do you mean by what you just said? Repeat yourself!” Vanessa finally processed what Brian had just said, but she was in complete disbelief of this fact. She dashed over and grabbed Brian’s shirt.

She and Brian were clearly deeply in love with each other, and Brian had even promised to meet her parents to ask for her hand in marriage. So she was confused as to why he would suddenly break up with her and say that he would no longer have anything to do with her.

Vanessa refused to believe it no matter what!

“Let go!” Brian pushed Vanessa away forcefully, pushing her onto the floor.

She had a hard fall, but he didn’t even bat an eyelid, and his face was covered in disgust and disdain.

“I’ve long had enough of you, you incorrigible, foolish, and shameless wench! What else do you do every day besides pouting, whining, acting coquettish, and pestering me to buy you clothes and jewelry or give you money?

“If you hadn’t thrown yourself at me and climbed into my bed, do you think I would have given you a second glance? People always say that the ugly ones are the greatest troublemakers, but why do you still think you’re some angel? Why don’t you take a look at yourself in the mirror and see if you still look decent without makeup?

“What else do you see besides money? What does how much money I have have to do with you? Have you ever earned a single cent yourself? You’re just like a bloodsucking leech who only knows to pester me to buy you this and that!

“I was just toying with you, you hideous and shameless woman. Do you think I’d really spend so much money on you?

“Hmph, I might as well tell you the truth. Your emerald bracelet, earrings, ring, clothes, and handbag are all high-grade counterfeits that I got someone to help me get from the black market! They cost less than a few hundred dollars in total!

“I’ve had enough of your stupidity. You’re such an idiot! You just had to drag me to the Heavenly Pavilion and ask me to buy you things worth millions. Do you think my money grows on trees? Even if it does, why should I spend my money on you?

“You’re the one who broke the vase yourself, so you should pay for it. What does it have to do with me? We’re just friends with benefits who have slept with each other for a few months. I never had anything to do with you!

“I’m also making it clear to you today that you’re not allowed to come pester me again in the future. Otherwise, I’ll beat you up whenever I see you. Do you hear me?!” Brian roared furiously, revealing the truth about everything in order to break off ties with Vanessa completely.

Vanessa never thought that the truth would be so cruel. She thought that she had finally found the perfect man and kept bragging about him, but he was just toying with her. He had even fooled her with worthless counterfeits!

After getting pushed by Brian, Vanessa fell onto the floor. But the physical pain was nothing compared to the emotional pain she was feeling!

She thought she had finally found a rich man who could give her a life of luxury. But now, she felt as if she had fallen from the sky, as if her whole world had collapsed.

A woman getting ruthlessly abandoned by a heartless man should have been something worthy of sympathy.

But except for Kenneth and his men, everyone else present had witnessed how arrogant and domineering Vanessa was. She had humiliated and mocked her former best friend and her penniless boyfriend just because she had found herself a rich boyfriend.

Now that Vanessa had been dumped by her boyfriend, whom she often bragged about in every way, everyone felt that she deserved it and had brought it upon herself. No one sympathized with her at all.

Vanessa was the only person unwilling to accept this reality.

Sitting on the floor, she began shaking her head hysterically.

“No, this is impossible! Brian, you clearly said that I’m the person you love the most and the one you want to marry and spend the rest of your life with. How could you possibly do this to me?”

“You even said that you’d visit my parents soon and ask for my hand in marriage. You also said that you’ve prepared an expensive betrothal gift for me!”

“The emerald bracelet and diamond ring you gave me were clearly bought from the Heavenly Pavilion. You told me you spent millions just so I could be happy. How can they possibly be cheap counterfeits?”

“Brian, tell me that you’re just joking with me. You must be joking, right? Everything you just said to me is a lie, right?”

Tears were streaming down Vanessa's face, but she still couldn't help looking at Brian expectantly, hoping to hear an affirmative answer from him.

But Brian merely glanced at her tear-stained face covered in smudged makeup. With disgust in his eyes, he said coldly, "What a fool. I've already told you everything. What are you expecting? Are you still dreaming of being Cinderella? Yes, my family is indeed richer than yours, but why should I marry an ugly, poor, and stupid woman like you?"

"Even if I get married, I will definitely marry someone worthy and compatible with my family. Look at yourself. What about you is worthy of me?"

"In terms of looks, you're just mediocre. You're not pretty at all!"

"In terms of family background... Hah, you kept complaining to me about how poor your family is. Your family is still expecting you to feed them, aren't they?"

"In terms of character and talent... Hah, you have no ambitions, and you're just a materialistic, tacky, and incompetent woman. In the last two years, has your monthly salary ever been above three thousand?"

"Hmph, tell me. Just what attribute of yours is good enough for me?"

Brian was merciless as he relentlessly criticized Vanessa to the point where she seemed worthless.

Vanessa was heartbroken and unwilling to believe the fact that she had just been dumped like this.

“I don’t believe it! I don’t believe it! You... said so many sweet nothings to me and gave me so many gifts. You clearly still love me! I don’t believe it!” she yelled hysterically.

Brian said in annoyance, “How can you be so stupid?! If you don’t believe me, then take off the ring and bracelet you’re wearing and let the staff of the Heavenly Pavilion authenticate them. I wish you’d hurry up and die so that you’ll stop pestering me!”

Hearing this, Vanessa hurriedly got up from the floor as if she had found a straw to clutch at and rushed to the service desk nearby. She frantically took off the diamond ring, emerald bracelet, and earrings she was wearing and pushed them to the jewelry appraiser in front of her.

“Sir, quickly help me authenticate them and tell me if they’re genuine or not.. Tell me if they’re from the Heavenly Pavilion,” she said with great panic.

Chapter 686: On What Grounds?

The bespectacled treasure appraiser pushed his glasses up his nose bridge and picked up the emerald bracelet. He took a few glances at it and then put it down. Then he picked up the twenty-carat diamond ring and the so-called emerald earrings. He looked at them a few times before shaking his head, letting out a long sigh, and pushing them all back to Vanessa.

“How is it? You’ve finished so soon? Don’t you need to take a closer look? Are these genuine or fake?” Vanessa asked profusely.

The treasure appraiser said, “I’m sorry, Miss, but these items are not from the Heavenly Pavilion. Moreover, they’re all artificial gems. These things are very cheap, and you can probably get them for a few dozen dollars. If you wear them for a long time, they will be harmful to your health. Try not to wear them again in the future!”

Vanessa felt as if she was struck by lightning. Her eyes were wide open, and she stood rooted to the spot, completely dumbstruck.

These items... were things she cherished and wore every single day, and she’d go around showing them off. But it turned out that they were all counterfeits worth only a few dozen dollars. Worse still, they were harmful to her health!

Brian actually deceived her with such terrible counterfeit goods!

Vanessa stood in place dejectedly, completely lost and out of sorts, seemingly having suffered an immense blow.

But no one sympathized with her.

Lucas had also been standing at the side and watching everything. He felt that Vanessa had brought it upon herself.

From the time Vanessa met Charlotte by chance today, she had been showing off and flaunting her boyfriend's wealth and their success. She had also insulted Charlotte and Lucas from time to time.

Lucas could ignore all of this. But when Vanessa and Charlotte fell out just now, Vanessa had cursed at Charlotte and said lots of unpleasant and callous things to her. She had even behaved in an extremely condescending manner, making Lucas feel disgusted.

Vanessa, a materialistic gold digger who only knew to rely on men, had a twisted mind. She had put her former best friend to shame and trampled all over her, so she totally deserved to end up in such a plight today.

Seeing Vanessa finally stop pestering him, Brian hurried toward Kenneth and said nervously, "Mr. Parker, that woman is the one who broke the vase, and I have nothing to do with her now. If you want someone to compensate for it, look for her. She really isn't related to me in any way!"

Then he scurried toward the elevator door in a bid to flee.

"Stop! Did I say you could leave? If you dare to take another step, I'll make your family vanish from LA!" Kenneth roared coldly.

His words made Brian freeze in place. He stood nailed to the spot, not even daring to tremble.

A bean-sized droplet of sweat trickled down his face.

Brian didn't doubt Kenneth's threat at all.

The Parkers were now the largest and most powerful family in LA. A small family like the Kleins would definitely be annihilated as long as Kenneth issued a command!

"Mr... Mr. Parker, but that woman is really the one who broke the vase. The... the people here can vouch for me!" Brian was on the verge of tears.

"I don't care. I've just heard someone report the situation. You broke up with that woman after breaking the vase in my store, which means that you were still in a relationship with her when the vase was broken. You two were even holding hands then.

"I don't care what you two do after this. But now, you two must pay for the broken vase! Otherwise, I'll have someone go to the Klein family and ask your elders how this matter should be handled!"

Kenneth couldn't be bothered to argue with Brian. After making himself clear, he stopped paying attention to him.

Brian felt that the sky was about to collapse on him.

The vase was worth \$2.8 million!

It was absolutely not a small sum of money!

Kenneth demanded that he and Vanessa compensate for it together, but Brian knew that Vanessa was so poor that she probably didn't even have \$30,000, which was far from enough. In the end, he would still have to pay for it.

But the Kleins were not even a second-tier family in LA, and their combined assets were probably only around 10 million dollars. Moreover, this amount was almost all in real estate and immovable properties. They probably had less than 2 million dollars in liquid funds!

In other words, if they had to pay the compensation of \$2.8 million, the Kleins would have to sell their houses or stores. If his elders found out, they would definitely beat him to death!

Brian's face turned pale, and he felt devastated.

Meanwhile, Kenneth had already walked up to Lucas and asked cautiously with great respect, "Mr. Gray, this commotion hasn't affected your mood, has it?"

He had just been chatting happily with some business partners in the Walton Hotel, where the Elite Business Exchange would be held, under the guidance of his grandfather. But he was suddenly informed that someone was causing trouble in the Heavenly Pavilion, and Lucas was there again. Kenneth was almost frightened to death!

Just yesterday, Lucas had visited the Parkers' Heavenly Pavilion for the first time and had been provoked by the idiotic Kylie and general manager Frey.

Kenneth hurried over to teach them a lesson and promoted Jane, whom Lucas recommended. He also admonished all the employees of the Heavenly Pavilion.

But just one day later, there was yet another slip-up, and Lucas had encountered an unhappy incident in the Heavenly Pavilion again. Kenneth felt that he was too embarrassed to face Lucas again.

He was also particularly worried that Lucas might scold him for his poor management and incompetency.

If he were in Lucas's place and ended up encountering an unhappy experience in a store run by his subordinate twice in a row, he would definitely think that his subordinate was poor at managing.

Fortunately for him, Lucas wasn't upset with him. Instead, he smiled and said, "I'm just here to watch the drama."

Of course, Lucas wouldn't blame Kenneth for today's incident. Actually, the Heavenly Pavilion was also unlucky to have met these two scourges.

Seeing that Lucas didn't seem upset, Kenneth finally heaved a sigh of relief and stood up straight.

His respectful and conscientious behavior, as well as the subservient way he addressed Lucas, made everyone stunned!

In particular, Brian and Vanessa were so astounded that their eyes were about to fall out.

The scion of the Parkers actually behaved so deferentially toward Lucas.

How was this possible?!

On what grounds?!

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 687 – The Black Card Appears Again

Chapter 687: The Black Card Appears Again

Just as the crowd was full of astonishment, Kenneth greeted Charlotte. “Miss Carter, you’re here too.”

Charlotte smiled. “Hello. I didn’t expect your business to have expanded to such a large scale, Mr. Parker. There are indeed many good things here in the Heavenly Pavilion. It has given me an eye-opener.”

She was very polite.

After all, Charlotte already knew that the Parkers had an extraordinary relationship with Lucas. Now that she learned the huge Heavenly Pavilion actually belonged to the Parkers, it was reasonable for her to give him some compliments out of courtesy.

Kenneth laughed and said with a great sense of pride, “Miss Carter, if there’s anything you’ve taken a liking to in the Heavenly Pavilion, feel free to take it. You can have it for free!”

Cheyenne hurriedly waved her hand and thanked Kenneth for his kindness.

Each of the items on this floor of the Heavenly Pavilion was worth at least \$150,000. She had never bought such an expensive item before, so she obviously couldn’t bring herself to accept such a gift from Kenneth for free.

Charlotte would never be able to accept a gift from someone for no reason, especially a gift of such high value.

Lucas smiled, walked to the display case of emerald jewelry, and pointed at two emerald pendants inside. “Wrap these two up.”

One of the two emerald pendants was highly translucent and had an alluring red hue that was as ethereal as mist, appearing extremely beautiful and romantic. The other was a glassy purple emerald that was also translucent and gorgeous.

When Vanessa was looking at the emerald jewelry, Lucas had noticed that Charlotte had taken several glances at the pendant. She obviously liked it, but she quickly looked away after glancing at the price and didn’t say a word about it.

Reason being, the price of this pendant was 2.5 million dollars, which was far more than Charlotte could afford. So after merely taking a few glances at it, she looked away decisively.

Lucas decided to give the other pendant to Cheyenne.

Since he was already in San Francisco and had shopped in the Heavenly Pavilion twice, he naturally had to get a gift for his wife.

Due to the rare material and color of the pendant, it was even more expensive at three million dollars.

The total price of both items was 5.5 million dollars.

“I’ll pay by card!” Lucas took out a black card from his pocket. It was none other than his Black Diamond Card that had once caused an uproar and was a top status symbol that had a credit limit of five billion dollars anywhere in the world!

At this moment, many of the people in the Heavenly Pavilion were from prestigious families and had extensive knowledge. After seeing the gold pattern on

the black card Lucas took out, many people exclaimed in astonishment, “It’s actually a Black Diamond Card!”

“Oh my God. I’ve always only heard about this Black Diamond Card, but I’ve never heard of anyone actually owning one. I got to see it in the flesh today. It’s exactly what it looks like in the photos online!”

“Who is this young man? How can he possess a terrifying Black Diamond Card?! Even the people of the top three families of San Francisco haven’t been able to get a Black Diamond Card!”

...

Even those who didn’t know what the black card signified found out from the exclamations just how prestigious this card was!

For a while, countless gazes of shock, envy, and intrigue were cast on Lucas.

In particular, Brian’s and Vanessa’s eyes were about to fall out of their sockets. They couldn’t believe this at all!

Lucas was clearly just a penniless man who couldn’t even afford a decent set of clothes. How could he suddenly take out a Black Diamond Card that was so impressive that it left everyone present incredibly shocked?

Vanessa was extremely uncomfortable!

Just a few minutes ago, she had bragged to Charlotte about how rich her boyfriend was and how good he was to her. But in the blink of an eye, the shameless Brian dumped her and even revealed that he had been lying to her all this while and that his gifts for her were all worthless pieces of garbage.

Now, Charlotte's boyfriend, who was supposed to be poor, turned out to be the owner of an impressive Black Diamond Card!

The great contrast, as well as the resentment and pain of being inferior to Charlotte again, was almost on par with the pain of being abandoned by Brian!

Jane was just as surprised. She didn't know Lucas's identity, and yesterday, she had even once thought Lucas was just an ordinary person with a mediocre life. Seeing Lucas actually holding a Black Diamond Card that was extremely rare in the world, she was also incredibly astonished, so much so that it took a long time for her to come back to her senses.

"Ah, okay..."

Just as Jane was about to reach out to take the Black Diamond Card in Lucas's hand, Kenneth stopped her.

"Mr. Gray, if there's anything you like in the Heavenly Pavilion, just take it away. How can I accept your money?"

"Given your relationship with the Parkers, you can take away everything here as you please, let alone just two pendants worth around 5.5 million dollars. If you pay for anything from the Heavenly Pavilion, my grandfather will definitely scold me when he finds out!" Kenneth said in the most sincere tone possible. He even seemed bizarrely afraid that Lucas wouldn't take the items for free.

The people around them became even more shocked.

After hearing what Kenneth said, Vanessa became so envious that she was about to burst into tears.

The Heavenly Pavilion was massive, and the total value of the items in the store was probably at least several billion dollars.

Yet Kenneth actually said that Lucas could take whatever he wanted, even if he wanted to take everything away. This left everyone wondering just how Lucas was related to the Parkers.

If she could get her hands on these items, she'd no longer have to work for the rest of her life, and she could even spend the rest of it in luxury!

Ahhhh! Ahhhh! Vanessa was about to lose her mind from envy.

"Hah, dimwit! Now you know to be envious, huh? Weren't you having a good time pointing at them and mocking them earlier?" Brian mocked sarcastically while looking at Vanessa.

"Just look at how respectful Mr. Parker is to him. Lucas Gray isn't a penniless loser at all. He's definitely an impressive figure with an absurdly powerful background!

"Hmph! It's all your fault, you idiot. You and Charlotte were former best friends in high school. Since she has such an impressive boyfriend, you'd definitely get lots of benefits after just saying a few pleasant words. But you didn't take them seriously and even fell out with Charlotte!

"Great, now he can take away multi-million-dollar items for free as he pleases, but you and I have to compensate almost three million dollars for the vase! You're such a jinx. Anyone close to you is bound to become extremely unlucky!"

Brian was full of envy, jealousy, and regret, but he could only vent his anger on Vanessa..

Chapter 688: Envious and Twisted

Kenneth refused to accept Lucas's money. Seeing Kenneth really not wanting to accept the money, Jane helped persuade, "Mr. Gray, since Mr. Parker sincerely wants to give you these two emerald pendants, you should accept them!"

Kenneth said with a pleading look on his face, "Mr. Gray, just accept them. Or else, I won't be able to explain to my grandfather!"

Lucas shook his head, "If I wanted them for myself, I wouldn't be polite with you. But these are gifts meant for my family."

If Kenneth wanted to give something to Lucas for free, he wouldn't mind accepting it. But he thought that it was insincere to gift his family things someone else gave him.

After figuring this out, Kenneth stopped persuading him and quickly said to Jane, "Wrap the two pendants up for Mr. Gray immediately and give him a twenty percent discount!"

Lucas didn't decline the 20% discount, which meant he would only be paying the cost price.

“Yes, Mr. Parker!” Jane carefully took the Black Diamond Card from Lucas with both hands and proceeded to help him with the procedures.

Soon, she returned with two beautiful and exquisite gift boxes and handed them over to Lucas together with his Black Diamond Card.

Lucas put the Black Diamond Card, which made countless people envious, into his pocket before handing the red emerald pendant directly to Charlotte. “This is for you. The fiery red color matches your aura.”

Charlotte was stunned for a moment. She frantically waved her hand and declined, “No, no, this is too precious. You’d better keep it for yourself or give it to Cheyenne! I’ll pass!”

Although she really liked the red emerald pendant, the price tag of 2.5 million dollars was expensive enough to discourage her from accepting such an exorbitant gift.

Lucas shook the purple emerald pendant in his hand and said with a faint smile, “There’s one for Cheyenne too. Both of you are my family members, and you sisters get one each. Just accept it.”

Lucas treated Charlotte as his younger sister, so it wasn’t a big deal to get his sister a gift she liked.

After hearing what Lucas said, Charlotte was slightly relieved, and she no longer felt that the expensive gift was hard to accept.

“Okay then. Thank you!” She wasn’t a pretentious person, so she accepted the red emerald pendant and immediately put it on her neck joyfully.

“This beauty really has great taste and good judgment. She found herself such a nice boyfriend who gave her a gift worth more than two million dollars!”

“Yeah, her friend even shamed her for dating a penniless man just now. But look. How is he poor in any way? He’s obviously super wealthy!”

“Ah, comparison really drives one mad! I’m so envious! How wonderful would it be if I had such a generous boyfriend who treats me so well?!”

“Hey, wake up. You’re a man. What are you thinking about?”

...

Many people around them looked at Charlotte enviously, and they all thought that Charlotte and Lucas were a couple.

Hearing their words, Charlotte couldn’t help blushing a little.

Lucas was indeed a good man who was rare and hard to come by, and she would probably fall in love with him if he wasn’t her brother-in-law.

But she thought that it was nice being his sister-in-law too. The fact that he was just like her brother was enough to make her happy.

Hearing the words of envy, someone felt incredibly miserable.

Standing at the side, Vanessa looked at the bright red emerald pendant around Charlotte's neck and the way Lucas was smiling gently at her. She was clenching her fists so hard that her fingernails were almost digging into her flesh.

She was incredibly envious!

How could Charlotte be so lucky?

At this moment, Vanessa suddenly remembered something.

From the first moment she ran into Charlotte today, she had made up her mind to let Charlotte know how well she was doing now. So she had been showing off in front of Charlotte and flaunting her boyfriend's wealth, his well-paying job, and his status. She had also shown off how nice her boyfriend was to her.

But now, she had been mercilessly slapped in the face by the cruel fact that her boyfriend, whom she thought would be her lifetime support, had treated her like a plaything and a joke. He had just been toying with her and deceiving her with worthless gifts. Moreover, once something bad happened, he had immediately dumped her like she was garbage.

But Charlotte, whom she had ridiculed and mocked, was now standing in the middle of the crowd and enjoying their admiration and envy.

Furthermore, her penniless boyfriend Lucas suddenly became a powerful figure far beyond her. Even Kenneth Parker had to be respectful toward him and eagerly begged him to accept gifts worth more than five million dollars.

Lucas wasn't short of money at all, and he casually pulled out a Black Diamond Card that shocked everyone. He even casually refused Kenneth's gifts without batting an eyelid!

How did Charlotte Carter get so lucky and find herself such a rich man?

Why?!

The more she thought about it, the angrier she became. Vanessa rushed toward Charlotte and yelled at the top of her voice, “Charlotte Carter! You did this on purpose, didn’t you?”

“You deliberately hid your boyfriend’s identity from me and watched me show off in front of you just so you could shame me, didn’t you?!”

“Well, now you’ve got your wish. I was dumped mercilessly by that shameless man, and all he gave me was some worthless garbage. I became a laughing stock in front of everyone. Did you enjoy the show?”

“Charlotte Carter, we’ve been best friends for years, yet you actually wanted to see me make a fool out of myself. You felt pleased to see me getting deceived and laughed at like a clown, didn’t you? You vicious wench!”

The extreme rage, envy, and indignation made Vanessa’s mind twisted and her face distorted.

“You shameless b*tch!” She suddenly raised her hand to slap Charlotte on her face!

Chapter 689: Best Friends

When Lucas saw this, his face instantly darkened, and he wanted to stop her. But the next second, he suddenly stopped moving.

Charlotte was not to be trifled with either. Seeing Vanessa about to hit her, she raised her hand, grabbed Vanessa's wrist, and pushed her backward.

“That’s enough! Vanessa, do you really think that I’m a pushover? When you got bullied in school, I stood up for you every single time. Hah, now you actually want to hit me. Do you really think I’ll stand here and let you hit me just because we used to be best friends?”

Charlotte stood still and shouted overbearingly in fury, “Vanessa, how dare you say that we’re best friends? Fine. Since you’re feeling indignant, I don’t mind making things clear to you!

“Since you’ve met me today, you haven’t asked me how I’m doing now. All you did was brag to me about your boyfriend’s job, the expensive gifts he got you, and how nice he was to you!

“Moreover, you not only bragged about yourselves, but you kept mocking me and shaming my boyfriend for being poor and inferior. I tried to explain to you multiple times, but you interrupted me every single time. You didn’t even care about what I wanted to say, nor did you care to hear about what was going on with me. You just wanted to show off your superiority to me!

“If I didn’t care about the fact that we used to be best friends, I would have turned around and left after seeing what you did. Why would I bother to listen to your nonsense for such a long time?”

“Yet you actually accused me of hiding it from you on purpose and watching you become a laughing stock. Haha, you kept rattling on incessantly and interrupting me when I was trying to talk to you. Did you even give me the chance to speak?”

“Besides, you’re the one who chose your boyfriend yourself, and you were also the one who kept showing off to me. Now that his true colors have been revealed, you can’t accept it, so you’re blaming me for it?”

“Hah, you’re really ridiculous!”

Charlotte exuded her imposing aura as the general manager of the Stardust Corporation’s Orange County branch. All her words made sense, and her retort immediately made Vanessa turn pale and rendered her speechless.

Vanessa was still full of indignation, but the truth was just as Charlotte said. Charlotte had repeatedly tried to speak to her earlier, but she had eagerly wanted to show off, so she ignored her and kept interrupting her.

If she had known Charlotte’s boyfriend was such a powerful person, she would have never treated them with such an attitude!

If she hadn’t fallen out with Charlotte and Lucas, she wouldn’t have had to compensate the Heavenly Pavilion with \$2.8 million!

Think of this, Vanessa felt remorse and despair.

No, I'm not at the most hopeless stage yet. Maybe there's a turning point!

Seemingly finding a straw to clutch at, Vanessa suddenly jumped in front of Charlotte. With her attitude greatly changed, she said with a pleading look on her face, "Charlotte, I'm wrong! I really know I'm wrong now!

"Please forgive me for being muddled this time on account that we used to be best friends! I really didn't mean to treat you like that! Please forgive me this time. We will still be best friends forever, okay?

"Also, your boyfriend is so close to Mr. Parker that he's even willing to give your boyfriend things worth more than five million dollars for free. Help me beg Mr. Parker, okay? I broke the vase by accident. I really didn't mean to do it. Please ask him to drop the matter, okay?

"Charlotte, you know that my family is so poor that I can't even afford ten thousand dollars, let alone over two million. Charlotte, you're the only one who can help me now! Don't leave me in the lurch!

"I... I will never look for any trouble with you again. We'll be best friends who are closer than sisters from now on, okay?"

Vanessa's face was full of fawning and pleading, completely different from her arrogant self just now who wanted to hit others.

Many onlookers began looking at her with contempt.

Vanessa was really thick-skinned. Previously, she had cursed at Charlotte and even said that if she became a beggar and came knocking on her door to beg for food, she wouldn't give her a morsel of food. Just now, she had even tried to slap her out

of envy and indignation. Yet she was now sucking up to her and asking to become best friends with her forever. She even begged Charlotte to help her get away without paying the compensation of 2.8 million dollars.

It was impressive how thick-skinned she was.

Charlotte pushed Vanessa away expressionlessly and said coldly, “It’s already too late. You’ve just said it yourself that we’re no longer friends! From now on, there will be nothing between us!”

Hearing what Charlotte said, Vanessa immediately froze on the spot.

She didn’t expect that Charlotte, someone she had taken advantage of for years, would turn her down without mercy!

If Charlotte didn’t help her, what... was she supposed to do?

She would never be able to afford the compensation of 2.8 million dollars!

Although Brian’s family would probably be able to afford it, she was the one who had broken the vase at the end of the day. The Kleins definitely wouldn’t let her off, and they would definitely make her pay them back!

When the time came, she probably wouldn’t be able to pay them back even if she was sold to them as a slave and slogged her guts out for the rest of her life.

At the thought of this miserable situation, Vanessa felt cold all over. She was terrified and in utter despair.

But she only had herself to blame for this, so no one took any sympathy on her.

“Mr... Mr. Parker...” At this moment, the elevator doors opened with a ding, and a middle-aged man with waxed hair hurriedly ran out toward Kenneth.

“Mr. Parker, I... I’m this bastard Brian Klein’s uncle. My name is Leon Mason. I just... just found out that my incompetent nephew caused trouble here. I’m sorry! I’m really sorry! Please forgive me!”

Leon was likely in a great hurry when he ran over because he was still panting heavily, and his face was covered in glistening drops of sweat.

Kenneth probably knew him too because he merely glanced at him and said indifferently, “In that case, you should be clear about what kind of trouble your nephew caused, right?”

Leon nodded profusely. “Yes, I know! This is all my nephew’s fault!”

“Since you’re aware of it, you should know how to handle it, right?” Kenneth said calmly.. There was no happiness nor anger in his tone, but it was full of oppression.

Chapter 690: Impersonation

Leon quickly nodded. “Yes, Mr. Parker, I know! I... I have a total of three million dollars in this card. After deducting the compensation, the remaining money is a token of my apology to you, Mr. Parker! I hope you will accept it!”

Kenneth sneered. “Do you think I care about a couple hundred thousand dollars?”

The smile on Leon’s face immediately stiffened.

But Kenneth couldn’t be bothered to stoop to the level of such an insignificant small fry. He merely said indifferently, “You should compensate the full amount for the vase and not a single cent more. Jane, take him to swipe his card for payment.”

Jane hurriedly obeyed and brought Leon to the service desk, where she processed the payment, deducted \$2.8 million from his card, and returned the card to Leon. Thus, the matter was considered settled.

The rest had nothing to do with Lucas, so he couldn’t be bothered to stay here any longer. He said to Charlotte, “Let’s go.”

Charlotte readily agreed.

Kenneth hurriedly took a few steps forward. “Mr. Gray, Miss Carter, let me walk you down.”

At this moment, Leon, who had just walked back from the service desk, saw Lucas. His eyes were immediately full of immense shock.

Leon sprinted toward Lucas and asked carefully, “Are you... Lucas Gray, Chairman Gray?”

“Who are you?” Lucas frowned. He didn’t know the middle-aged man who claimed to be Brian’s uncle.

Besides, very few people who didn’t know him would call him Chairman Gray.

Seeing that Lucas didn’t deny it, Leon immediately became even more agitated. He frantically said, “Mr. Gray, I’m Leon, the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation! I... Before Mr. Davis left, he specially showed all the senior executives a picture of you and told us to obey your instructions. But this is my first time meeting you in person!”

As soon as the words ‘deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation’ came out of his mouth, Lucas, Charlotte, Vanessa, and the rest all began to look rather strange.

In particular, after Brian heard the respectful way Leon addressed Lucas and spoke to him, his face became deathly pale.

“You said that you’re the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation?” Lucas had a playful look on his face.

“Yes, it’s indeed me!” Leon answered carefully while bowing slightly.

“In that case, who is he?” Lucas pointed at Brian.

When Brian and Vanessa were bragging about their status earlier, they had said more than once that he was the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation and had come over to San Francisco to attend the ordinary business exchange on the corporation’s behalf.

“H-he’s my nephew,” Leon said with bewilderment.

He had already indicated their relationship when he came in just now. He didn’t know why Lucas asked him again.

“I mean, what is Brian Klein’s position in the Solar Corporation? What kind of work does he do?” Lucas asked again patiently.

“Uh? He... My nephew isn’t an employee of the Solar Corporation!” Leon looked even more bewildered.

Lucas, Charlotte, and the others looked at Brian with an even more peculiar gaze.

At this moment, Leon realized that there seemed to be something he didn’t know about and quickly yelled at Brian, “You bastard! What else have you done behind my back? Hurry up and tell me the truth! Or else I will immediately break your legs!”

Brian was so frightened that he finally couldn't hold on any longer. He leaped toward Lucas and dropped to his knees.

Bang!

Ignoring the pain coming from his kneecaps, he hurriedly cried and begged for forgiveness. "Mr. Gray, it's all my fault! I... I was too vain. I don't work for the Solar Corporation at all, let alone am the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation! My uncle is the deputy general manager. I used his identity to deceive Vanessa!

"I didn't mean to pretend to be the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation. Mr. Gray, I beg you to let me off this time!"

Only then did Leon realize what his nephew had done. It turned out that his nephew had assumed his position in the Solar Corporation and even shown off in front of the chairman. It was no wonder that Lucas's gaze was so bizarre when he heard him say that he was the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation!

"You... you bastard! How dare you impersonate me outside and discredit the Solar Corporation? You even offended Mr. Gray! I have to teach you a lesson for your father today. Otherwise, who knows what other crazy and stupid things you'll get up to!"

Leon lifted his foot and kicked Brian hard, then he punched and kicked him.

Leon spared no mercy when beating Brian, causing the latter to shriek in pain and misery. Soon, his face was bruised and swollen, and he started begging for mercy.

"Uncle Leon, I was wrong! Please don't hit me again... Ahhh! Argh! I was really wrong! Please let me off! Ahhh!!!"

Brian was rolling around on the floor and screaming incessantly, but he couldn't go against Leon, who was boiling with fury.

Lucas watched coldly without saying anything.

He originally thought that Brian was the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation and thus thought that there was a major flaw in the management of the Solar Corporation. He had even decided to investigate and rectify it properly after he returned.

But now, it seemed that things were not that bad. At the very least, one of his senior executives wasn't a vile dimwit like Brian.

Moreover, the fact that Leon was hitting his nephew so savagely without any mercy showed that he was at least a smart person.

With a blank expression, Vanessa stared at the man being beaten into a pulp near her and once again suspected if she had been blind before.

She had always thought that she was lucky to find a rich and prestigious man. She had even bragged to Charlotte that she was now dating the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation and that she would become his wife while he would be promoted to the general manager in a couple of years. She would then enjoy a life of luxury.

But she finally found out that this man had even lied to her about his status!

He wasn't the deputy general manager of the Solar Corporation but a liar who had been using his uncle's position to deceive her!

From head to toe, from judgment to luck, she was incomparable to Charlotte in any way, shape, or form!

She had utterly lost!

Vanessa laughed in sorrow.. She wanted to see if Charlotte was staring at her mockingly. But to her surprise, Charlotte and Lucas had already left the Heavenly Pavilion!