

# Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1211-1220

## 1211 Enlightenment

"Peter, what nonsense are you saying?

"When did I ever force you to marry me and sever ties with that woman? Back then, you were clearly the one who pursued me and did nice things for me every day. I... I was blind to have believed you and married a despicable and shameless man like you!

"I've never done any of those things you said! You're just somewhat good-looking, but you don't come from a wealthy family, and you have no real skills. If you didn't do everything to please me, I wouldn't have noticed you!

"Hmph, to put it bluntly, I'm the esteemed heiress of the Williams, and I can get any man I want. Why would I force a good-for-nothing like you to marry me?"

Vanessa was an heiress who was spoiled since she was a child. After hearing Peter's shameless remarks, she was full of regret and anger. She pointed a trembling finger at Peter.

She never thought that her husband, who had always been compliant toward her and had dropped his facade tonight, would turn out to be such an abhorrent man!

She must have been blind to fall in love with this man. She thought she had found a gem, but it was actually a piece of trash!

Peter shuddered guilty, but he soon raised his head and continued to say to Ashley devotedly, "Ashley, please don't believe that woman's nonsense. If she didn't come in between us and sow discord, we would have long gotten married, and I wouldn't have made you sad for so many years...

"I swear I will treat you well in the future and never make you sad again!"

Ashley stared at the man pretending to be a devoted lover and felt that he looked absolutely disgusting.

She was no longer the gullible girl who believed in anything for love. Peter had to be dreaming if he thought he would be able to fool her with some sweet nothings.

Ashley retracted her calf from Peter's hands and said gently, "Peter."

"Ashley!" Peter immediately looked joyful when he heard her call his name.

He was confident that Ashley would definitely return to him since she loved him so much that she had attempted suicide for him.

As long as Ashley agreed to be with him again, Lucas definitely wouldn't be able to do anything to him. On the contrary, he might even be able to rely on Lucas's power to get what he wanted.

Authority, wealth, and status...

"I've finally realized that you're just a shameless scumbag. You're absolutely revolting!"

Just as Peter smiled smugly and thought delusionally about how he would gain power and status from Ashley and Lucas, he suddenly heard what Ashley said.

In an instant, Peter's expression stiffened.

Ashley glanced at Peter in disgust and said to Lucas, "Lucas, I won't let him deceive me again. You can do whatever you want with him."

Lucas glanced at Ashley and saw the determination in her eyes, which were devoid of anxiousness or hesitation.

Lucas knew that Ashley had really completely gotten over Peter, her ex-fiancé, and would no longer be sad because of this scumbag.

In that case, his efforts and time tonight weren't wasted.

Peter was on the brink of fainting.

He didn't expect Ashley, whom he could easily manipulate before, would actually speak to him that way, lose all trust in him, and find him disgusting.

While feeling incredibly furious, Peter also felt indescribable fear and panic.

The only thing he could rely on now was Ashley's feelings for him in the past. But how could she possibly still be in love with him? He was revolting to her.

If Ashley really had no feelings for him, what... what could he rely on now?

"No, Ashley, you must believe me. Everything I just said is true. You've always been the only one I love! How... how can you not trust me?

"Have you really forgotten the time when we were in love? I—"

"Shut up!"

Peter was still trying to play the emotional card, but Lucas shouted at him coldly. "If you dare to make another disgusting remark and pester Ashley, I will send you on your way to death!"

Peter shuddered violently. He knew that Lucas could definitely do what he said. He didn't dare to continue begging Ashley anymore.

However, he couldn't accept dying just like that. He frantically turned to Lucas and begged, "Mr. Gray, I indeed offended you because I was a snob, but I didn't mean it! Please let me off! Even if you don't want me to appear in front of Ashley again, I will agree!"

Lucas said coldly, "Again? If I really let you off, with your despicable character, you will definitely continue going around shamelessly to flatter wealthy women. Once you find someone more powerful, you won't hesitate to come and take revenge on me."

Peter's body instantly stiffened.

Lucas was right. If he managed to find a more powerful family, he would definitely make Lucas pay for the humiliation he suffered a hundredfold!

But when Lucas exposed his thoughts, Peter opened his mouth, at a complete loss for an explanation.

Everyone had turned against Peter, leaving him with no way out at this point.

Vanessa looked at her former lover, and there was no longer any love in her eyes, only disgust and mockery.

"Peter, do you really think you're that smart that you can fool everyone with your looks and fake behavior?

"Let me tell you. The reason Ashley and I were deceived by you is that we loved you. We blindly believed you, tolerated your behavior, and kept finding excuses for you.

"But when we saw your true colors and stopped loving you, your terrible lies and tricks were all so ridiculous! Watching you put in effort for your act is like watching a clown in the circus! You're utterly pathetic!"

While speaking, Vanessa couldn't help tearing up.

If she didn't love Peter, she wouldn't have married him despite his humble background. It wasn't until now that she realized how awful he really was.

She was not only mocking him but also herself for her stupidity.

Ashley felt sympathetic and sad for Vanessa.

They were in the same boat. They had both been deceived by this scumbag Peter.

Ashley could empathize with Vanessa's current feelings.

At the same time, she felt lucky and thankful.

She was glad that her brother and mother had rescued her from her suicide attempts. Otherwise, she wouldn't have had the chance to be alive and see Peter's true colors.

She was also glad that Lucas had brought her here to see Peter's true colors. Otherwise, she would have still been fooled until her death!

Rayson said with anguish, "Mr. Gray, my daughter knows her mistakes now. Please spare her and give her a chance to turn over a new leaf!

"If you're willing to give her another chance, I am willing to lead the Williams to pledge allegiance to you!"

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1212

### 1212 Authority to Kill

Seeing his daughter in pain, Rayson felt immense heartache and promised to pledge allegiance to Lucas.

Vanessa wiped her tears and knelt down in front of Lucas. "Mr. Gray, what happened today is indeed my fault. I know I was wrong. Since my father has agreed to pledge allegiance to you on behalf of the Williams, I will do the same and keep to this promise.

"If... if you still won't forgive me, please kill me! I caused this matter. I just hope that you won't take it out on my father and my family!"

Vanessa's voice was full of misery and despair.

Due to her love for Peter, she had ignored her father's objection and her family's arrangements for her marriage and insisted on marrying Peter.

Since Rayson couldn't force her, he could only give in and agree.

She had trusted Peter so much that she had stood on his side and helped him suppress Ashley and Lucas.

After Peter revealed his true colors, Vanessa finally realized that everything she had done wasn't worth it at all.

She had provoked a terrifying figure like Lucas for the sake of this scumbag, causing her father to have to kneel and beg Lucas for forgiveness and pay a massive price.

If Lucas really wanted to kill her, she wouldn't have any objections.

A foolish woman like her had not only failed to bring any benefits to her family but instead caused so much trouble. Maybe her death would make her father's life easier.

Lucas glanced at Vanessa and suddenly said to Ashley, "Ashley, I'll leave it up to you to decide whether to let her off and what to do with the Williams. You can do whatever you want without caring about anyone else's opinion.

"If you don't want to forgive them, Vanessa and the Williams will vanish from DC from today onward."

Hearing this, Ashley was shocked.

She didn't expect Lucas to let her make the decision.

Ashley was a direct descendant of the Steeles, but because she had her brother and two male cousins, she never had the authority to make any decisions within the family.

The Steeles had already deprived her of her identity as an heiress and kicked her family of three out.

But Lucas had now given her the power to decide the fate of the Williams.

As long as she said the word, she could immediately annihilate a top family on the same level as the Steeles. It was her first time holding such power.

What would her decision be?

Everyone in the private room turned to look at Ashley.

In particular, Rayson and Vanessa look at Ashley nervously, fearing that they would hear a terrifying verdict from her.

Amid the dead silence, time seemed to crawl by.

Ashley looked at Rayson and Vanessa kneeling on the floor. After seeing the gaze in Vanessa's eyes, Ashley couldn't help feeling sympathy. She said softly, "Lucas, actually... I think she's just like me, a poor soul who was deceived by a scumbag. I think we should give her a chance and spare her this time."

Hearing this, Lucas smiled in gratification.

He had long guessed this outcome.

After all, Ashley wasn't a heartless person. Although Vanessa had indeed offended Ashley and him, it didn't warrant death.

Besides, Lucas had given Ashley the power to decide the fate of the entire Williams family because he wanted to use her as a mouthpiece to spare Vanessa's life so that the Williams would be grateful to Ashley for her benevolence.

This way, regardless of what happened to the Williams in the future, no one would dare to take their anger out on Ashley.

After hearing what Ashley said, Rayson and Vanessa heaved a sigh of relief and fell to the floor limply after their tense nerves relaxed.

"Thank you, Miss Steele!" Rayson wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and said with gratitude, "Miss Steele, you'll be an honored guest of the Williams from now on, and none of us will ever dare to disrespect you in the slightest! As long as you need us, we will definitely do our best to help!"

Vanessa also said to Ashley gratefully, "Miss Steele, thank you for forgiving me despite our past differences! I will definitely treat you as my own sister. Don't stand on ceremony with me if you ever need my help!"

Rayson and Vanessa both behaved well.

Lucas nodded. "Since Ashley is magnanimous and has decided to let you off, I'll let your daughter off the hook this time. But if something like this happens again..."

Rayson hurriedly promised, "I guarantee this won't happen again! If Vanessa dares to offend you or Miss Steele again, I'll get rid of her myself!"

Her face ashen, Vanessa said, "Yes, Mr. Gray. I promise there won't be a next time! I really know my mistakes this time, and I won't offend you or anyone close to you in the future!"

Lucas believed that Vanessa was telling the truth. After today's matter, Vanessa wouldn't dare to repeat her mistakes unless she was courting death.

"Mr. Williams, I'll hold you to your word. I hope you'll remember your promise to lead your family to pledge allegiance to me."

Rayson hurriedly said, "Of course. From now on, you'll be the true master of the Williams, and everyone, including me, will obey you!"

Although Rayson felt like his heart was bleeding when Lucas wanted all the Williams' businesses, he realized that they weren't really losing out after giving it some thought.

Lucas was the master of the Williams now, but he wouldn't tell the public about this. In fact, Rayson was still the one representing the Williams, so there wouldn't be much of a change.

Moreover, Lucas was an extremely powerful person. He had managed to make the Waltons, who were on par with the Williams, vanish overnight.

Furthermore, Rayson had crossed paths with Lucas several times, so he knew clearly that Lucas had the Howards, the Smiths, and the Huttons, who were also among the eight top families, as his allies.

In addition, Lucas had a powerful background that even Rayson couldn't find out.

In that case, even though the Williams pledged allegiance to Lucas, Rayson didn't think it would be a loss for them because a powerhouse like Lucas would bring the Williams to greater heights. They would gain greater power, so it wasn't that hard to accept it.

The others in the room all had complicated looks on their faces after hearing Rayson really pledging allegiance to Lucas.



Who exactly was Lucas Gray?!

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1213

### 1213 Crisis

They were all Ashley's former college classmates, and most of them were from third or fourth-tier families in DC. Although they were well off, they all had to look up to the eight top families of DC.

Now, the helmsman of the Williams had actually pledged allegiance to Lucas and acknowledged him as his master. Didn't this mean that Lucas's current status was far superior to that of the helmsmen of the eight top families of DC?

Recalling that they had mocked this terrifying big shot without restraint, many people were full of regret, and cold sweat drenched their backs.

A few of them were extremely pale and could barely stand, almost losing their balance.

They were terrified!

They were afraid that Lucas would settle scores with them for offending him!

Lucas suddenly looked at Peter, who was on the floor. "What do you have to say now?"

With his head hung low, Peter gritted his teeth and barely concealed the overflowing hatred in his eyes.

He was now immensely resentful!

Peter hated Vanessa for abandoning him during this crisis and disregarding his life and death despite the fact that they were married.

Peter really hated Rayson, his father-in-law. Although Rayson was the helmsman of the Williams, he was so incompetent and useless. Not only couldn't he suppress the person Ashley brought, but he was as docile as a dog in front of this man!

The helmsman of a prestigious family was actually so incompetent that he couldn't even save his son-in-law!

Peter also hated his surrounding classmates. When he was still glorious, they had put him on a pedestal and done everything to flatter him. But as soon as he was in trouble, they immediately shunned him like the plague and put all the blame on him. They were so quick to draw a line between them!

Damn these scoundrels. When I rise to power again, I won't let off any of them who kicked me when I was down!

But the people Peter hated the most were Ashley and Lucas.

Through his own hard work and efforts, he had obtained a status that most people couldn't reach even after working hard all their lives. He had married the only daughter of the Williams' helmsman and was about to become the general manager of the Williams Corporation. In the future, he would even be in charge of the entire Williams family.

But all of this was ruined because of Ashley and Lucas!

This wasn't all. Given Lucas's attitude, he might really die here today!

Peter definitely couldn't accept such an outcome!

Rayson and Vanessa had knelt in front of Lucas just now, but he didn't even let them off. He wanted all of the Williams' assets as compensation.

What about Peter then?

Since he had nothing to his name now, what could he use to save his life?

Peter's eyes were full of despair, and eventually, there was a trace of twisted mania.

He was now kneeling in front of Ashley. The distance between them was less than a meter.

At such a short distance, this bitch will definitely die! Peter decided that even if he died, he had to drag her with him to hell!

"You shameless bitch, you deserve to die for ruining my life!" Peter suddenly pulled out a shiny dagger from his waist pocket and stabbed it straight toward Ashley's neck!

His action was extremely sudden, and Ashley was only a meter away from him. She didn't expect that he had hidden a dagger and suddenly attacked her!

Ashley's pupils constricted, and she subconsciously wanted to dodge, but the dagger appeared in front of her almost instantly.

There was no time for her to react!

Staring at the shiny dagger in front of her, Ashley turned deathly pale and could only watch it get closer and closer to her. Am I really going to die here...

To make matters worse, she was about to die at the hands of the man she used to love the most.

Is this my retribution for being blind for years? Various thoughts flashed through Ashley's mind.

At the same time, regret welled up in her heart.

She really regretted it!

If she had known earlier that Peter was a scumbag who was worse than a beast, she definitely wouldn't have wasted years with him. She would have never been depressed over him and attempted suicide multiple times, causing her family to worry about her.

As soon as she thought of her family, she remembered that she hadn't said goodbye to her mother and brother and told them that she had fallen in love with the wrong man. She wanted to tell them to take care of themselves...

She hadn't had time to tell Lucas her true feelings...

She didn't want to die so young!

Ashley closed her eyes in despair, and two streams of tears slid down her face.

"Watch out!!"

"Ah!"

"It's a dagger!"

...

Terrified and panicked shouts filled the room. Seeing Peter's daring action of wanting to stab Ashley in the neck, everyone else in the room screamed.

But Peter was too close to Ashley, and they were all stunned beyond words. They didn't dare to move at all and could only watch Peter's dagger stabbing toward Ashley's slender neck.

Although they didn't have a strong friendship with Ashley, not everyone could face murder calmly!

Bang!

Just as the dagger was about to pierce Ashley's neck, Peter's body was suddenly thrown flying backward. With a bang, he slammed into the wall and slid to the floor, no longer able to move.

During the critical moment, Lucas had kicked Peter in the chest and sent him flying.

His body, which weighed over 170 pounds, had been sent flying a great distance, and he was now in a state worse than death. The power of Lucas's kick stunned everyone in the private room!

Surely that terrifying kick didn't kill Peter, right?

Ashley's former classmates in the room were mostly ordinary people, so Lucas's horrifying kick completely deterred them, making them too terrified to speak.

Even Rayson, who had already witnessed Lucas's terrifying abilities, was extremely nervous at this moment.

Lucas's martial arts skills were really terrifying!

Most people wouldn't be able to withstand a kick from him!

Ashley thought that she was definitely going to die, but she didn't feel any pain for a long time. Moreover, she had heard two unusual sounds, so she opened her eyes in fear.

The dagger Peter wielded in front of her had disappeared, and Ashley saw his body lying motionlessly on the floor beside the wall ten meters away. She didn't know if he was alive or not.

"This..." Ashley was astonished.

Without a doubt, she didn't die. And Peter, who wanted to kill her, had already been handled!

The person who did it was definitely Lucas, who was standing beside her!

"Lu-Lucas!" Fear and joy swept through Ashley as she leaped toward Lucas, hugged him tightly, and burst into tears. "Lucas! I thought... I thought I was going to die! I was so scared!"

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1214

1214 Completely Resolved

Ashley was clearly frightened as she hugged Lucas tightly, her entire body trembling.

Lucas patted her on the back. "It's alright. With me here, you definitely won't be hurt."

As long as he was here, Peter wouldn't be able to hurt Ashley in the slightest.

The rest of Ashley's former classmates looked at them with awe and envy.

With such a powerful backer, even though Ashley has been kicked out of the Steeles and was no longer an heiress, no one would be able to bully her!

After all, even the Williams, one of the eight top families of DC, had pledged allegiance to Lucas. Given his incredible power, others could only look up to him.

After comforting Ashley, Lucas glanced at Peter, who had passed out on the floor, and instructed Rayson, "Deal with Peter later. I don't want to see him again."

Rayson immediately understood what Lucas meant. "Yes, I'll definitely handle this matter well. Please rest assured!"

Lucas didn't say anything else. He simply took Ashley with him and left Club Aurora.

As for the others in the private room, they were scared out of their wits of Lucas. They all cowered in front of him without daring to make a sound. Lucas looked down on these spineless people, so he naturally couldn't be bothered to teach them a lesson.

Anyway, after what happened today, they wouldn't dare to appear in front of Ashley anymore, nor would they cross paths with Lucas again.

Lucas couldn't be bothered with these people who had nothing to do with him and would never have anything to do with him.

Only after the two of them left did the others in the private room heave a sigh of relief and wipe the cold sweat on their bodies.

These ten short minutes just now had really almost scared them to death!

Unable to stand anymore, Silas collapsed onto the chair behind him and asked carefully, "Is... is it really over? Has Mr. Gray decided to let us off?"

"I... I think so?" Zoey said with uncertainty.

Having survived a catastrophe, Carrie said emotionally, "Someone with a high status like Mr. Gray is worlds apart from us. He should disdain to deal with a small fry like us... In other words, we're not even fit to receive punishment from him..."

What Carrie said made the people in the room, who were thankful that Lucas had spared them, fall silent.

Indeed, it wasn't because Lucas had forgiven them that he didn't teach them a lesson but because he didn't care about them at all.

At the thought of this, everyone felt even more complicated.

Only Allie had a shine in her eyes, but she didn't say anything.

Speaking of which, among the former classmates who had gathered today, she was the only one who had stood on Ashley and Lucas's side and hadn't mocked them.

From this perspective, she had really made the right choice today.

Rayson hadn't left yet. He glanced at the people in the room and ordered coldly, "None of you are to reveal a word about what happened today. Do not discuss Mr. Gray with anyone! If I find out you revealed a single thing about this matter, don't blame the Williams for being ruthless!"

The people in the private room shuddered and frantically guaranteed, "Mr. Williams, please rest assured. We definitely won't reveal a word about this matter!"

Although Rayson looked a bit disheveled when kneeling in front of Lucas just now, which had damaged his prestige as the helmsman of the Williams, he only behaved this way to Lucas, who was even more powerful than the eight top families.

To the families of people like Silas and Zoey, the Williams were a terrifying behemoth that they couldn't afford to provoke. They were absolutely certain that if they revealed a word about what had happened today, the Williams could easily make them vanish from DC.

Thus, no one dared to defy Rayson's orders to keep their lips sealed.

"Okay, remember what I said. You can leave now!" Rayson shouted.

Ashley's former classmates in the private room hurriedly left without another word, as if they had been spared from death.

At this moment, there were only a few people remaining in the private room.

Only then did Rayson walk over to Ray, who was standing at the side. "You must be Mr. Parker."

Ray subconsciously showed a flattered expression and quickly said, "Yes. Hello, Mr. Williams. I am Ray Parker, the helmsman of the Parkers. We've only recently arrived in DC. Please take care of us!"

With a friendly smile, Rayson said, "Mr. Parker, you've done a great job with your businesses. You've managed to develop them to such a large scale within such a short time. I have a lot to learn from you!"

After exchanging some pleasantries, Rayson turned to look at Kenneth, who was standing beside Ray. "This must be your son. What a handsome and talented young man."

Kenneth hurriedly said, "Thank you, Mr. Williams. My name is Kenmeth Parker. Please just call me Kenneth."

"Hahaha, what a good kid!"

Rayson was very friendly to the Parkers and didn't put on any airs. He was kind, amicable, and even seemed to be currying favor.

The Parkers were clearly Lucas's subordinates and seemed to be very close to him. Otherwise, Lucas wouldn't have let them take over the Waltons' businesses.



Besides, the Parkers were already quite powerful to begin with, so after taking control of all of the Waltons' businesses, it could be said that they were now on par with the eight top families of DC.

If Lucas was willing, he could easily let the Parkers surpass the eight top families at any time!

Given how formidable they were, even Rayson didn't dare to underestimate them.

Moreover, Rayson had pledged allegiance to Lucas today, so he naturally wouldn't be so foolish as to go against Lucas's subordinates.

After exchanging some more pleasantries, Rayson finally looked at Peter, who was lying on the floor like a dead dog, and murderous intent appeared in his eyes.

"Drag this man away and find a place to dispose of him!" Rayson instructed his subordinates.

"Yes, Mr. Williams!" The two bodyguards stepped forward and dragged Peter away by his legs.

His words just now had already decided Peter's fate. He wouldn't live to see the light of day tomorrow.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1215

### 1215 The Greatest Crisis

Meanwhile, Lucas and Ashley had already left Club Aurora. It was getting late, so Lucas sent Ashley home.

On the way back, Ashley was clearly in a much better mood.

In fact, a lot of things had happened tonight. At first, Ashley was just worried and wanted to have a meal with Lucas before going abroad, hoping to spend some time with him to fulfill her secret wish.

She never thought that it would lead to so much trouble.

The matter regarding Peter had made Ashley feel extremely miserable at first. But after seeing his true colors, she had been freed from the shackles restraining her heart and was finally relieved of a massive burden weighing down on her for the past few years.

It was the first time in many years that she felt so relaxed and happy.

"Thank you so much, Lucas! If not for your help, I'm afraid I would have never known how blind I was back then to have fallen for such a scumbag. And... I even felt so sad about him for so long. I did so many stupid things... This will forever stain my past!"

When the car stopped at the entrance of the house where Ashley and her family were temporarily staying, she opened the car door and thanked Lucas gratefully.

But Lucas didn't think much of it. He said with a smile, "Fortunately, you've seen that man's true colors, and you no longer have to carry such a heavy burden. You're going abroad tomorrow. Just work hard when you're abroad to repay me!"

In fact, it was just a joke.

But Ashley nodded solemnly and promised, "Yes! I'll definitely work hard. I won't disappoint you! Wait for my good news!"

Lucas chuckled. "Okay. It's getting late. Return home quickly!"

"Okay, be careful on the road, Lucas. Goodbye!"

Only after watching Ashley enter the house did Lucas disengage the brakes and drive back to his villa.

But when Lucas returned home and checked his phone, he discovered that he had several missed calls and text messages.

They were all from Cheyenne.

Cheyenne is looking for me so anxiously. Did something happen? Lucas immediately frowned and opened Cheyenne's messages.

When he saw the content of the first message, his expression changed drastically, and he almost dropped his phone.

Wh-what is going on?

Lucas had a look of disbelief on his face, which was an extremely rare expression for him, who was always composed.

There was a photo on his phone screen, and the background looked like a hotel room.

There was a man and a woman in the photo. Lucas was extremely familiar with these two people. They were Lena and him!

This wasn't the only photo. The remaining dozen messages were all photos of him and Lena.

The angle was extremely deliberate, and it looked as if they were in very intimate positions.

Moreover, there was a photo of Lucas lying on the bed with Lena lying intimately against him, clad in nothing except a white bath towel!

Anyone who wasn't blind could guess what was going on!

Furthermore, there was a photo taken outside the hotel. Lucas's hand was on Lena's shoulder as she helped him inside. In the photo, it looked like he had his arm around her.

As he quickly looked through the photos, his face became extremely gloomy, and his heart gradually sank.

Apart from these messages, Cheyenne didn't say anything else.

Lucas suddenly hit his own head.

The biggest issue now was not about who had taken these photos but to quickly explain to Cheyenne that there was nothing between him and Lena!

Lucas immediately called Cheyenne.

But it was already late. When Lucas called her, the call couldn't connect.

It was already past 1 a.m., so Cheyenne must have already gone to bed...

But this shouldn't be possible. Given Cheyenne's character, she definitely wouldn't be able to sleep after this incident with Lucas. She must be staring at her phone and waiting for him to give her a reasonable explanation.

Since his calls couldn't connect and she wasn't sleeping, there was only one possibility left...

Lucas started panicking and sent Cheyenne a video call request. But he found that he had been blocked.

Cheyenne had actually blocked him!

Seeing the red exclamation mark in the chat window, Lucas panicked even more.

Cheyenne had blocked him and wasn't answering his calls. She was clearly furious!

Who did it?

Lucas was annoyed that he couldn't contact Cheyenne.

These photos weren't digitally doctored because Lucas had indeed stayed at that hotel with Lena a few days ago.

But at the time, Lucas had drowned his sorrows in alcohol at a bar after learning that he had mistakenly hated Michael for years and that he wasn't actually his biological son.

In the bar, Lucas had coincidentally run into Lena, who happened to be in DC too and sent him to the hotel later.

At the time, he was already drunk and didn't know what happened afterward.

But when he woke up the following day, Lena told him that nothing had happened between them and that they didn't sleep in the same room.

In that case, who took the photos?

But regardless of who took the photos, they had been sent to Cheyenne and had undoubtedly already brought a lot of trouble to Lucas and put his marriage in crisis.

It could be said that this was the greatest crisis that Lucas had ever encountered since returning to Orange County!

If he couldn't handle it properly, there would be great rifts between him and Cheyenne, and their marriage might even break down!

"Damn it! I must never drink again!" Lucas punched himself again, overwhelmed with self-reproach and chagrin.

Now, the most important thing was to explain it to Cheyenne!

Since Cheyenne refused to answer his calls and had blocked him on the messaging app, he had no choice but to return to Orange County to explain to her in person!

Lucas took out his phone and made a call. "Help me book the earliest flight to Orange County!"

But after Lucas instructed Flynn to book the flight ticket, his phone suddenly rang.

It was a call from Charlotte.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1216

## 1216 Lesson to Lucas

When Lucas saw Charlotte's phone number, he had an ominous feeling.

But he still answered immediately.

As soon as the call connected, the sounds of wind and rain spread from the other end.

"Lucas Gray! You bastard, you actually had an affair with Lena Sawyer! How could you let... let my sister down like that?"

Just as Lucas was about to explain, Charlotte didn't give him any chance and lashed out furiously, "When I saw that bitch Lena Sawyer holding your arm in San Francisco, I knew something was off. Have long have you been having an affair? Trust you to say that there was nothing between you two. Psht! I won't believe you again!

"Lucas, I know you're a big shot now, not only in California but also DC. No one dares to provoke you, right? But no matter how powerful you are, you can't bully my sister!

"Let me tell you. If you dare to mistreat my sister, I will definitely fight you to the death! Do you hear me? You bastard, you've really infuriated me. So much for treating you like my idol. Hmph!"

Charlotte harrumphed coldly and hung up without giving Lucas a chance to explain.

"..." Lucas looked at his phone at a complete loss for words. He couldn't describe his feelings at all.

Even Charlotte had misunderstood and thought that he had really had an affair with Lena and betrayed Cheyenne. Lucas felt wronged and angry.

Although he still didn't know who was scheming against him and took the photos and sent them to Cheyenne, he knew that it wasn't the time to investigate and lose his temper.

The most important thing now was to contact Cheyenne as soon as possible and clarify his relationship with Lena so that she wouldn't get the wrong idea!

But he still couldn't get through to Cheyenne and could only call Charlotte in hopes that she would help him put in a good word.

But Charlotte was still fuming, so she refused to answer his calls. Whenever Lucas called, she would end the call immediately.

Lucas didn't give up and made more than ten calls in a row before Charlotte finally picked up.

"Lucas! Why do you keep calling? Do you know how heartbroken Cheyenne is? She's been crying in the room after seeing those photos. Her eyes are swollen from crying!

"How could you do this to my sister? When you had nothing to your name, Cheyenne married you despite everyone's scorn. After you left without a word and disappeared overnight, my sister was all alone and faced the mockery of countless people. She even gave birth to Amelia alone and raised her to this age by herself!

"And she finally waited so long for you to come back and get rid of the label of a useless live-in son-in-law, yet you immediately had an affair with another woman! You've really disappointed me!

"If... if you really make Cheyenne so upset that something happens to her, I will never forgive you! Even if I had to risk my life, I won't let you off! I'll make sure you don't live well!"

With that, Charlotte hung up again without hesitation.

Staring at his phone, Lucas smiled bitterly.

Charlotte refused to listen to his explanation at all.

But considering from another perspective, Lucas could understand how Charlotte and Cheyenne felt.

After all, the angles of the photos were indeed problematic, as they were deliberately taken to make him and Lena look extremely intimate. Others would naturally assume that something had happened between them.

It just so happened that Cheyenne had returned to Orange County and wasn't in DC, so the photos would definitely make her suspicious.

A couple who truly loved each other certainly wouldn't be able to accept this.

Charlotte and Cheyenne had always been very close to each other. If Lucas had really wronged Cheyenne, it was understandable that Charlotte would be furious.

Moreover, Lucas had been drunk in the hotel that day, so he wasn't sure what had happened.

He still hadn't figured out if Lena had taken the photos and leaked them.

Since Cheyenne refused to answer his calls and Charlotte refused to give him a chance to explain, he could only wait until he returned to Orange County tomorrow to explain to them.

"Ah!" Lucas heaved a long sigh and rubbed his face, depressed.

...

Meanwhile, in the Pearl Lake villa in Orange County...

After hanging up angrily, Charlotte looked at Cheyenne, who was lying beside her.

However, Cheyenne wasn't actually crying to the point that her eyes were swollen, unlike what Charlotte had said. Instead, she was lying peacefully on the bed with a helpless expression.

"Charlotte, did we go overboard? Actually, I believe Lucas won't betray me. You should have given him a chance to explain!" Cheyenne sighed. "Who knows? Maybe those photos were edited. We should have listened to Lucas's explanation instead of judging him immediately."

Charlotte said firmly, "Sis, regardless of whether those photos are real or not, you have to act like you're extremely angry and ignore him so that we can teach him a lesson!"



"I wasn't talking nonsense either. When we attended the business exchange in San Francisco, I happened to see Lena holding Lucas's arm and leaning very close to him. Her expression changed drastically when she saw me. Hmph, she definitely had a guilty conscience!"

"I wanted to tell you about it, but they said that I misunderstood and that Lucas was just helping her walk because of her heels. I was scared that you'd be upset after finding out, so I didn't tell you about it. But I didn't expect... something like this to happen again!"

"Cheyenne, as you can see, Lucas is no longer the good-for-nothing whom everyone looks down on. He's very powerful now, and his status is rising rapidly. Even among the eight top families of DC, there are probably many people who want their daughters to marry him.

"Even I feel a sense of crisis. If you don't take this chance to teach Lucas a lesson, what will happen if he really betrays you in the future?"

Charlotte turned over, looked Cheyenne in the eyes, and said firmly, "So even if there's really nothing between him and Lena this time, we have to express our attitude and give a warning. This will not only make him keep a distance from Lena but also from other women so that he won't make a mistake. Otherwise, it will be too late then!"

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1217

### 1217 Return to Orange County

Hearing what Charlotte said, Cheyenne frowned and hesitated for a moment before saying, "Lena has been my best friend for years, and I believe she will never betray me. She and Lucas should be innocent. I don't know how those photos came about, but I want to trust them."

She sighed. "Also, you're worried about Lucas having a mistress because of his changed status, but I'm actually not worried about it.

"I'm sure you know clearly what kind of a person Lucas is. If he's really the kind who would mess around after his status changes, he wouldn't have returned to Orange

County to look for me. He could have easily married any woman from any number of wealthy and noble families.

"I trust Lucas's character. He won't be easily bewitched by women and let lust get the better of him and cheat on me."

There were some things she didn't say.

If Lucas was really the kind of person to embroil himself in messy relationships with other women, Cheyenne wouldn't teach Lucas a lesson at all. She was a prideful woman, so she wouldn't force Lucas to stay with her. Even if she felt pained, she would definitely choose to let go.

Charlotte blinked and said, "Okay, but even if Lucas doesn't have such intentions, what if other women fall in love with him or harbor ill intentions for him?"

"Based on those photos sent to you today, Lucas was drunk, right? Who got him drunk then? And who took the photos? And what if someone had drugged Lucas's drink to harm him?"

Charlotte pursed her lips and continued, "Anyway, I think there's something wrong with Lena! Lucas is so handsome and capable. He's the perfect husband in the eyes of many women, and Lena has gawked at him several times. Something's telling me that she has long liked Lucas. That's why she wants to snatch him from you!

"Sis, haven't you discovered this?"

Cheyenne didn't want to suspect her best friend of years or think that way. She said, "Charlotte, that's enough. Lena has been my best friend for more than a decade, and she knows Lucas is my husband. I trust that she won't do that to me."

Hearing this, Charlotte could only make some snide remarks in her head before conceding with a pout, "Fine. Since you trust her that much, let's just hope my conjecture is wrong. I hope she lives up to your trust too."

Then she picked up her phone to look at it. Seeing that Lucas had stopped calling, she felt displeased. "What? I bet there's something wrong with Lucas! Since he was so anxious to explain, why isn't he calling anymore? Hmph, men are indeed pigs!"

Charlotte stuffed her phone under her pillow furiously.

...

Lucas, far away in DC, naturally couldn't sense Charlotte's resentment.

After dealing with Ashley's matters, Lucas had returned home at around 1 a.m. He had made countless calls to Cheyenne and Charlotte, and it was now almost 2 a.m.

Moreover, his flight back to Orange County was at 4 a.m., so he only had around an hour to sleep.

By the time Lucas left home at three in the morning, he had dark circles under his eyes, obviously from lack of sleep.

At this moment, the sky outside was pitch black.

When Lucas left, he found a car waiting outside the villa. Flynn was sitting in the car. Seeing Lucas coming out, he immediately got out of the car to greet him.

"Lucas, I'll send you to the airport!" Flynn said deferentially.

Lucas glanced at Flynn and thought that since he had been waiting so early, he definitely didn't get any sleep last night.

Flynn's gesture warmed Lucas's heart.

"Actually, as the general manager of the company, you don't have to come here so early to pick me up. You could've just arranged for a chauffeur to come," Lucas said softly on the way to the airport.

While driving, Flynn said with a smile. "It's okay. It's rare for me to have the chance to see you off in person. It's my honor, and I don't feel tired at all."

Since Flynn had already said so, Lucas could only smile and say, "There's no need next time."

"Oh, by the way, there's something I need your help with. On Friday night, I got drunk at a downtown bar, and then a female friend brought me to the Crown International Hotel. But someone was tailing me and taking photos.

"Help me check the surveillance camera footage in the bar, around the hotel, and in the hotel lobby. Find out who took those photos and control them."

As soon as Flynn heard that someone had secretly photographed Lucas, he subconsciously became grim. He knew that this was definitely not a trivial matter. "Got it, Lucas. I'll definitely get to the bottom of this as soon as possible!"

"Okay."

Soon, two of them arrived at the airport.

Lucas's flight was scheduled for 4:10 a.m. After about four and a half hours, Lucas arrived in Orange County, this place he had been away from for more than a month.

It was still early in the morning.

Without having breakfast, Lucas headed straight to the Pearl Lake villa.

At this moment, Cheyenne and her family had just finished breakfast and were still at the table.

Lucas's sudden return caught them by surprise.

"Daddy, you're back!" As soon as Amelia saw Lucas, she beamed with joy, leaped up from her chair, and scurried to Lucas.

It had been more than a month since she saw Lucas, so she was ecstatic and overjoyed. She immediately leaped into his arms and hugged him tightly with glee written all over her face.

Cheyenne sulked. "Amelia, have you forgotten what I told you? Hurry up and come back!"

Ashley pouted with displeasure and protested, "Aunt Charlotte, I remember what you said yesterday. You said that Daddy did something bad and made Mommy angry, so you want me to ignore him. But Daddy's finally back after so long. I missed him so much! So can you wait to get angry with Daddy later?"

Amelia's puerile words completely exposed Charlotte.

Charlotte stomped her feet. "Amelia, what did you promise me? How can you go back on your word? If you don't come back here, I won't take you to the aquarium again!"

As soon as Amelia heard this, she widened her eyes and looked around left and right, revealing a conflicted expression.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1218

### 1218 Waiting for Her to Calm Down

After hesitating for a long time, Amelia finally let go of Lucas's calf and said reluctantly, "Daddy, I'm sorry. I promised Aunt Charlotte not to talk to you until Mommy is no longer angry! Daddy, quickly tell Mommy to stop being mad at you!"

While speaking, Amelia walked back to Charlotte reluctantly. She was obviously more tempted by going to the aquarium than to talk with Lucas.

After all, in Amelia's view, Lucas had already come home. As long as he could appease Cheyenne, she would be able to speak to him immediately. But if she angered Charlotte, not only would she not get to go to the aquarium, but Charlotte might never buy her any delicious treats again. So she could only reluctantly leave Lucas's arms and go back to Charlotte.

Lucas put a hand on his forehead speechlessly upon realizing that he was less appealing to his daughter than an aquarium.

On the other hand, Charlotte showed the expression of a victor as she rolled her eyes at Lucas and harrumphed coldly.

Cheyenne was stunned when she first saw Lucas appear, but she soon turned away and cleaned the dishes on the table without speaking to him at all.

Seeing the strange behavior of his daughters and son-in-law, William asked, "What's the matter? Did you two have a fight?"

Lucas said, "No, it's just a little misunderstanding. We'll be fine after talking things out. It's not a fight."

Charlotte glared at Lucas and harrumphed. "We're not sure if it's a misunderstanding yet!"

Then she looked at William and warned, "Dad, since you don't know what's going on, don't ask about it. Don't speak to Lucas either! Cheyenne and I are still mad at him!"

William didn't know what was going on, but when he saw their expressions, he reckoned that it wasn't a big deal and simply assumed that it was a misunderstanding between the young people.

He naturally wouldn't get involved, so he simply shook his head and said helplessly, "Okay then, you kids can handle it yourselves. I won't take sides. I'm going to work now. Don't fight at home!"

To give the three young people time to resolve the conflict, William took Amelia with him and sent her to the kindergarten.

After the two left, only Lucas, Cheyenne, and Charlotte were left in the villa.

Lucas looked at Cheyenne and frantically explained, "Cheyenne, those photos aren't like that at all. There's nothing between me and Lena—"

"Stop!" Charlotte interrupted him and said angrily, "You can save those words for later when we're willing to hear them! Cheyenne and I have already agreed to go out and have a good time today. We don't want to ruin our mood if your explanation is disappointing. Please move aside."

Then Charlotte took Cheyenne's hand and moved to leave.

Cheyenne played along and left quietly with Charlotte without even looking at Lucas.

"..." Lucas opened his mouth, but in the end, he could only close it and shake his head with a bitter smile.

Cheyenne and Charlotte were still angry, so they definitely didn't want to hear his explanation.

Moreover, he didn't have any evidence to prove that the photos were fake or that he had been set up.

Before getting any concrete evidence, Lucas would probably have to continue letting it be.

But it was understandable. If Cheyenne really didn't feel bothered, Lucas would be worried that she didn't have any feelings for him.

The most important thing to do now was to wait for Flynn to find out who took the photos before searching along the clues to find out the culprit to prove his innocence.

Seeing that Cheyenne and Charlotte had already grabbed their purses and were about to leave, Lucas chased after them worriedly. "Where are you going? I'll drive you!"

"Hmph, we don't need you to drive us. We'll drive on our own. Before Cheyenne calms down, you'd better not appear in front of us. Got it?" Charlotte said fiercely.

Cheyenne continued remaining silent and simply got into the driver's seat of her car, letting her actions do the talking.

Since they were so resistant, Lucas could only smile bitterly and watch them leave the villa in the car.

But even though Lucas couldn't go with them, he didn't neglect their safety.

Lucas took out his phone and instructed Stanley, "Stanley, go protect my wife and sister-in-law. Contact me immediately if anything happens!"

Now, Lucas could only wait until Cheyenne came home to find a suitable opportunity to explain to her.

He knew that he had to avoid Charlotte during the explanation.

With the overly protective Charlotte by Cheyenne's side, Lucas would be rebuffed for everything he said and be left with no chance to explain!

After the few of them left, Lucas was the only one left in the massive fairytale castle-like villa.

But Lucas naturally wouldn't stay at home alone.

He had been away from Orange County for some time, and now that he was back, he had many things to handle.

In particular, those families who had pledged allegiance to him, Lucas had been away for so long that he didn't know how they were doing now.

After seeing that the Parkers had managed to delve into the DC market and develop rapidly, Lucas decided that he should pay more attention to the other families every now and then.

If possible, Lucas naturally wouldn't want to give up on them.

Moreover, Lucas had already planned to take the Carters with him to DC to develop further, so he had to make arrangements for the other families.

Ten minutes later, Lucas had already left the Pearl Lake villa and arrived at the entrance of the Hale residence.

The Hales were one of the top four families of Orange County and also the first family that Lucas had subdued, so he chose them as his first stop.

"Lucas! You've returned from DC! If I had known you were back, I would have definitely brought everyone to receive you!" Bruce, the former helmsman of the Hales, had just



received the news and hurried out from the garden to greet Lucas excitedly at the entrance.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1219

### 1219 Hidden Crisis

Bruce respectfully welcomed Lucas to the reception hall, where Connor personally served him tea and stood at the side.

Lucas picked up the teacup and took a sip. "I'm just here to take a look. You don't have to be so tense.

"I heard that the Hales are developing well now. You've become the leading family in Orange County, and you're second only to the Coles in all of California."

Bruce smiled. "Yes, but this is all thanks to you, Lucas. If it wasn't for you, the Hales wouldn't have been able to develop so well within such a short period of time!"

He wasn't exaggerating and flattering Lucas.

Previously, the Hales were wealthy, but they only had influence in Orange County. Compared to the other affluent families in California, they were quite lacking.

But due to Bruce always standing unwaveringly on Lucas's side, and especially after Lucas became the hegemon of California and Oregon, the Hales had been relying on Lucas's status to develop well.

Speaking of which, the Coles, who had also always stood firmly on Lucas's side, and the Parkers from LA had both obtained massive benefits thanks to Lucas. So the Coles were now the leading family in California, with the Hales and the Parkers slightly behind in second.

Now, the Parkers were gradually expanding to other areas and markets and shifted the focus of their development to DC, so the Hales became the second-ranked family in California.

Although Bruce was old, he was still clear-headed. So he was well aware that the biggest contributor to the Hales' current success was Lucas.

Thus, Bruce was extremely respectful and grateful to Lucas.

Leading the Hales to submit to Lucas was probably the best decision Bruce had ever made!

Bruce truly respected Lucas from the heart.

However, Lucas noticed something a little off.

There was a trace of sorrow on Connor's face.

Connor was still young, so he hadn't mastered the art of hiding his feelings. Lucas could clearly see the anxiety and uneasiness on his face, and he seemed hesitant to speak.

Lucas put down his teacup and asked. "Did something happen lately?"

Connor immediately looked up at him and said expectantly, "Mr. Gray, there's indeed something—"

"Shut up!" Bruce stopped Connor from speaking without hesitation.

After stopping his grandson, Bruce turned to look at Lucas and explained, "Uh, Lucas, it's just a minor issue. We won't trouble you with it."

Lucas narrowed his eyes slightly. "Tell me about it."

When entering just now, he saw several members of the Hale family. When they saw him, they were first stunned before looking surprised as if they had found a savior.

So Lucas guessed that the Hales had encountered some trouble.

Bruce didn't want to complain to Lucas at first because he didn't want him to have to solve the Hales' troubles as soon as he came back. But since Lucas had already asked about it, Bruce naturally wouldn't continue hiding it.

Bruce said bitterly, "It's like this. Three days ago, a few people came to the Hales and claimed to be from the royal family. They were very arrogant and wanted us to pledge allegiance to them.

"We naturally refused, but those people said that they'd give us three days to consider. If we still don't comply, they will eradicate us from California...

"According to my inquiries, the Hales aren't the only ones. Several other wealthy families in California also received the same threat. Of course, the families with lower statuses weren't threatened. The royal family probably couldn't be bothered with them."

"The royals?" Lucas narrowed his eyes.

He was no stranger to the royal family, such as the owner behind Club Illuma, the Whitleys, one of the royal family branches. He had crossed paths with Ashton several times, but of course, these encounters didn't end well for Ashton.

"Yeah, they claim to be the Hamiltons. The person in charge is a young man named Brett, who's about thirty years old. The people he brought with him were all powerhouses, and even our top experts are no match for them," Bruce said worriedly.

Brett Hamilton.

Hearing this name, Lucas knew that he was really from the Hamilton branch of the royals.

The Hamiltons actually wanted the forces of California. They even wanted to make the Hales and other top families of California pledge allegiance to them. What a huge appetite.

"Since they gave you three days to consider, when's the deadline today?" Lucas asked.

Bruce said, "They want us to give a clear answer by tonight."

After thinking about it, Bruce quickly explained, "Mr. Gray, I have no intention of submitting to them! After all, we've long pledged allegiance to you, so how can we submit to someone else? Even if they're royals, we won't change our minds and betray you!"

"I... I didn't tell you about it right away because I didn't want you to have to deal with such trouble for us as soon as you came to visit. Besides, the Hamiltons seem hard to deal with, and I don't want you to make such a powerful enemy..."

Lucas looked at him and nodded without blaming him. "In that case, how do you plan to deal with this?"

Bruce said with a grim expression, "I've already made a pact with Edmund Cole and the helmsmen of the other families who received this threat. We have agreed to join forces against the Hamiltons!"

Lucas raised his brows. "As you've said, Brett Hamilton has brought many powerhouses with him, and even the strongest experts of your family aren't their opponents. So, how do you plan to deal with them?"

"Well... It's our turf after all, and I thought that even though they have many powerhouses, we could win as long as we joined forces and outnumbered them..." Bruce said hesitantly. Near the end, his voice became softer and softer. Clearly, he knew that outnumbering them wasn't a good idea, but it was their last resort.

In fact, there was another solution—using firearms to deter the Hamiltons.

But this was too risky. The Hamiltons were a royal family branch after all. In case Brett really died here, they might face the maniacal revenge of the Hamilton family, resulting in havoc and chaos in California.

## Charismatic Lucas Gray Chapter 1220

1220 Unexpected Person

Seeing Bruce's appearance, Lucas said with a smile, "Forget it. Since I already know about it, I won't set it aside. With me here, it's a fool's dream for the Hamiltons to think about taking over California!"

California was Lucas's base camp, where he had lived for more than a decade. Besides, the Hales belonged to Lucas while the Coles and the other families had close ties with him. How could he allow others to dominate here?

Although the Hamiltons were royals and an apex family superior to the eight top families of DC, they still didn't have the right to be arrogant in front of Lucas.

They needed Lucas's approval to threaten so many families and take control of California.

After Bruce heard what Lucas said, a trace of excitement appeared in his eyes, but he quickly looked worried.

"Lucas, I sent some people to ask around, and I found out that the Hamiltons are a royal family branch who are more powerful than the eight top families of DC! Going against them will really bring you great trouble..."

"I think if the various wealthy families of California join forces to go against the Hamiltons, they won't be able to wipe all of us out even if they're displeased."

"But if you stand up for us, I'm afraid the Hamiltons will target you instead. When the time comes, it will cause you a lot of trouble!"

Bruce was being considerate of Lucas.

At the end of the day, the Hales were just a wealthy family that had developed in Orange County. Until today, their influence had yet to expand beyond California. Thus, given his power and horizons, to him, the eight top families of DC were already at the summit of the US and couldn't be provoked.

And the royal family, which was more terrifying than the eight top families of DC, was an even more formidable existence than the Hales couldn't imagine.

Bruce knew that Lucas was extremely powerful, so much so that he wasn't even afraid of the eight top families of DC. But he was still worried that Lucas might get implicated and fall into a crisis.

"Are you worried that I can't match up to the Hamiltons?" Lucas asked with a smile while looking at Bruce.

Bruce's heart skipped a beat, and he hurriedly said, "No, no. Lucas, that's absolutely not what I meant! I just... I just don't want you to be implicated by us and end up being targeted by the Hamiltons..."

Although Bruce denied it, what he said implied as much.

He was really worried that Lucas wouldn't be a match for the Hamiltons.

If Bruce really thought that Lucas wasn't inferior to the Hamiltons, he definitely wouldn't be so worried about Lucas.

Lucas didn't hold it against him.

In the past, he had indeed been too low profile and merely revealed some of his abilities occasionally, causing Bruce to be unaware of how powerful he really was.

But Lucas didn't want to explain much to him.

He remained sitting and said firmly, "You don't need to say anymore. Since tonight is the deadline given by the Hamiltons, they will come looking for you later. I'll just wait here and see how the Hamiltons will take California away from me!"

Although the Hamiltons were a royal family branch, Lucas also had a high status. As the former leader of the Falcon Regiment, he was a big shot whose status was on par with the helmsmen of the royal family branches.

Therefore, even if one of these helmsmen was standing right in front of him, he wouldn't be scared at all.

Furthermore, given Lucas's reputation in the Falcon Regiment and his combat power, he was full of confidence facing the royals.

Besides, the person who came from the Hamiltons this time was merely a young man. Lucas wouldn't take him seriously.

Since Lucas had already made up his mind, Bruce had no choice but to accept his arrangements.

But worry shrouded Bruce's eyes.

At this moment, the butler of the Hales hurried over and reported, "Mr. Hale, Mr. Edmund Cole and Mr. Ethan Sawyer have arrived together!"

"Oh, is that so? Please bring them in quickly!" Bruce said.

This was the time they had agreed to meet. After all, their families were also facing the threat of the Hamiltons, so they came here to deal with the issue and discuss the matter of joining forces.

Soon, the butler led Edmund and Ethan to the hall.

The two of them were frowning with worried looks at first.

But when they saw Lucas sitting in the hall, both of them looked shocked and surprised.

"Mr. Gray! Did you just return from DC? I didn't get any news at all. Otherwise, I would have gone to the airport to pick you up!" Ethan walked over to Lucas in surprise and greeted him deferentially.

The Sawyers were originally the richest family in Orange County, and they occupied an important position among the top four families in the county.

Moreover, due to the relationship between the Sawyers and Lucas, they had risen with the tide after Lucas became the overlord of California. They were now among the top five families in California.

He was extremely excited to see Lucas.

Edmund was also pleasantly surprised when he saw Lucas. After all, he admired Lucas greatly and was elated to see him after around a month or so.

But he soon realized that since Lucas was in the reception hall of the Hale residence, he likely already knew about the matter.

So, did Lucas appear here because the Hales had gone to look for him?

When Edmund thought of this, his face turned sullen. "Mr. Hale, what do you mean by this? Didn't we agree to handle this matter on our own? Why did you invite Mr. Gray to come here? Do you want to drag Mr. Gray into this matter?"

Bruce was speechless after being questioned.

He didn't invite Lucas over to drag him into this matter... He didn't even invite him over...

Luca smiled. "Edmund, you're mistaken. Bruce didn't deliberately say anything to me. I just happened to return to Orange County today, so I came here to take a look. That's how I happened to know about it."

Edmund's expression finally became mellower. "Ah, we didn't plan to trouble you over this, Mr. Gray. Sorry to have let you find out about it."

Edmund was the only one among them who had guessed Lucas's true identity and knew that he was the former formidable leader of the Falcon Regiment.

Although Edmund had absolute faith in Lucas's abilities and knew that Lucas was on the same level as the helmsman of the Hamiltons, he wasn't willing to let Lucas get involved and cause him trouble.

But at this point, Lucas already knew about this matter, so there was nothing else Edmund could say.

After everyone sat down and exchanged some pleasantries, the butler came running over again.



"Mr. Hale, Mr. Joel Gillen, the helmsman of the top family in Nevada, is here with his men!

"Mr. Anthony Cross, the helmsman of the top family in Arizona, and his men are here too!"

"What are the helmsmen of the top families in Nevada and Arizona doing here?"

Edmund, Bruce, and Ethan frowned.