

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1041-1050

Geoffrey turned his head in surprise and saw his smiling granddaughter Maddy walking over with Lucas and Jordan behind her.

"You... How did you know I was here?" Geoffrey said in surprise.

But he soon understood and smiled.

It was simply a piece of cake for someone as powerful as Lucas to find his whereabouts!

"Grandpa, did you arrange for this beforehand?" Maddy scanned the surroundings of the front yard.

In fact, on the surface, it did seem like an ordinary small residence. It was a one-story bungalow, and there were some vegetable patches in the front yard, with a few peach trees around.

But all the leaves had fallen, leaving only black and warped branches.

The rest of the facilities in the residence were also very simple.

This immediately made Maddy's eyes redden.

Although the Stones couldn't compare to the eight top families in DC, they were still wealthy and had at least billions in assets. The Stones' villas were also extremely luxurious and comfortable.

Geoffrey had been the helmsman of the Stones for years, but now that he was advanced in years, he was living in a simple farmhouse. The thought of it made Maddy feel really uncomfortable.

But Geoffrey smiled indifferently and said kindly, "Maddy, don't look like you're about to cry. Let me tell you. My greatest dream when I was a child was to have a yard where I could grow my own vegetables and bask in the sun in leisure!"

"If your father didn't lack the ability, I would have long left the family residence and come here to live.

"Today, I've finally gotten my wish!"

Maddy reluctantly contained her emotions and asked, "Grandpa, do you plan to live here in the future?"

Geoffrey nodded. "Yes, I'm finally relieved of my burden and can live my life as I please. Isn't it quiet and peaceful here?"

Maddy could tell that her grandfather really liked this place. Otherwise, he wouldn't have bought this residence years ago. Besides, she could see that Geoffrey seemed to have been relieved of his burden and was now living in leisure.

"Grandpa, in that case, I'll live here with you so that I can take care of you!" Maddy immediately said. She couldn't be at ease letting Geoffrey live here alone.

"I can live well on my own. Why would I need you to take care of me? I don't need you here. Don't bother me." Geoffrey waved his hand, pretending to be disgusted.

This place was only suitable for an old man like him who had already reached retirement age, not a young woman like her. It wasn't the place for her to waste her time in vain.

But Maddy refused to give in. "That won't do. I must stay with you, Grandpa! If you don't let me live here, I'll buy the house next to yours and come over to annoy you every day!"

Maddy deliberately pouted her lips.

Seeing this, Geoffrey could only helplessly show a wry smile.

He knew that his granddaughter had the same temperament as him. As long as she made up her mind, she would never change it. He might really not be able to chase her away.

But Maddy smiled and held Geoffrey's arm affectionately. "I'll stay here with you until I get married next year. When the time comes, Grandpa, you can come live with us! Since you like a place with a yard like this, I'll get you one too."

"You're getting married next year?" Geoffrey smiled in surprise.

"Yes, we agreed on it after some discussion." Maddy looked at Jordan and blushed shyly.

"Haha, that's wonderful!" Geoffrey laughed with joy. The good news made him feel even more relaxed and eager to see his granddaughter getting married.

He looked at Jordan and sized him up. He looked away only when Jordan felt embarrassed. He sighed and said, "Jordan, I'll entrust my granddaughter to you from now on. I hope you will treat her well and never let her down!"

Geoffrey's voice was full of earnestness as he entrusted Maddy to Jordan.

Maddy was his most beloved granddaughter, so Geoffrey hoped that Jordan would treat her well.

Jordan nodded cautiously. "Grandpa Geoffrey, please rest assured that I won't let Maddy down. She's the love of my life!"

Lucas smiled. "Mr. Stone, don't worry. Both Jordan and Maddy are my close friends. If Jordan dares to mistreat Maddy in the future, I won't let him off!"

"Hahaha, that's great!"

Since Lucas personally assured him, Geoffrey had nothing more to worry about and burst into laughter.

On the contrary, Maddy felt embarrassed after hearing what they said. "I'll go see what there's to eat at home."

With a blush, she scurried into the house.

The few of them looked at each other and laughed.

It was almost evening, and Geoffrey had just moved into this bungalow, so there were many things that needed cleaning and reorganizing. They also had to prepare dinner.

Lucas and the rest didn't loaf around either. They tidied up the house well while Maddy went to the kitchen to prepare dinner.

At this moment, a black Rolls Royce slowly came closer and stopped outside the residence.

"My father's staying in this kind of place now?" Carlos opened the car door, got out, and immediately frowned.

There was dirt on the road in front of the shabby residence, and Carlos couldn't stand being here for another second longer. He couldn't believe that this was the place his father now called home.

The old butler at the side hurriedly said, "Mr. Carlos, I helped Mr. Geoffrey buy this place a few years ago, and he used to always say that he would come here to retire. So, I guessed that he must have come here."

"Alright, let's go in and take a look." Carlos frowned and then led a few family members of the older generation into the simple and humble residence.

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After pushing open the gate of the front yard, they immediately saw everything at a glance.

Looking at the mud on the ground and the farming tools scattered in a corner of the yard, Carlos found everything in front of him incredibly unfamiliar. Having gotten used to living in luxury, he found it difficult to adapt.

There was no one in the front yard, but there were a few voices coming from inside the house, followed by Geoffrey's gleeful laughter.

Carlos was stunned when he heard the laughter.

He could tell that it was his father's laughter, but this was why he was surprised.

Even when he lived with the Stones, Geoffrey had never laughed in such a joyous and relaxed manner.

Is there some hidden treasure in this shabby place that's making Father so happy that he doesn't feel any discomfort?

The thought of it made Carlos's heart sink. He quickly stepped forward and pushed open the door of the house.

The door wasn't locked, so Carlos's abrupt entrance interrupted the laughter and chatter inside. The situation in the house was displayed clearly.

Frankly speaking, the situation in the house wasn't as luxurious as Carlos thought. Instead, it was just as shabby and run-down as it seemed on the surface.

The white-painted walls were plain, and there was only some necessary furniture. It was similar to an ordinary farmer's home. Even the lights were cheap and ordinary, without a lampshade. So the house was extremely dim.

This scene left Carlos in disbelief!

He had never lived in such a shabby environment with such poor living conditions!

Just as Carlos was in a daze, the few people in the house, whose conversation Carlos's abrupt appearance had interrupted, looked over at him.

"What are you doing here?" Geoffrey frowned and questioned hostilely the moment he saw Carlos.

Carlos returned to his senses and stepped forward. He said awkwardly, "Father, I'm here to bring you home."

Geoffrey snorted coldly. "I'm living well here. This is my home!"

Carlos scanned the surroundings. "Father, stop being mad at me. Look at this small and shabby place. There's mud everywhere, and it's just like a garbage dump. You're the former helmsman of the Stones, and you've lived in a luxurious villa for decades. Isn't staying here an insult to you?"

"Don't be angry anymore and come home with me!"

Geoffrey's face became even gloomier, but Carlos was too busy criticizing and being disgusted with the interior and exterior furnishings of the house to notice his displeasure.

At this moment, Maddy, who heard the commotion, came out of the kitchen and saw Carlos at a glance. She frowned the moment she heard his disdainful remarks about her grandfather's small residence.

The Stones of the older generation, whom Carlos had specially brought along, said, "Geoffrey, you've worked hard all your life, and now that you're old, it's time for you to enjoy yourself. How can you let yourself suffer in such a shabby house? The Stones will be really disgraced if word about this gets out!"

"Yes, Geoffrey, this run-down place is not where you belong. You should quickly come home with us! Be it the decor, size, or whatnot, the Stones' villas are thousands of times better than this place. Hurry up and come home!"

"You're the former helmsman of the esteemed Stone family. If others find out that you're living in such a shabby place, Carlos will be criticized for being unfilial!"

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The people were saying all sorts of things to convince Geoffrey to return to the Stone residence.

Although their ultimate goal was to get Maddy to return to the Stones, she was very stubborn, so they had already reached a consensus on the way here—they should never persuade Maddy directly. Instead, they should start by persuading Geoffrey.

As long as they could convince Geoffrey and get him to say a few things to convince Maddy, they would naturally succeed.

But their act of despising the small residence that Geoffrey liked had the opposite effect.

Geoffrey slammed the table and hollered furiously, "Shut up!"

The Stones instantly shut up in fright.

There was dead silence.

Seeing that things were going awry, Carlos hurriedly said, "Father, please stop being upset with me. I was wrong for what happened previously. Come home with me! I'm worried about you living in this shabby place alone at your age!"

"Hmph, I don't think there's anything you need to worry about! Besides, who says I'm living alone here?" Geoffrey looked at his son in disdain, his heart calm.

"I will live with Grandpa and take care of him!" Maddy walked out, held Geoffrey's arm, and said calmly, "Mr. Stone, you can rest assured and go home. You don't have to worry about Grandpa."

Jordan and Lucas stood quietly by the side without speaking.

Since it was the Stones' internal affair, they should resolve it themselves.

Of course, regardless of what Maddy's ultimate decision was, Jordan and Lucas would respect her choice.

"Maddy, I know I was at fault previously, and I shouldn't have treated you that way. But at the time, I didn't know that you were capable of solving the incident with the Bransons. I had no choice but to do that for the sake of our family. Please just forgive me once, okay?"

"Moreover, I know that you have always been a filial child, and you're the closest to your grandfather. Can you really bear to see him suffering and living in such a dirty and messy place at his age? Maddy, quickly help us persuade your grandfather to come home!"

"Now that we've just resolved our crisis, we will soon rise to glory if we can find a suitable opportunity! Father, haven't you always thought about making the Stones more

prosperous? There's a great opportunity in front of you right now, and the Stones need your leadership!"

Carlos asked Maddy to persuade Geoffrey to go home. The next moment, he tried to make Geoffrey waver by constantly mentioning the future opportunities and prospects of the Stones.

However, although he said a lot, it only made the gaze in Geoffrey's eyes even colder, and he became even more disappointed in Carlos.

Geoffrey scoffed and interrupted Carlos mercilessly, "Carlos, you are my son. I know better than anyone what you are thinking deep down! Don't bother trying to fool me with those tricks!"

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Carlos's expression stiffened when he saw Geoffrey reach out, point at the door, and say, "I won't go back to the Stones. Drop your funny ideas!"

"I don't want to see you again. Immediately get lost with your people, and don't disturb me again!"

Maddy said, "Leave. Since Grandpa has decided to retire in this residence, stop coming to disturb him."

The Stones were all flustered and immediately looked at Carlos anxiously.

If the two of them were unwilling to return to the Stones, how could they use Maddy's connections to make the family stronger?

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Carlos was under great pressure. He suddenly stepped forward and said loudly, "Father, I'm your son, but why are you always so unwilling to help me? You always used to tell me

that your greatest dream is for the Stones to rise to greater glory! Why are you letting go of such a great opportunity when there's one right in front of you?

"A lot of things happened in the Stone residence this afternoon. You probably don't know since you weren't around. But once you and Maddy come home, the Stones will soon receive a great opportunity that might bring us to the peak of success and turn us into one of the eight top families. Aren't you tempted at all?"

"I know that my previous behavior made you and Maddy sad, but I was doing it for the sake of the family! Why can't you understand my hardship?"

Carlos was extremely agitated, and his face was covered in self-reproach.

Everything he had done was for the sake of the family. He didn't know why his father and daughter refused to be understanding toward him and forgive him.

Even though he had swallowed his pride and begged them to come home, they were still unwilling to go.

Geoffrey looked at Carlos with deep disappointment in his turbid eyes.

"At this point, you still haven't realized where you went wrong. You're really a disappointment!" Geoffrey's tone was very gloomy, and there was a trace of contempt on his face. "You keep saying that you were forced into doing those things for the sake of the family. But is that really the case? Did you treat Maddy as your daughter when you wanted her to offer her life?"

"Did you treat me as your father when you accused me of slandering you for the sake of power?"

"I don't want to say anything to you anymore. You're now the head of the Stones, and all authority and responsibilities lie in your hands. Regardless of whether the family prospers or declines, it's all your responsibility. It has nothing to do with me!"

"Get lost!"

Geoffrey closed his eyes in fatigue and ordered him to leave again.

Jordan stepped forward and was about to chase Carlos away, but Lucas stopped him and stood in front of him.

Jordan was Maddy's fiancé. No matter what, Carlos was his father-in-law. Lucas didn't want Jordan to be caught in this dilemma.

Thus, he would do the job of chasing Carlos away.

"Mr. Carlos Stone, I advise you to take your people and leave quickly. If I find out later that you still have the audacity to disturb Geoffrey from resting, don't blame me for being impolite!

"You should have already seen it clearly this afternoon. Don't think I'm just trying to scare you. If I want to, I can easily destroy the eight top families, let alone the Stones. Trust me. You won't be able to pay the price for going against me!"

Lucas's tone was extremely threatening, like a cold blade that immediately made the Stones shudder.

They had seen how respectful and deferential a few heads of the eight top families of DC were to Lucas this afternoon, so they didn't dare to doubt the authenticity of what Lucas said!

Even people from the eight great families had kneeled and begged for forgiveness. The Stones were nothing to Lucas at all!

The Stones didn't dare to disobey Lucas's warning and could only leave the residence.

They were full of regret.

At one point, they had the opportunity to befriend someone as powerful as Lucas. But now that Maddy had been expelled from the family, this relationship had been completely ruined. It was utterly heartbreaking!

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After the Stones left, peace was restored in the residence, but the people were no longer as relaxed.

Geoffrey stood still for a long while before suddenly saying, "Maddy, say, do you think I was wrong to secretly help your father settle the aftermath of his mistakes? Maybe I shouldn't have helped him in the first place and let him learn a few hard lessons so that he could grow!"

Previously, Geoffrey had tried to hand over several major businesses of the Stones to Carlos, but they had all incurred heavy losses.

If Geoffrey hadn't secretly ordered people to solve the problems, these major businesses might have long been ruined by Carlos.

Geoffrey could help him once or twice, but he couldn't help him for life.

At this moment, Geoffrey really doubted if he had made a mistake.

Maddy leaned on Geoffrey's shoulder and comforted him softly, "Grandpa, it's not your fault but Dad's. Don't hold it against yourself for the mistakes he has committed. Besides, we've left the Stones now, so let's not think about those troublesome things! Everyone, sit down. I'll continue to cook."

The group stayed in the residence for a long time, after which Lucas and Jordan proposed leaving.

Maddy had already decided to stay with Geoffrey, so she sent Lucas and Jordan out of the residence.

Just as Lucas was about to get into the car, he suddenly turned around and said to Maddy, "Tell your grandfather to rest assured that I won't let the Stones perish."

Then Lucas turned around, got into the car, and instructed Jordan to start driving.

Even until the car completely disappeared, Maddy stood still without moving. But there was a thin layer of tears in her eyes. She felt extremely touched.

“Thank you, Lucas!”

Maddy knew that although her grandfather had just said in front of Carlos that he would no longer care about the Stones and that it would have nothing to do with him even if the Stones perished, she knew that he wouldn't just ignore them. He had dedicated his entire life to the family. How could he really abandon them?

Lucas's promise was akin to a form of protection for the Stones, which would put Geoffrey at ease!

While driving, Jordan asked in confusion, “Lucas, both Maddy and Grandpa Geoffrey have left the Stones and don't plan to go back. Do you still plan to help them?”

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Lucas smiled calmly. “I'm not helping the Stones. I'm just helping Maddy and Geoffrey.

“Although they've separated from the Stones, blood is still thicker than water after all, and it's not that easy to cut familial ties.

“If the Stones really declined or perished, Maddy and Geoffrey would be the ones most saddened.

“I'm not really helping the Stones. I'm only planning to help them maintain the status quo and not let others go after them. That's all.”

Hearing this, Jordan understood.

He remained silent for a while before saying sincerely, “Thank you, Lucas!”

“We're buddies. Don't mention it.” Lucas smiled and closed his eyes to get some rest in the backseat.

...

At the same time, in the Stone residence in DC...

Carlos had been sitting alone in his study in silence for a long time.

After returning from Geoffrey's residence, he had locked himself up in his room and pondered over many things.

He was now in a study with a floor area of around 80 square meters. There were floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, a luxurious crystal chandelier, high-end mahogany furniture, imported leather sofas, and a variety of precious antiques and trinkets.

Even a tiny ornament on his desk was worth more than the house that his father was now living in.

This was the residence of the Stones, a family second only to the eight top families of DC.

Everything here was luxurious, comfortable, and extravagant.

But at this moment, the sounds of Geoffrey's cheerful laughter in that humble and shabby house kept popping up in his mind.

At the same time, many memories he thought that he had forgotten long ago surfaced in his mind.

He remembered that when he was still a child, Geoffrey had also laughed with him happily and cheered him on when he was mocked.

Furthermore, he had watched his daughter, Maddy, grow from a baby to an innocent and puerile child, then to a svelte young girl, and now a composed and mature woman.

One was Carlos's father, and the other was his daughter. They were clearly the most important people in his life!

But why did things end up like this?

Why did he cause the matter to end up this way?

At the thought of the distant attitude of the two people who were supposed to be the closest to him, Carlos felt as if a thousand daggers were stabbing his heart, leaving him in utter misery.

For the first time, he felt that this luxurious villa he lived in was unbearably big, empty, and cold.

At this moment, the sounds of a ringtone broke the dead silence in the room and pulled Carlos out of his chaotic reminiscence.

“Mr. Carlos, Ms. Howard intends to sign a long-term cooperation with your family. If you’re interested, please be at the Howard residence before noon tomorrow.”

The person on the other end spoke very concisely and immediately hung up after saying his piece.

Carlos froze for a while before finally understanding what this person meant. His heart began beating wildly.

The Howards were extending an olive branch to the Stones!

The words ‘long-term cooperation’ was a guarantee of this relationship! At this moment, Carlos was ecstatic.

But at the same time, Carlos suddenly thought of a possibility that made the expression on his face instantly freeze.

Why would the Howards suddenly extend an olive branch at this juncture? It was undoubtedly because of Maddy and Lucas!

Even after being driven out of the family, Maddy still thought for him and the family!

At the thought of this, Carlos felt as if he had been struck in the head, and tears gushed out of his eyes!

“Maddy! I was wrong! I finally know my mistakes now! I’m not worthy of being your father! I’ve let you down!”

Carlos broke down with tears all over his face!

He had never felt so remorseful!

“Maddy! Father! I let you down! I was wrong!”

He had never wanted to see his father and daughter so badly.

“No, it’s not too late. They’re all still around. They only moved elsewhere. If I go over now and admit to my mistakes, there’ll still be time!”

This thought intensified in Carlos’s heart. He wiped his eyes with his sleeve, opened the door of his study, and ordered the bodyguards on standby outside, “Get the car ready! I’m going out!”

Forty minutes later, a luxurious black Rolls-Royce once again stopped at the entrance of the small farmhouse on the outskirts of DC.

It was already half past nine at night. Maddy was still playing chess with Geoffrey, and the two were having a whale of a time.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door outside.

“Who’s here so late?” Maddy frowned but still walked over and opened the door.

The wooden door opened, and Carlos’s familiar face immediately came into view.

“Why are you here again?” Maddy’s face immediately turned sullen.

She wondered if Carlos suddenly came again because his efforts this afternoon were fruitless, and he wanted to persuade them to return to come home again.

“You haven’t forgotten what Lucas said, have you? Aren’t you afraid that you’ll anger Grandpa again by coming over and disturbing us?” Maddy said coldly with a look of displeasure.

But to her surprise, she noticed that Carlos's eyes seemed a little red and swollen, as if he had just cried. Have the Stones encountered trouble again?

"Did something happen at home?" Maddy asked as soon as she thought of the possibility.

Even though Maddy's tone was impatient, she couldn't fake her subconscious worry.

Carlos suddenly felt touched again!

"Maddy, I'm here to apologize to you and Father!" Carlos said sincerely with reddened eyes.

"What trick are you pulling this time? Hurry up and leave if there's nothing else!" Maddy's hand moved to close the door.

"Wait!" Carlos held the door to prevent Maddy from closing it. He said agitatedly, "Maddy, believe me. I really know I was wrong this time! I know now how wrong I was to have hurt the two more important people to me. It's all my fault!"

"Maddy, I'm sorry. I won't behave like that again. Will you please give me another chance?"

Carlos apologized repeatedly, almost becoming incoherent.

Maddy opened her mouth but couldn't say a word.

She could tell that Carlos was serious this time. Her father was really apologizing to her!

Just as Maddy was a bit at a loss for words, Geoffrey came out of the living room.

As soon as Carlos saw the white-haired Geoffrey, he could no longer control himself and rushed over to him. He dropped to his knees and burst into tears. "Father! I'm sorry! I'm too unfilial!"

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Initially, Carlos could still control his emotions in front of Maddy.

But when he saw his elderly father's gray hair glistening under the dim yellow light, he could no longer control his emotions. He immediately fell to his knees in front of Geoffrey and burst into tears.

He finally realized that his father had aged so much that he might only have a few years left to spend with him.

But he was such a bastard. Today, he had blamed his father and even scolded him for being greedy for power. He had even forced his father to leave the family. He was truly inhumane!

"Father! This unfilial son has come to apologize to you! I'm so sorry. Please teach me a lesson and hit me!

"I was really a bastard earlier! Father, I know my mistakes... I've let you and Maddy down!"

Carlos hugged Geoffrey's calf while crying. Although he was already in his fifties and had already become the helmsman of the Stones, he was now bawling like a child in front of Geoffrey.

Even Geoffrey couldn't help having his eyes turn red. He reached out to stroke Carlos's head and said sobbingly, "Alright. As long as you know your mistakes and correct them, you'll still be my son!"

In his eyes, Carlos would forever be his son. How could he really hold it against him?

"Father!" Like a child, Carlos hugged Geoffrey's calf tightly and cried even louder.

He originally thought that his father wouldn't forgive him easily. But now, his father didn't blame him at all. The fact that Geoffrey said he would always be his son made Carlos feel even more miserable.

Compared to his father, everything he had done previously was simply inhumane, and he had been worse than a beast!

Maddy also walked to them as tears gushed out of her eyes.

Although she didn't know why her father had suddenly come to his senses, truly realized his mistakes, and drastically changed his attitude toward her and her grandfather, Maddy knew that it must have something to do with Lucas.

"Thank you so much, Lucas!"

With tears in her eyes, Maddy looked distantly in the direction of downtown DC, her eyes filled with gratitude.

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Meanwhile, Lucas had already returned to his newly purchased villa in DC.

It was already half past nine at night, but Cheyenne had yet to return.

He called her twice, but all he heard was the notification that her mobile phone was off. He started to get worried.

They were in DC, and he had already offended many people. It would be terrible if someone wanted to harm her.

To make matters worse, Cheyenne had tagged along with him to DC this time. So Lucas had told Stanley, who used to protect Cheyenne, to look after William and Amelia in Orange County. Thus, there was no one to protect Cheyenne at this time.

While Lucas was restlessly using his connections to start searching for Cheyenne's whereabouts, she had just left a cocktail reception.

It was the one that the Stones had organized.

Lucas and the others had gone shopping in the afternoon to buy clothes for the reception. But due to Mark's provocation, which led to his eventual death, Lucas, Jordan,

and the Stones were busy settling the matter. But the reception, which the Stones had spent a long time arranging, couldn't be canceled at the last minute, so Cheyenne had attended it on her own.

At the reception today, Cheyenne had met many well-known entrepreneurs in DC, which would be extremely beneficial for her to develop the Brilliance Corporation in DC in the future.

Due to the frequent incoming calls and text messages that she kept receiving during the reception, her phone had run out of battery and turned off automatically.

At the end of the reception, Cheyenne walked out of the venue and wanted to hail a taxi to go home. But just as she did, a black Lincoln car slowly pulled over beside her.

"Ms. Carter, our boss wants to give you a ride. Please!" A young man in a black suit and white gloves got out from the back of the Lincoln and politely asked Cheyenne to get in.

Cheyenne was vigilant and often kept her guard up, so she naturally wouldn't get into a stranger's car.

"No, thank you. Please thank your boss on my behalf. I'll just take a cab home on my own," Cheyenne politely declined and then took a few steps to the side.

"Ms. Carter, our boss absolutely doesn't have any ill intent. He just wants to send you home. Please don't worry!" The young man panicked and immediately stepped forward to block Cheyenne.

Cheyenne became even more vigilant.

She clutched her purse tightly and refused again with displeasure, "As I've said, I'll be taking a cab home on my own. I don't need your boss to give me a ride!"

Cheyenne was honestly flustered at this moment.

She was born and raised in Orange County, so she wasn't quite familiar with DC, much less the people here. Moreover, her phone was out of battery, so she couldn't call Lucas to ask for help even if she wanted to!

If the other party really forcibly dragged her into the car, she might have to use the small fruit knife in her purse to defend herself.

While Cheyenne was feeling nervous, the door of the Lincoln opened again, and a middle-aged man in his fifties got out and greeted her politely. "It's a pleasure to meet you, Ms. Carter."

When Cheyenne saw the middle-aged man's face, her eyes widened in surprise.

The middle-aged man standing in front of her was none other than the head of the Huttons, Michael, who was also Lucas's father!

Cheyenne never thought that the person who wanted to give her a ride home was Lucas's biological father!

"Ms. Carter, you don't need to be nervous. You should know about my relationship with your husband, Lucas. I have no ill intent, and I just want to have a casual chat with you. Is that okay?"

Michael's voice was extremely low, and his tone had a powerlessness, as if he was sick. But he had a gentle and kind look on his face.

Cheyenne suddenly felt a little nervous and awkward.

This middle-aged man was Lucas's biological father and her father-in-law.

Prior to this, Cheyenne had only seen Michael once at her grandfather Felix's funeral. But she hadn't spoken with him before.

But she knew very well that Lucas didn't want to acknowledge Michael as his father or have anything to do with him. So Cheyenne honestly didn't want to have any contact with him.

Seemingly seeing Cheyenne's hesitation, Michael smiled and said, "Since you're Lucas's wife, I'd like to have a chat with you. I don't have any other intentions."

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It was understandable that a father would want to know more about the woman his son married.

Moreover, Cheyenne couldn't sense any malice from Michael. Instead, she felt that there was some sickly melancholy in his expression, which made it hard for her to be harsh to him.

"Okay then." Cheyenne nodded, agreed to Michael's invitation, and got into the backseat.

"Ms. Carter, where are you headed? I'll get the chauffeur to drive there," Michael asked with a smile after getting inside the car.

"Sunshine Hills." Cheyenne revealed the location of the villa she and Lucas had newly bought.

The car cruised along smoothly, and it took about forty minutes from here to get to the upscale villa in Sunshine Hills.

Michael first chatted casually with Cheyenne and asked her where she was from, whether or not she was used to being in DC, and so on. She replied politely one by one.

"I've been calling you Ms. Carter, and it feels a little strange... May I call you Cheyenne like he does?" Michael asked.

He was naturally referring to his son Lucas.

Cheyenne looked at the expectant look in Michael's eyes and was suddenly at a loss for how to reject him. She could only nod and say, "It's just a form of address. Suit yourself."

When Michael heard this, his eyes seemed to light up, and he was a little excited.

But Michael was good at controlling his expression and quickly covered up his emotions.

"I heard that you're the founder of the Brilliance Corporation, Cheyenne, and it's now developing well. Are you here in DC this time to expand the Brilliance Corporation?" Michael asked.

Cheyenne nodded, and her face lit up radiantly at the mention of the development of the Brilliance Corporation. "Yes, I started the Brilliance Corporation from scratch, so I want to make it better. And one day, it will become a famous enterprise well known nationally and even globally!"

Michael smiled and said approvingly, "You're very ambitious! That's great!"

He added, "The Huttons have some strength in DC, and we now have many suitable projects on hand. If you're willing, we can cooperate. Maybe the Brilliance Corporation will be able to establish a firm foothold in DC faster."

Michael's words were not only extremely modest but also very tempting.

The Huttons were one of the eight top families in DC, and they played an extremely important role in the country's economy. But Michael spoke so modestly about their strength. If other families and businesses heard about this, they would probably be incredibly ashamed.

If the Brilliance Corporation could really receive the help of the Huttons, let alone gain a firm foothold in DC, they would rise to glory. After all, the Brilliance Corporation was only a business in Orange County that even most people in California might not have heard of.

Cheyenne naturally hoped that the Brilliance Corporation could obtain this wonderful development opportunity, but she wasn't the type who only valued interests. As Lucas's wife, she was clear about the relationship between Lucas and the Huttons. So she would never accept the olive branch Michael offered her.

"Uncle Michael, thank you very much for the kind offer, but I still prefer to rely on my own abilities to make the Brilliance Corporation gain a firm foothold in DC," Cheyenne said with a smile.

Michael wasn't surprised when he heard this. He just smiled and said, "Connections and opportunities are a part of strength too. You don't have to stand on ceremony with me."

Cheyenne smiled and said politely, "Thank you, Uncle Michael. I'll definitely seek help from you if I need to in the future."

Of course, she was just making a polite remark out of courtesy. If she really encountered any trouble, she would naturally go to Lucas for help instead of Michael.

Michael knew what Cheyenne meant. Seeing that she had indirectly turned him down, he didn't go on any further.

The Lincoln car was cruising smoothly at moderate speed.

But the car fell into an eerie silence.

Cheyenne's heart was pounding, worried that she might have angered the big shot next to her by turning him down.

Michael was not only Lucas's father but also the head of one of the top eight families. He held a massive amount of power, and ordinary people wouldn't dare to offend him at all.

But Michael merely remained silent for a short while before beginning to chat with Cheyenne about some family matters, making her gradually ease up.

Soon, the car arrived at the entrance of the upscale villa area of Sunshine Hills.

"Which one do you live in? I'll get the chauffeur to drive you straight to it," Michael said.

Cheyenne quickly said, "That's not necessary. I'll get off here now. Thank you for sending me back, Uncle Michael!"

To be honest, Cheyenne didn't want Lucas to see her getting out of Michael's car because she didn't want to create any further complications since the relationship between Lucas and Michael was strained.

Michael smiled. "It's okay. You may tell him that we've met and spoken to each other."

Cheyenne smiled awkwardly, opened the car door, and got out of the car.

“Thank you very much, Uncle Michael. I’ll head back now.” Cheyenne got ready to leave.

“Cheyenne, wait a moment.” Michael suddenly called out to her, got out of the car, took out a business card from his pocket, and handed it to her. “This is my phone number. If you encounter any trouble, you can contact me.”

Although Cheyenne didn’t intend to look for Michael for help, receiving a business card was a polite gesture and part of proper etiquette, so she stretched out her hand to take the business card from Michael’s hand.

But suddenly, a figure appeared at the side and snatched the business card from Michael’s hand. The next second, he crushed the exquisitely printed business card into a ball of crumpled waste paper and tossed it in the trash.

The whole process was completed in one go within less than a second.

The tall Lucas appeared beside Cheyenne.

He took Cheyenne’s hand and said to Michael tersely, “My wife will never need your help!”

With that, Lucas glanced at him coldly and walked toward the villa with Cheyenne’s hand in his.

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1047

In fact, Lucas had planned to go to the Huttons this afternoon to ask Michael about two matters, but he was held up by the Stones’ issues and couldn’t go.

He didn’t expect Michael to show up and give Cheyenne a lift home.

Although Lucas had a lot of questions for Michael, Cheyenne was right next to him, and he didn’t want her to see him confronting Michael.

Therefore, he would rather ask Michael another day.

“Lu-Lucas, do you really not want to see me that much?!” Michael stared at Lucas’s back and suddenly shouted, his voice trembling a little.

Lucas immediately stopped.

Cheyenne looked at Lucas nervously, afraid that he would misunderstand that she had forgiven Michael for everything he had done to Lucas and his mother after seeing her return in Michael’s car.

But Lucas didn’t think that at all. He squeezed Cheyenne’s hand and said gently, “Honey, wait for me at home. I need a word with him.”

Cheyenne let out a sigh of relief and looked at Lucas and Michael worriedly. Eventually, she said, “Alright, I’ll wait for you at home. Come home early.”

“Okay.” Lucas nodded.

After Cheyenne left, he finally turned around and walked toward Michael.

Seeing Lucas walking over, Michael couldn’t help showing excitement on his face.
“Lucas, you—”

“Where is Jace Hutton?” Lucas interrupted coldly.

The expression on Michael’s face instantly stiffened.

He originally thought that Lucas wanted to talk to him to ease the relationship between them, which had been strained for over two decades. But he didn’t expect him to ask about Jace right away.

Just over two weeks ago, Jace had privately led a group of people to Orange County to abduct Lucas’s father-in-law, William, and sister-in-law, Charlotte. He had almost also killed Cheyenne, which made Lucas furious.

Lucas had wanted to kill Jace directly, but the latter had been suddenly rescued by an elderly expert who popped up out of nowhere.

To save his own life, Jace had revealed that he knew a major secret about Lucas's mother. So Lucas had to find Jace and learn about his mother's secret.

Michael remained silent for a while before saying, "I don't know where he is now."

Lucas sneered. "You're his father. How can you not know where he is?"

From Michael's tone when he begged him not to kill Jace previously, Lucas knew how much he valued Jace as his son. He definitely knew where Jace was.

Even if Michael didn't know Jace's current location, he must know who he was with.

"I really don't know where he is now. I only know that he might be with the Whitleys!"

The Whitley family was Jace's mother's maiden family.

The royal family had nine branches. With the Whitleys' gradual decline over the years, they were now just a not-so-powerful branch of the royal family.

But even so, the Whitleys were still considered a branch of the royals and had a status far superior to megarich families like the eight giants of DC.

Lucas said coldly, "Do you think I won't dare to look for him just because he's with the Whitleys? Seems like you don't know me well enough!"

Although the royal family had an aloof status, Lucas was the invincible God of War who had once led the entire southern border as the leader of the Falcon Regiment, with millions of soldiers under his command.

Even though he had retired from the position of the head of the Falcon Regiment, he had done it on his own accord, and no one could affect his status in the Falcon Regiment.

Even compared to the helmsmen of the royal family branches, Lucas's status was not inferior to theirs in the slightest. In fact, if he went to the Whitley residence, the Whitleys' helmsman would have to come out to receive him personally!

Michael only knew that Lucas had once served as the head of the Falcon Regiment on the southern border but had since stepped down. But he had no idea that Lucas still had an extremely powerful status that was completely on par with the royals' helmsmen.

Thus, Michael frowned and said disapprovingly, "Lucas, I know you had a high status in the military, but the Whitleys are a member of the royal family, and their status is much higher than even that of the eight top families of DC. It will be too dangerous for you to go to them and ask about Jace. It's impossible for you to succeed."

Lucas said with a look of determination, "No matter what, I must find Jace!"

Jace had abducted William and Charlotte and almost killed Cheyenne. Since he dared to make a move against his loved ones, Lucas would never spare him!

Moreover, Jace had mentioned he knew a secret about Lucas's mother. So Lucas had to capture Jace and find out what this secret was.

With a look of misery on his face, Michael said, "Lucas, I know Jace has made lots of mistakes, and I can understand why you hate him and want to kill him.

"But no matter what, he's still your half-brother. So I hope you can spare his life for the sake of your blood ties!

"If you must kill him, please take my life in exchange for his, okay? You can take my life whenever you want. I just hope that you'll spare him!"

A look of pleading and sorrow appeared on his face.

But Lucas didn't waver at all and instead sneered contemptuously. "Michael Hutton, do you know how ridiculous you sound? If I really wanted to kill you, do you think you would still be able to stand here in one piece?

"I might as well tell you the truth. The reason that you're still alive now is all thanks to my mother! If she hadn't told me not to seek revenge on the Huttons while on her deathbed, do you think the Huttons would still be able to exist?"

Hearing this, Michael suddenly looked as if he had been struck by lightning. He turned pale and muttered, "She... so she said that before she died... It turns out she... still didn't hold it against me..."

Michael naturally believed what Lucas said because Lucas was definitely powerful enough to annihilate the Huttons if he wanted to take revenge against them. If Lucas had done so, Michael and his family should have long ceased to exist!

Michael originally thought that because he had no choice but to drive Lucas and his mother and son out of the Hutton family and DC, they would hate him. But he didn't expect Emma to make this request to Lucas before she passed away.

At this moment, Michael's heart was full of pain, agony, and guilt.

If he hadn't expelled Lucas and his mother from the family, Lucas would have been the perfect successor, and the Huttons might have been able to surpass the seven other giants of DC under Lucas's leadership.

But there were too many things that couldn't be undone at this point.

Michael closed his eyes in pain and asked after a while, "Lucas, what exactly must I do for you to spare Jace's life?"

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1048

Hearing what Michael said, Lucas said decisively, "I will never let him off. Jace must die!"

It wasn't only because Jace regarded Lucas as his enemy and wanted to kill him, but also because he wanted to harm the people Lucas cared about to anger him. Besides, Jace's mother had been the driving force behind Lucas and his mother getting kicked out of the Hutton family back then.

With such grudges, Lucas would never let Jace off!

Michael saw the determined killing intent in Lucas's eyes, but there was nothing he could do about it.

The only thing he could do was not to let Lucas and Jace meet. Otherwise, one of his two sons would surely die!

Regardless of which son died, it would be a disaster for Michael, and he didn't know if he would be able to bear it.

Michael closed his eyes in misery, knowing that Lucas had already made up his mind. He stopped persuading him and said sadly, "In fact, I have always hoped that you two could bury the hatchet and that we could all get along in peace, but it seems that's impossible. I also hope you can bring your wife and daughter over to the Huttons when there's an opportunity in the future..."

He didn't finish speaking but instead pursed his lips and turned around to walk toward the Lincoln car.

Seeing Michael become much more depressed, Lucas felt a tinge of complicated emotions, but they soon vanished.

"Finally, I want to ask you what secret is there about my mother?" Lucas suddenly asked just as Michael was about to get into the car.

When Jace was almost killed by Lucas, he had blurted this out during his crisis. Since then, this question had been lingering in Lucas's heart.

Although Lucas had lived with his mother for many years, he had always felt that there was something secretive and mysterious about her, as if she was shrouded in thick fog.

For example, his mother had never mentioned anything about her family or friends. Even Lucas didn't know her background.

Therefore, even though Lucas didn't know if what Jace said was the truth or if he just made it up in order to survive, Lucas had to get to the bottom of it.

He just wanted to know more about his mother.

If Jace really knew something about his mother, his only sources would be either his mother or Michael.

No matter what, Michael used to be his mother's husband, so he should know more about her.

Michael's body abruptly stiffened when he heard Lucas's question, and even his footsteps became erratic.

"Who told you there's a secret about your mother?" Michael turned around several seconds later and asked, pretending to be confused.

Even though Michael was controlling his expression almost perfectly, Lucas could see through him at a glance. He even noticed the trace of panic on his face.

Lucas narrowed his eyes and said tersely, "Jace said it himself."

Michael clenched his fist tightly, seemingly trying to suppress some emotion in his heart. After a long time, he finally said firmly, "He's just spouting nonsense. There are no secrets about your mother!"

Then Michael stopped talking and quickly went back to his car.

Although Michael refused to say it, Lucas could tell from his micro-expressions that there was indeed a huge secret about his mother that Michael clearly knew.

Seeing that Michael had already instructed the chauffeur to drive, Lucas gritted his teeth and suddenly went forward to stop him. "If you're willing to tell me this secret about my mother, I can agree to your request to let Jace off!"

This was the greatest compromise Lucas could make.

If Michael really knew something about his mother, he would spare Jace's life. It would be considered a kind of deal.

Michael was clearly struggling. The deal Lucas proposed appealed greatly to him.

But Michael's struggle and hesitation made Lucas understand that his mother's secret was extremely important, so much so that even Jace's life couldn't make Michael agree to reveal it immediately.

It made Lucas even more concerned about his mother's secret.

But to Lucas's disappointment, Michael shook his head after hesitating for a long time. "Unfortunately, there are really no secrets about your mother!"

Then he instructed the chauffeur to leave immediately.

Lucas didn't stop him this time but instead stood still and watched the black Lincoln gradually vanish into the night.

He had offered to spare Jace's life, yet Michael wouldn't even reveal it. This meant that perhaps the secret about his mother was even more important than Jace's life to Michael!

"One day, I will definitely figure out this secret myself!" Lucas murmured softly.

...

"Honey, are you... alright?"

Just as Lucas reached the door of the house, Cheyenne's voice immediately sounded. She was clearly ill at ease and had been waiting for Lucas at the entrance of the villa.

Lucas had already sorted out his emotions and smiled gently. "It's okay. We just met, so we spoke for a bit."

Then Lucas walked forward, took Cheyenne's hand, and led her into the house together.

Cheyenne had a lot to say at first. But seeing that Lucas looked a little exhausted, she was sensible enough not to say anything and just stayed quietly by Lucas's side, giving him her silent support.

...

Early the next morning, Cheyenne got up and proceeded to go out to meet some clients in DC to discuss cooperation.

Her main purpose in coming to DC this time was to expand the Brilliance Corporation, so she was extremely busy.

Lucas usually wouldn't interfere with Cheyenne's work, so he could only let her go ahead.

Meanwhile, Lucas had already arrived at the Stardust Corporation's headquarters in DC.

"Welcome, Lucas!" Flynn respectfully welcomed Lucas to the general manager's office on the top floor, brewed him a cup of tea, and served it to him.

Lucas's chairman's office was still under renovation because he wanted to remove all traces of Jace and turn the decor into his style. It would probably take another two weeks or so to renovate it.

Lucas took a sip of tea and asked, "Since the people from Huttons have been taken care of, there isn't any trouble left in the Stardust Corporation anymore, right?"

When Lucas came to DC previously, Jace had still been in charge of the Stardust Corporation's headquarters, which had made things extremely difficult for Flynn, who had parachuted into the company as the general manager. It was so terrible that even a security guard had the audacity to disobey him.

It was only after Lucas took drastic action and directly dealt with the senior and mid-level management staff related to the Huttons and wiped them out of the Stardust Corporation did the corporation get a new lease on life.

Hearing Lucas's question, Flynn hurriedly said, "Thanks to your formidable method, there's no longer any major trouble in the Stardust Corporation, but we're facing some issues with business competition. However, I can deal with it."

"Business competition?" Lucas said with a look of interest. "What business competition? Tell me about it."

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1049

Although Lucas had handed over the Stardust Corporation to Flynn to manage, it was still the only thing that his mother had left to him. Since he was in DC now, it was only his duty to help resolve some issues.

Flynn thought for a while before saying, "Well, Lucas, I have a great vision for the future of the Stardust Corporation. But because I haven't made a detailed plan yet, I'll have to tell you my thoughts here.

"I've had my eye on a vacant land in the eastern suburbs of DC, where the terrain is milder. The land covers a massive area, so I intend to acquire it and build a small city there that includes everything from clothing, food, and housing to entertainment, recreation, and shopping. For now, I've named it Stardust City.

"Stardust City will have everything people want, such as food streets, mega shopping malls, villas, beauty parlors, luxury designer stores, hospitals, and so on. I envision a city within a city with the same functions as Dubai City!

"And there won't be only one Stardust City. Apart from the one in the outskirts of DC, I also intend to build them in several other major cities so that the Stardust Corporation will become a household name in the entire country!

"Moreover, in every Stardust City, there will be a landmark building that's taller than all others. The Stardust Corporation's office will be on the top floors of this landmark building!

"I also want the model of Stardust City to spread beyond the US and to the entire world so that everyone will know about the Stardust Corporation!"

The more Flynn spoke, the more excited he became, and his face lit up with a tinge of red. He was brimming with fighting spirit.

Flynn had obviously entertained these ideas for more than a day or two. He spoke for a long time, and his thoughts were clear.

But when he finished describing his ideas, he realized that he had been too immersed in speaking that he had made many gestures with his hands, making him seem a little frivolous.

Flynn looked at Lucas with embarrassment. "Sorry, Lucas. My... my ideas are indeed too far-fetched."

But Lucas didn't laugh or mock him. Instead, he seemed rather interested in his plan. He said with a smile, "No, I think your ideas are pretty good. Go on, keep elaborating in detail."

With Lucas's encouragement, Flynn became even more energetic and narrated his ideas to Lucas in detail again.

Amid his excitement, Flynn even turned on his computer and projector and presented to Lucas in detail some of the plans and data diagrams he had half-completed.

Lucas was very satisfied with Flynn's plan for Stardust City and nodded frequently. He asked, "Your ideas are great. If we really want to realize it, what other aspects do you think we need to solve?"

Flynn said embarrassedly, "Because of the sheer size of this plan, there are many troubles and problems. First of all, we need to acquire the plot of land in the eastern suburb as soon as possible. As far as I know, this plot of land will be auctioned soon, and many wealthy families are also very interested in it.

"If we want to build the first Stardust City in DC, we have to take this piece of land!"

"Another thing is... If a Stardust City is established in many major cities, an astronomical amount of capital is required!

"With the existing funds available to the Stardust Corporation, we may only be able to buy the plot of land. The construction of the city will require massive funds, and it will be even more difficult to build more Stardust Cities in the country afterward."

Flynn looked very embarrassed. After all, if they took action according to his plan, the funds needed in the future would probably be at least tens of billions of dollars.

"It seems like money is the main problem." Lucas nodded. Then he casually took out a black card from his pocket and tossed it in front of Flynn. "This is a black diamond card issued by the World Bank. It contains a hundred billion dollars and has an overdraft limit of fifty billion dollars. You may take it. Contact me again if you need more money."

Boom!

Flynn froze with a dumbfounded look on his face as he stared at the black card in disbelief.

He originally thought that the Stardust Corporation was Lucas's greatest asset, but he didn't expect the card that Lucas casually gave him to contain a massive amount of money. Even if he used up the 100 billion dollars, there was still an overdraft limit of 50 billion dollars!

Given the way Lucas had thrown the card out so casually, it seemed that this massive amount of money didn't mean anything to him!

Flynn was rendered speechless by Lucas's tycoon-like generosity!

"Is it not enough?"

Seeing that Flynn wasn't saying anything, Lucas frowned and pulled out his wallet from his pocket. Inside it was a large stack of bank cards!

While taking out the cards, he said, "If it's not enough, I still have..."

"No, no! It's enough! It's definitely enough!" Only then did Flynn snap back to his senses. He was startled again by Lucas's generous act of taking out his bank cards. He hurriedly said, "This hundred billion dollars is more than enough!"

At this moment, Flynn was already shaking in excitement.

Even the first few people on Forbes' list of the world's richest people only had assets of more than 200 billion dollars. Yet one of Lucas's cards contained half the wealth that the world's richest person had, and he still had more cards!

Of course, Flynn also knew that Forbes' list was not definitive. There were many absurdly wealthy people who would never appear on the list.

Lucas was obviously one of them.

After carefully accepting the black diamond card from Lucas, Flynn felt emboldened.

Suddenly recalling something, he quickly said, "Lucas, the auction for the land I've been eyeing will be held this afternoon. Would you like to attend?"

Although Flynn could probably handle the auction on his own, they would likely acquire it faster if Lucas came.

Since he had no other plans for the afternoon, Lucas gladly agreed.

After having lunch, Flynn drove Lucas to the DC Hotel. The auction would be held on the top floor.

As soon as they got out of the car in the hotel's parking garage, Flynn suddenly pointed at the entrance and asked in surprise, "Lucas, is... isn't that your missus?"

Lucas turned his head and saw Cheyenne standing at the entrance of the DC Hotel with a man and a woman beside her.

Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1050

When Lucas approached, he realized that the man and woman standing opposite Cheyenne should be a couple because they were linking arms. The woman was young and around the same age as Cheyenne. But at this moment, she was looking at Cheyenne with mockery and malice in her eyes. She obviously wasn't a kind person.

"Wait for me inside," Lucas instructed Flynn beside him.

"Alright, Lucas, I'll wait for you inside!" Flynn was sensible enough to enter the DC Hotel alone.

Meanwhile, Lucas walked toward Cheyenne. He didn't know why his wife was here, but seeing the woman opposite her, he was worried that she was being bullied.

As Lucas approached, he heard the young woman's sharp voice. "Cheyenne Carter, it's not that I look down on you, but your Brilliance Corporation is just a small company in Orange County. How can you be qualified to come here and compete with the big companies?"

"Besides, you don't even have an invitation, yet you want to go in? You must be delusional! I suggest you behave yourself and go back to Orange County. How can you possibly survive in DC?"

With a sullen look on her face, Cheyenne said coldly, "I don't think I need your permission on where I develop my company, do I?"

Regina Wayne chuckled and said in disdain, "Are you saying that I'm meddling with your business? I'm just giving you a kind reminder!"

"If you weren't my classmate in college, I wouldn't have bothered to care about your nonsense! Don't you agree?"

The woman named Regina Wayne was a native of DC, but she went to college in Orange County and used to be classmates with Cheyenne.

But although Regina's looks were considered decent among women, she was far inferior compared to Cheyenne, who was lauded as the most beautiful woman in Orange County.

Thus, Regina was indescribably jealous of Cheyenne, who was naturally beautiful without much makeup and could easily attract suitors.

So since college, she had compared herself with Cheyenne everywhere and often said that she was much better than Cheyenne since she was from DC.

But Cheyenne basically didn't pay attention to her, and the two went separate ways after graduating from college and no longer interacted.

But now, they suddenly ran into each other at the entrance of the DC Hotel.

“Oh, right, by the way, Cheyenne, I heard that you’re already married, and your child is already a few years old?”

“You’re such a poor friend. Not only did you secretly get married and have a child, but you didn’t even invite us, your former classmates, to your wedding. Those who know might say that you look down on us and couldn’t be bothered to invite us. But those who don’t know might make wild speculations that you did something disgraceful with someone, which is why you had to rush to get married!”

Regina covered her mouth and laughed, but her words were full of malice. Before Cheyenne even said anything, Regina suddenly said, “Oh, right, I’ve also heard that the man you married is a live-in husband who sponges off you, and his family is so poor that they need to rely on your support! Cheyenne, you were the school belle back in college, and you had so many suitors. How did you end up like this?”

While speaking, Regina held the arm of the man beside her and introduced with a smile, “Here, let me introduce to you my fiancé, Nicholas. He’s a member of the Williams family, one of the eight most powerful families in DC!”

Nicholas was actually much older than Regina, and he seemed to be at least 45 years old. He was balding at the top of his head and had a big beer belly, a greasy face, and yellowish tobacco-stained teeth. His looks were not appealing at all.

More importantly, ever since he and Regina stood in front of Cheyenne, he had been ogling at Cheyenne without any restraint. He was extremely rude.

“Hey, gorgeous! How about we get to know each other better?” Nicholas stretched a hand out toward Cheyenne while staring at her fair and tiny hand.

Cheyenne frowned slightly and said coldly without shaking his hand, “Nice to meet you.”

A touch of disappointment and displeasure immediately appeared in Nicholas’s eyes.

He didn’t expect this beautiful woman in front of him wouldn’t even give him a chance to shake hands.

He only wanted to take the opportunity to squeeze her hand and take some liberties with her, but he wouldn’t do anything to her!

But Nicholas soon covered his expression, withdrew his hand, and pretended to be generous. "Gorgeous, the Williams have a high status in DC and hold great authority. Feel free to come to me if you need help with anything. I'll definitely help you!"

Noticing Regina's displeased expression, Nicholas added, "No matter what, you were my fiancée's classmate!"

Regina's expression became a little better, and she smiled coquettishly. "Honey, you're so good to me!"

She hugged Nicholas's arm, stood on tiptoe, and kissed his greasy face loudly.

Cheyenne felt that it was an awful sight, and she didn't want to continue speaking to them. She just wanted to leave quickly.

"Oh, right, Cheyenne, you probably don't know this, but my fiancé brought me here today to participate in the land auction! He's representing the Williams to bid for the finale item, the plot of land in the eastern suburbs of DC! The starting price for that land is five hundred million dollars! I'm afraid you've never seen that much money in your life, right?"

Regina once again deliberately showed off her fiancé's status and the Williams' wealth in front of Cheyenne.

Cheyenne really didn't want to continue wasting time with these two people. She smiled pretentiously. "Is that so? Good luck then."

Then she planned to leave.

"Honey, you're here!" An extremely familiar voice suddenly sounded in Cheyenne's ears.

She turned around and saw the tall and handsome Lucas walking toward her with a smile.

"Honey, why are you here too?" Cheyenne asked in surprise.

"Honey, did you forget that I'm also here to participate in the land auction for the piece of land in the eastern suburbs of DC?!" Lucas said with a gentle smile.

Cheyenne was a little surprised. Regina was still bragging and showing off in front of her just now, telling her that Nicholas, her fiancé, was representing the Williams in the auction for the land in the eastern suburbs of DC. She wondered if he were eyeing the same land as Lucas.

Regina held Nicholas's arm, sized Lucas up, and suddenly asked sarcastically, "Cheyenne, is this your live-in husband who has been sponging off you?"