

Two days ago, Daniel was the one who had gotten the cops to arrest him. He thought they were in the middle of the opening ceremony because he had no idea he had been unconscious for two days.

Adam had no idea it was Zeke who had brought him back to life.

Daniel put on an awkward smile on his face, feeling embarrassed by his father's words.

Zeke urged, "Dad, let's head home."

Daniel nodded. "Let's go."

Emily looked at Zeke's retreating back as he made his way home. She was about to stop him but resisted the urge to do so because her mind was all over the place.

Finally, she asked Susan once they had gotten far away, "Susan, were you serious just now? Did Zeke really partake in the forum and bring a vegetative patient back to life?"

"Of course!" Susan replied. She was still irritated at Emily's previous actions.

She didn't bother to be courteous anymore because Emily had actually tried to frame Susan up and have her take the blame instead.

Emily begged, "Susan! Please! You have to get Zeke to treat my vegetative father!"

Susan replied, "Mr. Williams and I are merely acquainted with one another. After all, we've merely run into each other by chance. However, you're his ex-girlfriend who has spent five years beside him. I'm sure you're in a better position than me to make such a request. You should approach him and beg him on your own."

Susan made her way to Rejuvenation Clinic once she finished her sentence.

Madeleine and Emily flushed sheepishly.

Madeleine sighed and instructed, "Let's go." It seemed as though she had aged because of that particular incident.

The incident was indeed a vital blow to her in terms of her career and her life.

Emily nodded and followed Madeleine's footsteps as they made their way out of the clinic.

Madeleine lowered the garage door and locked the clinic up.

She knew no one would drop by her clinic anymore because Rejuvenation Clinic had outmatched them.

Meanwhile, Savior Clinic had almost sent one of their patients to hell.

Madeleine knew it would be over for her, as their



image had been tarnished due to that particular incident.

Madeleine and Emily exchanged glances and remained silent thereafter.

Regret engulfed them as they reflected upon their past actions.

If Emily hadn't ended her relationship with Zeke, she would be the one enjoying the fringe benefits brought upon by Zeke.

Madeleine rubbed her tears secretly. "Sigh... If only we stopped insisting on the three hundred thousand payment back then..."

Emily asked Madeleine, "Mom, do you think it's possible for me to win Zeke over again?"

Madeleine heaved a long sigh. "I'm sure you know the answer better than me, right? Zeke's currently head over heels in love with Lacey. It almost impossible for you to win him over again."

Emily hesitated for a while. "What if... Lacey isn't around anymore?"

Madeleine raised her head abruptly, "Emily, what do you mean?"

Emily gritted her teeth and exclaimed, "Hmph! What belongs to me will always belong to me! I won't allow anyone to take it away from me!"

...

Adam couldn't even walk on his own as he had yet to regain his strength. After all, he had just regained consciousness some time ago.

He took a peek at Rejuvenation Clinic and wanted Daniel to send him home immediately.

However, he gave up in the end when he recalled what Daniel had done back then.

*Daniel had actually tried to call the cops and get them to take me into custody...*

Adam thought Madeleine was the one who had saved him because he had returned to his senses at Madeleine's clinic.

Meanwhile, although Adam had just regained consciousness, Daniel neglected Adam's needs when he needed someone by his side the most.

*I don't need a son like him!*

In the end, Adam hailed a ride and made his way back home on his own.

In the meantime, Jeremey was searching high and low all over Adam's place for all sorts of things.

He was certain Adam wouldn't make it out alive. Hence, he wanted to gather as many valuables as possible in advance before Adam's death was



made known to the public.

However, Adam made his way home right when Jeremy was having the best time of his life.

“What the f\*\*\*!” Jeremy was horrified and went weak at the knees instantly. He almost fell to the ground as a result.

*What the hell is this spiritual encounter under broad daylight?*



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Adam rolled his eyes and yelled petulantly, “Stop shouting like a fool! What do you think you're doing?”

Jeremy, who was freaking out, asked, “Dad, h-have you fully recovered?”

Adam snorted, “I wasn't even sick in the first place! I merely passed out due to anger!”

Jeremy was dumbfounded when he heard Adam's words, but he managed to figure out the cause and effect of everything soon.

*It's obvious dad has just regained consciousness. Hence, he has yet to sort out and figure out what has happened back then.*

*That's great! Hopefully, he won't find out what happened for the rest of his life!*

*Otherwise, I'm sure he will finish me off if he knows the plan I made with Madeleine! After all, I was the one who instructed her to kill dad through the disguise of medical practices.*

Jeremy rushed over and welcomed Adam, “Dad, have a seat! Your place is too messy! I'm just trying to sort things out and clean up your place for you.”

Adam replied in a disgruntled tone, “Hmph! You're such a heartless man! You're the one I've been prioritizing all along, but you actually try to send



me behind bars on your behalf! “

Jeremy tried to explain himself, “Dad! That was for your sake!”

Adam replied, “You tried to send me behind bars for my sake? Do you really think I'm a senile old fool?”

Jeremy tried to justify his actions. “Dad, think about it! If I were to be taken into custody, I would have to spend at least half a decade behind bars!”

“What about you? No one will be around to take care of you if that's the case!”

“However, it's different if you're the one to be taken into custody because I will be able to get you out of the jail within a matter of hours!”

Adam was shocked. “What do you mean? Are you acquainted with those from the jail?” asked Adam.

Jeremy replied, “Those from the jail are but an insignificant bunch!”

“You know Emily's brother is part of the military, don't you? He's been promoted to a sergeant recently. No one dares defy his order! Hence, all it takes is an order from a sergeant like him to release you!”

Adam pondered for quite some time before he replied, “What you've told me makes sense as

well.”

Jeremy heaved a sigh of relief because his father had been deceived by him once again.

Suddenly, he stuttered, “D-Dad... T-There's something I have to tell you, but I'm unsure if I should...”

“Speak,” instructed Adam.

Jeremy told Adam, “I reached out to Madeleine to save you once you had passed out back then, but Daniel got in my way and tried to stop me. He proposed his evil plan to me and told me to leave you alone. He said we would be able to distribute your heritage equally once you're dead.”

He continued, acting pitifully, “Don't worry, dad! I haven't given in to him! I'm home to pack some daily necessities with me because I wanted to keep you company at Savior Clinic. I couldn't possibly allow Daniel anywhere near you!”

Adam Hinton flew into a rage. “Damn it! That must be why Daniel and Zeke were there during my operation. They were trying to stop Madeleine from saving me!

Jeremy had a barely noticeable wicked grin on his face.

*Finally! I managed to get Daniel to take the blame on my behalf.*



A fleet of luxurious cars stopped in front of Adam's place as he was scolding Daniel.

It was a fleet of Mercedes-Benz S series cars.

The leading car was a Rolls Royce Shadow worthy of ten million.

A bunch of noble-looking men with a complete set of tuxedo walked out of the car.

They each had a delicate gift box with them.

They walked towards Adam under the guidance of a senior citizen dressed in a set of traditional clothing.

Adam and Jeremy were dumbfounded when they saw the bunch of men walking towards them.

*Who the hell are they? Are they here for... us?*

The senior citizen dressed in a set of traditional clothing asked politely, "Are you Mr. Hinton?"

Adam replied immediately, "Y-Yes... Y-You are...?"

The senior citizen replied, "We're the Williams family from Atheville. We have come to deliver the wedding gifts."

*The Williams family from Atheville?*

Adam and Jeremy's hearts skipped a beat when

they heard the senior citizen's words.

*That's one of the top conglomerates in Eurasia!*

*The top conglomerates from Oakheart City are nothing when compared to the Williams Family from Atheville!*

*Why are they here to deliver wedding gifts to us? The Hinton family is but a trivial family!*

The senior citizen announced, "Here are the gifts prepared."

"A Bauhinia Royal Card worthy of a hundred million. A Rolls Royce Shadow worthy of fifty million. An ancient crown embedded with all sorts of jewellery, indicating our master's sincerity. A set of diamond rings with the name of Love in a Fallen City, indicating our master's eternal love."

...

**WHAT!**

Adam and Jeremy were petrified when they realized the amount of fortune involved.

*The gifts amount to a total of two hundred million. The Hinton family's life will never be the same anymore!*





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Before Adam could figure out the rationale behind their action, the senior citizen had already departed after they presented them with the various wedding gifts.

The senior citizen reached for his phone and made a call the moment they left Oakheart City.

“Mrs. Williams, we've already presented them with the gifts.”

An ostentatious voice could be heard coming from the other end of the call as she asked, “My son didn't reject the gifts, did he?”

The senior citizen replied, “Mr. Williams Jr. wasn't around when we visited. We were worried he would reject the gifts. Hence, we had departed immediately once we handed them over.”

The woman replied, “Good! That's great! Sigh... I hope my son will understand where I'm coming from.”

Meanwhile, Adam and Jeremy's eyes had brimmed with tears as they could no longer hold back their excitement.

After all, the bunch of gifts was worth almost two hundred million. It was something they could only long for in the past.

It took those from the Hinton family a long time for them to regain their composure because they



actually achieved a once unachievable dream.

“Jeremy, to whom do you think these gifts from the Williams family from Atheville are to?”

Jeremy tried to analyze the situation, “Dad, there are only three young ladies in our lineage. Lacey, Lily, and Linda. Lacey has already gotten married. Linda's still a minor, so Lily's the only one who fits the description.”

Adam nodded and expressed his agreement, “Mm. You're right.”

Jeremy could no longer hold back her excitement and expressed, “That must have been why Lily has been behaving oddly lately. She's in a relationship with someone from the Williams family from Atheville...”

Adam urged, “Jeremy, we shouldn't jump to the conclusion just yet. Hurry up and get Lily over.”

Jeremy hurriedly replied, “Alright! I'll call her over immediately!”

“Hmph! We're about to be affiliated with someone from the Williams family from Atheville. Oakheart City will soon become our domain! Does Daniel think he will be able to get ahead of us just because he's affiliated with those from the Schneider family? The Schneider family's nothing as compared to those from the Williams family!” Adam cried out in glee.

...

Meanwhile, Zeke received a call from someone from Atheville out of the blue.

He had hung up the call countless times as his mind was all over the place.

However, the person on the other end of the call called again and again.

Zeke couldn't do anything about it. Hence, he headed over to an isolated corner to pick up the call.

He heard a familiar yet estranged voice coming from the other end of the call as the woman asked, "Zeke, it's been a few years. How are you?"

Zeke replied in a callous tone, "The Zeke you're looking for is no longer alive. He's been dead since the moment you decided to send him behind bars to take his twin brother's place. I'm not affiliated with the Williams family from Atheville anymore! I'm the Great Marshal, Zeke Williams!"

Mrs. Williams heaved a heavy sigh over and over again, "Zeke, your father and I won't blame you for such thoughts because we know it must have been tough on your end over the years. We don't seek your pardon, but we have to tell you the truth."

"What kind of truth?" asked Zeke.



Mrs. Williams replied, "Your grandmother was the one who instructed us to send you behind bars to take over your brother's place... We couldn't possibly defy her words because she was the representative of the family back then... "In fact, should we have gone against her words, you might be in great danger as well... You'll soon figure out what I'm talking about..."

Zeke replied in a callous tone once again, "We can't possibly change what has been done unto me. You don't have to explain yourself anymore either. If there's nothing else, let's wrap up this session. Please don't get in touch with me anymore."

Mrs. William stopped him in a hurry. "Wait! Have you received the wedding gifts your father and I have sent you? We know it isn't enough to prove our sincerity, but we hope you know we mean everything we have said all along."

"If it's possible... Please return home... The Williams family need you..."

Mrs. William hung up the call right after she finished her sentence.

Zeke knitted his eyebrows because he couldn't figure out what Mrs. Williams had been talking about.

*Wedding gifts? What sort of wedding gifts?*

“Zeke, what are you doing on your own at such an isolated location?” Zeke had no idea when had Lacey snuck up behind him.

Zeke put on a smile and replied, “It's nothing. Let's head out for lunch, Lacey!”

Lacey replied with an awful expression on her face, “Mm... I'm not in the mood for lunch...”

Zeke asked, “What's wrong? Who's the one who has offended you? I'll go deal with him immediately!”



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Lacey found Zeke's words hilarious and childish at the same time. "Mind your manners, okay? That's not how you're supposed to solve a problem! No one has offended me, but I'm quite concerned with the construction of Love in a Fallen City."

Zeke asked curiously, "What's wrong with Love in a Fallen City?"

Lacey told Zeke, "Sigh... The scale of the project exceeds what I had in mind. I've consolidated both our steel mill and raw material production plant, but it can't uphold the construction of Love in a Fallen City."

She continued in a sad tone, "We have to expand the scale of our factory to accommodate the construction's needs. Otherwise, we may not complete the project in the designated time."

Zeke suggested, "It's simple! Let's expand the factories if that's the case!"

Lacey replied, "It's not such a simple task! We won't be able to expand the factories due to the limited resources we have at the moment. However, I've generated another solution!"

"What is it? Tell me!"

"Well, The government is going to put Hamilton Construction up for auction. The reserve price is merely a hundred million! If we're able to acquire Hamilton Construction, we'll be able to



accommodate the needs of Love in a Fallen City's construction!" Lacey grinned.

Zeke nodded and replied, "Sure! If that's the case, let's acquire Hamilton Construction then!"

Zeke had always wanted to transfer the ownership of Hamilton Construction to Lacey.

However, he knew Lacey might decline his offer as she would only accept gifts she thought she deserved.

Hence, he decided to get rid of it through an auction in disguise.

Zeke would then sell it off to Lacey for a price below the market value to satisfy Lacey's need.

Lacey massaged her temples and voiced out her concerns, "I'm afraid a lot of the corporate players are eyeing Hamilton Construction as well since it's such a tempting offer. Are you sure we'll outmatch the corporate players?"

Zeke chuckled, "Are you kidding me? You're one of the top corporate players amongst them! Don't worry, honey. I'm sure they're no match for you!"

Lacey replied in a petulant manner with a smile on her face, "Stop teasing me! Nonetheless, I'll definitely give it a try with your support!"

...



Savior Clinic had stalled its operation for two consecutive days because all of their customers had headed over to Savior Clinic.

Madeleine knew it would be impossible for them to sustain their business in Merwin District. Hence, she had decided to move elsewhere.

She received a call from her son while she was in the middle of packing with Emily, about to move.

Her son was a militant; he was her only hope now.

The only great news she had received lately was the promotion of her son to a sergeant.

Madeleine picked up the call with a bright smile on her face, "My dear, why have you decided to call me all of a sudden? Are you in need of money again? I'll transfer it to you immediately!"

Sam replied, "Mom, I have great news for you!"

Madeleine replied, "Silly boy, the best news I've come across lately is your promotion! There can't possibly be anything greater than that!"

Sam replied, "Mom! There's better news than my promotion!"

"I'm sure you know Hamilton Construction by the Hamilton Group has been seized by the military, right? According to a reliable source of mine, those from the military are about to put Hamilton



Construction up for auction! The reserve price is merely a hundred million! You only have to gather a hundred million and gain ownership of Hamilton Construction!”

Madeleine replied with a bitter smile, “Sam, you might have overestimated your mother's capability. We're but an ordinary family. We can't possibly gather a million over such a short period of time. Even if we manage to gather a hundred million, we can't possibly outmatch the other corporate players, right?”

Sam replied, “Mom, I'll tell you what's going on behind the scene. My master, Officer Hugh, is the person in charge of the upcoming auction.”

“I've gotten in touch with him beforehand. He will definitely prioritize our family during the auction! Of course, a portion of the shares goes to him after we've secured the deal. You have to gather a hundred million, even if it means borrowing the said amount from loan sharks! Don't let me down!”

Madeleine's eyes gleamed. “Officer Hugh's involved? If that's the case, there's quite a huge probability for us to secure the deal! As for the money... Your sister and I will try out best to sort it out!”

Madeleine got in touch with Emily the moment she hung up the call and told her the news.

Emily had an awful look on her face as she sighed,



“Mom, you shouldn't have promised Sam! It's a hundred million we're talking about! How will we gather this huge sum over such a short period of time?”

Madeleine huffed, “I don't care! You have to fork out a hundred million within the designated time!”

“Your brother has sacrificed so much to acquire Hamilton Construction. He has gotten in touch with Officer Hugh as well! You can't even gather a hundred million? Seriously? Are you going to let your brother down? Don't forget that your brother is our only hope!”



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Emily's mind was all over the place when she heard her mother's instruction. "Mom, I'm just someone else's employee! It's gonna take forever for me to gather a hundred million!"

Madeleine suggested, "You're a procurement specialist of the Schneider family, aren't you? Why don't you make use of a hundred million from the Schneider family? "We'll return the hundred million to them once we've acquired Hamilton Construction!"

Emily felt extremely dejected.

*Embezzlement of a hundred million? If it's exposed by someone else, I'll have to spend the rest of my life behind bars!*

*Mom's overly biased! How can she put me at stake to fulfil Sam's greed?*

Emily sighed as she had no audacity to engage in such a risky activity, "Mom... I can't possibly..."

A brand new Rolls Royce Shadow stopped in front of their house before Emily could finish her sentence.

Adam and Jeremy walked out of the car once it had been brought to a halt.

Madeleine and Emily were dumbfounded by the scene in front of them.



*What the hell is going on? How did they afford such a luxurious vehicle?*

*It's a Rolls Royce Shadow worthy of fifty million!*

*Why are they here in such a luxurious vehicle?*

Jeremy rushed over and shook Madeleine's hand enthusiastically, "Mrs. Clemons, thank you so much! You're the one who saved my father! We're here to express our gratitude!"

Madeleine was confused because Zeke had been the one who had saved Adam.

*What? It has nothing to do with me! It was Zeke!*

However, Jeremy winked and signalled her to play along with his eyes.

Madeleine realized something must have been going on behind the scene and decided to play along with Jeremy. "It's nothing! I'm merely carrying out my duty as a fellow doctor! You don't have to return the favour!"

Adam reached for the envelope he had brought along with him and handed it over to Madeleine, "Mrs. Clemons, we can't possibly express our gratitude through words! "Here's ten thousand for you! Please accept our token of gratitude!"

*Ten thousand in return for treatment!*

Madeleine and Emily's minds were blown away once again because they couldn't figure out the reason behind Adam's generosity all of a sudden.

Emily realized they might have had been bestowed by a fortune when she recalled the existence of the luxurious vehicle worthy of fifty million they had arrived in!

She asked immediately, "Mr. Hinton, it seems like you're having the best time of your life lately! What sort of lucky encounter have you run into?"

'Adam replied humbly, "We're not lucky! Lily s the lucky one!"

"Lily's the lucky one?" Emily cast a sceptical gaze at Lily, who had an arrogant smile on her face.

Jeremy explained, "The Williams family from Atheville has a thing for Lily. Hence, they have presented us with gifts worthy of two hundred million in the morning!"

Once again, Jeremy's words blew Emily and Madeleine's minds away.

*The Williams family from Atheville... One of the top conglomerates of Eurasia...*

*A descendant from the upper echelon has a thing for someone like Lily?*

*They've presented them wedding gifts worthy of*



*two hundred million?*

*She must have been blessed by their ancestors, right?*

Adam replied, "This Rolls Royce is one of the gifts presented to us by the Williams family. We've decided to drop by to express our gratitude since Lily has brought us out for a walk!"

Although they said they were there to express their gratitude, it was, in fact, an attempt to show-off in disguise.

Adam had no intention to stay around anymore since they had achieved the goals they had in mind. They departed right after they finished sharing the great news they had.

Emily felt extremely dejected because Lacey and Lily used to please her back in the day.

However, they had gotten ahead of her in life ever since they ran into the right one in their lives.

She was the only one who had gotten nowhere further in life.

Hence, she felt extremely dejected whenever she compared herself to others.

Emily heaved a long sigh. *Perhaps that's my destiny in life...*

Madeleine whispered, “Emily, do you think the Hinton family will lend us a hundred million if we try to borrow it from them?”

Emily replied with a bitter smile, “Mom, stop being hopeful. I'm sure you know the Hinton family better than me, right? They've always been a stingy bunch!”

Madeleine replied, “We're merely borrowing it from them! We're not asking them to give it to us!”

“If worse comes to worst, we'll give them some of Hamilton Construction's shares once we get our hands on it! They've always been known as a greedy bunch too! I'm sure they will give in to our request!”

Emily thought about it for a moment. “I guess you're right! Alright, mom! I'll get in touch with them soon!”



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After leaving Emily's medical hall, Lily drove straight to Lacey's steel mill.

These days, with strong support from Zeke, Lacey's business prospered far better than that of Lily's.

Now that Lily had possessed adequate capital, she wanted to show it off to Lacey.

Lacey was awfully busy while Zeke looked for a corner to smoke a cigar.

Lacey was strict in rationing Zeke's cigar-puffing hobby. After two days of abstinence, Zeke was happy to indulge in it.

As soon as Lily parked her car right in front of Lacey's office, she honked loudly.

The piercing blaring startled Lacey out of her preoccupation with work.

Upon seeing the honking luxury car, Lacey rushed out to welcome her guest, wondering who the VIP was.

However, she was shocked to see Jeremy and Lily get out of the car. *How did Lily raise the kind of money to buy this car?*

Adam Hinton was still burning with anger, so he stayed in the car and refused to meet Lacey.

Lily bluntly said, "Oh, Lacey! I didn't know you are so busy. Tell me, how much can you make today? Two or three hundred thousand?"

Lacey evaded the question. "At the moment, we keep ourselves busy all day. We have yet to reach the phase of production that yields profits. Lily, from whom did you borrow this car?"

Lily Hinton was both angry and proud. "What do you mean by that? This is my car! I don't have to borrow it from anyone!"

"Your car?" Lacey frowned rather sarcastically. "How did you manage to come up with the money to buy such a luxurious car?"

Lily felt proud as she boasted, "It's a gift from my fiancé."

This piqued Lacey's curiosity. "Lily, you've found a partner? Who is he?"

"The eldest son of the Williams family in Atheville," announced Lily Hinton with pride.

Lacey experienced greater shock at this. "Do you mean the Williams family in Atheville? Lily, are you sure his love for you is genuine? You'd better be careful. A super-rich family like his is rife with complicated relationships and rivalries."

Lily Hinton jeered at her advice. "I think you're jealous of me, aren't you?"



“Let me tell the truth. My fiancé has given me things worth two hundred million as a betrothal gift. If he does not love me, do you think he would have done that? Give me those things worth such a grand amount?”

Lily continued mockingly, “Look at you... My dear cousin, you should really start rethinking your decision. When you looked for a future husband, it didn't matter if he couldn't afford to give you a decent betrothal gift. Please, are you sure you want to go for someone who has to rely heavily on you for a living?”

Her words really embarrassed Lacey.

Lily Hinton got straight to the point. “The purpose of my arrival here today is to tell you to get rid of your dilapidated house and lousy car. Replace or throw away anything that isn't presentable. I don't want the Williams family to see such trash and think the worse of me. If you don't have the money, come and borrow some from me.”

Lacey suddenly thought of something. “Lily, don't tell me you've spent the betrothal gift on a big house and a luxury car to show off.”

“Of course I did! I spent the money to enjoy all the fun those things can bring. Of course, I didn't buy those things for myself alone. I bought a house and a car for grandpa. I'm not like somebody who makes a lot of money but doesn't know how to show respect to their elders.”

Still seated in the car, Adam Hinton's wrinkles widened as he smiled.

*Lily really does care about me, who has pampered her all these years. Lacey is so disappointing in this regard.*

Lacey didn't give up. "Lily, I really advise you to invest the money instead. Money spent is gone forever, but if you invest it, you will surely see it grow in the long-term. Look, I've got a promising project at hand. Why don't join forces with me in taking over Hamilton Construction... "

"Get lost!" Lily scolded at once. "You haven't done anything concrete yet, how dare you keep a close eye on my betrothal gift! If and when I do marry into the Williams family, God knows how often you will be harassing me for money every day!"



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Lacey was greatly embarrassed.

At that moment, Zeke headed over.

The sudden realisation washed over him when he overheard Lily Hinton mention 'the Williams family in Atheville' and 'two hundred million worth of betrothal gifts'.

*So the betrothal gift mom mentioned earlier has really been sent over. However, the money reached Adam Hinton... Lily must have misunderstood it as being a betrothal gift to her. My family knew I wouldn't accept the betrothal gift if it was sent directly to me.*

Zeke interrupted indifferently, "I suggest both of you don't touch the money. It's possible that the sender was mistaken. If the mistake is subsequently discovered, you'll be in trouble if you cannot return them all intact."

"You shut up!" yelled Lily Hinton with disgust. "If you have nothing better to say, shut it!"

"Do you think everyone in the world is poor like you? Someone who can't even afford to come up with a decent betrothal gift? Forget it, there's no point arguing with you over this. Dad, let's just go."

Lily didn't stay long. She drove off shortly.

Lacey felt awful. She was overwhelmed with mixed feelings.



She spoke in a low tone. "I feel the Williams family in Atheville is laying a trap for her... Super rich families are far too complicated for Lily to handle. There's no way Lily can fight back if she discovers they're actually making a fool of her."

*Zeke smiled wryly. I didn't know Lacey had such a great prejudice against super-rich families. Luckily, I haven't disclosed my identity as the Great Marshall... Otherwise, Lacey will definitely have me jilted.*

He said calmly, "Don't bother with them anymore. Even if it's a trap, they walked right into it of their own free will. Nobody can stop them."

Lacey sighed, "Accept whatever's fated, be it a blessing or a curse. Forget it, I'd better go prepare for the auction sale."

Lacey headed back to her office and went back to being busy.

Zeke took out his mobile phone and sent a text to Evan Schneider.

*I don't want to see anyone bid against Lacey at tomorrow's auction of Hamilton Construction.*

Evan Schneider replied. *Understood. I'll liaise with all other potential bidders and make sure they do refrain from competing with her.*

Zeke also thought of sending a text to his mother.



He wanted to ask her to take back the betrothal gift he didn't want. After agonizing over this for a while, however, he finally decided not to.

*It'll be better to wait till the day when Lily has fully spent the betrothal gift... then and only then I will tip off the Williams family to demand the return of the betrothal gift, thereby giving Lily the lesson she deserves.*

Lily brought her father and grandfather for a fun drive. They only reached home when it was getting dark.

They spotted a figure in front of their house the moment they reached home. That person was wandering around their entrance.

Lily and her family grew alarmed all of a sudden. They thought someone had gotten their eyes on the wedding gifts bestowed upon them.

However, they realized it was none other than Emily when they approached the said mysterious figure.

“Emily, what are you doing? Why are wandering around our home?”

Emily replied with a smile, “Lily, I have a business proposal for you.”

Lily probed, feeling slightly irritated, “What is it? Tell me.”

Emily replied discreetly, "I don't feel safe telling you about it in such a public setting. After all, it involves confidential information. Let's talk about it inside the house."

Lily nodded reluctantly and brought Emily into their house.

Emily closed the door and whispered, "I'm sure you know my brother has been promoted to a sergeant, right?"

Lily replied, "I do. Do you want me to get in touch with my future husband and get him to promote your brother?"

Emily shook her head. "That's not it."

"The point is, my brother has become a sergeant because of his benefactor, Officer Hugh. Hamilton Construction will be put on auction soon, and the person in charge is none other than Officer Hugh. My brother has come to an agreement with Officer Hugh. He'll prioritize me over the others. Hence, I'll be able to gain ownership over Hamilton Construction as long as I have enough capital." Emily smiled.

Lily became alarmed all of a sudden because another person had come after her wedding gifts. "Does that mean you want to make use of my wedding gifts for the auction of Hamilton Construction?"



Emily nodded.

However, Lily rejected Emily's request without any hesitation. "No! These are gifts from my future husband! I can't possibly lend it to others!"

Emily tried to persuade her. "Lily, think about it! It's such a rare opportunity for us! Hamilton Construction is a company with a net worth of ten hundred million. If we're able to gain ownership over it through a million, that means we'll have secured a huge fortune! If the terms are not agreeable by you, I'm willing to split the shares of a ration of sixty-forty. Of course, you'll have the larger portion."



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*Hmm...*

Lily was tempted by the offer.

*I'll be able to gain ownership over Hamilton Construction with a net worth of a thousand million just by spending a hundred million?*

*It sounds like a bargain to me!*

Jeremy could barely hold back his excitement.

“Officer Hugh? Are you talking about the one from Military District?”

“It's none other than him!” Emily nodded.

Jeremy was delighted. “What a surprise! I didn't expect Sam to be one of Officer Hugh's subordinates!”

“If Officer Hugh's behind this, I'm certain we'll be able to gain ownership over the Hamilton Group! It definitely sounds like a great bargain, but we still have to think about it.”

Emily nodded in understanding. “No problem! Please get back to me as soon as possible! Preferably before tomorrow morning.”

She departed right after she finished her sentence.

Jeremy beckoned Lily over. “Lily, I really think you should collaborate with Emily. If your future husband knows you managed to leverage on the



fortune he's presented you, I'm sure he'll adore you even more."

"Mm. You're right, dad. I've been thinking about that too. Apart from that, Lacey's been eyeing Hamilton Construction as well! I won't allow her to achieve what she wants!"

"Lacey and Zeke told me the gifts might be a trap! Screw it! I'll definitely prove them wrong!"

Jeremy nodded and instructed, "Head over to the auction firm with Emily tomorrow in the morning. Emily is quite capable when it comes to negotiating. After all, she's been in the corporate world for quite some time."

...

Paradis Auction was a second-rate auction house.

Usually, the items auctioned through Paradis Auction would cost no more than ten million.

However, Hamilton Construction, with a reserve price of one hundred million, would be auctioned through Paradis Auction.

Officer Hugh had been the one behind such an arrangement as he intended to limit the participants of the auction.

It would be better if there were a limited number of participants. Sam and Emily wouldn't have to go

through a fierce competition if that was the case.

However, he had no idea just how many people had already had their eyes on Hamilton Construction. They had been constantly on the lookout for Hamilton Construction's activities.

Although the auction was carried out by a relatively subpar auctioneer, a lot of top corporate players had gotten word about it beforehand.

However, Evan had gotten in touch with the said corporate players in advance. They weren't there because Evan had told them to stay away from Hamilton Construction.

Although there were still a few corporate players around, they were but Evan's pawns.

Meanwhile, Lacey and Zeke had already made it to the auction hall.

Lacey frowned at the sight of the isolated hall. "It seems like something's wrong! There are only a relatively few people in the hall! I mean, I know at least ten corporate players who are interested in the Hamilton Group! However, they're not even around!"

Zeke chuckled, trying to reassure her, "I mean, they're from such a prominent background. Perhaps they're too lazy to show up for such a trivial auction."



Although Lacey had her doubts, she nodded at his words.

At the same time, a Rolls Royce Shadow stopped beside them.

Lily and Emily made their way out of the luxurious car.

Lacey was shocked and asked, "Lily, why are you here with Emily?"

Lily replied indifferently, "I've taken your words into consideration. You're right! I should invest the wedding gifts I've received. Hence, I'm here with Emily to obtain the Hamilton Group."

Lacey felt infuriated. "Lily, that's too much of you!"

"We're a family! You refused to work with me, yet you've turned to an outsider to compete with me! Does that mean she's offered you better terms as compared to the ones I have offered you?"

Lily raised her voice in return, "What sort of nonsense are you talking about? A family? We're not from the same family! Have you forgotten that grandpa has banished your family? He no longer acknowledges Daniel as his son!"

Lacey stuttered, no longer able to keep her cool.

Zeke broke the silence all of a sudden. "Lily, are you going to partake in the auction with your

wedding gifts? Here's a heads-up for you! You should really refrain from doing such a thing! You'll be in huge trouble if you fail to return the gifts from the Williams family from Atheville should they demand you do so.”

Emily mocked, “Ha! Zeke, you're the least qualified person here to utter such words! Do you think those from the Williams family are going to place great emphasis on such trivial wedding gifts like you?”

She continued with malice in her voice, “Perhaps the wedding gifts worthy of two hundred million are nothing for the Williams family from ! “Look at you instead! You couldn't even prepare a dowry of three hundred thousand back then! Lily, just ignore him. It's time to go!”

Lily jeered before leaving in anger, “Hmph! They must just be jealous! That's why they're making such mean remarks! Just wait until I become part of the Williams family from Atheville! I bet they won't be able to hold back their envy by then!”



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Lacey sighed, “Lily and her family are going overboard as time goes by! It seems like they've taken me as a foe! Actually, no. Even a foe of mine doesn't behave like them!”

Zeke tried to comfort Lacey. “Don't worry, Lacey. I'm sure they'll get on their knees and beg you to show them mercy soon.”

“Promise me! Two hundred million is the maximum reserve price we'll go for during the auction. We'll stop raising the price and let them have the Hamilton Group once it goes beyond that particular price point.”

Lacey asked curiously, “Why? Do you have something in store for them in advance again?”

Zeke smiled slyly. “You'll soon figure out what it's about.”

Lacey rolled her eyes. “Stop playing hard to get! It's not fun!”

Zeke smiled in return and thought to himself. *To be able to send your foes to hell and get them to get on their knees in front of you. It's fun, isn't it?*

Zeke texted Mrs. Williams in secret. *You've delivered the wedding gifts to Adam Hinton. He's no longer acquainted with my father-in-law because he's severed ties with him. Please drop by and retrieve the said gifts as soon as possible.*



Mrs. Williams replied soon after. *Alright.*

...

Officer Hugh, otherwise known as Logan Hugh, summoned Emily to his office in the auction house.

He instructed Emily, "Raise the reserve price to two thousand million once it reaches a thousand and five hundred million later. The other bidders will hesitate for a short while if you increase the reserve price in such a drastic manner. "I'll knock down and seal the deal in the meantime. The Hamilton Group will be in our possession soon."

Emily knitted her eyebrows and asked, "Officer Hugh, I thought it's only a thousand million? Why did it become two thousand million?"

Logan replied, "Are you kidding me? So many people have their eyes on the Hamilton Group! Do you think you will be able to secure the deal at the minimum reserve price? Don't worry! The friend you've brought along is a wealthy woman. I'm sure she will be able to settle the bills. A thousand million in return of two hundred million. It sounds like an amazing bargain, doesn't it?"

Emily pondered before she replied Logan, "Erm... Alright... I'll talk to her about it..."

Logan instructed again, "That won't be necessary! Just raise the reserve price to two hundred million



as instructed! She'll have to pay for it eventually once we have the deal sealed."

Emily gritted her teeth and replied, "Fine! I'll listen to you this once."

Logan had a barely noticeable sneer on his face.

He would be able to embezzle a hundred million from the two hundred million reserve price.

*I will be the sole beneficiary this time!*

The auction soon began.

Logan showed up on stage and conducted the auction himself as he didn't want anything to go wrong with the process.

He introduced Hamilton Construction briefly before he knocked the hammer to indicate the beginning of the auction. "We'll officially begin with the auction of Hamilton Construction now! The minimum reserve is a hundred million."

Someone shouted the moment Logan finished his introduction, "A hundred and ten million!"

Logan announced, "A hundred and ten million going once. Anyone else?"

Lacey shouted, "A hundred and twenty million."

Logan announced, "A hundred and twenty million

going once. Anyone else?"

"A hundred and thirty million!"

Lacey raised her auction paddle once again. "A hundred and forty million!"

Everyone fell into silence thereafter as they were hesitating.

After all, Evan had gotten in touch with them beforehand.

They were supposed to stop raising the reserve price once it had gotten to a hundred and forty million because the cash reserve Lacey had with her was but a hundred and fifty million.

However, Emily raised her bid paddle all of a sudden. "A hundred and fifty million."

Lily got anxious all of a sudden and asked, "Emily, wasn't it a hundred million? A hundred and fifty million's almost everything I have!"

Emily tried to persuade her patiently, "Lily, I'm sure you don't want Lacey to have the Hamilton Group, right?"

"Don't worry! I won't allow you to make a loss!"

Lily looked at Lacey in the eyes and gritted her teeth. "Mm! If that's what it takes to outmatch Lacey, a hundred and fifty million it is! "



However, Lacey had no intention to give up either.

She thought about it and raised her bid paddle once again. "A hundred and sixty million."

Emily raised her bid paddle almost instantly after Lacey. "Two hundred million."

Countless people in the hall turned around and looked at Emily.

*Who the hell is this? Didn't Mr. Schneider get in touch with her beforehand? How dare she go against Lacey and raise the reserve price to two hundred million?*



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Lily flushed anxiously and yelled, "Emily! Y-You... T-That's too much! Are you going to put the whole of my wedding gifts at stake?"

"Lily, we have to sacrifice this much to achieve a greater goal! Two hundred million is all it takes to own the Hamilton Group! It's a bargain, right? If you're that worried, we'll get rid of it once we've acquired it! I'm sure we will be able to generate a few hundred million profits as well! Apart from that, I'm sure you don't want Lacey to get ahead of you, right?"

Lily cast a stern gaze at Lacey when she heard Emily's words.

She finally made up her mind and replied, "Fine! Two thousand million it is!"

Lacey was irritated as well, but she was in a tough spot.

She had placed great emphasis on the Hamilton Group. Lacey would spend three thousand or even four thousand million to acquire it, let alone two thousand million.

However, she didn't have enough cash to support her.

She turned around and looked at Zeke sadly. "Zeke, can you please get me some money?"

Zeke replied with a smile, "Lacey, listen to me. It's



time to stop. Don't worry! They'll hand over the Hamilton Group to you unconditionally, even if they manage to acquire it.”

Lacey heaved a heavy sigh, “What sort of excuse is that? You don't have to lie if you can't gather the sum required!”

Zeke was speechless as he thought to himself. *I can easily get you two hundred billion and blow your mind away!*

Logan wouldn't allow Lacey to raise the reserve price either.

He immediately announced, “Two thousand million going once... Two thousand million going twice... Two thousand million going thrice...”

“Congratulations to the honourable guest from suite three. They're the new owners of the Hamilton Group! Please head over to the office immediately and carry out the necessary procedures.”

Emily heaved a sigh of relief and exclaimed, “Lily... I mean, Ms. Hinton, congratulations.”

Lily was on cloud nine when she heard how Lily had addressed her formally. “Ms. Clemons, I'm glad to have you on board. Hmph! The Williams family from Atheville are backing me as of now! Lacey can't possibly outmatch me!”

Emily urged, "Let's go! We still have to deal with the handover procedures."

Lacey felt dejected as she dragged her feet out of the auction hall.

After all, it wasn't merely the Hamilton Group that she had lost. An opportunity for her to join the upper echelon that had also been sacrificed.

Lacey was about to get into the car, but Zeke stopped her abruptly. "Lacey, let's stay back for a short while. There's a great show coming up soon."

Lacey was befuddled as she asked, "What sort of show?"

Zeke turned around to look at the auction hall. "You'll figure it out soon. The female protagonist is about to show up."

Lacey looked at Zeke in disbelief. She hesitated for quite some time but decided to stay in the end.

After all, Zeke had never once let her down.

Before long, Emily and Lily walked out of the auction hall.

They had bright smiles on their faces, feeling full of themselves.

Mr. Hamilton from the Hamilton Group was once



the sort of person they longed to be.

However, a dream that once seemed unachievable was merely one step away. They would soon become someone admirable like Mr. Hamilton.

*This is the best feeling in the world! I can't believe I get to be the sort of person I've always longed to be!*

Lily couldn't hold herself back and approached Lacey to show off her achievement the moment she saw her.

“Lacey, why are you still around? Do you wish to collaborate with us?”

Lacey was at a loss for words as her mind was all over the place.

Zeke stepped forward and replied on her behalf instead. “Lacey, do you still remember what I told you ten days ago?”

Lacey was confused. “What?”

“In ten days, the Hamilton family's assets will belong to the Hinton family.”

*Pffft!*

Lacey and Emily couldn't hold back their laughter. “It turns out you're right!”

“The Hamilton family's assets belong to the Hinton family as of now, but it belongs to Lily Hinton instead!”

Zeke piped up, “Nope! It's Lacey!”

Lily laughed arrogantly, “Who gave you the audacity to utter such words?”

Zeke turned around and looked into the distance.

A fleet of luxurious cars was making its way to the auction house.

He smiled. “They're the ones who have given me the audacity.”



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Lily and Emily turned around as they were confused by Zeke's words.

The former got excited when she saw the fleet of luxurious cars.

“They're from the Williams family from Atheville! They were the ones who delivered me my wedding gifts! I'm sure they're here to work out the details of our wedding!”

Emily began to flatter Lily. “Congratulations, Lily!”

Lacey grew envious as well; it was all over her face.

Zeke asked with a smile, “Lacey, are you envious of Lily?”

Lacey replied, “Duh... It's every women's dream to have a grand wedding ceremony! Look at how luxurious the team in charge of delivering the wedding gifts is! I'm sure it'll be a spectacular scene during their wedding ceremony!”

Zeke assured Lacey, “You don't have to be envious of her. You have my word! Our wedding ceremony will be a hundredfold ostentatious than the one she has! It'll be something out of this world!”

Lacey replied nonchalantly, “Ha!”

Zeke was speechless once again.

*Silly girl! Love in a Fallen City is being constructed for you! It's a grand hall that'll accommodate ten thousand people!*

*The construction of Love in a Fallen City has gotten everyone worked up, let alone holding a wedding ceremony in it, right?*

The fleet of luxurious cars stopped in front of the entrance.

The senior officer led the way once again and approached them with a party of man in black behind him.

All sorts of emotions engulfed him the moment he saw Zeke.

He was the one who had been by Zeke's side ever since he was a child.

*He has never been the favourite child. His parents and grandmother had never once appreciated his presence.*

*Meanwhile, his twin brother had always been everyone's sweetheart.*

*Throughout the years, he's lived a miserable life. The kind of life that was worse than a servant.*

*However, he's grown into an exceptional man! He's someone whom those from the Williams family could only look up to.*



*What a strange world, huh? Things have always been unpredictable!*

He wished to drop by and greet Zeke, but the latter subtly shook his head and stopped him. Hence, the senior citizen had to put that thought aside.

Meanwhile, Lily rushed over and greeted them, "Uncle Williams, are you here to discuss the details of the wedding with me? Where's my future husband? We have to sort out the details of our wedding!"

The senior citizen replied indifferently, "I'm sorry, Ms. Hinton. You're not the one Mr. Williams has taken a liking towards. We've accidentally delivered the gifts to the wrong person."

"What!" Lily turned petrified by these words.

"You've delivered the gifts to the wrong person? That's impossible! You verified my grandpa's identity back when you have dropped by to deliver the gifts, didn't you? He's Adam, Adam Hinton!"

The senior officer replied, "The owner of the wedding gifts has a relative with the same name. It was a mere coincidence. Please return all the wedding gifts to us immediately."

*WHAT!*

Lily's mind was blown away when she heard the request.

*I have to return the wedding gifts?*

*I've just purchased the Hamilton Group using the wedding gifts! How can I return it to them?*

*Damn it! Zeke was right! They've come to collect the wedding gifts!*

*It must have been his curse!*

The senior officer got irritated when Lily remained silent for an extended period. "We're in a hurry! Please stop wasting our time!"

Lily was horrified because she knew what would await her should she offend the Williams family.

She would be doomed if she were to offend them. Her life would be at stake too.

Lily stuttered and counter-offered, "I... I... Is it possible I return it tomorrow?"

She had made up her mind and would get rid of the Hamilton Group within the same day. If that's the case, she would be able to sell it off for fifty thousand million and generate a profit of thirty thousand million.

However, the senior officer shook his head. "I'm sorry, but that's impossible because we need it for the actual owner immediately."

Lily's mind was all over the place. It would be



impossible for her to gather two thousand million within such a short period of time.

She turned around and looked at Emily as she tried to seek her help.

However, Emily had long gotten far away from her.

*Are you kidding me? It's the Williams family from Atheville we're talking about! They're such a prominent family!*

*Even someone like Officer Hugh will turn into a nobody in front of the Williams family, let alone someone like me!*

In the end, Lily gritted her teeth and replied, "Uncle Williams, I'll tell you the truth."

"I just used up all the wedding gifts for the auction of the Hamilton Group. Is it fine for me to hand over the Hamilton Group to you instead? The Hamilton Group has a net worth of ten thousand million! It sounds like a bargain, right?"

However, the senior officer paid no heed to Lily's words. "I'm sorry, but such a trivial conglomerate like the Hamilton Group means nothing to us.

"We're here for the gifts. If worse comes to worst, feel free to compensate us two thousand million in cash. We'll acquire the items again."



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Lily had to reach out to Lacey because she had run out of options.

“Lacey, please help me! Please lend me two hundred million!”

“I'll sell the Hamilton Group off tomorrow and return the money to you!”

Zeke declined Lily's request without any hesitation. “Nope! We don't have that much either! Otherwise, we would have gone after the Hamilton Group too!”

Lily ignored Zeke and begged, “Lacey, please! I'm sure you'll be able to come out with something, right? You'll be able to gather two hundred million, right? I'm willing to hand over the Hamilton Group to you as collateral!”

Lacey was tempted by Lily's offer because it would be a great opportunity for her to gain ownership over the Hamilton Group.

*This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take over the Hamilton Group!*

Lacey knew she would be able to gather two hundred million should she wish to.

However, Zeke declined Lily's request once more. “I'm sorry! It's impossible!”

Lily was so anxious she almost broke into tears.

“Lacey, we're family! You have to save me! You can't forsake me! I'll be good as dead if I offend the Williams family!”

Zeke replied in a callous tone, “Family? Correct me if I'm wrong, but someone has said we're not a family, hasn't she?”

Lily's cheeks flushed red.

In the meantime, Lacey couldn't bear to forsake Lily because it was her life at stake.

She turned around and looked Zeke in the eyes. Lacey was trying to reach out to Zeke for help.

It seemed like Lacey had become dependent on Zeke as time went by.

She dared not make the call without his permission.

Zeke smiled at Lacey. “You have always been such a kind lady. Fine! I'll do Lacey a favour and help you for once.”

“Hand over Hamilton Construction to us, and we'll give you a hundred million.”

Lily's eyes widened in disbelief. “What! It's a company with a net worth of a thousand million! You want to take it over with a hundred million? Stop kidding me! Consider yourself lucky that I'm making do with two hundred million instead!



That's the best I have to offer!"

Zeke shook his head and replied, "If that's the case, let's forget about it! Lacey, let's go!"

Lily held on to Lacey's hand and stopped her.

She wouldn't allow them to leave as they were the only ones she could rely on.

"Lacey, please don't leave me alone! I won't make it out alive!"

"A hundred million... Fine! A hundred million it is! However, you have to borrow me another million! We'll deal with it once I've dealt with things here."

Zeke turned around and looked at Lacey, "What do you think?"

Lacey nodded immediately. "I'm fine with it."

Lacey would lend Lily three hundred or even four hundred million if it were necessary.

Zeke approached the senior officer and instructed, "Please take your leave. I'll transfer the money to your account immediately after we sort things out."

The senior citizen nodded and left with the bunch of men in black.

Lily heaved a sigh of relief. "Great! Please head

over and transfer the required amount to them. Send the contract over to me once you have it drafted.”

She was about to flee as soon as she finished her sentence because she had no intention to honour her promise.

Lily would deny her responsibility once Lacey had transferred the money to those from the Williams family.

Should worse come to worst, Lily would return Lacey the two hundred million she had borrowed from her once she got rid of the Hamilton Group.

However, Zeke had come fully prepared.

He got in Lily's way and showed her the contract she had with him. “I have a complete set of agreements with me. All you have to do is sign your name.”

Lily was dumbfounded because Zeke had managed to get the better of her.

She had no choice but to sign the agreement as instructed.

Lacey's eyes gleamed when she went through the content of the transferal agreement.

*It seems like he had prepared the agreement in advance because he figured out those from the*



*Williams family will retrieve the wedding gifts.*

*How did he manage to figure it out beforehand?*

*The Williams family from Atheville... Zeke...*

*Zeke isn't part of the Williams family from Atheville, is he?*

*I mean, the capability he has portrayed previously does match up to those of the Williams family!*



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Lily left, feeling dejected,

Lacey couldn't hold back her curiosity and asked, "How did you prepare the contract beforehand? Does that mean you knew those from the Williams family had presented the gifts to the wrong person?"

Zeke nodded. "I've told you countless times, haven't I? I said the Williams family would come and retrieve the wedding gifts."

"How did you know?"

Zeke replied, "Actually, I've long heard from others that the descendant of the Williams family has a thing for the prettiest and kindest woman. I'm sure someone like Lily doesn't deserve to be his spouse."

Lacey was shocked. "The prettiest and kindest woman? How pretty does she have to be?"

Zeke reached for his phone and took a photo of Lacey. He showed Lacey his phone and announced, "This is her!"

Lacey blushed all of a sudden and replied, "Stop teasing me! I have to hurry back to the office to consolidate the Hamilton Group into our portfolio. I'm sure I'll be able to take things to the next level with the addition of the Hamilton Group."

Zeke asserted, "Please take your leave ahead of



me, Lacey. I have to visit an old acquaintance of mine.”

Lacey nodded and paid no heed to his words. She departed right after she got into her car.

Zeke lit a cigarette and took a seat at an empty bench nearby to enjoy his cigarette.

The fleet of luxurious cars soon returned.

The senior officer led the bunch of men in black and approached Zeke. They bowed at Zeke's presence and greeted him politely, “Mr. Williams.”

Zeke nodded and replied indifferently, “Mm. Uncle Williams, please skip the formalities.”

Uncle Williams had been taking care of him back when he was part of the Williams family.

If it weren't for Uncle Williams, Zeke would have an even more miserable childhood.

Hence, Zeke treated Uncle Williams courteously.

Uncle William sighed a heavy sigh. “Mr. Williams, things must have been tough for you throughout the years, haven't they?”

Zeke replied, “It's nothing as compared to the tormenting experience I went through back in the day. Alright, Uncle Williams. I shall take my leave now. Please don't get in touch with me anymore if

there's nothing urgent.”

Uncle Williams wanted to stop him but couldn't bring himself to break the silence.

He had a lot to share with Zeke. However, he dared not share whatever he had in mind with him.

Zeke seemed to see right through his plan. “Uncle Williams, please stop persuading me. I'll never return to the Williams family. I'm no longer who I used to be. I won't allow others to bully and humiliate me anymore. I'm no longer affiliated with the Williams family.”

Zeke marched away once he finished his sentence.

Uncle Williams' mind was all over the place as he looked at Zeke's retreating back.

“The Williams family from Atheville is unformidable in the corporate world. However, it seems like they've made a wrong call this time.”

...

Lily returned home with an awful expression on her face.

Meanwhile, Daniel and Jeremy, who were home, were indulging themselves, celebrating the joyous occasion of being an acquaintance of a top conglomerate.



They were in the middle of a hectic discussion as they were trying to figure out what sort of clothes should they put on for the wedding ceremony.

Jeremy rushed over and welcomed Lily the moment he saw her. “Lily, how did it go with the auction? Did you acquire the Hamilton Group?”

Lily replied with an awful expression, “Dad, forget about the Hamilton Group! I ended up with a hundred million debt instead! Lacey's the debtor!”

*What!*

Jeremy and Adam's heart pounded furiously.

*It was a flawless plan! How did it turn out the other way round?*

*How and why did Lily get herself in debt to Lacey for a hundred million?*

“Lily, what happened?”

Lily told them everything that occurred during the auction.

They were utterly shocked by her words.

*Oh, God! The wedding gift was a mistake?*

Adam and Jeremy were taken aback by the truth.

Endless despair engulfed them in the end.

Jeremy gritted his teeth with all his might. “Damn it! What Lacey and Zeke have done is too much!”

“They took over Hamilton Group with a net worth of a thousand million with a hundred million! That's just rubbing salt in our wound! Nope! We won't let them off the hook! We shall not pay the hundred million. We're gonna request two hundred million in return instead! It's such a great bargain for them! They actually get to acquire the Hamilton family with only four hundred million!”



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Lily's face was filled with despair. "Dad, it's too late. I've already signed the contract."

"What the..." Jeremy could barely catch his breath.

*Zeke Williams has completely burned our bridges!*

"That's enough!" Adam admonished, looking as if he had aged another ten more years.

"We should've listened to Lacey in the beginning and worked with her."

"In that case, she would have afforded the compensation for the Williams family's dowry herself, and we would have gotten the Hamilton Group's shares."

Jeremy's head hung low at that realization.

However, there was no point crying over spilt milk now.

"Whatever you get is whatever you are given. That's the way the cookie crumbles," Adam shrugged.

"Don't think about making money from Lacey anymore. Just be thankful that they've settled the one hundred million debt this time."

"If this had happened in the past, Lacey would have definitely listened to us," Jeremy said through clenched teeth. "She would have settled that one

hundred million debt for us.”

“But she has Zeke Williams by her side now... That guy is a tough nut to crack.”

Adam looked out the window, lost in his thoughts.

*Lacey's career has made a spurt of progress ever since Zeke came.*

*But look at us, we're defeated by Lacey again and again...*

He couldn't help feeling that there was more to Zeke than what the man showed.

“Is there something else we don't know about Williams?” he murmured.

Right then, two people came in from the door outside.

It was Emily and Logan, the staff officer.

Seeing them breaking in in full fury, Lily came to a startling realization. Her face paled.

The three of them jointly won the bid for the Hamilton Group, in which its shares were divided equally with Emily and Logan.

Now that she made her own decision in selling the Hamilton Group to Lacey, she wondered if they were here to collect their shares.



She felt as if her heart was about to escape her chest from beating too hard.

“Officer Hugh, please, come in. To what do I owe this pleasure?” Adam hurriedly greeted, his tone enthused and reverent.

Logan Hugh was a military officer, whom the Hinton family couldn't afford to mess with.

“That's unnecessary,” Logan said impassively, waving his hand.

“I'm simply here to reclaim my shares with the Hamilton Group.”

Adam and his entire family tensed up.

As expected, they had come with no good intentions.

“I'm sure you've heard about what happened today, Officer Hugh,” Lily said in a pleading tone.

“I had no choice but to mortgage the Hamilton Group in that situation. Otherwise, I would really be dead.”

“I'm afraid that's not within my control. I just want my shares back,” Logan replied coldly.

“If you can't give it to me today, you should prepare to bear the consequences.”

Adam was on the verge of collapsing. “Have mercy on us, Officer Hugh. Please don't hold us accountable.”

“With our family's current condition, we really can't afford that.”

*According to the rules, Logan's shares are worth several hundred million... We can't even come up with tens of thousands now.*

“Then you shall face my wrath!” Logan exploded.

“Officer Hugh, please don't be mad and just listen to me,” Emily piped up.

“To be honest, we probably can't get much from selling the Hinton family's house.”

“However, I have an idea that will let us reclaim the Hamilton Group or even more.”

“But we'll need Adam's family's cooperation on this.”

“What is it, Emily?” Lily asked in a fluster. “We'll definitely cooperate with you.”

“I'm sure you guys remember Darren Collins and his henchmen, the Fearsome Foursome,” Emily began.

“Darren Collins? Isn't he the former raw material supplier of Lacey's steel mill?” Lily asked.





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Emily nodded. "That's right."

"The Fearsome Foursome were his four fighters. But they died in an accident some time ago."

"As far as I know, Collins died a few days after dealing with Lacey."

"I highly suspect that Collins and the Fearsome Foursome's death was a vendetta! An act of revenge planned by Zeke!"

"Bastard!" Logan cursed. "That's exactly five lives there. It's an unforgivable sin!"

"But Emily, do you have evidence to prove that Williams killed them?"

"Yes, of course I do," Emily replied.

"On that day, when Collins mortgaged his raw material production plant to Lacey, someone saw Zeke crash his car under the bridge when he was on his way home."

"Who saw that?" Logan asked impatiently.

Emily glanced at Jeremy meaningfully.

The family trembled, for they understood Emily's implication of wanting them to bear false witness.

However, they didn't want to cause a wrongful death of one life just because of little profit.



Just as they were about to refuse, Logan asked again in a deep voice, “Did any of you witness it or not?”

“If you didn't, then let's continue talking about what happened to the Hamilton Group.”

“My troops are waiting outside now. They can capture all of you at any time!”

*Troops!*

*The troops are here!*

Jeremy's heart wavered.

*If I can save my life, it doesn't matter if Zeke Williams dies a million times!*

“I... I saw it!” he toughed it out and confessed.

“Good. Very good,” Logan sneered.

“Please cooperate with us tomorrow. We shall take back what belongs to us!”

After leaving the Hinton residence, Emily and Logan looked at each other and smiled wickedly.

In fact, forcing Lily and her family to bear false witness was a plan they had made in advance.

The two of them had a common purpose, to kill Zeke Williams and recover the Hamilton Group.

...

For the sake of Zeke's happiness in pound town, Dawn took the initiative to move out.

Zeke and Lacey 'lived together' again.

However, Lacey still insisted on letting Zeke sleep on the floor.

She was a very traditional girl. They had been in a relationship for only a few months, and she couldn't submit herself fully to him just yet.

Lacey fell asleep as soon as she lay on the bed. She was exhausted from integrating the Hamilton Group into her own business today.

Zeke, however, was restless. He couldn't seem to fall asleep at all.

*How can I fall asleep when a gorgeous woman is sleeping next to me?*

While he was bored out of his mind, his phone rang.

*It was a message from Lone Wolf. Great Marshal, I've just received a tip that Logan Hugh from the Provincial Military District is gathering evidence to say you killed Darren Collins. He seems to be coming down hard on you.*

*Zeke replied instantly. Logan Hugh? I don't know him. Take care of it on*



*your side.*

The Great Marshal couldn't care less about one insignificant human life.

He would rather use that time to accompany Lacey.

Lone Wolf replied. *Great Marshal, I just did a background check on Logan Hugh and discovered that he's a suspect of treason. However, I can't confirm this accusation just yet with the current evidence that I have.*

*Treason!*

Zeke's brows furrowed tightly.

As the guardian of peace in Eurasia, what he despised most were acts of treason.

Zeke replied. *Sort out the evidence. I'll make a trip to the Provincial Military District tomorrow.*

Lone Wolf replied. *Roger that!*

The next morning, Zeke headed toward the Military District in a hurry to deal with Logan's matter without having breakfast.

Of course, instead of telling Lacey the truth, he simply told her he was meeting an old friend.

Lacey didn't doubt his words the slightest as she

washed up and ate as usual.

After breakfast, she headed out with Daniel and Hannah.

While she got busy with the 'Love in a Fallen City' project, Daniel was going to stop by at the Rejuvenation Clinic with Hannah following to help him out.

However, as soon as they came downstairs, two vans stood in their way, and a few old acquaintances came down shortly afterwards.



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