

Chapter 381: Old Man by the Road

But Karen's cousin failed to notice the sullen expression on Cheyenne's face and said excitedly, "Cheyenne, when are you going to divorce Lucas? If you get divorced, I'll introduce my niece to him. Well, since your mom said that you guys don't want him in your family anymore, let us have him. Don't allow benefits to go to others!"

Cheyenne's face became even more sullen, and she glanced at Karen furiously. She had already told Karen countless times that she would never divorce Lucas, so she couldn't understand why Karen refused to listen and even told her relatives that they were going to get a divorce.

Considering that there were so many people present, Cheyenne suppressed her anger and tried her best to stay calm as she said, "Aunt, Mom is just kidding. Lucas is my husband, and we're in a very loving relationship. We don't have plans to get divorced!"

Karen's cousin was instantly disappointed, and she lamented, "Huh? You aren't getting a divorce? What a pity!"

Cheyenne was enraged. Who in their right mind would blatantly express their hopes for a married couple to divorce so that she can matchmake her relative with someone else's husband? What an oddball!

Meanwhile, Lucas had already left the Solar Corporation and decided to head straight to the hotel he and William had agreed to check into because he had nothing else planned for the day.

While driving on a street with few pedestrians, Lucas suddenly discovered that the road ahead was blocked by a large group of people crowding around the roadside for some reason.

Lucas pulled over near the road and immediately heard the incessant sounds of discussion coming from outside the car.

“That man is so old and seems quite pitiful!”

“He does look very pitiful, but who dares to help him up? These days, who dares to do good deeds like helping the elderly up unless they have millions in the bank! If he ends up being a conman and accuses you of causing his injury, you won’t be able to afford the compensation even if you go bankrupt!”

“That’s right. There are so many con artists who pretend to be pitiful and vulnerable out there these days, but once you go lend them a helping hand, they’ll grab you tightly and refuse to let go. They’ll accuse you of knocking them over and causing them to get hurt, then insist that you compensate them for their medical expenses. When the time comes, you won’t be able to explain yourself clearly!”

“Exactly. We must refrain from touching the elderly on the streets these days! I was at a relative’s place the other day, and I saw an old man lying on the streets. A kind-hearted young man walked over to help him up, but the old man turned out to be a swindler. In the end, the poor young man had to compensate tens of thousands of dollars, and now, he and his family are still facing many people showing up at their door to scold them every day!”

“That’s right. It’s not that the elderly have become vile, but rather, the crooks have gotten old. Anyway, I don’t have the guts to go help him up. I’m too poor to afford the consequences!”

...

Lucas got a rough idea of what was happening and reckoned that an elderly man had probably collapsed onto the ground on the road ahead.

However, there were many bystanders crowding around him and watching, but none of them dared to go forward to help.

Lucas got out of his car without hesitation and squeezed his way through the crowd to get to the front. He saw a white-haired old man lying on the ground, his face deathly pale. He seemed to be having breathing difficulties, and his body was convulsing incessantly. He even made multiple attempts to reach his hand into his breast pocket, but they were all futile because his hand would slip down every single time.

Lucas was shocked, and he immediately dashed forward to rescue him.

He had spent many years in the army and could tell at a glance that the old man in front of him wasn’t a conman pretending to be distressed. But he was showing symptoms of a heart attack, and the situation was extremely urgent. If the old man wasn’t rescued in time, he would probably die before the ambulance arrived.

Seeing that the old man had tried to reach into his pocket several times, Lucas guessed that his emergency medication should be inside his pocket.

“Sir, hang in there!” Lucas muttered softly while reaching for the emergency medication in the pocket of the old man’s clothing.

At this moment, someone placed their hand on Lucas's arm to stop him.

“Young man, take my advice. Don't think you're doing good by helping him! These days, kindness doesn't necessarily beget kindness. This old man is probably pretending to be ill. Don't get yourself into big trouble by trying to save others!” The person speaking was a middle-aged man in his forties who seemed to have been in a similar situation before.

“Let go!” Lucas yelled and then broke free from that middle-aged man's grip. He then continued to reach his hand into the old man's breast pocket.

The middle-aged man felt that Lucas was disregarding his kind intentions and couldn't help snapping indignantly, “Hah, ignorant young man. I was kind enough to advise you, but you refuse to listen. Once you get swindled and end up going bankrupt trying to pay the compensation, you'll regret your decision now!”

The others around also nodded one after another and chimed in, “Exactly. This man clearly doesn't know any better. We're persuading him out of kindness because we're afraid that he might get cheated by a conman, but he isn't grateful at all!”

“Hmph, if he gets scammed later, he totally deserves it. Well, he'll only have himself to blame for choosing not to heed our advice!”

“There are too many self-righteous people like him in this world. That's why there are so many con artists these days. If everyone minds their own business, those con artists won't get the chance to cheat anyone, and they'll gradually die out!”

“Yes! Let's just wait and see how he regrets it later!”

...

Lucas ignored their remarks and simply reached into the old man's pocket. Soon, he found a small and delicate vial labeled with the words 'Enhanced Aspirin'.

Lucas poured two pills into the old man's mouth and quickly grabbed a bottle of water from his car before coming over again to give the old man some water to wash the pills down. He then unbuttoned a few buttons below the collar of the old man's shirt so that the old man could breathe properly while leaning against Lucas's arm.

Immediately afterward, Lucas called the ambulance and explained the situation in detail to the dispatcher.

After a while, the old man's breathing gradually became calmer, and the tension on his face eased up. He was no longer as pale as before, and he even slowly opened his eyes.

Seeing that the old man had regained consciousness and his complexion had become much better, the bystanders finally realized that the old man on the ground didn't seem to be a conman and had really suffered a heart attack.

"He... seems to have really had a heart attack."

"Yeah, the old man's complexion is obviously better. He probably didn't use makeup to make himself look pale! Besides, he didn't grab the young man and insist that he compensate him either..."

"Damn it. He's actually really sick! We actually thought he was a conman... Fortunately, this young man rescued him. Otherwise, this old man would have really died!"

"Thank God!"

Seeing that the old man's face had eased up greatly and that he could even sit up by himself, Lucas let go of him and stood up.

He looked around at the bystanders and said loudly, "I understand that you don't dare to help others without consideration because you're worried about getting scammed. But in this world, crooks are a minority after all. Sometimes, the people we encounter might really be in need of help. There are many ways to prevent yourself from being cheated by others, such as taking pictures of the situation before giving help or asking the others around you to bear witness. An alternative would be to call 911 directly.

"If every one of us can do the same, we won't have to watch others suffer and die in agony."

Seeing that the people standing around were either deep in thought or coming to a sudden realization, Lucas left without saying anything else.

Chapter 382: Savior

He had already done everything he should, and the old man's condition had already stabilized too. He just had to wait for the ambulance to arrive.

A short while after Lucas left, a red Maserati pulled over at the roadside, and a young woman in her twenties opened the car door and frantically dashed out. While yelling 'Grandpa', she rushed toward the crowd and leaped toward the old man.

"Grandpa, are you alright? Your heart rate monitor app showed large fluctuations in your heart rate just now. I was so scared!" The young woman's eyes were red, and she seemed on the verge of tears.

Her grandfather had a serious heart disease, so there would be people taking special care of him all the time. But today, he suddenly said that he wanted to go out to meet some old comrades in arms and thus walked around on the streets nearby. But he had a heart attack soon after he left.

The white-haired old man stroked the head of the young woman lovingly and comforted, "Don't worry. I'm fine now. Actually, it's all thanks to that young man who just saved me. Otherwise, I might have really died here."

"Young man? A young man rescued you? Where is he?" the young woman hurriedly asked while looking around.

The onlookers quickly avoided eye contact with her somewhat embarrassedly. After all, they had all thought that the old man was a conman, so none of them had dared to go forward to help and almost watched him die in front of their eyes.

The white-haired old man sighed and said with regret, “That young man left after seeing that I was fine. Unfortunately, I didn’t even have time to ask him for his name.”

The young woman shifted her gaze onto the butler-like man who got out of the car together with her. “Uncle Alan, there should be surveillance cameras around here. Quickly find out who the young man who saved my grandfather is at all costs! Then prepare three million dollars in cash as a thank you gift for that kind Samaritan!”

After giving out instructions, the young woman turned around and stuck her tongue out at the white-haired old man. “Grandpa, there’s nothing wrong with this arrangement, right?”

The white-haired old man nodded in approval. “Well done. He saved my life. We really should find him and thank him properly!”

After hearing their conversation, the onlookers were all stunned!

They’re giving that young man three million dollars just because he saved the old man’s life? How generous of them!

Strictly speaking, Lucas hadn’t applied any special technique when rescuing the old man but had simply taken out the emergency medication from the pocket of the old man’s clothes. The onlookers felt that it was something that they could easily do!

Yet Lucas would be rewarded a handsome sum of money that they might not be able to earn in this lifetime by working hard for the rest of their lives. It was even easier than winning a lottery ticket!

At this moment, all the onlookers were chagrined and full of regret. If they had known earlier that the old man was so wealthy that he would casually give a reward of three million dollars, they would have rushed to save him just now.

Unfortunately, there was no medicine for regret in this world. Regardless of how much they regretted their passiveness, there was nothing they could do now!

But many people had made up their minds and decided that they would definitely take the gamble and step up to help people in need if they ever encountered such an unexpected situation again. In case they were lucky enough to rescue a tycoon like this old man, they would no longer have to slog their guts out for the rest of their lives!

The old man and his granddaughter were unaware of the changes in the mindsets of the onlookers.

As the young woman and the butler beside her helped the white-haired old man to the car to take him to the hospital for a thorough checkup, another luxury Audi sedan pulled over by the road.

The car doors opened, and two old men who similarly had white hair alighted.

The two old men were none other than Robert Heron and Sam Morgan, who had just left the Turner residence.

“Mr. Cole... are you okay? When you called us just now, you said that you were about to reach the restaurant we agreed to meet at. Robert and I waited for you for a long time, but you still didn’t show up, so we got really worried that you might

have had a mishap!” Sam looked around to see that the crowd hadn’t dispersed yet and looked worriedly at the old man being held by his granddaughter.

The white-haired old man was Edmund Cole, the head of his family. He laughed twice and said smilingly, “What are you being so formal for? We’re old friends. Just call me Edmund like before! Robert, Sam, it’s been a long time since we last met, huh?”

“Haha, okay. Then we won’t be formal with you, Edmund!”

Robert and Sam seemed really agitated, but they were much more relaxed than before.

After all, although the three of them were comrades in the same squad back in their military days, their statuses were now worlds apart. Since Edmund was still willing to care about their old ties, it was naturally best.

“Come, Alexis, greet Uncle Sam and Uncle Robert. They’re my old comrades who fought alongside me through thick and thin on the battlefield back then!”

“Hello, Uncle Sam, Uncle Robert,” the young woman named Alexis immediately greeted the two of them graciously.

“Hello!” Robert was excited, surprised, and flattered.

Strictly speaking, Sam was the one who was close to Edmund when they were in the same squad back in the day. Robert only became somewhat closer to the esteemed Edmund later because he was friends with Sam.

While the few old friends were reminiscing about the old times and catching up with each other, an ambulance arrived with the sirens ringing loudly.

“We just received a call that there’s a patient here who requires emergency rescue. Where is the patient now?” asked one of the first two paramedics who got out of the ambulance.

Alexis Cole hurriedly pulled Edmund and said, “Grandpa, you had a heart attack just now. You may have recovered from it, but we’d better get you to the hospital for a thorough check!”

Sam and Robert were shocked to hear this. “Edmund, what happened to you just now? Why did you get a sudden heart attack?”

Edmund waved his hand and said with a bitter smile, “Well, it’s an old ailment. I was walking over to meet you guys, but I suddenly had a heart attack along the way. Fortunately, a young man saved me. Otherwise, I’m afraid you two wouldn’t be able to see me anymore!”

Both of them were so frightened by what Edmund said that they broke out in cold sweat while feeling glad and thankful that a young man had saved Edmund. Otherwise, he would have died on the way to see the two of them. Even though they weren’t the cause of the heart attack, the Coles would probably put the blame on them!

“Fortunately, that kind Samaritan saved you. Otherwise, we wouldn’t have been able to live at ease for the rest of our lives. Actually, that young man is our benefactor too!” Sam said emotionally with lingering fears.

“Yeah, I wonder where that young man is now. We really have to thank him properly!” Robert said with a thankful expression while scanning the crowd.

Chapter 383: Scheme in the Hotel

Edmund sighed. “That young man left immediately after saving me. I’m afraid he did that exactly because he doesn’t want me to thank him. But I have to thank him for saving my life! Just now, my granddaughter said that she would try to find him as soon as possible.”

“Yes, that’s the right thing to do! You must inform us once you find him so that we can thank him in person as well!” Sam and Robert hurriedly said.

Soon, Alexis helped Edmund get into the ambulance and sent him to the nearest hospital for a medical checkup. Sam and Robert were naturally still worried, so they drove behind the ambulance and followed it to the hospital. Edmund’s bodyguard and butler tagged along at the back in Alexis’s Maserati.

After the group left, the onlookers who were still crowding around this spot suddenly broke into a heated discussion.

“Damn it. That old man is clearly not an ordinary figure! I don’t know who he is, but the two who arrived after him are from LA. One of them is the helmsman of the Morgans, while the other is the founder of the Heron Corp. They’re both big shots with net worths of millions or even tens of millions of dollars!”

“Are they such bigwigs? I noticed that they were really respectful toward that old man. That old man is probably someone extraordinary, huh?”

“Duh? He casually decided to reward his life savior with a few million dollars. How could his identity possibly be simple?”

“Did you guys see the license plate of the Maserati his granddaughter drove? It belongs to San Francisco, and I even heard Mr. Sam Morgan calling him Mr. Cole. Could he be THAT Mr. Cole from San Francisco?”

“Oh my goodness. They’re a prestigious and elite family in San Francisco. The other top families in our city are nothing compared to such a wealthy family!”

“Ahhh! So that old man on the ground just now is the family head of the Coles. I thought he was just a conman, so I didn’t dare to go help him up! If I had saved him just now, I’d not only have an extra three million dollars in the bank, but I would have also formed connections with a top family from San Francisco! I really regret this!”

“Cut it out! We’re all full of regret too, but just now, no one was aware of his identity, so who would dare to go up and help him? Ah, that young man really got lucky! I guess this is what you call kindness begets kindness!”

While everyone was green with envy toward Lucas, he still didn’t know that he was about to receive a whopping sum of three million dollars.

Of course, even if he was aware, he wouldn’t be bothered by it either because three million dollars really meant nothing to him now.

At this moment, Lucas arrived at the hotel he had booked and was about to go upstairs to look for William. But someone behind him suddenly said with a tone of surprise, “What a coincidence, Lucas. You’re here too.”

Lucas turned around to see Lena quickly striding toward him with a look of surprise on her face.

Lucas raised his brows. “Are you staying here too?”

When he drove William to the hotel just now, Lena happened to be in his car too. But he didn’t hear her mentioning that she would be checking into this hotel too.

Holding onto a small suitcase, she said smilingly, “Yeah, my family’s butler just gave the hotel booking details to me a short while ago. Only then did I realize that it happens to be this hotel too!”

Lucas didn’t doubt Lena’s words. After all, it was the Waldorf Hotel, the best five-star hotel in the city. It was only normal that the Sawyers’ butler would arrange for her to stay here.

Lena suddenly asked, “Which room are you staying in?”

Lucas answered without any doubt, “1606.”

Lena shoved her suitcase toward Lucas and said, “Please help me look after my stuff for a while. I suddenly remembered that I forgot to ask the front desk staff something!”

Then she turned around and ran toward the hotel’s front desk.

“I want the nearest room to Room 1606!” Lena said as she whipped out her ID and membership card.

She didn’t actually book a room at this hotel because the Sawyers initially intended for her to nurture her relationship with Tristan during her trip here this time. The Sawyers and Parkers were on very good terms, and Lena would seem a little distant if she chose to stay in a hotel instead.

But Lena didn't like Tristan at all, much less wanted to marry him. So she naturally wouldn't stay in the Parkers' home.

Soon, she got the room card of Room 1605.

Card in hand, Lena merrily returned to Lucas, overjoyed that her room was right next to his.

"What a coincidence. Mine's 1605. It's right next to yours!" Lena swung the room card in front of Lucas happily.

"Okay."

Since they were staying on the same floor, Lucas decided to just help Lena wheel her suitcase to her room while walking her there.

"Lucas, it's getting late. You haven't had dinner, have you? Why don't we have dinner together? I'll treat you to a feast to thank you for helping out again today!" Lena suggested smilingly.

"My father-in-law should be in his room now. He probably hasn't eaten either. Let's ask him along," Lucas said.

Lena then remembered that William was staying in the same hotel.

"Alright, go get Uncle William while I get ready. Let's head down to the lobby in a bit!"

After Lucas entered his room, Lena immediately went back to her room and took out her phone to call someone.

“I want you to call William Carter, the general manager of the Solar Corporation’s Orange County branch, and ask him out to discuss a cooperation right now. Ask him to show up as soon as possible!”

“Yes, Miss Lena.” Although the person she called didn’t know why she gave him this order, he had to obey her because she was the heiress of the Sawyers.

Just as Lucas and William walked out of the room and were about to go to the lobby together, William’s phone started ringing.

“Hello, how are you? Ah, it’s me. Yes, yes, yes! What? Are you serious? Alright, I’ll head back to Orange County to meet you right now! See you later!”

After hanging up, William said to Lucas excitedly, “Lucas, I won’t have dinner with you tonight. An important client called and asked to meet me to discuss a business cooperation. If possible, the contract can be signed today. I have to head back to Orange County immediately!”

Lucas said, “It’s already dinnertime. Why don’t you have something to eat first?”

“No, it’s fine. The contract is more important. Orange County is about an hour’s drive from here. I have to rush there quickly!”

While returning to the room in a hurry to pack his things, William said, “Don’t worry about me. You guys go have dinner! I’ll get a cab at the entrance of the hotel. I’m leaving now!”

Then William dashed to the elevator and left in a flurry.

Lucas could only sigh helplessly.

At this moment, Lena walked out of her room. Pretending to be shocked, she asked, “Huh? Why did Uncle William leave all of a sudden? Isn’t he going to come along with us for dinner?”

Lucas shook his head. “Something cropped up, and he has to tend to it urgently. Since it’s just us two for dinner, let’s just eat in the hotel.”

Lena said with a smile, “Alright. The food served at the hotel’s restaurant is delicious too. I know a few superb dishes. I’ll recommend them to you later!”

While secretly feeling triumphant, she had a conflicted gaze in her eyes, but she soon smiled with determination. I won’t easily let go of the man I want!

Chapter 384: The Poolside

Soon, the two of them had dinner in the restaurant on the first floor of the hotel.

Lena was very talkative during dinner. She was a bubbly person in the first place, and since she was trying to attract Lucas, she was especially enthusiastic as she kept trying to find a good topic of conversation. In particular, she brought up lots of interesting memories she shared with Cheyenne in the past.

Lucas listened smilingly, and he would ask her a few questions in return from time to time. Dinner was rather pleasant and enjoyable.

After dinner, Lena suddenly said, “Lucas, do you have anything scheduled for later? There’s a beautiful open-air swimming pool on the roof of this hotel, and I really want to try swimming in it. But it’ll be too boring by myself. Can you come with me?”

She blinked her large eyes and looked at Lucas pleadingly, full of expectations.

Lucas didn’t mind, and since Lena didn’t want to go alone, he agreed with a nod. “Okay. I don’t have anything to do later anyway. I’ll accompany you then. I’ll just take it as some post-meal exercise to ease digestion.”

After Lucas agreed, Lena beamed with joy. “Lucas, you’re the best!”

The Waldorf Hotel was the best five-star hotel in the city. Not only because it was the tallest building but also because of the large open-air swimming pool on the roof, which was an absolute highlight.

Admiring the spectacular skyline of the bustling city from the edge of a swimming pool at the highest point of the city while surrounded by buildings that were dozens of meters shorter was definitely an unforgettable experience.

Although it was the weekend, it wasn't a holiday after all. Besides, the rates of the Waldorf Hotel were rather expensive, so there weren't many guests in the hotel at the moment.

Apart from Lena and Lucas, there wasn't anyone else at the rooftop pool.

As soon as the two of them went upstairs, they saw changing rooms, bathrooms, and a plethora of swimsuits specially catered for the guests.

After changing into their swimsuits in the changing rooms, the two of them came to the poolside, clad in bath towels.

“The pool here is enormous, and the water is very clean, much better than regular swimming pools! Also, when you swim to the edge of the pool and look down later, you'll feel exhilarated. I'm sure you'll like it! There's also an artificial hot spring where we can go for a soak and a massage if you get tired later!”

Lena happily introduced the various facilities to Lucas while removing the white bath towel wrapped around her body. She then tossed it aside.

Lucas's eyes widened in shock!

The reason for his astonishment was that Lena was wearing a racy bikini made of extremely thin fabric that covered only her private areas, baring a large portion of her fair skin and svelte figure.

It wasn't that Lucas hadn't seen women before. Over the years, he had carried out many military missions that required him to go to some underground dens and sordid places to rescue many women who had either been forced to or voluntarily become prostitutes. Thus, Lucas had seen all sorts of women.

During the Kingstons' auction held in Club Splendor previously, the girls being auctioned off as commodities were also dressed in skimpy clothes.

But among all the beauties Lucas had seen before, Lena was definitely one of the best, be it in terms of looks or figure.

After taking a glance at Lena in her bikini, Lucas immediately turned his head away with a trace of uneasiness on his face.

Lena was the best friend of his wife, Cheyenne!

Now that Cheyenne wasn't around, there was definitely something very wrong about him and Lena swimming alone in the pool, especially since Lena was scantily clad.

"I suddenly remembered that I have some matters to handle. Go ahead and swim by yourself. I'll leave first."

Then Lucas immediately turned around to leave without hesitation.

"Hey, you... wait!"

In a moment of eagerness, Lena suddenly tripped, fell onto the floor, and then cried out in pain.

Hearing Lena's painful cry, Lucas naturally wouldn't ignore her and continue leaving. He stopped and turned around to see that Lena had fallen onto the floor and was clutching her ankle with pain written all over her face.

Lucas immediately walked toward her and asked softly with concern, "What's wrong? Did you sprain your ankle?"

Lena frowned as if she was forcing herself to bear with the pain. She said with great difficulty, "Uh, I walked too quickly just now and accidentally sprained it. Lucas, my ankle hurts, and I don't think I can walk anymore. Can you help me back to my room?"

Lucas agreed. "Alright."

He helped Lena up from the floor and was about to help her forward by holding her arm. But she suddenly winced in pain, probably because she had strained the injury in her ankle. Her body turned limp, and she fell into Lucas's arms.

They were both wearing swimwear that covered very little of their bodies, especially Lucas, who was wearing nothing but a pair of swimming trunks. When Lena fell into his arms, she pressed her body tightly against his.

Feeling the touch of her soft and delicate skin, Lucas instantly stiffened while his heart began beating rapidly.

But he soon held Lena by her shoulders and calmly helped her regain her balance while pulling away from her in an unnoticeable manner.

“Sit down on the chair and let me see your injury.” Lucas helped Lena sit down on a pool lounge chair at the side.

Lena’s eyes were instantly full of disappointment because Lucas pulled away less than a second after his warm and solid muscles came into contact with her body.

But she soon concealed her disappointment and said with a face full of agony, “What should I do? My ankle is so painful. It hurts as soon as I try to walk! It’s not broken, is it?”

Lucas squatted down on the ground and glanced at Lena’s ankle, which was only slightly red. There were no other abnormal signs.

Given Lucas’s years of experience in the army, he reckoned that Lena’s ankle should have just been slightly sprained. It was far from hurting to the extent of being unable to walk.

Of course, some girls might be more delicate and have lower pain tolerance, so it was understandable.

Lucas stood up and said, “Wait here while I go and get some medicine from the front desk.”

Five-star hotels like the Waldorf Hotel would usually provide common over-the-counter drugs and medication at the front desk.

Before Lena even said anything, Lucas turned around and left, soon vanishing as he entered the elevator.

Seeing that Lucas had left just like that, Lena felt so aggrieved that she was on the verge of tears. “Dimwit! Haven’t I made it obvious enough? Do you not get the hint, or are you deliberately turning me down?”

Chapter 385: Invitation to the Exhibition

Lena had deliberately picked the most revealing bikini that would best accentuate her figure just so that she could show off her beauty to Lucas. But he merely took a quick glance at her before turning away and claiming that he had to leave to handle something important.

She could only use the excuse of spraining her ankle to throw herself at him. But he soon pushed her away again.

Is he too gentlemanly, or does he just not fancy me at all?

If it was Cheyenne who sprained her ankle, he would have definitely carried her into her room...

Lena bit her lip tightly and thought with great indignation, Why... why didn't I get to meet him first?

Previously, a biker came speeding toward her on his motorcycle maniacally, and Lena thought that she would definitely die there and then. But Lucas suddenly appeared beside her like a knight in shining armor and carried her in his arms to rescue her from the assassination.

Since then, Lucas's appearance and the warmth of his embrace were deeply etched in Lena's mind.

She finally knew what it felt like to fall in love with someone.

But the person she fell in love with was already married to her best friend.

Lena had once wavered because she didn't want to be a homewrecker and ruin her best friend's marriage. So during this period of time, she might have repeatedly tried to get closer to Lucas and speak to him, but whenever she thought about her best friend, Cheyenne, she would hesitate and curb her feelings.

Today, she had once again faced an assassination, and she almost thought she was really going to die this time. When her car swerved to the side after the Hummer collided violently into it, her hopes of surviving were all dashed.

But Lucas once again appeared out of nowhere and rescued her from the dangerous situation while she was in despair!

Ah, this is probably fate! Lucas and I are fated with each other!

While she thought about it, her heart was full of sweetness and courage.

So she decided to be brave and go to the hotel Lucas booked while pretending like it was a coincidence. She even arranged for her room to be beside Lucas's so that she could be closer to him.

She then called the person in charge of the Sawyer Corporation to ask William out under the pretext of a business cooperation so that she could have some time alone with Lucas.

She even went out of her way to use the art of seduction and the ruse of being injured to win Lucas's sympathy. But in the end, she still didn't manage to make him stay.

Does Lucas really not have any feelings for me?

Did he manage to tell something just now? Will he hate me because of this?

What should I do next...

While various thoughts raced through Lena's mind, Lucas had already made his way to the roof again. He had changed back into his clothes and was holding onto a bottle of muscle spray.

"The receptionist said that this bottle of muscle spray is very effective for treating bruises, sprains, and injuries. Give it a try."

Then Lucas squatted down and sprayed some of it at Lena's ankle a few times.

Soon, she felt a cool sensation on her ankle.

"How is it?" Lucas asked.

Lena no longer dared to continue pretending she was badly injured, afraid that Lucas might be able to tell something. So she deliberately moved her ankle a few times before saying with a look of surprise, "It really works wonders! It doesn't hurt that much anymore!"

"Good to hear. Let's head downstairs then!" Lucas said smilingly.

Soon, Lucas walked Lena to her room and bade farewell to her at the door instead of entering her room. He then returned to his own room.

As soon as Lena entered her room, she buried herself under the duvet and even punched it several times, feeling embarrassed and chagrined about the failure of her plan today.

In the room next door, Lucas wasn't as calm as he seemed to be on the surface.

In particular, when he closed his eyes, he would subconsciously think of the moment he saw Lena dressed in a bikini and looking dazzling under the setting sun.

Lucas was a normal man, and he inevitably found it impossible to stay as calm and composed as usual when he saw Lena in the racy bikini.

Apart from the time he had unintentionally gotten intimate with Cheyenne while he wasn't in a clear state of mind more than six years ago, he had never engaged in any other intimate behavior in the past 28 years of his life.

In fact, Lucas owed it to his impressive willpower to have been able to push Lena away when she 'accidentally' fell into his arms and pressed her body against his just now.

What am I thinking? Lucas came back to his senses and shook his head hard to dispel these thoughts.

I wonder how Cheyenne is doing at the Turners' and whether or not they've deliberately made things difficult for her, he thought silently.

At this moment, in the Turners' large farmhouse villa in the suburbs of LA...

After the tea leaves saga, which caused her to be slapped by her grandfather Robert, Nikki dashed out of the house in anger.

But after staying outside for two hours, she returned to the Turners' again like nothing had happened, and she soon found Cheyenne.

“Cheyenne, there’s going to be a large exhibition of antiques and treasures at the LA Arts Center this afternoon. I heard that the pieces include exotic treasures and antiques from all over the world. It’s going to be so interesting! I happen to have two tickets. Come along with me!” Nikki held onto Cheyenne’s arm affectionately and pleaded coquettishly.

Cheyenne didn’t have much interest in these items, so she turned her down. “I don’t know much about antiques and treasures, so it’d be a waste for me to attend. I think you’d better ask your friend to accompany you.”

“Hey, Cheyenne, just come with me! My other friends are busy. Since you’re free, just come with me, okay?” Nikki pleaded while shaking Cheyenne’s arm, seeming as if she wouldn’t let go until Cheyenne agreed.

Before Cheyenne could say anything, Charlotte came over from nearby and said coldly, “Nikki, why are you insistently asking my sister out again? What tricks do you have up your sleeve now?”

Charlotte didn’t forget that Nikki had insulted Lucas several times in public today and had even tried to set Cheyenne up with another man.

To Charlotte, Lucas was not only her brother-in-law but also her life savior, her idol, and closest family member, so she would never allow anyone to insult Lucas. What Nikki did in the morning had already landed herself a spot on Charlotte’s black list.

“How could I possibly have ulterior motives? I just thought of taking Cheyenne out for some fun because I’m afraid that she might get bored here. Charlotte, don’t slander me!”

Nikki continued aggrievedly, “Charlotte, are you blaming me because I only asked Cheyenne out and not you? I can’t help it. I only have two tickets, so I can only invite one person! Why don’t I ask my friend to help me get an extra ticket for you?”

Nikki was making it sound as if Charlotte was deliberately picking on her simply because she didn’t invite Charlotte.

“Hmph, I don’t care about an antique exhibition. I’m not going!” Charlotte retorted coldly.

Cheyenne once again declined, “Amelia is about to wake up from her nap soon. I’m going to accompany her, so I’ll pass. You’d better ask someone else!”

A trace of displeasure appeared in Nikki’s eyes, but she quickly said, “Cheyenne, this is for your own good! If you miss this antique exhibition, you’ll definitely regret it because it concerns the development of the Brilliance Corporation!”

Chapter 386: Uninvited Guest

Hearing what Nikki said, Cheyenne raised her brows in puzzlement. “What does that antique exhibition have to do with the Brilliance Corporation?”

Nikki said with a smile, “Cheyenne, you’re now the general manager of the Brilliance Corporation. You should also want the company to develop well and expand the scope of the company’s business to LA, right?”

Cheyenne nodded. “That goes without saying. But what does this have to do with the antique exhibition?”

Nikki said proudly, “Of course it has something to do with the exhibition. In fact, it has a lot to do with it! The organizer of the antique exhibition in the LA Arts Center today is Edmund Cole, the head of the Coles, an extremely wealthy family from San Francisco. All the upper-middle-class families and enterprise owners in LA will definitely attend the exhibition this time to get closer to Edmund Cole and also to build some connections with other reputable figures!

“So Cheyenne, this is an excellent chance for you. It doesn’t matter if you’re not interested in the antique exhibition. Most importantly, you’ll get the opportunity to socialize with the members of other prestigious families and business owners in LA! As long as you communicate well with them, your company will definitely be able to expand well in LA!”

Nikki was indeed quite convincing, and her words hit the nail on the head.

Previously, Cheyenne hadn't thought of expanding the Brilliance Corporation's business to LA so quickly. But now that the golden opportunity was right in front of her, she naturally couldn't miss it since she was the general manager of the Brilliance Corporation.

The fact that the organizer of the antique exhibition this time was the famous and esteemed Edmund Cole from San Francisco was especially significant.

"Nikki, are you sure that the antique exhibition is organized by the Coles?" Cheyenne asked expectantly.

Nikki took out two invitation cards and waved them in front of Cheyenne smilingly. "Cheyenne, take a good look. It's written clearly in black and white on these invitation cards that the organizer is Cole Antiques, one of the Coles' businesses. I'm not deceiving you!"

Given the name of the company, it was obvious that it belonged to the Coles.

After confirming it, Cheyenne agreed without hesitating further, "Okay, I'll go with you."

Seeing this, Charlotte said worriedly, "Cheyenne, do you really want to go? Lucas clearly asked me to stay by your side and protect you."

She didn't want Cheyenne to go out with Nikki.

To put it bluntly, Charlotte just didn't trust Nikki! She wasn't convinced that Nikki would be that nice to take Cheyenne out to expand her network of connections for the development of the Brilliance Corporation in LA.

Who knew what she was thinking? In any case, Charlotte felt that Nikki harbored ill intentions!

Nikki covered her mouth and laughed. “Protect? Cheyenne, you’re making it sound as if I’m taking her to some dangerous place! Don’t worry. We’re just going to the arts center downtown so that Cheyenne can get to know more business partners in LA. How dangerous can it be? I promise I’ll bring Cheyenne back safe and sound. Rest assured!”

Cheyenne patted Charlotte’s hand and comforted, “Charlotte, don’t worry. The exhibition is indeed a good opportunity for the Brilliance Corporation. Once I build some connections and get some opportunities, I’ll be able to take the Brilliance Corporation to greater heights! I hope for the Brilliance Corporation to expand well.”

Seeing how insistent Cheyenne was and knowing that Cheyenne would never give up any opportunities when the Brilliance Corporation was concerned, Charlotte decided not to stop her any further. She said helplessly, “Okay then. Go ahead, but be careful! I’ll just stay here and keep Amelia company!”

“Okay. Thank you, Charlotte!” Cheyenne smiled.

After receiving Cheyenne’s affirmative reply, Nikki took her hand eagerly and said with great excitement, “Let’s go quickly then. The exhibition is going to start soon. We mustn’t be late!”

While they were on their way, Nikki secretly texted someone: [Be right there!]

As soon as Cheyenne left the Turners’ with Nikki, Charlotte immediately called Lucas. “Lucas, Nikki just convinced Cheyenne to go out with her to an antique exhibition at the LA Arts Center!”

Lucas knew that something was amiss and immediately said, “Alright, I’ll go look for her now. Don’t worry!”

He immediately hung up the phone and went straight to the hotel's underground parking lot.

Soon, Nikki and Cheyenne arrived at the entrance of the LA Arts Center.

As soon as they reached the entrance, they heard a familiar voice coming from the side. "Hello, beautiful ladies, you're here!"

The two turned around and saw the well-dressed Kenneth walking toward them.

Without the slightest trace of surprise on her face, Nikki pulled Cheyenne over to greet him. She said smilingly, "Hehe, Kenneth, you must have been waiting for a long time!"

Cheyenne's face turned sullen when she saw Kenneth and shook Nikki's hand off of hers. She said hostilely, "What's the meaning of this? Nikki, didn't you say that it was only going to be us two?"

This morning, Nikki had already made it clear that she wanted to set Cheyenne up with Kenneth. And now, it seemed that Kenneth had already agreed to meet Nikki, who had gone out of her way to convince Cheyenne to come here. Cheyenne immediately knew that she had been tricked by Nikki.

Nikki was afraid that Cheyenne would immediately leave and make her efforts go down the drain.

She hurriedly pulled Cheyenne and said innocently, "Ah, Cheyenne, I really didn't know that Kenneth would be here too! Don't misunderstand!"

"Besides, it's a good thing that Kenneth is here! He's one of the Parkers, a top family in LA. Everyone respects him! As long as he puts in a good word for you later and introduces you to some of his family's business partners, it will be much

more convenient than trying to build connections on your own. Don't you agree, Cheyenne?"

Cheyenne felt really uncomfortable when she saw Kenneth and had never thought of seeking his help to get to know the prestigious figures of LA.

But it was a rare opportunity today, and she would be too reckless to just leave because of Kenneth's presence.

She decided that she would just treat him like he was nonexistent.

Thinking of this, Cheyenne suppressed her anger instead of leaving right away.

But she naturally wouldn't have a good attitude toward Kenneth.

"Cheyenne, you seem to dislike me. Have I offended you in some way?" Kenneth suddenly asked with a look of bewilderment, seeming gentlemanly and innocent.

Cheyenne frowned and chided in displeasure, "We don't know each other that well, Mr. Parker. Please call me Ms. Carter instead. Not just anyone can call me by my first name!"

Chapter 387: We Are One

In fact, she would only let Lucas address her affectionately.

And she would only let her close friends and family call her 'Cheyenne'.

Back then, Cheyenne hadn't accepted Lucas yet, but he wouldn't call her by her full name either because that would seem inappropriate.

Cheyenne felt extremely repulsed and disgusted when she heard Kenneth calling her by her first name and immediately chided him.

The refined and polite smile on Kenneth's face stiffened immediately, and he was full of anger.

I'm the scion of the Parkers and might very well become the next helmsman. Yet a woman just rebuked me so mercilessly.

A married wench at that!

Putting on airs in front of me? Who does she think she is?!

Kenneth found it difficult to maintain a warm and gentlemanly smile at this point.

Noticing Kenneth's displeasure, Nikki hurriedly said, "Cheyenne, what's wrong with you? Kenneth isn't an outsider anyway! Besides, let me tell you the truth. We actually received the invitations to this exhibition all thanks to Kenneth! Otherwise, we wouldn't have even been able to enter this exhibition hall today!"

After hearing Nikki trying to claim credit for Kenneth for the invitations, Cheyenne felt a strong urge to return the invitation card to Kenneth immediately.

She really didn't want to be involved with Kenneth in the slightest, let alone owe him any favors.

If it were anyone else, it wouldn't be too bad. But Kenneth harbored designs on her, so who knows what he would ask of her in return.

She thought that she would just give this exhibition a miss since there would be plenty of other chances in the future anyway.

Just as Cheyenne took out the invitation card and wanted to return it to Kenneth, she heard a familiar voice suddenly come from the side. "Honey!"

Upon hearing Lucas's voice, Cheyenne immediately turned around in surprise.

But she soon thought of Kenneth standing beside her and began to get a little nervous and afraid that Lucas would misunderstand.

Just this morning, Nikki had introduced Cheyenne to Kenneth right in front of Lucas. She even said that Eddie and his wife intended to let her marry Kenneth.

Now, Lucas had run into her and Kenneth.

Although she definitely didn't have any feelings for Kenneth, the fact that they were both at the same place could easily lead to a misunderstanding.

“Hubby, I...”

Just as Cheyenne was trying to explain to Lucas, Nikki immediately glared at Lucas and said hostilely, “What are you doing here, you good-for-nothing? Who said you could come here? Cheyenne, did you ask him to come here?”

Nikki was extremely displeased, and she even seemed to be questioning Lucas.

Lucas’s appearance would certainly sabotage her and Kenneth’s plan! She disliked Lucas in the first place, and now, she wished he would just vanish and get lost as far away as possible!

Lucas walked toward Cheyenne and said to her after glancing at Nikki coldly, “Cheyenne is my wife. What’s wrong with me coming here with her? Who do you think you are? We don’t need your permission to do anything. This is between my wife and me.”

Lucas’s attitude made Nikki incredibly enraged.

“Shut up! What are you? You’re not worthy of speaking to me in such a manner!” Nikki rebuked aggressively and glared at Lucas in contempt. Then she turned her head to look at Cheyenne. “Cheyenne, aren’t you going a bit too far? Kenneth went to great lengths to get us these invitations. Why did you get your good-for-nothing husband to come here too?

“I told you that the antique exhibition today is organized by the Coles, a top family from San Francisco. All the prestigious families and enterprise owners in LA will be sending their representatives to attend the exhibition, and it’s an extremely high-class gathering! Apart from embarrassing us and making others look down on us, what else can he do? You’d better tell him to get lost before it’s too late!”

Nikki hated Lucas to begin with, and she had even gotten slapped by her own grandfather in public because of the tea leaves Lucas gave Eddie. She had yet to exact revenge on Lucas, but now, he had made an appearance, which would thwart her plans. So Nikki utterly detested Lucas and wished she could degrade him as much as possible.

“Enough!” Cheyenne was good-tempered, but after hearing Nikki’s repeated insults and derogatory comments about Lucas, she couldn’t help being furious.

“Lucas is my husband, and I made it clear this morning that I don’t want to hear you insulting him again! Lucas and I are one. Humiliating him is humiliating me too!

“I don’t mind giving this exhibition a miss. You can have the invitation back!”

After lashing out at Nikki, Cheyenne stuffed the invitation card into her hand and turned around to hold Lucas’s arm. She said in a gentle voice, “Hubby, let’s leave!”

Lucas smiled.

He knew Cheyenne’s character well. She had always been good-tempered and would rarely get angry.

But she actually lost her temper and scolded Nikki for his sake. Lucas felt extremely touched.

In particular, he felt a sweet and fuzzy feeling in his heart after hearing Cheyenne say ‘We are one’.

He didn’t get the wrong idea and misunderstand that Cheyenne was here for Kenneth’s sake.

The only reason Cheyenne agreed to come to this exhibition was so that she could take the opportunity to socialize with the representatives of the prestigious families and enterprises in LA to boost the Brilliance Corporation's chances of expanding into LA.

But she was willing to give up this opportunity for him.

The look in Lucas's eyes became more and more affectionate as he gazed at Cheyenne.

Kenneth narrowed his eyes menacingly with a sullen expression. The more he looked at Lucas, the greater of an eyesore he found him to be!

On the other hand, the dumbfounded Nikki looked at Cheyenne, who was holding onto Lucas's arm, before looking down at the invitation card Cheyenne stuffed into her hand. She found it extremely bewildering.

She remembered that Cheyenne had always disliked Lucas, the 'good-for-nothing live-in son-in-law'. Yet Cheyenne actually didn't mind lashing out at her and even gave up the chance to establish greater connections for the Brilliance Corporation all for Lucas's sake. It didn't make sense to her at all!

But she didn't have the time to figure out what had happened between Cheyenne and Lucas. She only knew that Cheyenne was currently enraged, and if Cheyenne left now, her plan to set Cheyenne up with Kenneth would fall through!

After Nikki stole a glance at the sullen Kenneth, her heart trembled. She hurriedly grabbed Cheyenne's arm and swung it coquettishly. "Cheyenne, I was wrong. I won't yell at him again, okay? Please forgive me!

"The opportunity today is extremely rare. Most importantly, the Coles are participating. If you miss this chance, you won't get a second one! Don't let your

anger get to you and leave just like that! Think about your company. You have to stay for its sake!”

Cheyenne was about to shake off Nikki’s hand when Lucas suddenly said,
“Cheyenne, she’s right. Since you have such a great opportunity, why give it up for no reason? Let’s just go in and take a look!”

Chapter 388: Stopped at the Entrance

Upon hearing what Lucas said, Cheyenne immediately felt rather surprised.

But she soon understood what he meant.

Since Kenneth had given Cheyenne an invitation and the opportunity to socialize with the upper-class families and enterprises in LA, there was no reason for her to give it up for nothing.

Regardless of what Kenneth's motive was, Lucas was now by Cheyenne's side, so there was likely no way Kenneth could achieve his goal.

Having figured this out, Cheyenne stopped refusing. "Alright, let's go in and take a look then!"

Seeing Cheyenne finally agreeing, Nikki heaved a huge sigh of relief. At the very least, Kenneth couldn't blame her for being incompetent because she got Cheyenne to stay.

Although Kenneth was extremely displeased with Lucas's appearance, his eyes flashed, and he soon seemed excited.

Soon, they walked to the front door of the arts center and were about to enter, but two security guards stopped them at the entrance.

“Hello, Mr. Parker!” The security guards greeted Kenneth respectfully and said with a conflicted expression, “I’m so sorry, but there’s an extremely important exhibition in our arts center today, so all guests must present their invitation to be granted entry. We know who you are, but it’s our duty to check. We hope to seek your understanding!”

Kenneth smiled. “You don’t have to apologize. You guys are doing a great job. Rules are meant to be followed, and since the guests today are all distinguished figures, the security has to be tight. Those without invitations must not be permitted entry!”

He praised the two security guards before cooperatively handing over the three invitation cards in his hand to them. At the same time, he deliberately glanced at Lucas.

The security guards carefully checked the invitation cards and confirmed that they were genuine. However, there were four people in front of them but only three invitation cards.

“Mr. Parker, I’m sorry, but you only have three invitation cards. It seems... you’re missing one,” one of the security guards said.

Kenneth smirked. “That’s right. The invitation cards are for these two beautiful ladies and me. This other person has nothing to do with me.”

The security guards immediately turned to look at Lucas and scrutinized him a little. The fact that they were tasked to guard such an important event and check the invitations meant that they weren’t silly. Soon, they understood what Kenneth meant.

Although the rules were that people needed an invitation card to enter, they didn’t necessarily have to be followed strictly. If a prestigious and esteemed person wanted to bring a few friends with them, it wasn’t impossible to allow it.

But they could tell from what Kenneth said that he didn't want to let Lucas enter.

"Yes, Mr. Parker. These three invitations for you and the two beautiful ladies beside you are valid. Please come in!" One of the security guards smiled and gestured for them to enter the arts center.

The other security guard stood in front of Lucas with a hostile expression to stop him while questioning curtly, "Where's your invitation card?"

Nikki immediately gloated and giped with derision, "Hmph, the guests invited to the exhibition today are all wealthy and of noble status, unlike someone over here who doesn't have a single invitation card at all. He isn't fit to enter!"

Cheyenne's face turned sullen as she finally figured out that Kenneth had been waiting to humiliate Lucas at the entrance.

They were not locals of LA and only came to attend Cheyenne's cousin's wedding. They naturally couldn't have received invitations in advance. Even Cheyenne was granted entry only because of the invitation card Kenneth had given her. So Lucas certainly couldn't have an invitation card.

Cheyenne held Lucas's arm and said resolutely, "Forget it. I said that Lucas and I are one. Since he can't enter, I'll pass too."

Kenneth immediately sulked. This woman really doesn't know any better!

Feeling rather touched, Lucas suddenly said smilingly, "Cheyenne, just go ahead and enter with them first. Wait for me inside. I'll go in to look for you in a while!"

His gaze was full of certainty and confidence that made Cheyenne subconsciously trust him.

In fact, she would believe anything Lucas said.

“Alright, I’ll wait for you inside then,” Cheyenne said to Lucas with a gentle smile.

“Hmph, you really brag without thinking it through. Do you think it’s that easy to get an invitation? How foolish!” Nikki sneered and said to the two security guards at the entrance, “Look carefully. This person doesn’t have an invitation. If you let him sneak in later and he wreaks havoc inside, the Coles will be furious, and you’ll be in trouble! Do you hear me?”

Nikki spoke in a commanding tone, and she was just short of asking the security guards to chase Lucas away.

The security guards hurriedly agreed, “Miss, please rest assured. We will definitely follow the rules strictly and not let just anyone in!”

Then they stood in front of Lucas to stop him like they were a wall, staring at him with hostile gazes.

“Let’s go!” In high spirits, Kenneth stepped into the exhibition hall of the arts center.

With a triumphant smile, Nikki followed closely behind Kenneth and entered too.

Cheyenne was at the back of the group. She looked at Lucas worriedly. “I’ll wait for you.” She then entered the hall.

Soon, Lucas was the only one left in front of the main entrance of the arts center.

“Punk, why are you still standing at the door and blocking the way? If you don’t have an invitation, you’d better get lost. Don’t think you can bluff your way through and sneak in!”

At this moment, there was no one else at the entrance, and the two security guards began chasing Lucas away like he was garbage.

Lucas ignored them and simply looked down at the time on his watch.

“It should be here soon,” he said calmly.

In the eyes of the security guards, Lucas was deliberately refusing to leave and just pretending to have an invitation so that he could loiter at the entrance.

“Damn it. Did you not hear what we said? We told you to get lost. With the two of us guarding here, don’t even think about finding a chance to sneak in!”

“Hah, take a good look at yourself in the mirror. The guests of the exhibition today are all prestigious, and we’ve seen many like you who try to sneak in and build connections with those esteemed figures. You’d better give up before we teach you a lesson!”

The security guards began yelling at Lucas, and one of them even pulled out a baton from behind his waist, waved it in front of Lucas, and gave him a stern warning.

Without even blinking, Lucas said indifferently, “You two better behave yourselves and not do anything. My invitation card will be delivered to me shortly.”

The security guard sneered. “Hmph, you? Quit playing tricks in front of us! Don’t you understand English? Hurry up and get lost!”

Then the security guard raised the baton in his hand and tried to hit Lucas with it!

Chapter 389: Don't Have To Tag Along

Lucas's gaze was icy cold, but he didn't dodge or look away at all. Seeing the baton getting nearer and nearer to him, he even sneered.

The baton would definitely not land on his body because...

"Stop! Hurry up and stop!" someone suddenly hollered in the distance.

Although the distance was slightly far away, the owner of the voice was furious, so he was extremely loud. Like a thunderbolt, his voice immediately made the security guard freeze.

The two security guards subconsciously turned around, only to see a familiar figure charging toward them in exasperation.

"M-Mr. Davis?" The two security guards panicked and quickly straightened their backs while pressing their legs together as they bowed to the man in front of them respectfully.

The person who came was none other than Flynn, the general manager of the Solar Corporation.

He was also the general manager of this arts center!

Although the security guards had never seen the general manager in person, they had to memorize the basic information of the company's bosses and senior executives during their employee training program. Thus, they had naturally long remembered Flynn's appearance very clearly.

Flynn simply ignored the security guards. He sprinted over, pushed them away, stood in front of Lucas, and bowed to him respectfully. While panting heavily, he said, "I'm so sorry I'm late, Lucas. There was heavy traffic along the way. Sorry to have kept you waiting for such a long time! These two fools didn't hurt you just now, did they?"

While speaking, Flynn glared at the security guards furiously, wishing he could crush them into smithereens!

As soon as he got out of the car just now, he saw one of the security guards raise his baton at the entrance of the arts center and seemingly try to hit Lucas. Flynn received a huge fright!

After seeing how respectful and subservient Flynn was toward Lucas, the security guards already had an ominous hunch. And when they heard Flynn greeting Lucas politely, they were scared soulless! This young man definitely has an extraordinary identity. Yet we actually yelled at him and told him to get lost. We even almost hit him...

The thought of the terrifying consequences that they were about to face made the security guards break out in cold sweat, and their legs began to tremble incessantly.

Although the antique exhibition today was organized by the Coles from San Francisco, the arts center rightfully belonged to the Solar Corporation. So the security officers were considered employees of the Solar Corporation.

Their job at the arts center was extremely lax, and they would only have to work a few days every month during exhibitions and events, but they would still be paid for an entire month. So their jobs could be considered relatively relaxed and stable.

But they had now offended someone who appeared to be their boss' client. It seemed that they might just lose their jobs soon!

The security guards were overwhelmed with regret. Before Flynn could say anything, they hurriedly apologized, "I'm sorry, Sir! We... we weren't aware of your identity. We're very sorry!"

Hearing this, Flynn became even more furious and cursed, "Even if you weren't aware of his identity, you shouldn't have insulted him and tried to hit him unrestrainedly. I never knew I had such snobbish employees like you!"

It was no wonder that Flynn was furious. He had just spoken to Lucas in the morning and informed him that he had already made arrangements for the matters in LA. All the companies under the Solar Corporation had been organized properly too.

But it had only been a few hours since he assured Lucas that everything was in order, and now, it was revealed that there were such stuck-up snobs who bullied others and destroyed the company's image working for the Solar Corporation. They had even behaved so rudely to Lucas!

This just went to show that there was a huge flaw in Flynn's management of the company.

He had clearly given orders to the executives to strictly enforce good behavioral standards for all employees, yet the security guards chose to act against the rules. Worse yet, they had offended Lucas. Flynn was furious!

“Drag these two people who deliberately ruined the company’s image away. Beat them up and teach them a hard lesson! Break the arms of the one who dared to lay a finger on Mr. Gray!” Flynn commanded the two bodyguards behind him furiously.

The tall and muscular bodyguards immediately walked forward and tried to drag them away.

The security guards panicked, especially the one who had wanted to hit Lucas just now. He turned as pale as a sheet and frantically got on his knees to beg for mercy. “Mr. Davis, we may have been snobbish, but we definitely weren’t trying to ruin the company’s image! W-we know we’re at fault. We won’t dare to do it again! Please let us off!”

They were so frightened that their tears were mixed with snot, looking incredibly wretched.

Lucas shook his head and suddenly said, “Forget it. Just fire them.”

Such mercenary small fries existed everywhere, and Lucas saw no need to get upset because of them.

Besides, the security guard didn’t manage to hit him with the baton anyway, so it wasn’t necessary to break his arms.

To put it bluntly, Lucas was just too lazy to get involved with such an insignificant nobody.

Seeing that Lucas didn’t seem to be angry because of this matter, Flynn decided to let them off. “I’ll spare you two this time on Mr. Gray’s account! But we can’t keep employees like you around in the Solar Corporation. Go tender your resignations yourselves!”

The two security guards managed to escape an ordeal. Compared to having their arms broken, being made to resign was considered a very light punishment. So they didn't dare to say anything else and immediately retreated.

Only after the two of them vanished did Flynn apologize to Lucas guiltily. "Lucas, the reason for this incident is my lack of proper supervision. I can't shirk this responsibility. Please punish me!"

Lucas shook his head and said indifferently, "You are the general manager of the corporation, and there are too many things for you to handle. There are more than ten thousand employees in the entire corporation, including those of the branch companies. You can't possibly know every single low-level employee, so you're naturally not to be blamed for this."

After hearing that Lucas didn't blame him, Flynn heaved a huge sigh of relief.

"But the presence of such people will ruin the company's image. How about this? Set up an inspection department specifically responsible for spot-checking and regulating the work and discipline of employees in all departments of the company," Lucas said.

"Yes, Lucas!" Flynn naturally agreed to it frantically.

"Where's the thing I want?"

Flynn immediately took out a stack of gold-embossed invitation cards and handed them to Lucas. "Actually, this arts center belongs to you, so you don't need an invitation to go in..."

"In addition, the organizer of the antique exhibition, Edmund Cole, happens to be here now. Would you like to see him?"

Lucas pulled out one of the invitation cards from the stack Flynn was holding and said disinterestedly, “There’s no need to meet him. I have something to do here. You don’t have to come with me.”

Chapter 390: Ordinary Friends

Lucas walked straight into the exhibition hall of the arts center.

Although the Coles from San Francisco seemed to have an extremely high status in the eyes of the general public, they were just an ordinary family to Lucas, and he didn't think it was necessary to try and get close to them.

After Lucas walked into the hall, Flynn gave it some thought and said to his secretary, James Denning, "Although Lucas wants to keep his identity a secret, I want you to go inside and keep an eye on the situation in case some ignorant fools offend him. If someone tries to make things hard for him, chase them out immediately!"

James had been working as Flynn's secretary for a long time, so he naturally knew that Lucas was the actual boss and chairman of the corporation. He immediately acknowledged and followed Lucas into the arts center.

The hall had been decorated by the professionals the Coles hired and was now largely different from how it usually looked during most art exhibitions.

The large hall was divided into several areas where a large plethora of antiques was put on display.

Examples included antique paintings that dated back centuries, porcelain ornaments, gold and silverware, antique embroidery, and many other precious items.

Major changes had been made to the decor style of the hall for the sake of the exhibition. Various adjustments had also been made to the wallpaper, ceiling, and lighting to allow the visitors of the exhibition to be immersed in history.

The design was certainly ingenious. But it was the first day of the antique exhibition, so it wasn't open to the public yet. The invited guests present today were all members of the prestigious families and enterprises in LA, whose purpose of visiting wasn't for the antiques.

In the hall, there were entrepreneurs gathered in small groups chatting with each other. Although they were standing in front of the antiques and were seemingly interested in them, they were actually discussing business and cooperations.

In particular, those of higher statuses were surrounded by more people. It was extremely lively.

After Cheyenne followed Kenneth, a direct descendant of the Parkers, into the hall, he was soon surrounded by many people vying to greet him and get closer to him.

Kenneth was extremely familiar with such functions and knew exactly how to behave.

But when he started chatting with these people, no one paid any attention to Cheyenne at the back.

Many of them simply glanced at Cheyenne in amazement. But since they had never seen her before and she didn't have a male companion of a significant status with her, no one really paid attention to her.

During such functions where fame and interests were involved, most guests were wise enough to socialize only with those who were prestigious and had high statuses. They wouldn't bother paying attention to some nobodies, as they felt that it would be a waste of time and effort.

Of course, many of them thought that they might have the time and chance to 'toy' with the beautiful Cheyenne after the exhibition ended.

While chatting with people skilfully, Kenneth took a few glances at Cheyenne without any intention of introducing her to the people he was talking to.

Although Nikki had brought it up at the entrance when persuading Cheyenne to attend the antique exhibition together with him, he knew exactly what she was here for and wouldn't fulfill her wishes that easily. At the very least, I must make Cheyenne Carter take the initiative to beg me for help. Only then will it be interesting.

Kenneth deliberately ignored Cheyenne's presence, and Nikki naturally understood what he meant, so she stood beside Cheyenne and said smilingly, "Cheyenne, didn't you say that you want to get to know some entrepreneurs of LA? I think you'd better ask Kenneth for help. He has a very wide network of connections in LA, and you'll get many contacts as long as he introduces you to them!"

Cheyenne glanced at Nikki and declined without hesitation, "That's unnecessary."

Kenneth had been harboring designs on Cheyenne in the first place. If she asked for his help, she wouldn't only owe him a favor again, but he might even take advantage and demand more from her.

She didn't want to get involved with someone like Kenneth.

Cheyenne remained standing quietly without taking the initiative to socialize with anyone. Instead, she looked at the entrance of the exhibition hall from time to time. Although Lucas had promised he would join her soon, she didn't know how those security guards would make things difficult for him and was unsure if he could come in.

After chatting with these people for a while, Kenneth realized that Cheyenne still hadn't lowered her pride to beg him for help, greatly displeasing him.

This woman really doesn't know any better!

Seems like I have to take the initiative to do something.

After chatting with the people around him for some time, Kenneth suddenly turned around and pretended like he had neglected Cheyenne. Feeling a great sense of superiority, he slowly walked toward her. "Ah, I saw many of my old friends just now, so I accidentally neglected you. Please don't take it to heart!"

Upon hearing what Kenneth said, all the people surrounding him just now glanced at Cheyenne curiously.

After saying this smilingly, Kenneth reached his hand out to put his arm around Cheyenne's shoulder.

In his opinion, Cheyenne wouldn't make him look bad by turning him down in front of so many people. As long as she still wanted him to introduce her to these people, she wouldn't dare to disobey him. So he thought that she could only obediently let him put his arm around her.

Hah, Lucas Gray is going to be infuriated if he dares to come in later!

Kenneth had a good plan in mind, but to his surprise, Cheyenne actually took a step back and avoided him!

Kenneth's outstretched hand froze in midair, and he immediately felt embarrassed and furious because everyone was watching him. How dare this damn woman put me to shame like that?!

There was a sudden silence in the air.

But someone soon laughed and tried to give him an out. "Mr. Parker, we've never met this beautiful lady before. Why don't you introduce her to us?"

Everyone looked at Cheyenne with amazement.

Such a stunning beauty like Cheyenne was rare, even to people like them from prestigious families!

Kenneth suppressed his anger and deliberately said ambiguously, "This is Miss Carter. She's my... ahem, a close friend of mine. She's rather shy, so please be accommodating."

His ambiguous words somewhat gave him an out, as it was an explanation as to why Cheyenne moved away from his arm away just now.

After hearing this, the large group of people around him even seemed to come to a sudden realization.

"Wow, so this beauty is your close friend, Mr. Parker!"

"Haha, she's indeed really pretty. Mr. Parker, is she the reason that you're still a bachelor now?"

“Even heroes can’t resist a beautiful woman. Mr. Parker, you should be getting married soon, huh?”

...

Many people began to tease and flatter him.

Kenneth didn’t deny it either. He merely smiled and chuckled along while glancing at Cheyenne provocatively.

Cheyenne’s face turned slightly sulky, and when the commotion subsided, she suddenly said, “I’m sorry, everyone, please don’t get the wrong idea. Mr. Parker and I are just ordinary friends.”

Kenneth was stunned but not enraged. At the very least, Cheyenne admitted in public that they were friends, which was much better than treating him like a stranger like previously.

If they continued progressing, they might soon become an item. In Kenneth’s opinion, it wasn’t a tall order.

But before Kenneth could rejoice, Cheyenne added another sentence, which made his face turn sullen immediately.

Cheyenne said, “Please allow me to introduce myself. I’m Cheyenne Carter, the general manager of the Brilliance Corporation in Orange County. I came here today in hopes of befriending you. Please allow me the honor!”