Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 891 – Play With Him

Chapter 891: Play With Him

Seeing the confusion in Alexis's eyes, which were like a little animal's, and the obvious handprint on her neck, Lucas felt guilty and apologetic.

If it wasn't because of him, Alexis wouldn't have been implicated and almost killed

"Yes, you're still alive. Of course, you're still alive," Lucas said gently.

After hearing Lucas's answer, Alexis blinked again and then looked at the familiar surroundings around her before finally feeling that she really wasn't dead.

"Great! Lucas, I'm still alive! I'm not dead! I'm not dead!" Alexis was extremely excited. She leaped into Lucas's arms and burst into tears.

The fear of being strangled and the horror of being on the brink of death still made Alexis feel overwhelmed with lingering fears. She cried out loud, seemingly venting all her fear, regret, and indignation!

Lucas's body immediately stiffened when the soft and tender Alexis leaped into his arms.

Apart from Cheyenne, Lucas had never been so close to other women. It made him feel extremely uneasy.

But when he thought that he had always treated Alexis like a sister, and she had just been through a near-death experience that made her feel sorrow followed by joy, Lucas decided not to push her away and remained still in place.

A long time later, Alexis's crying gradually became softer, and she suddenly realized the position she and Lucas were in. Her face flushed red, and she quickly left Lucas's arms.

. . .

At this moment, she finally realized that she was sitting on the ground paved with green stones. Lucas was holding her shoulders, and the bastard who had kidnapped her had vanished.

"Where's that crook?" Alexis asked curiously while looking around.

"I've already driven him away," Lucas said calmly.

In fact, Lucas had just snapped Bones of Steel's neck. But in order to avoid causing unnecessary panic, Lucas immediately asked Jordan to drag his corpse away and dispose of it.

During this time, Alexis had fainted momentarily because Bones of Steel had strangled her. Although it wasn't for long, the ten minutes or so were enough for him to handle many matters.

. . .

"Right, by the way, Lucas, I seem to have heard you say that crook was sent by the Huttons? Why are the Huttons after you? Is it because you hit Richard Morris's nephew at the Stardust Corporation headquarters today?

"The Huttons are one of the eight most powerful families in DC, and they're too powerful. They're countless times stronger than the Coles. Lucas, you'll definitely be at a disadvantage if you go against them!

"You should quickly leave DC! The farther, the better! Once you leave, they won't be able to find you."

Alexis suddenly recalled those matters, and her face, which had just gotten some color back, was covered in worry again.

She thought that this assassination was due to Lucas offending Brent at the Stardust Corporation headquarters this morning.

Lucas didn't tell her about the various events that happened later, nor did he tell her the real reason the Huttons wanted to assassinate him. After all, the Huttons were targeting Lucas because there was a great feud between the two.

Besides, Lucas didn't want to get Alexis implicated. He didn't want her to almost lose her life like just now.

"Don't worry. I'll take care of these things, and I'll return to Orange County when I'm done here." Lucas smiled and helped Alexis up from the ground. "You should go back too. If your neck still hurts, rest in your dormitory for a few days."

After speaking with Alexis, Lucas watched her enter the university campus before turning around to leave.

Not far away, a black Land Rover drove over silently and stopped beside Lucas.

The person who drove over to pick Lucas up was naturally Jordan.

After Lucas got inside the car, Jordan started the engine and drove away. "Lucas, the man who tried to assassinate you is Bones of Steel, Jace Hutton's bodyguard.

"But instead of saying that he's a bodyguard, he's more like a slave that Jace Hutton raised. Who knows how, but anyway, he's willing to give it his all for Jace Hutton, and he must have done a lot of dirty work for him.

"According to the information I've found, Bones of Steel isn't Jace's only henchman. There are also some other people. The Huttons are one of the eight top families after all, so they must have some dubious methods!"

Jordan told Lucas all the information from his investigation, especially about the other henchmen who would die for Jace. He attached great importance to this matter.

Lucas's expression became solemn when he heard this information.

In order to achieve their goals, these henchmen wouldn't even be afraid of death threats. So they would often resort to crazy actions, which was quite troublesome.

The henchmen working for Jace naturally weren't trained by Jace himself. Like Jordan said, it was likely that the Huttons trained them.

Moreover, given the huge loss that Jace had suffered today and the fact that he had failed to assassinate Lucas but instead ended up losing one of his capable subordinates, Jace would definitely be even more furious and be unwilling to take it lying down.

"Seems like my half-brother isn't planning to let me off," Lucas said with a faint smile.

"Hmph, he probably thinks you came back to DC this time to snatch stuff from him. That's why he's so hostile to you and can't wait to get rid of you." Jordan sneered.

He had always disliked these wealthy playboys who acted all arrogant just because of their family's power, especially Jace. Since Lucas returned to Orange County, he had been getting up to all sorts of little tricks and had even tried to kill Lucas in Orange County. He was like a fly pestering them. It was extremely annoying.

Lucas smiled. "Hah, he's just afraid that I'll come back and compete with him for the position of the Huttons' successor. Unfortunately, I've never taken him seriously. But seeing how afraid he is of me snatching his position, I don't mind playing with him."

"Lucas, are you planning to take over the position of the Hutton's helmsman?" Jordan immediately asked with interest.

In his mind, it didn't make any difference whether Lucas succeeded the helmsman position or not. But if he could see Jace's frustrated and furious appearance, it would be amusing.

Lucas shook his head without answering Jordan directly. Instead, he said, "Drive to World Entertainment City."

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 892 – Old Friend

Chapter 892: Old Friend

World Entertainment City was a famous entertainment joint in DC, where many rich children liked splurging their money at.

Half an hour later, Lucas and Jordan's car stopped at the entrance of the World Entertainment City.

It was a bright night, and the entrance to the World Entertainment City was bustling with business. There were all sorts of fancy cars and beautiful girls gathered there.

Their appearance didn't attract much attention.

Lucas stood in front of the resplendent plaque at the entrance of World Entertainment City with a hint of nostalgia in his eyes.

Jordan followed Lucas's line of sight and saw the bright and dazzling signboard. He chuckled. "World Entertainment City, what a domineering name! I wonder what kind of person the owner is. Let's see if he can be as domineering as the name of his club!"

Lucas smiled. "You'll meet him soon."

"Where the hell did these two punks come from? How dare they talk about our boss? You're in no place to comment about our boss!" An extremely provocative voice suddenly came from behind them.

Lucas and Jordan turned around and saw a group of roguish-looking lackeys approaching them. The person who spoke was a blond-haired young man in the lead.

Looking at these people who seemed to be here to start a fight, Jordan was itching to make a move and rolled up his sleeves.

. . .

Lucas reached his arm out to stop Jordan.

"We were just talking on our own, and we didn't insult your boss. You don't have to act so aggressively, do you?"

On account that these people were that man's subordinates, Lucas surprisingly chose not to make things hard for them because he was in a good mood.

"Hmph, this is the entrance of the World Entertainment City, and our boss is a distinguished big shot. How can nobodies like you say anything about him? You can't make a single remark about him!" the blond-haired young man said aggressively.

Lucas smiled lightly. "We were just discussing whether he was worthy of such a domineering name as World Entertainment City. Did we speak ill of him?

. . .

"If I wanted to badmouth him, then I'd probably say that your boss is just an illegitimate son who can't see the light of day, a coward who hides behind a facade because he doesn't dare to meet anyone."

The blond-haired young man's complexion immediately changed, and he shouted angrily, "You actually have the guts to insult our boss! I'm not going to spare you!

"Brothers, come cripple these punks!"

He was the leader of this gang. With his command, the people behind him immediately grabbed their weapons and charged toward Lucas.

Jordan had long been itching to make a move after seeing this group of gangster-like lackeys. Without waiting for Lucas's order, he charged forward.

In less than five seconds, Jordan knocked all these lackeys to the ground.

He just wanted to play with these lackeys, so he barely exerted any strength. But even so, he beat them to the ground in an instant.

Facing these people, Jordan felt like an adult bullying a group of pres-school children. He didn't feel any sense of accomplishment.

"That's it? How lame!" Jordan pursed his lips in boredom.

His face full of disbelief, the blond-haired young man stared at Jordan, who was acting as if nothing had happened after knocking down all of his people.

All the passersby were astounded by this almost one-sided fight that ended extremely quickly.

"Now, do you still dare to stop us from badmouthing your boss?" Lucas said with a smile.

The blond-haired young man returned to his senses with a flushed face, but he still said firmly, "Our boss is my hero. He took us in and prevented us from starving to death on the streets. No matter who you are or how powerful you are, as long as you badmouth my boss, I will stop you!

"Even if I can't beat you and end up getting killed by you, I won't let you badmouth my boss!"

He was shuddering with fear in the face of Jordan's terrifying strength. But facing Lucas's question, he still straightened his back and raised his high unyieldingly and valiantly.

Seeing the blond-haired young man's appearance, Lucas admired his loyalty.

Although he was just a lackey, he had a greater backbone and more loyalty than many others.

Lucas smiled. "Okay, I'm just joking. I don't want to hit you, let alone kill you. I'm your boss's friend. Tell him that Lucas Gray is here."

Then he ignored the blond-haired young man and the surrounding crowd and walked straight into the club.

The young man thought about it but decided not to stop Lucas. He immediately called his boss. "Tyler, there's a man named Lucas Gray who claims to be your friend here. He's already entered the club!"

While they were speaking, Lucas and Jordan had already entered the club and saw the staggering luxuriousness.

The club was indeed worthy of being a famous entertainment joint in DC. Its level of luxury was far beyond Little Atlantis City's.

"Lucas, you sound like you're friends with the boss of this club. Do you know him?" Jordan asked curiously.

Lucas nodded casually. "Yes, but it's actually not appropriate to call him a friend. He's my cousin."

"Huh?" Jordan was astonished.

If the owner of the club was Lucas's cousin, wouldn't it mean that he was a Hutton too?

Realizing the reason for Jordan's shock, Lucas sighed and said, "Yes, he's a Hutton, and just like me, he's an illegitimate child. His father is the brother of that man!"

Jordan's expression became extremely complicated.

The person Lucas was referring to was naturally his biological father, Michael, the current helmsman of the Huttons.

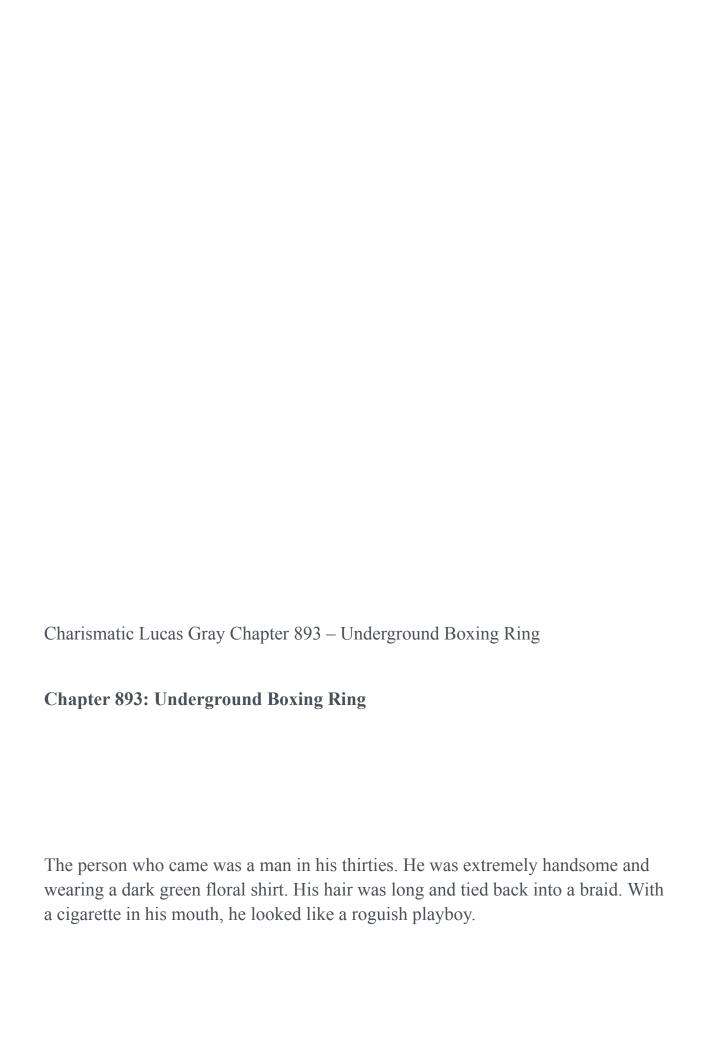
He didn't expect Michael's brother to have an illegitimate son as well. Was it the Huttons' tradition?

Or was it common for such corny things to happen among wealthy families?

Jordan was suddenly at a loss for words.

At this moment, surprised laughter came toward them.

"Lucas Gray! You're actually here! It's been years since we've met!"



The person was Roman Everett, Lucas's cousin.

He was the one who had named World Entertainment City.

Like Lucas, he didn't have Hutton as his last name and had taken his mother's last name.

Although Roman seemed languid and sloven, Lucas knew that his cousin was only so on the surface.

"It's been almost twenty years since we've last met. You managed to recognize me at a glance?" Lucas smiled with raised brows.

Roman walked over and put his hand on Lucas's shoulder very naturally. While pulling him into the club, he said, "Hey, although you've grown up, your facial features still look the same. You're still as handsome as before!

"Besides, I've been gifted since I was a child, and I'm the best at recognizing faces. Even in another twenty years, I'll still be able to recognize you at a glance!

. . .

"Also, didn't you already tell my staff that you were here? Of course, I'd recognize you."

Although it had been many years since they last met, Roman was still as enthusiastic as ever. As soon as he spoke, Lucas felt like there was no distance between them.

. . .

Lucas smiled without exposing Roman.

Roman seemed extremely warm and enthusiastic, but Lucas knew that he was the best at pretending and concealing.

He might have claimed to recognize Lucas because he was gifted and that Lucas looked about the same as he did when he was a child. But Lucas knew that when the Huttons started paying attention to him, Roman had already started sending people to pay attention to Lucas's situation as well.

In fact, Lucas had a really good relationship with Roman when they were kids.

Back then, in the Hutton residence, although there were a lot of kids around the same age, Lucas didn't know the others well. He was only close to Roman.

Roman was only two years older than Lucas, and since they were both illegitimate children, they were in the same plight in the Hutton family and sympathized with each other.

But when Lucas was seven, Roman's father allegedly gave his mother a sum of money and got her to move out of the Hutton residence with Roman.

Although they would be separated from the Huttons, they would have a stable life.

But Lucas and his mother weren't as lucky. They had long been kicked out by the Huttons and driven away from DC.

Even the Stardust Corporation, which Lucas's mother had founded, was taken over by the Huttons, leaving the two of them with no choice but to end up stranded in Orange County. In the end, Lucas's mother became ill from overwork and passed away.

The thought of the past events made a deeply hidden hatred flash in Lucas's eyes.

"Lucas, quickly take a look at my club. Not too bad, right?" Roman was now like a tour guide as he showed Lucas around the first floor of the club, followed by the next few floors. Eventually, they reached the top floor.

World Entertainment City was truly upscale. There were numerous entertainment facilities, and there were also some secret activities specifically used for receiving some important and wealthy customers.

After praising him, Lucas suddenly said, "But there's something else that's exciting. Why didn't you bring me to take a look?"

Roman was stunned for a moment, and then he laughed out loud. "Punk, how did you find out? Seems like I can't hide it from you!"

Lucas smiled without answering Roman's question.

In fact, since half a year ago, he had been working on the matter of dealing with the Huttons.

Although it was still too early to act at the time, Lucas had already sent people to DC to investigate all the matters of the Huttons.

Since then, Lucas learned about some of the things that his cousin Roman had secretly done.

For example, there was actually a boxing ring on the top floor, which was called the Sky Arena.

In this arena, Roman had also secretly trained many experts under the pretext of training boxers.

The Huttons probably didn't know just how many experts Roman had.

Generally, people only knew that there was a place for underground boxing called the Sky Arena in World Entertainment City. They thought it was just a place to simply bet on illegal boxing.

"Okay, since you know all about it, how about I take you around?"

Since Lucas already pointed it out, Roman didn't hide it and put his arm around Lucas's shoulder with a smile.

Lucas naturally nodded happily. "Yes, I'd like to learn more."

Roman laughed. Without further ado, he took Lucas and Jordan into an extremely secretive elevator and headed all the way up to the top floor of World Entertainment City.

As soon as they walked in, they heard deafening cheers from inside. There was clearly an exciting boxing match taking place.

The top floor was very large with a massive open space.

There was a circular ring with guardrails around it in the middle. It was naturally where the boxers competed.

The ring was surrounded by layers of laddered seats in ascending height. It was the audience's viewing area.

At the moment, there were two boxers in the ring.

It was the arena for underground boxing. As the name implied, there were no rules, no protection, no stoppage, and no surrendering.

The two sides participating in the match had to fight until one of them died in order to distinguish the winner from the loser. The scene was extremely bloody and cruel.

The loser would naturally lose his life, while the winner would receive a hefty reward.

Of course, there were all kinds of bets. Before the start of each match, anyone could bet on which of the two boxers in the ring would win.

The stakes for these bets were naturally high.

Thus, although the underground boxing ring was extremely gory, there were countless people here for the sensory stimulation and to satisfy their gamblers' psychology. Almost every boxing match was full of spectators constantly cheering.

At this moment, the two boxers on the stage were fighting intensely. Almost every punch drew blood, immediately causing the audience to howl like monsters.

Although Lucas had already been through situations much more brutal and bloody than this on the battlefield, he wasn't a fan of underground boxing for pleasure. He merely looked twice at the center of the ring before shifting his gaze away.

Roman looked at Lucas's face, exhaled a smoke ring from his mouth, and suddenly asked, "Lucas, after so many years, you suddenly came to me, so it definitely isn't as simple as catching up with me."

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 894 – My Intention **Chapter 894: My Intention**

Lucas didn't hide it from him. He nodded straightforwardly.

"Tsk, I knew you must have come here for a reason! So much for thinking that my childhood friend came to see me."

Roman showed a disappointed expression and then shrugged. "Let's go talk in my office then."

Soon, the two of them arrived in Roman's office.

The office was large, and the furnishings were naturally luxurious.

On the other side of this office, Lucas could even detect more than ten extremely powerful auras. They probably belonged to some of the experts that Roman had trained.

"Okay, let's talk. Why did you specially come find me?" Roman sat down on the couch in a relaxed manner and gestured for Lucas to take a seat.

Lucas went straight to the point and explained his purpose.

"A fool from the Huttons provoked me because he thinks I want to snatch away what he cares about the most.

"Although I'm not interested in what he cares about, I will be happy if I can make him unhappy.

. . .

"I came to see you with the intention of giving you the position he cares about the most.

"So, I'd like to know if you're interested in becoming the successor of the helmsman?"

Lucas was extremely straightforward.

After hearing the reason for Lucas's visit, Roman was no longer relaxed. His body stiffened, and shock appeared in his eyes.

Although he quickly covered it up, this naturally couldn't escape the eyes of Lucas, who had been watching him closely.

"Hah, Lucas, are you joking? Did you come here to make fun of me?" Roman exhaled the smoke in his mouth and smiled. "On account of our friendship from many years ago, I'll take it that I didn't hear what you just said. Don't crack the same joke in front of me again."

Roman's reaction was completely within Lucas's expectations.

Lucas didn't believe that he didn't have any interest or ambition in being the helmsman of the Huttons. But this person was extremely good at pretending. If he admitted it so soon, Lucas would be surprised instead.

"Roman, if you really don't want that position, I'm afraid you wouldn't have secretly trained so many experts over the years, right?" Lucas said calmly.

"What did you say?!" Roman's expression immediately changed, and even the deliberate languid look on his face vanished.

The fact that he had been secretly training experts for many years was known only to him and a few of his closest assistants. He had never told any outsiders about it, and he had arranged most of the experts he secretly controlled in extremely secretive places.

So, how did Lucas know about it?

"What nonsense are you saying? Hmph, what experts? I don't know what you're saying.

"If you're referring to those boxers upstairs, I'm naturally training them to work for me!

"As for the other stuff you said, I'm not interested at all. I don't know anything about it, nor am I interested in knowing!

"If you're here to catch up with me today, I'll gladly welcome you. But if you're here to say such weird things to me or you're trying to test me for someone, give up on those ideas quickly!"

Roman's face was extremely gloomy at this moment, and he was desperately trying to draw a line between himself and the matter Lucas mentioned. He was even close to chasing Lucas away.

But the angrier he was, the more it showed that he cared about a certain thing in his heart.

Lucas came to Roman today specifically for this matter, so how could he give up so easily?

Of course, he also understood why Roman was wary of him.

After all, Roman had always been a secretive and vigilant person. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been secretly developing his own forces for so many years without attracting the attention of the Huttons.

For someone as overly cautious as Roman, it is almost impossible to get him to admit anything of his own accord.

Extraordinary times called for extraordinary measures.

"Okay, since you refuse to admit it, I'll call the Huttons right now and tell them that there are many experts in your office on the top floor of World Entertainment City. I'll tell them to confirm if they're boxers or another type of expert!"

He pulled out his phone and pretended to make a call.

"Damn it! What do you want to do?"

Roman could no longer maintain the expression on his face. He sprung up from the couch and roared at Lucas furiously, "Do you have a f*cking death wish? Do you believe that I'll kill you right now if you dare to call the Huttons?"

Lucas tossed his phone onto the couch and showed a wicked smile that made Roman grit his teeth. "If you really didn't do anything, why would you be afraid of the Huttons finding out?"

"You bastard! You're as much of an asshole as you were when you were a kid!" Roman was exasperated, but there was nothing he could do to Lucas. All he could do was kick the couch angrily and curse. "What the hell are you trying to do?"

To be honest, Roman didn't believe that Lucas would really tell the Huttons his secret. But the feeling of the secret he had been hiding for so long suddenly being exposed made Roman, who was used to being secretive, very uncomfortable. He was momentarily confused, and he felt like he had suddenly lost a sense of security, making him very agitated.

"I just said it. I want you to replace that idiot Jace and become the future helmsman of the Huttons! Now, do you hear me clearly?" Lucas repeated what he said earlier.

"Hah, you want me to become the helmsman of the Huttons? Lucas, surely you haven't forgotten my identity, have you? Or are you trying to take me for a fool?" Roman sneered, feeling that Lucas was spouting nonsense.

Of course he wanted to become Huttons' helmsman, and he had also secretly done many things with this goal in mind.

But he wasn't finished preparing yet. With his status as an illegitimate son expelled from the Huttons for years, it was obviously a tall order for him to seize the position of the Huttons' successor and take over as helmsman in the future.

"Since I'm here to see you, I'm naturally being serious about it. I might as well tell you honestly. I know exactly how much power you have now.

"If you don't agree to my request, I'll have no choice but to tell the Huttons everything I know about you!"

Lucas smiled.

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 895 – Showing His Power **Chapter 895: Showing His Power**

"Lucas Gray!" Roman gritted his teeth and stared at Lucas. "You bastard! What are you trying to do? Why did you look for me?!"

Lucas sighed and said helplessly, "Hey, I'm serious about helping you. Why do you keep thinking I have ulterior motives?

"I just said that it's because that fool Jace made me displeased. So I want to rob him of what he cares about the most, the position of the Huttons' successor, to take revenge on him. Isn't this a good reason?

But Roman didn't believe what Lucas said at all. "Hmph, in that case, if you really can snatch the position of successor, you can do it on your own. Why did you come to me? Are you trying to drag me down and make me work for you?"

At the end of the day, Roman didn't believe that Lucas had that kind of power, nor did he believe that Lucas would help him become the successor of the Huttons.

In fact, when they had a good relationship with each other, it was over two decades ago.

The two of them had grown and experienced so much in the last two decades. The close relationship they had when they were kids had long grown distant, so how much trust could they have between them now?

Lucas looked at Roman and said seriously, "Do you still remember how my mother and I were driven out of the family and DC by the Huttons? From that day on, I swore in my heart that in this life, I would never forgive the Huttons and that I'd definitely get back everything that they owe us!"

Roman frowned. Although he didn't see Lucas and his mother getting kicked out, the matter had blown up and caused a stir in DC. Moreover, Roman had a similar life experience as him, so he naturally knew about it.

Lucas said earnestly, "I can honestly tell you that it'd be a piece of cake for me to get the Huttons now. Even if I want to destroy the Huttons, I can do it!

. . .

"But before my mother passed away from a severe illness more than six years ago, she made me swear not to destroy the Huttons. If not for my mother's compassion toward them, I would have long gotten rid of them!

"Although I can spare the Huttons and allow them to continue existing, I don't want to see that despicable villain Jace Hutton continue being the successor. I won't return to the Huttons either. That's why I want to give you this position."

Roman had grown up in all sorts of situations, and he had enough experience to tell that Lucas was indeed speaking the truth.

But believing Lucas's intentions and goals didn't mean that he believed Lucas's abilities too.

In fact, Lucas had previously guessed correctly. Roman had indeed already sent someone to find out about Lucas's situation when he first returned to Orange County.

But very few people in Orange County knew about Lucas's true power, let alone Roman who was far away in DC.

According to the intelligence report that Roman had received about Lucas, Lucas wasn't powerful enough to annihilate the Huttons. Thus, Roman couldn't trust Lucas or agree to his requests.

"Lucas, I understand your thoughts. But likewise, I hope you can understand me. It has been very difficult for me to get to where I am now with the Huttons watching

me. But if I compete for the position of the Huttons' successor now, I have no chance of winning at all. I will only end up dying miserably!

"Given how close we were when we were kids, I doubt you'd want to see me end up like that either, right? Instead of helping me, you're harming me. Do you know that?

"I don't want to care about what kind of hatred there is between you and Jace. You two can fight all you want, but I hope that you won't drag me in. I don't want to die yet.

"So, I can only apologize and turn down your plan."

Roman was very realistic, so he didn't hesitate to reject Lucas in order not to get implicated.

Lucas said seriously, "You don't have to worry about if I have any ulterior motives toward you or if I want to use you. I came to you because I have the ability and also because you happen to have the ambition. Our goals just happen to be the same. That's all."

Roman smiled wryly. "Lucas, do you really want me to make things clear? If you really have the ability to overthrow the Huttons or take over the position of helmsman, prove it to me. Or at least, you have to let me know exactly what kind of power you have in DC.

"Otherwise, I will be putting my life on the line for an uncertain gamble. I won't step into this!"

Lucas understood that Roman was unsure of how much power he had, so he didn't dare to agree easily.

But it was actually very simple to prove his power.

"Okay, wait." Then Lucas grabbed his phone, made a call, and put it on speakerphone.

Soon, a vigorous voice came from the other end. "Mr. Gray, is something wrong? It's already so late."

Lucas said straight away, "Mr. Smith, I'd like to create some trouble for the Huttons, and I need your cooperation."

Tyson was stunned for a moment, then immediately said, "Okay, Mr. Gray, no problem! Since the Smiths have submitted to you, we will naturally follow your orders! Please tell me when and how much trouble you want to cause them. We will definitely follow your instructions!"

Tyson sounded extremely respectful.

Ever since Lucas dealt with Thomas and Vince, Tyson's two greatest troubles, Tyson had completely unified the entire family.

Afterward, Lucas even released Charlie, the steward Tyson relied on, and asked Maddy to treat his son.

Tyson was now convinced and completely deferential to Lucas, so he naturally obeyed all his commands.

"Okay, I'll tell you the exact time and scale of the operation later. Start preparing now," Lucas ordered indifferently.

"Yes, Mr. Gray! I'll have the steward make the arrangements immediately!" Tyson instantly agreed.

After hanging up the phone, Lucas looked at Roman, who was extremely shocked.

He smiled and asked, "Can you tell who this man is?"

"Tyson Smith, the helmsman of the Smiths!" Roman blurted.

Tyson was the head of the Smiths, one of the eight top families in DC. How could

Roman not recognize his voice?

But because he heard Tyson's voice and the entire conversation between the two,

Roman found it even more unbelievable.

When they were on the phone just now, Tyson actually said that the Smiths were

now loyal to Lucas and would follow his orders at any time. Tyson's tone was

extremely respectful and obedient. It was hard to imagine!

I-Is this the power Lucas currently possesses?

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 896 – Happy Cooperation

Chapter 896: Happy Cooperation

Seeing the dumbfounded look on Roman's face, Lucas smiled without saying anything and made another call.

"Mrs. Howard, there's something that I need your help with," Lucas said directly.

The Mrs. Howard he was talking to was Cheyenne's biological mother, Florence.

Previously in Orange County, Florence had already come to an agreement with Lucas that they would cooperate in some aspects.

Since it was cooperation, there was naturally communication between the two sides.

Now that Lucas intended to attack the Hutton and display the power he possessed in DC, he naturally wouldn't forget about the Howards.

"What do you need me to do?" Florence asked straightforwardly without saying any nonsense.

"I need you to create a little trouble for the Huttons and force them to do something for me. Regarding the specific time and scale, I'll contact you about it another time. Okay?" Lucas asked.

"Sure, no problem." Florence didn't ask Lucas why he wanted to do it and agreed immediately.

After hanging up, Lucas looked at Roman and smiled. "Do you still need me to prove my abilities and network now?"

. . .

Only then did Roman snap out of his shock and look at Lucas like he was looking at a monster.

The calls Lucas made left him astonished.

One was the head of the Smiths, one of the eight most powerful families in DC. He actually directly submitted to Lucas's command!

The other was to Florence Howard, who was from one of the top eight families in DC. Although Roman still didn't know who Florence was, he could tell that she held great power in the Howard family by how she agreed to Lucas's request without hesitation.

Two of the eight top families in DC had already become Lucas's connections. It was shocking.

At this moment, Roman couldn't help showing a bitter smile. "Punk, when did you have such great energy? Since you've already shown me your power, wouldn't it be too ignorant of me if I still don't agree?"

A hint of excitement appeared on his face.

Now that Lucas already had such a massive amount of power and Roman was going to help him, they were indeed powerful enough to make an impact on the position of the Huttons' successor.

"Haha!" Lucas laughed out loud and stretched out his hand. "In that case, we've reached an intent to cooperate! I'm looking forward to seeing the day you become the head of the Huttons!"

"Haha, thank you for your blessings. I hope we have a happy cooperation!" Roman extended his hand and gave Lucas a tight handshake.

The pair of cousins, who hadn't seen each other for many years, glanced at each other and revealed satisfied smiles.

. . .

After Lucas left, Roman stayed alone in his office.

Although Lucas didn't tell him that he needed to do something, Roman had been preparing for such a long time, so he naturally wouldn't sit back and do nothing.

Soon, a man in black tights silently arrived in Roman's office like an agile black cat.

Roman opened his eyes and said with a cold face, "You've been following me for a long time, and now it's time for you to do something. Go pick out a few of your best subordinates and help me to kill two people!"

The man in black asked calmly, "Who?"

Roman gritted his teeth, "Enzo Hutton and Joanna Moore!"

"Yes!" the man in black immediately acknowledged without a moment of hesitation and left.

Roman stood alone in the empty office and suddenly grinned before chuckling coldly, his voice full of hatred.

He would never forget Enzo Hutton and Joanna Moore.

Just 21 years ago, Roman was only nine then.

It was the year he and his mother were driven out of the Huttons.

They were both terrified and had nowhere to go, so they could only stay in a small, dilapidated house on the outskirts of the city.

That night, an assassin suddenly arrived at their place to kill them.

At the time, his feeble and thin mother used her body to stop the killer with all her might and desperately told him to run as far as he could.

Later, he escaped successfully, but his mother died in that dilapidated old house.

Afterward, Roman found out that Joanna Moore had sent this assassin to kill them that night.

Joanna was the legitimate wife of Roman's biological father.

Enzo was their son.

On that night, Roman and his mother had been driven out of the Huttons at the strong request of Joanna, but she was still uneasy about them. She was afraid that Roman would return to the Huttons one day and compete with her son for the inheritance rights. So she didn't stop at that and even wanted to kill Roman to eliminate the root of the problem.

But Roman's mother used her own life to save his life.

Finally, Roman's father, Collin, appeared to stop Joanna's continued pursuit, thus suppressing the matter.

Later, perhaps because of the guilt within him, Collin gave Roman an entertainment club as a means of livelihood in order to make it up to him. He then gradually developed it into the World Entertainment City.

Over the years, Roman had been secretly accumulating power in hopes that he could kill Joanna and Enzo to avenge his mother one day.

Although Roman had already gathered many experts, he had been holding back out of fear that the Huttons would find out after he killed Joanna and Enzo. He didn't have enough power to deal with the entire Hutton family.

But things were different now.

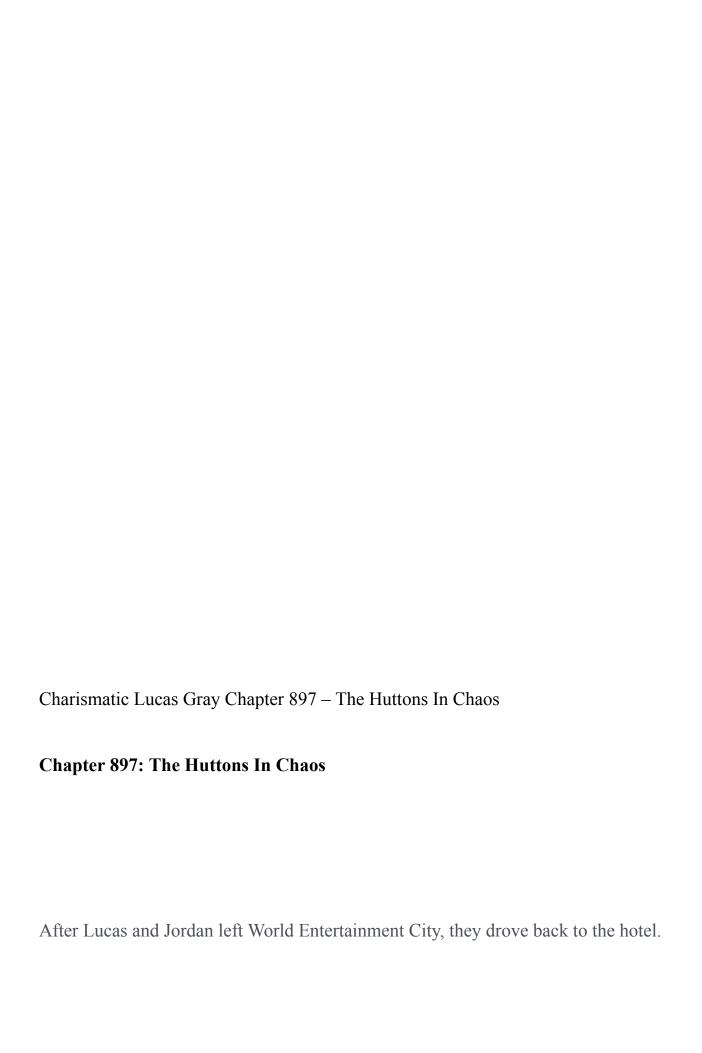
With Lucas's help, he no longer had to be afraid of the Huttons!

In addition, there were the two phone calls Lucas made to get help from the Smiths and the Howards. With these two families attacking the Huttons, it would definitely result in great trouble for them.

At that time, the Huttons would be too busy dealing with these troublesome matters and wouldn't have the time to investigate the deaths of Joanna and Enzo.

Once these two people were dead, his chances of competing to be the successor of the Huttons would increase greatly.

Now was the best time and opportunity!



Jordan suddenly asked worriedly, "Lucas, is Roman reliable? He won't betray us?"

Lucas smiled and said indifferently, "He's not foolish. Besides, even if he really betrays us and informs the Huttons, what's the big deal?"

Given Lucas's current status and identity, even if the Huttons found out that he hated them, there was nothing they could do to him.

Not to mention that the Huttons were only one of the eight top families in DC, even royal families wouldn't be able to do anything to Lucas!

Realizing that he had asked a stupid question, Jordan shrugged and laughed awkwardly.

.

After washing up, Lucas made a video call to Cheyenne and Amelia, who were in Orange County.

As Lucas looked at his gentle and beautiful wife and adorable and bubbly daughter on his phone screen, his heart softened.

"Lucas, are you doing fine in DC? How are things going?" Cheyenne asked with concern.

. . .

During the last two days that Lucas wasn't around, she had been feeling empty, as if something was missing.

She knew that it was the feeling of missing him.

Lucas smiled warmly. "Yes, I'm almost done handling my matters here. I'll be heading home in a few days!"

The family of three chatted for a long time before ending the video call.

. . .

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The following morning, a shocking piece of news was unanimously reported by various media outlets.

Joanna Moore and Enzo Hutton, the wife and son of Collin Hutton, the brother of the Huttons' helmsman, had been assassinated overnight!

A trace of surprise appeared on Lucas's face when he saw the news.

Lucas was extremely clear about who had killed these two people.

After all, Lucas had also investigated what had happened to Roman and his mother back then.

Joanna had sent a hitman to get rid of Roman and his mother so that she could secure her son's position as the successor. In the end, Roman's mother died to save him.

It was already tough for Roman to endure this deep hatred until this day. Now that he had finally found an opportunity, how could he possibly let it go?

Moreover, Enzo's death increased Roman's chances of becoming the successor.

Roman's father had only one legitimate son, Enzo, and his illegitimate son, Roman, had been kicked out by the Huttons a long time ago.

Now that Enzo was dead, Roman was Collin's only remaining son.

Be it for the sake of carrying on his bloodline or his fortune needing an heir, Collin had no choice but to bring Roman back to the Huttons.

"Roman, it seems you had a plan long ago! In that case, I'll give you another hand!" Lucas smiled.

Soon, another piece of shocking news appeared on various major media outlets.

"Jace Hutton had his cousin Enzo Hutton assassinated to protect his status as the successor of the Huttons!"

As soon as this news broke, it immediately caused an uproar on the various online media platforms and stirred up public opinion.

There was an upheaval in DC.

Of course, it was done by Lucas.

At the same time, he had also informed the Smiths and the Howards to start attacking the Huttons.

Of course, just the Smiths and the Howards alone, who were almost equal to the Huttons, couldn't deal a huge blow to the Huttons quickly. What Lucas needed at the moment was speed, so he also arranged for a portion of his manpower to attack.

These forces simultaneously began to attack the Huttons' properties that Jace controlled. Furthermore, Jace was already deeply involved in the murder of Enzo, so he was simply overwrought!

The Huttons were now in chaos.

In a large conference room in the Hutton residence in DC...

At this moment, there were many direct descendants of the Huttons in the large conference room that could fit nearly a hundred people.

There was a middle-aged man sitting in the master seat of the conference table. He had a gaunt face and seemed sickly. He was Michael, the helmsman of the Huttons.

Next to Michael was also a middle-aged man of similar age and appearance to him. It was his brother Collin.

Sitting on the other side was a thirty-year-old young man. He was Jace, Michael's son, Lucas's half-brother, and the current successor of the Huttons.

But Jace looked extremely sullen.

The atmosphere in the conference room was exceptionally depressing. Although there were many people, few dared to speak, and they were all glum.

"Everyone," Michael slowly said. "I asked everyone to come here today for an important matter that we need to discuss."

Everyone in the conference room turned to look at him.

"I'm sure everyone has gotten the news by now. The Smiths' and the Howards' attack on our various businesses has caused a huge impact.

"According to the preliminary news reported by the finance department, we have suffered losses of hundreds of millions within just one day!

"And if we let this continue, I'm afraid our losses will increase even further!

"So, I asked everyone to come over to discuss how we should deal with this matter!"

Michael glanced at the family seriously.

Suddenly, Collin sneered and said hostilely, "Michael, there are still some things that you haven't mentioned yet. Do you not want to bring it up, or are you too afraid to do so?"

Michael frowned immediately. "What do you mean by that?"

Collin snorted coldly and stared at Jace sitting nearby. "Jace Hutton! Let me ask you. You're in charge of all the businesses the Smiths and the Howards are targeting, right?"

Surprise appeared on the faces of the Huttons in the conference room.

Indeed, almost without exception, all the family businesses facing a crisis were the ones Jace had taken over.

But Jace was Michael's son after all, and he was also the successor of the family. So although many people were well aware of it, no one dared to raise this matter.

But they didn't expect Collin to be the first to say it. Moreover, his tone was extremely hostile, and it seemed that he was targeting Jace!
Recalling the other news on the media platforms, almost all the Huttons seemed to understand the reason for Collin's sudden outburst at Jace.
Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 898 – How To Explain
Chapter 898: How To Explain

There were very few conflicts among the Huttons now.

Although Collin was Michael's older brother, he wasn't outstanding in terms of talent or ambition, so when their father passed the position of helmsman to his younger brother, Collin didn't have any objections.

Moreover, Collin had always been low profile over the years, and he wasn't too interested in power struggles.

This was why Michael could remain stable in his position as helmsman and take control of almost all the power of the Huttons.

But now that Collin's wife and son had been assassinated overnight, and the public was saying that Jace was the culprit, even the most low-key person wouldn't be able to bear with it any longer.

Hearing Collin's accusation, Jace immediately stood up and retorted in exasperation, "Uncle Collin, aren't you going overboard by saying that about me?

"I admit that I am indeed in charge of all the businesses under attack, but it's obvious that it's a conspiracy targeting me! I believe that someone as smart as you should be able to see this, right?

"I'm still young, and I may not be good at some things, but it's not the right time to hold me accountable now!"

"We're currently facing a huge crisis, and if we still can't find a way to solve the problem first, the entire Hutton family will be in danger!

"So, Uncle Collin, even if you want to blame me, please wait until after we've resolved this crisis, okay?"

. . .

Jace was the successor of the Huttons and the person in charge of all the industries in trouble. Now that Collin accused him in front of everyone, if he couldn't come forward to face it, he wouldn't have any prestige in the Hutton family anymore.

It had to be said that what Jace said was quite good.

Not only did he explain that the huge losses of the family weren't due to his poor management but because of people targeting him, but he even tried to get Collin to put aside the other matters first and resolve the external threats before dealing with anything else.

Michael nodded in approval. "Jace is right. This time, it's obviously a conspiracy against the Huttons and Jace. Therefore, I agree with Jace's opinion that we should first unite to deal with the enemies and that we shouldn't start any internal strife at this time. We would be creating more opportunities for the enemies instead.

"I'll make some arrangements first—"

"Wait!" Collin couldn't stand it anymore. He stood up and said angrily, "Stop trying to take the moral high ground! If some things aren't resolved first, I couldn't care less about this mess!

"As you all know, my wife and son both died last night! There are rumors that Jace is the culprit!

"You must give me a reasonable explanation for this! Otherwise, even if there's a flood outside and the Huttons get wiped out, I will still avenge them!"

Collin's eyes were red as he glared at Jace, his anger almost gushing out from his body.

The Huttons in the conference room were stunned. None of them expected Collin, who had always kept a low profile and didn't speak much, to lose his temper.

"Collin!" Michael shouted. "I will definitely make Jace give you an explanation for this matter! But we're holding this family meeting to discuss a serious matter. Let's deal with the problem at hand before we explain it to you, alright?"

Collin slammed the table and sneered. "Fine, the family being under attack and suffering some losses is a serious matter for you, but my wife and son being killed overnight is just a trivial matter, huh?

"Michael, do you think I'm a pushover just because I've never fought with you?

"Now, all the evidence and public opinion are pointing at your son, yet you haven't said a single thing about it. Do you even still treat me as your brother and a Hutton?

"In short, if you can't give me an explanation today, I will never let it go!"

Collin roared angrily, his eyes completely bloodshot.

Michael closed his eyes and tried to suppress the anger in his heart. He tried to pacify his brother in the best way he could. "Collin, it's not that I don't care, and it's not that the deaths of your wife and son aren't important. But we have to get our priorities straight!

"The Huttons are now facing a major crisis. The Smiths and the Howards are attacking us at the same time. If we can't resolve this matter as soon as possible, the Huttons will be in great danger. We might even be destroyed!

"We're all in the same boat. If the Huttons are annihilated, none of us will end up well!

"We're extremely sympathetic about your wife and son, but since this matter has already happened, all we can do now is to thoroughly investigate this matter and find out who the murderer is to avenge Joanna and Enzo!

"Collin, I can assure you that after we resolve this crisis, I will definitely give you an explanation. Regardless of who the murderer is, I won't let them off! If someone in the family is the culprit, I won't be biased! Please rest assured, Collin!" Michael said very seriously.

Although he could empathize with Collin for the loss of his son and his wife overnight, he was still the helmsman of the Huttons after all. The Huttons were now facing a huge crisis, and they could possibly be devoured by the Smiths and the Howards.

To put it bluntly, Joanna and Enzo were already dead, so it didn't matter if they were avenged a few days later.

The most important thing now was to resolve the Huttons' crisis!

"No! You must give me an explanation right now. Otherwise, you can forget about continuing with the meeting!" Collin said firmly.

"You!" Michael was infuriated. But Collin was his elder brother, so there was no way he could really get people to drag Collin away.

"Okay, what kind of explanation do you want?" Michael asked through clenched teeth

Collin glanced at Jace. "I want you to remove Jace as the successor and replace him!"
Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 899 – New Successor
Chapter 899: New Successor

As soon Collin's words came out, everyone in the conference room was taken aback!

No one expected that he would ask to replace the family's successor at this time.

Jace, who was asked to be removed as successor, stood up with an icy expression and glowered at Collin. "Uncle Collin! The Huttons are facing a crisis right now, yet you're thinking of removing me as the successor. Isn't your request too out of line? Are you that eager to take away my position?"

Collin snorted coldly but didn't deny it. "Yes! Let's not mention that you're suspected of killing my wife and son. You just said that the Huttons are facing a crisis, right? The reason we're suddenly facing a crisis is because someone is targeting you. This is the trouble you've caused.

"In that case, what's wrong with my request to remove you as the successor?" Collin argued with reason.

Jace flew into a rage. "Uncle Collin! I still respect you and address you as my uncle, but is there something wrong with your brain? The fact that I'm being targeted means I'm a victim! Who are you to ask to remove me as the successor? Think about it carefully!"

He spoke to Collin rudely because of his anger.

"Enough! Jace, shut up!" Michael roared, interrupting Jace.

He looked straight at his brother and suddenly said, "Okay, I agree to your request to remove Jace as successor!"

As soon as he said this, all the Huttons in the conference room were dumbstruck.

. . .

Even Collin was stunned.

Indeed, he wanted to force Michael to remove Jace as successor, but he didn't expect him to agree so easily.

Jace was stunned for a few seconds before snapping back to his senses and hollering in fury, "Dad! What are you saying? Why do you want to remove me from my position? I didn't do anything wrong!

"You all know that these attacks on the Huttons are obviously a conspiracy targeting me. Maybe their purpose is to remove me from my position as the successor! In that case, do you want us, your family, to feel disappointed while outsiders get what they want?

"Okay, I'm being targeted, but you want to punish me. What happens if it's another member of the family getting targeted next time? Are you going to punish that person for bringing trouble to the family?

"What if their next target is my father, the helmsman? Will you be forced to step down too?"

Jace was extremely indignant as he shouted a lot of things in anger.

"I told you to shut up!" Michael smacked the table.

"..." Jace felt extremely aggrieved and indignant. But seeing his father lose his temper, he realized that if he talked back to him in front of so many family

members, his father would probably be even angrier and might get the bodyguards to take him away.

When the time came, he would be in an even more passive position.

So no matter how unwilling he was, he could only grit his teeth and keep his mouth shut.

Michael took a deep breath, looked at Collin, and said calmly, "Okay, now that Jace has been removed as successor, it's time for us to start discussing how to resolve the family's crisis."

"Not yet! Although Jace has been removed from his position, he can be reinstated at any time. So we must appoint a new successor!" Collin said firmly.

After all, Michael was the current helmsman of the family and Jace's father. Just removing Jace from his position wasn't enough.

Collin wanted to decide on the new successor immediately.

Michael clenched his fists, gritted his teeth, and asked with a frown, "Who do you think should be the new successor?"

Collin suddenly smiled. "Come in!"

The door of the conference room was pushed open from outside, and a smartly-dressed young man appeared at the door.

It was Roman, Collin's illegitimate son!

But Roman no longer looked like a slovenly playboy.

His hair, which was originally long enough to tie a braid, was now short and neat, making him look energetic. His fitting and upscale suit, coupled with the good looks he inherited from his parents, made him look just like a dashing gentleman when he appeared at the door of the conference room.

"Who is this person?"

"I don't know. Is he from our family?"

"His features resemble us. But he's not a Hutton! Why did Collin ask him to come in?"

. . .

Everyone in the conference room was surprised by Roman's sudden appearance.

Moreover, although Roman had lived with the Huttons for a few years during his childhood, he was only a child back then. And due to his identity as an illegitimate son, he had been despised by most of the Huttons. No one had taken him seriously.

Moreover, it had happened more than 20 years ago, and Roman had turned from a child to a young man in his thirties. His looks were drastically different, so no one recognized him.

"Hello, my dear uncles. I am Roman. It's been a while." Roman politely greeted everyone in the conference room.

He had not only called them uncles but also revealed his name, immediately making many people recall his identity. They couldn't suppress their shock at all.

Wasn't this person Collin's illegitimate son?

Everyone in the room was shocked by what Collin suddenly said.

Michael was no exception. He stared blankly at Roman for a while before looking at Collin and saying jokingly, "Hah, Collin, I didn't expect that you actually prepared for this."

Collin laughed and said calmly, "Since I was a child, I've almost never fought with you for anything, including the position of helmsman. I thought that since you're more competent than me, I would let you do it.

"But it's not the same for the next generation! My son Roman is outstanding in all aspects, so he's definitely qualified to be the next successor of the family!"

Jace sneered sarcastically. "Uncle Collin, you're really ridiculous. Your son was kicked out of the family a long time ago, and he's not a Hutton now. How can he be the successor?"

"Hmph, he's my son, and he carries the blood of the Hutton family. Since I've allowed him to return, he's naturally going to change his last name back to Hutton!" Collin glanced at Jace disdainfully and then said to Roman, "From today onward, you will be called Roman Hutton!"

Roman frowned.

In fact, he wasn't willing to give up his mother's last name. But he knew that if he wanted to return to the Huttons and become the successor, he had to change his last name to Hutton.

"Okay." Roman didn't dwell on it and simply nodded in agreement.

Collin showed a satisfied look and glanced at the other Huttons in the conference room. "Do you have anything else to say?"

. . .

Everyone remained silent for a moment.

They slowly started digesting the sudden news.

The only people qualified to compete for the position of the Huttons' successor were actually the sons of Michael and Collin because they were direct descendants.

Michael actually had two sons. One was Jace, and the other was an illegitimate son who had already been kicked out of the family two decades ago.

It was the same for Collin. He had a legitimate son with his lawful wife and also an illegitimate son.

But his legitimate son had already been killed, and the illegitimate son was Roman, who had just appeared.

In other words, there were only two people now qualified to compete for the position of the successor—Jace and Roman. However, Jace's status as the successor was canceled just now.

But at the end of the day, Roman really did become the most suitable person to be appointed as the successor.

Jace was naturally unwilling to accept this outcome.

"What a joke!" Jace sneered. "He's just an illegitimate son who got kicked out over two decades ago. Now, even though Uncle Collin has picked him up again, what right does he have to become the successor? "Does he feel a sense of belonging to the Huttons? Has he made any contributions to the family?

"Hah, the Huttons will never let someone like him take over the family!"

The rest of the Huttons nodded subconsciously.

Indeed, Roman had almost never lived with the Huttons, so none of them knew a thing about his character and abilities. They weren't willing to have an unfamiliar young man suddenly become the future helmsman!

Roman narrowed his eyes and looked at Jace with a smile. "In that case, according to you, will I be qualified to become the successor if I contribute to the family? At that time, you will have nothing else to say, right?"

Jace said disdainfully, "Oh, do you think it's that easy to contribute to the family? If it's just a trivial matter, I won't acknowledge you!"

Roman raised his eyebrows. "You mean it takes a huge contribution to be qualified for that position? In that case, if I can help the Huttons resolve the current crisis, would it be considered a huge contribution?"

"Hah, you're really good at bragging! The crisis the Huttons are facing this time is so serious that all of the Huttons' core members have been called here for a meeting. Do you think you can resolve it alone? You're really overestimating yourself!" Jace snorted coldly and mocked with contempt.

"What if I really can resolve it?" A peculiar smile appeared in Roman's eyes, and he seemed not to mind the mockery at all.

Jace suddenly smacked the table. "Hmph! If you can do it, I'll admit that you're qualified to be the successor!"

"You'll admit it?" Roman glanced at him indifferently and said with contempt, "You're just a piece of garbage, and your acknowledgment means nothing to me!"

"What did you say?" What he said immediately angered Jace, who was already on the verge of losing his temper. He rolled up his sleeves. "Damn it! Do you want to die, you bastard? I'll fulfill your death wish!"

"Let's see what you can do to me, you weakling!" Roman said aggressively without any fear.

Seeing that the two of them were arguing in front of everyone and were about to get into a physical fight, Michael snapped, "All of you, shut up!"

There was a sudden silence in the spacious conference room.

Michael glanced at Collin and said unhappily, "Collin, don't you think your son is too arrogant even though he's just returned? The Smiths and the Howards are currently joining forces to deal with us. They have caused such a huge impact on our family. Is this something he can resolve alone?

"What nonsense!"

Collin's face was a little unsightly too.

He also thought that what Roman just said to Jace was indeed a bit ignorant.

Even the Huttons had to gather all the manpower to discuss how to resolve this matter. How could Roman deal with it alone?

If he didn't do a good job, wouldn't he be letting Jace and the others have something to use against him?

While Collin was thinking about how to get the Huttons to recognize Roman's eligibility to become the successor, Roman suddenly asked, "What? Do you all think that I was just bragging and talking big? You think I can't resolve the crisis just because the Huttons can't?

"If I can't resolve the Huttons' trouble today, I'll leave the family immediately and never enter DC again!" Roman said with great certainty.

"Shut up, Roman! What are you saying?" Collin immediately bellowed in panic.

At the same time, Michael knocked on the table. "Okay, you said so yourself! If you can't do what you said today, get lost from DC!"