

Chapter 1061: All Joining

Lucas thought for a moment and nodded. “Sure. Decide on the time and place.”

Alexander immediately said, “Six o’clock tonight at the Rumsey Court. I’ll wait for you there!”

“Okay, see you there then.” Lucas agreed.

At this moment, Flynn had already finished the basic paying process and land transfer on Lucas’s behalf. He walked to him.

Alexander glanced at Flynn and then at Lucas. With an ambiguous expression and a smile, he left quietly.

Lucas raised his eyebrows.

Alexander was indeed a smart person. Although Flynn didn’t say a word and just stood next to him, Alexander had already guessed the relationship between them.

“Let’s go!”

Since it was still early, Lucas took Cheyenne and Flynn back to the headquarters of Stardust Corporation.

In the general manager’s office, Flynn’s face was still brimming with excitement. “Lucas, now that we’ve bought the land, we can start planning! I believe that once the plan kicks off, the commercial center of DC will undergo a huge shift! At that time, the Stardust Corporation will become a household name!”

Lucas nodded. “Yes, next, the core members of the Stardust Corporation should start formulating a plan and begin development on the Stardust City project as soon as possible. I’ll leave this matter to you.”

“Yes, Lucas!” Flynn immediately assured and then said gleefully, “I believe that I will be able to complete the construction of Stardust City in the eastern suburbs of DC and turn it into the new commercial center of the city within two to three years!”

But Lucas surprisingly shook his head. “Not just here in DC. I want to build Stardust Cities in the major cities of the US at the same time. In three years, I want to see all the Stardust Cities built!”

Hearing this, Flynn was shocked. “Lucas, if we start construction in so many major cities at the same time, we will need a massive amount of human and financial resources. How about we build Stardust City in DC first and then build the rest one by one?”

Lucas refused adamantly, “No, that’s too slow. The construction of all the Stardust Cities should start and progress simultaneously. Inform me if you need more funds.”

Lucas spoke extremely generously.

In the past, Flynn would still worry that Lucas was taking too big a step and fear that his move might cause problems for the Stardust Corporation’s capital chain.

But after Lucas gave him the black diamond card with a balance of 100 billion dollars this morning, Flynn was full of confidence.

The simultaneous construction of twenty-odd Stardust Cities was definitely an unprecedented mega project. If it succeeded, the future Stardust Cities would rise to fame in the US, and their value would skyrocket infinitely!

Lucas actually gave him full authority to handle this massive project. Flynn was shocked and extremely touched at the same time.

Reason being, it was an indicator of Lucas’s trust in him!

Although Cheyenne wasn't quite clear about the detailed plan of Stardust City, their conversation was enough to set off a storm within her.

It turned out that Lucas spending 1.2 billion dollars for the plot of land in the eastern suburbs of DC was just the beginning.

Moreover, he had long thought of a more elaborate and large-scale plan for the land.

Building a city within a city in more than twenty major cities across the entire country at the same time was way beyond the imagination of ordinary people!

Once the Stardust City plan came to fruition, the benefits it would bring would be immense, and Lucas's net worth would skyrocket to an unimaginable level.

At the thought of this, Cheyenne found that her husband was more and more unfathomable and unpredictable!

After discussing the subsequent development plan of the company, Lucas left the Stardust Corporation with Cheyenne.

On the way, Cheyenne asked, "Honey, you deliberately brought me to the Stardust Corporation, informed me of the company's development plans, and even taught me how to read the thoughts of others and how to act at auctions. You must have a reason, right?"

Cheyenne had always been sharp and intelligent, so she immediately knew that Lucas definitely had a reason behind his actions.

Lucas didn't hide it from her. He nodded and said, "Well, you are my wife, and what belongs to me is yours, including the Stardust Corporation.

"As you've just heard, I've appointed Flynn to be in charge of starting the construction of Stardust Cities all over the US, so I'm going to lack

manpower in other areas. So I'm hoping that you can join the Stardust Corporation and take over some matters.

"Someday in the future, the entire Stardust Corporation will be handed over to you."

Cheyenne was taken aback. The market value of the Stardust Corporation was now at least ten billion dollars. She didn't expect that Lucas planned to hand it over to her!

"Honey, don't joke with me! The Stardust Corporation is something extremely important your mother left to you, and I... I've only been in charge of small and medium-sized corporations like the Brilliance Corporation. If you hand over the Stardust Corporation to me, I'm afraid that I might not be capable enough to manage it. If something went wrong, I would be letting your mother down!"

Cheyenne waved her hand, not daring to take over the management of a behemoth like the Stardust Corporation.

Lucas smiled gently, "What are you afraid of? With me around, you won't ruin the Stardust Corporation.

"Besides, you shouldn't underestimate yourself. Your business management skills are very good. Otherwise, you wouldn't have been able to singlehandedly establish the Brilliance Corporation and develop it to its current scale, would you?"

"Since you've managed to build an impressive corporation like the Brilliance Corporation from scratch, I believe you will make the Stardust Corporation develop even better with more capital and manpower!"

What Lucas said did tempt Cheyenne a little.

Cheyenne had founded and developed the Brilliance Corporation all by herself, and she had to find her way through the journey of ups and downs. Not only did no one help her, but there was even a large number of bloodsuckers from the Carters.

Now, the Stardust Corporation was already a well-known enterprise in DC, and the company was full of talented employees. If Cheyenne took over, she would have an easier time managing and developing it than when she was in charge of the Brilliance Corporation.

Seeing the hesitation on Cheyenne's face, Lucas added, "You're not the only one I plan to bring in. In fact, I also intend to get Charlotte and William to join the Stardust Corporation's headquarters.

"Your few are the people I trust the most. I can be at ease only by handing the Stardust Corporation over to you guys."

Chapter 1062: Alexander Steele's Treat

Hearing what Lucas said, Cheyenne immediately raised her head in surprise to look at him.

She was actually tempted by Lucas's plan. But if she really wanted to stay and develop at the Stardust Corporation's headquarters, she would inevitably have to relocate to DC.

Charlotte and William had always been Cheyenne's closest relatives, so she didn't want to be separated from them.

What Lucas said completely solved her worries.

"Honey, did you specially get Cheyenne to work at the Stardust Corporation's Orange County branch and appoint my dad as the general manager of the Solar Corporation's Orange County branch with the intention to train them so that they could help you with running the company?"

Cheyenne suddenly thought of all the events that had happened previously and smiled.

Lucas didn't deny it. He smiled and said, "You guys are the people I trust the most. That's why I want to hand the Stardust Corporation over to you guys."

Cheyenne was touched. Many people used the word 'trust' frequently and casually, but in fact, they would keep their guard up against each other in every way possible.

In comparison, Lucas actually trusted her and her family members since a long time ago.

“It’s settled then. I’ll leave it to you to convince Charlotte and William to come to DC!” Lucas squeezed Cheyenne’s tender little hand and smiled.

“Yes, Lucas! I will definitely complete the mission!” Cheyenne said to Lucas deferentially, playfully mimicking Flynn.

As soon as she finished speaking, she couldn’t help bursting into laughter.

Lucas followed suit, feeling relieved and elated to see his wife laughing brightly.

The two of them toured around DC, and Lucas took Cheyenne to the Rumsey Court when it was almost six.

Although Alexander had only invited Lucas, it was naturally appropriate for him to bring Cheyenne along since she was his wife.

Moreover, he merely casually agreed to Alexander’s invitation. He wouldn’t leave Cheyenne alone at home for the sake of it.

The Rumsey Court was an extremely upscale Michelin-starred restaurant in downtown DC. Its exterior and interior furnishings were all very elegant.

After parking their car, Lucas and Cheyenne walked toward the entrance of the Rumsey Court. Alexander, who had been waiting here for a long time, walked up to them to greet them. “You’re here, Mr. Gray, Ms. Carter!”

Lucas noticed that Alexander didn’t come alone. Behind him were several young men about his age, who were probably his friends.

Lucas nodded and greeted them.

Alexander, who was extremely good at socializing, introduced Lucas to his friends behind him. “Everyone, let me introduce you to a true martial arts expert, Mr. Lucas Gray!”

At this moment, a young man in a black leather jacket laughed and asked, “Alex, are you kidding? Everyone in DC knows that you’re the best at martial arts. He seems to be about our age. Is he really stronger than you?”

“Yeah, Alex, is there a stronger expert than you?” another young man asked in disbelief.

Looking a little awkward, Alexander quickly said, “Stop flattering me. Compared to Mr. Gray, my skills are far inferior!”

Just this afternoon, Alexander had wanted to teach Lucas a lesson with his strength. But as soon as he tried, he realized how absurdly wrong he was. His little tricks were simply nothing for Lucas!

“Okay, let’s go in now. I’ve booked a private room on the top floor.” Alexander led the crowd to a private room in the restaurant.

The group took their seats in the spacious private room.

Alexander brought four friends along, so with them, him, Lucas, and Cheyenne, there were seven people in total. There was more than enough space at the table.

Alexander was very enthusiastic and sociable at the dinner table, constantly pouring drinks for everyone and guiding the atmosphere. He didn’t have the airs of a wealthy scion at all.

The friends he brought were not scions of wealthy families, unlike what Lucas had thought. They were Alexander’s best friends, who came from ordinary families and got together because of various reasons.

This made Lucas’s attitude towards Alexander change a little.

After all, Lucas had seen too many snobbish and arrogant young scions whose social circles consisted only of people of equal or higher status than them. When they gathered, they would all flatter and curry favor with each other. And for people with lower status, they would be outrageously bossy and arrogant.

After getting used to these situations, Lucas found this meal with Alexander a breath of fresh air.

It was as if it was really just an ordinary meal, leaving Lucas puzzled about Alexander’s purpose for inviting them to dinner.

Was it really just a simple invitation for a meal?

After three rounds of drinks, everyone became more chatty.

Lucas was not a talkative person and would listen most of the time, though he would occasionally clink glasses with them and take a bite of food.

“Alex, to be honest, I really feel unjust for you! Your father was supposed to be the head of the Steeles, and you’ve done so much for your family. You should be the most eligible successor!” a young man named Nick suddenly said with disgruntlement.

“Enough, Nick. Alex has already said he doesn’t want to talk about these things anymore. Don’t be a killjoy by mentioning them! Come on, let’s drink!” Another young

man named Stefon hurriedly stopped him and raised his glass, wanting to change the subject.

Nick, who was probably drunk, pushed Stefon's glass away agitatedly and yelled with bloodshot eyes, "Why shouldn't I mention it? I want to talk about it! The Steeles are a group of bastards and going overboard with the bullying!

"Alex is a scion of a rich family, and his father died for the Steeles. Yet the Steeles keep their guards up against him because they're afraid that he'll snatch the resources of the other descendants of the family. They're racking their brains to alienate Alex!

"Poor Alex has lost his father and doesn't have a single elder in the family willing to speak up for him. Apart from us, who is willing to stand up for him? Who else cares about his feelings?

"I've bottled up so many things in my heart for so long! Alex, in my opinion, you should just sever ties with the Steeles, lest they take you for granted even after you've slogged your guts out for them!

"With your abilities, you can easily carve a career of your own even if you leave the Steeles!"

Nick babbled on agitatedly to stand up for Alexander.

Chapter 1063: Investigating Lucas

Alexander smiled bitterly and shook his head with a sigh. "I'm a member of the Steele family, and the blood of the Steeles runs in my veins. How can I sever ties with them?

"Besides, even if I want to sever ties with the family, they won't let me go.

"Although it's true that the family is unfair to me now, they've raised me to adulthood after all. I want to repay them instead of turning on them.

"Enough. We came out for some drinks and fun today, so don't mention those unhappy matters again."

Alexander shook his head as if he was trying to shake those unhappy matters out of his mind. He smiled, picked up the wine glass, and said generously, "Come on, let's have a drink! Mr. Gray, you should have one too!"

Everyone raised their glasses. Lucas replaced Cheyenne's glass with a glass of juice before raising his own glass and drinking it.

"Speaking of which, a new bar opened downtown a couple of days ago. There's a gorgeous dancer working there. She has legs for days! We should go there too sometime." A young man with long hair suggested excitedly.

"Shut up! Can't you see that we have a lady in the room? Stop speaking so uncouthly!" Stefon smacked the young man's head and then quickly apologized to Cheyenne and Lucas. "I'm sorry. This fellow doesn't think before he speaks. He's itching for a beating!"

"Haha, Stefon is right. You're in need of a beating!"

The few young people laughed and joked.

In fact, Lucas didn't take offense to the remark unintentionally made just now.

When he was in the military, there were often young men gathering and cracking some sexual jokes for fun. They would then get smacked by their friends.

Lucas smiled when he saw Alexander's friends.

The meal started at six o'clock and lasted until after nine before they parted ways.

After personally walking Lucas and Cheyenne to their car, Alexander said with a bitter smile, "Lucas, my friends are just really noisy and boisterous. I hope we didn't annoy you! But I can temporarily forget the unhappy things only when I'm with them."

Lucas didn't ask Alexander what he was unhappy about but just smiled and said, "It's getting late. We're leaving now."

"Okay, let's get together again sometime in the future. Be careful on your way home." Alexander smiled, waved his hand, and watched Lucas and Cheyenne leave in their car.

In the car, Cheyenne chuckled. "I thought that he suddenly invited you to dinner because he had something to ask of you, but it turned out to be just a simple meal."

Lucas smiled lightly. Indeed, the meal tonight was rather simple, but only Alexander would know if he had an ulterior motive.

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On the other side, Alexander had also gotten into his own car, and the driver was driving toward the Steele residence.

But apart from Alexander, there was a middle-aged man in the backseat.

“Mr. Steele, did Lucas Gray agree to help you?” the middle-aged man asked.

Alexander shook his head. “He is a very smart person. If I ask him for help directly, he’ll definitely reject me, so I can only try slowly and take it one step at a time.”

At this moment, Alexander seemed extremely calm, without any trace of the disheveledness and drunkenness just now.

“That man is just an outcast kicked out of the Huttons. Does he really have that much power? Mr. Steele, are you overestimating him?” the middle-aged man asked in disbelief, his tone revealing some disdain.

Alexander frowned. “Don’t underestimate him! Think about it yourself. If he’s really just an illegitimate son who was kicked out of the Huttons years ago, how could he have gotten the entire Stardust Corporation from the Huttons?”

“Moreover, he’s definitely an impressive expert! I’m not even qualified to fight against him. Do you think such a person has no power?”

Hearing this, the middle-aged man put away the contempt in his eyes and said with some caution, “Is he really that strong that even you are no match for him?”

He was extremely clear about Alexander’s strength and knew that Alexander was very good at martial arts. Moreover, he had been taught by famous masters since he was a child, so it could be said that Alexander had no rivals among his peers in DC.

But that illegitimate son who just returned to DC is much stronger than Mr. Steele?

How is that possible?!

Alexander said cautiously, “That’s because there’s a six-year gap in the information about Lucas Gray. No one can find out what happened to him during those six years!”

“The only possibility is that he spent his time on the battlefield at the borders during those six years! Therefore, it’s possible that he was trained from an ordinary person into a top powerhouse of his generation! Besides, based on his performance, he should have been an extraordinary figure in the military!”

After pausing for a bit, Alexander ordered in a deep voice, “Don’t you know someone who holds a high post in the military? Find a way to find out Lucas Gray’s true identity!”

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Lucas didn't know that Alexander had secretly sent someone to investigate him. But even if he knew, he wouldn't care.

Reason being, Lucas's identity in the military was classified as 'top secret', and only the few top people would know who he was.

When the two of them returned to their villa in DC, Cheyenne washed her hands and immediately video called Charlotte.

Soon, a beautiful woman and a pretty little girl appeared on the phone screen.

"Mommy! I miss you!" Amelia immediately exclaimed with joy as soon as she saw Cheyenne.

"Hey Amelia, have you been behaving at home the past few days?" Cheyenne looked at her daughter's cute little face and smiled.

Although she had only been separated from Amelia for two days, she felt as if she hadn't seen her for a long time and missed her greatly.

At this moment, Cheyenne wanted to fly to Amelia, hug her, and give her a kiss on her tender little face.

"Mommy, I'm not a child anymore. Of course I've been behaving! I just miss you guys a little!" Amelia said with a smile, pretending to be a mature adult. It made Cheyenne and Charlotte laugh.

"That's good to hear. Once Daddy and Mommy are done here, we'll go back to accompany you immediately, okay?" Cheyenne said in a gentle voice.

Amelia's eyes lit up, and she nodded several times. "Yes! I know you two are working hard. Don't tire yourselves out!"

Cheyenne was extremely heartened that her daughter was so sensible and caring toward them at such a young age.

Lucas walked out of the bathroom and sat next to Cheyenne.

Amelia immediately called out happily, "Daddy! I miss you too!"

Looking at his daughter's happy face and hearing her soft and sweet voice, Lucas felt like his heart was about to melt.

Chapter 1064: Personnel Appointment

Lucas and Cheyenne talked to Amelia for a long time. Seeing that it was getting late, they quickly urged her to go to bed.

After Amelia went to sleep, Charlotte appeared on the phone screen and talked to Lucas and Cheyenne.

“Cheyenne, Lucas, you two can stay in DC and handle your business with peace of mind. Leave Amelia and Dad to me. Don’t worry.

“Oh, by the way, the Stardust Corporation’s Orange County branch is currently developing rapidly. Due to your identity, Lucas, companies of all sizes in California and Oregon have sent us invitations to cooperate. The marketing department is busy every day.

“I think if the situation goes on, the Stardust Corporation’s Orange County branch may develop into an independent major enterprise on its own, and it can be separated from the Stardust Corporation,” Charlotte said with satisfaction.

Lucas laughed. “It seems that you’ve managed the company very well. I thought that you’d be too stressed or overwhelmed after I handed over all responsibility in Orange County to you, but it seems like you’re handling it well.”

Charlotte said proudly, “That’s not true! Now that everything in the Stardust Corporation’s Orange branch is on track, I’m not that busy. I even feel that I have too much free time on my hands, and there’s no longer a sense of accomplishment!”

She was just joking, but to her surprise, Lucas said, “That’s great! I happen to be shorthanded and need people to help me at the Stardust Corporation headquarters in DC. Come over to help me. There’s much more room for development here than in Orange County. It’ll be more than enough for you to put your skills to full play!”

Charlotte was stunned and quickly said, “Lucas, are you serious? I was just joking. Do you really want me to join the Stardust Corporation headquarters in DC?”

Lucas smiled. “Of course I’m serious. You and William should come here to help me. Quickly find a trusted successor to hand over your duties in Orange County.”

Only then did Charlotte know that Lucas was really not joking. He truly wanted her and William to help him manage the Stardust Corporation in DC.

“Alright then. As long as you’re not afraid that we might cause trouble for you, I’ll hand over my duties over the next few days and then meet you guys in DC!” Charlotte was not a wishy-washy person and agreed immediately.

“I’m glad you two are coming.” Lucas smiled and let Cheyenne and Charlotte continue chatting.

He walked to the side and called Flynn on the phone. “Arrange for three executive positions in the company in the next few days.”

“Yes, Lucas.” Flynn agreed immediately and then reported a piece of news. “Lucas, as far as I know, Alexander Steele has sent someone to investigate you.”

Lucas frowned. No one liked being investigated, though Lucas was certain that Alexander wouldn’t be able to find out anything about him.

“Let him be,” Lucas said nonchalantly and hung up.

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The night passed quickly.

The next morning, Cheyenne left home early as usual and proceeded to handle business cooperation matters.

Although Lucas had invited her to join the Stardust Corporation headquarters yesterday, she had founded and developed the Brilliance Corporation after all, so she couldn’t just leave it behind.

Even if she joined the Stardust Corporation later, she wouldn’t abandon the Brilliance Corporation’s affairs.

It was extremely common for one person to manage multiple companies in the business circle.

Meanwhile, Lucas headed to the Stardust Corporation.

In Flynn’s general manager’s office, he handed the appointment proposals he had prepared overnight to Lucas. “Lucas, please see if these arrangements are appropriate. If you don’t have any objections, I’ll issue them.”

Lucas took a look at it, but he soon frowned. “Did I say I would demote you?”

Flynn stated in the appointment proposal that Cheyenne would be the general manager of the Stardust Corporation while Flynn would be demoted to deputy general manager.

Flynn explained, “I... I heard you say that Ms. Carter was joining the company, so—”

“I asked you to draw up three executive positions, but I don’t intend to remove you from your position as general manager!” Lucas interrupted.

“As I’ve told you before, as long as you’ve chosen to come to the Stardust Corporation headquarters in DC, you’ll always be the general manager I approve of. You earned this position with your loyalty.

“So you are and will always be the general manager of the Stardust Corporation!”

Flynn felt extremely touched, and his eyes couldn’t help but redden.

When he received Lucas’s instructions for him to arrange three executive positions for Cheyenne, Charlotte, and William—Lucas’s wife, sister-in-law, and father-in-law—he actually felt a little disappointed, thinking that Lucas was going to demote him so that he could make his wife the general manager.

After all, he was just a subordinate of Lucas, while Cheyenne was Lucas’s wife. He thought that Lucas definitely wouldn’t allow Cheyenne to be his subordinate.

So after contemplating for a long time last night, Flynn finally made these arrangements, which included a demotion for himself, thinking that he had understood Lucas’s intentions.

But he didn’t expect that Lucas’s intentions weren’t this at all. Instead, Lucas gave him further encouragement.

People tended to sacrifice for those who understood them. Since Lucas treated him so well, his efforts had paid off!

In fact, Lucas was grateful for Flynn too.

At the beginning, Lucas had indeed only treated Flynn as a general subordinate and even used his acts of dishonesty against him to threaten him into working for him.

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But let us set these matters aside.

Flynn had indeed saved Lucas a lot of hassle and worry, be it when he worked at the Stardust Corporation’s Orange County branch, or when Lucas transferred him to the Solar Corporation’s LA branch, or when he tasked him to break into the Stardust Corporation headquarters at the risk of being assassinated by the Huttons. Although his performance wasn’t outstanding, Lucas didn’t have to worry much about him.

Besides, Flynn choosing to risk his own life to join the Stardust Corporation headquarters in DC was a perfect act of loyalty.

Thus, Lucas would no longer just treat Flynn as a subordinate who followed his orders.

“You’re a veteran of the Stardust Corporation and someone I trust and rely on. You don’t have to be so scrupulous toward me when you speak to me in the future,” Lucas said with a smile.

Flynn was extremely touched, but he quickly continued, “Lucas, I know you value me greatly now, but I still think that it’s better to let Mr. Carter be the general manager of the Stardust Corporation. After all, she’s your wife, and it won’t be too appropriate for her to be my subordinate, will it?”

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Chapter 1065: Inviting the Expert

Hearing Flynn’s words, Lucas said, “There’s nothing inappropriate about it. Cheyenne is indeed my wife, but she lacks experience managing large corporations, and her business ideas might not be comparable to yours.

“If her abilities can surpass yours in all aspects in the future, and she has made a major contribution to the Stardust Corporation, I’ll appoint her as the general manager!

“Also, no matter what, Cheyenne is a newcomer to the Stardust Corporation. If she replaces a hardworking employee like you as the general manager just because she’s my wife, I’m afraid the other employees will be dissatisfied, and they won’t respect Cheyenne.”

Hearing this, Flynn finally realized what he had neglected.

In every workplace, those transferred from outside the company into their positions were most prone to criticism.

Lucas’s consideration was clearly appropriate.

“Lucas, I know what to do. I’ll redraft the appointment letters in a bit!” Flynn said seriously after understanding this.

“Okay.” Lucas nodded. “Have all the relevant procedures for the land we bought yesterday been completed?”

Flynn said, “Yes, all the procedures have been completed, and we have also gone to the land administration bureau for the property transfer procedures. The plot of land already belongs to the Stardust Corporation.

“I plan to get people to start designing Stardust City. Once the design is finalized, we can set up the engineering team and prepare to begin construction!”

Flynn was extremely excited at the thought of the construction plan of Stardust City.

He suddenly said, “Lucas, here’s the thing. One of my professors when I was a graduate student is a renowned architect, and I intend to ask her to help with the design of Stardust City. I’m planning to visit her this afternoon.

“If I can really get the professor to help us, Stardust City will definitely be more vibrant, and there might even be a chance for it to leave a mark in history!”

Since Flynn was singing praises of the professor, Lucas reckoned that the latter might be an unparalleled talent.

Lucas nodded. “It will be best if we can get your professor’s help. I’m free this afternoon, so let’s go meet the professor.”

Hearing this, Flynn was naturally happy. “Alright. If we go together, the professor will definitely be over the moon! She once said that her greatest dream in life is to design a city on her own! Now, her dream is finally going to come true!”

Lucas asked Flynn about the professor’s details and learned that her name was Gemma Crawford. She was almost 70 years old, but due to her significant and numerous contributions throughout her life, Georgetown University had hired her again to educate students.

Lucas had always had great respect for devoted educators. Flynn called Gemma and arranged to meet her at Georgetown University in two hours.

Flynn drove Lucas to the architecture department of Georgetown University.

After waiting in the library for a bit, Professor Gemma Crawford walked over to the two of them with a cloth bag containing some books and sketches.

The old woman in front of them had a head full of neatly-combed silver hair. There were wrinkles on her face, and her glasses made her look composed and dignified.

“Professor Crawford! I’m Flynn Davis, a former student of yours!” Flynn stepped forward and greeted respectfully.

“Yeah, I still remember you.” Gemma nodded slightly without much expression, remaining very composed.

Flynn introduced, “Professor Crawford, this is the chairman of the Stardust Corporation and my current boss, Lucas Gray.”

Lucas stepped forward and politely greeted her. “Hello, it’s a pleasure to meet you.”

Gemma merely nodded at Lucas in greeting. But then she frowned and asked Flynn with displeasure, “Why did you bring someone here to see me?”

Flynn hurriedly said, “Professor Crawford, listen to me. I remember that you always had a dream of designing a city of your own, right?”

After Gemma heard this, there was some obvious nostalgia on her aged face. She sighed and said, “It’s indeed my lifelong dream, but I don’t think I can ever fulfill it.”

“No, Professor Crawford, you still have a chance. It’s right in front of you now!” Flynn smiled and looked at Lucas next to him. “Lucas and I have a vision to design a city within a city completely of our own, with fully functional buildings designed and developed by ourselves. Lucas has already approved the plan. Professor Crawford, are you interested in participating in the design and construction of Stardust City?”

“Are you serious?” A surge of excitement appeared on Gemma’s face. She grabbed Flynn’s arm, her eyes glistening. “Are you really planning to build a city?”

Flynn nodded excitedly. “Yes, we are! Just yesterday afternoon, we bought a large plot of vacant land over 120 acres in the eastern suburbs of DC. We intend to build our first Stardust City there!”

“Furthermore, we’re not only going to build one Stardust City. We’re building one in more than twenty major cities in the US!

“Now, we’re just waiting for the design to be finalized, and then we can begin construction!

“Professor Crawford, we are here today to invite you to design the blueprint for Stardust City!”

The more Gemma listened, the more excited she became, and even her wrinkled face lit up with joy. “Okay, okay! Let’s go to the eastern suburbs to survey the land right now!”

Gemma was extremely excited, and she wished she could drag Flynn and Lucas to the plot of land immediately.

“Uh, please wait, Professor. It’s almost lunchtime now. Let’s go after we eat!” Flynn said helplessly.

Gemma waved her hands and said firmly, “No, we don’t have time for that. Let’s go now! We can just buy some food on the way! Let’s go quickly!”

Seeing Gemma’s action, Flynn could only smile at Lucas helplessly.

His teacher was just that eager and decisive. Once she made up her mind to do something, she would give it her all and seize every second.

Lucas appreciated enthusiastic and goal-oriented people like Gemma.

“Okay then. Flynn, go to the supermarket over there and buy some convenient food and drinks while I take Professor Crawford to the car.”

“Okay!” Flynn agreed.

By the time Lucas and Gemma reached the parking lot outside Georgetown University, Flynn had returned with a bag of sandwiches and mineral water.

They ate in the car. After about half an hour, they arrived at the land in the eastern suburbs of DC.

Looking at the large open land in front of her, Gemma was full of excitement. It was a rare and wonderful place for large-scale design and planning!

For a while, Gemma had no time to pay attention to anything else as she quickly stepped forward and looked at the vast land in front of her.

Suddenly, an extremely piercing voice came from the side. “Who are you people? What are you doing here?”

They turned around and saw the man in a black suit walking over with a hostile expression. He said in a deep voice, “The royals have taken over this place. You irrelevant people, get lost quickly!”

As soon as Flynn heard this, the expression on his face froze.

Lucas had already bought this land, and Flynn was the one who had handled all the procedures, so he was very clear about who owned it.

But why would the royal family suddenly show up and claim to have taken over this place?

Could it be... Flynn's face instantly turned pale as fear surged in his heart.

Lucas frowned and saw a black Bentley parked under a few trees not far away. There were several strong and burly men standing around the car, exuding formidable auras.

"The royals? Taking over?" Lucas sneered and shouted angrily, "Which royal family dares to take over the land I bought?!"

The man in the black suit was stunned, thinking that he had heard wrongly. When he returned to his senses and realized what Lucas had said, his face immediately turned gloomy.

"Punk! The royals are of noble status, and they're not people someone like you can afford to offend! Retract what you said and apologize!" the man in the black suit said threateningly.

"Apologize, my foot!" Lucas hollered furiously and kicked the man in the chest.

Bang!

The man in a black suit immediately felt as if he had been hit by a car and flew backward seven meters before falling hard on the ground. He couldn't get up for a long time.

"You're just a dog. How dare you be arrogant in front of me?" Lucas looked expressionlessly at the man he had just kicked.

If Lucas had wanted to kill him, he could have done so easily with the kick.

Flynn inhaled sharply, staring at the scene in front of him in disbelief.

The man in the black suit, who claimed to be a member of the royal family, was kicked away by Lucas just like that.

The commotion here was rather intense, so the few burly men standing around the Bentley had all noticed it.

One of them bent forward and whispered something near the glass of the rear window. Soon, the man in the car seemed to order something, and the bodyguard walked over to Lucas.

Seeing the formidable bodyguard getting closer and closer, Flynn became more and more terrified. Even his calves began shivering.

The royals were an unrivaled family standing at the pinnacle of power and wealth in the US!

Even the weakest branch could easily wipe out the eight top families!

And now, Lucas actually hit someone from the royals. How fearless!

Just as Flynn's heart was brimming with fear, Lucas suddenly said to him, "Why are you still standing here? Professor Crawford has already gone far away. Go accompany her."

Only then did Flynn realize that Gemma had her eyes peeled on the large plot of land in front of her, so much so that she had gotten distracted and wandered off on her own. She didn't notice what was going on here at all.

The reason Lucas sent him to keep an eye on Gemma was that he realized Flynn was terrified, so he deliberately steered him away.

Flynn knew that Lucas was skilled in martial arts, so not only would he not be able to help Lucas by staying here, but he would only hold him back. So after a moment of hesitation, he reminded, "Lucas, be careful! The royals are not to be trifled with!"

Lucas glanced at Flynn calmly with some mockery in his gaze. "As I have said before, no one in this country can scare me. Have you forgotten what I said?"

Flynn trembled. Only then did he remember that Lucas had once said this to him domineeringly back in Orange County.

But only now did Flynn realize that Lucas wasn't just blowing his trumpet. He was just that powerful, confident, and fearless!

"Yes, I got it, Lucas!" Flynn's eyes were full of trust and determination.

Lucas said indifferently, "Go."

Flynn nodded and chased after Gemma, who had gone far away.

At this moment, the royals' bodyguard arrived in front of Lucas.

"Punk, how dare you hit one of us? It seems like you have a death wish! Do you know who we are?" the bodyguard questioned angrily.

At this moment, the man in the black suit whom Lucas had kicked away struggled to get up from the ground. He spat out some blood from his mouth and hollered, "How dare he speak rudely to the royals! Kill him immediately!"

The bodyguard frowned. "How dare you be rude to the royals! Seems like you're courting death!"

Lucas looked at the two men in front of him indifferently and warned, "I'm not interested in talking to dogs. You have two minutes to get out of my sight! If you don't, I'll make you regret it!"

The bodyguards had never seen anyone who dared to talk to the royals so aggressively. He snorted coldly and shouted, "Punk, here's a piece of advice. If you don't want to die miserably, immediately kneel down and kowtow before getting lost! You can't afford to provoke the royals!"

"You've wasted twenty seconds," Lucas said coldly.

"You!"

Lucas's attitude immediately made the bodyguard fly into a rage.

He was clearly threatening Lucas and telling him to leave. But now, Lucas was threatening them instead.

The elite bodyguards of the esteemed royals obviously wouldn't be afraid of a young man in his twenties.

"Punk, don't make me do this the hard way. If you have a death wish, I can fulfill it right now!" the bodyguard roared furiously with a menacing aura.

"Hah, you really don't know any better. I wanted to spare your lives." Lucas smiled helplessly.

"Hmph, you're really arrogant! We don't know who's sparing who!"

The bodyguard could no longer control himself. He clenched his fist and swung it at Lucas's face.

The bodyguard was actually quite skilled, and he moved extremely quickly as he swung his fists fiercely. If an ordinary person was punched in the head like this, they would be seriously injured if not killed!

“Hah, you’re dead, punk!”

The man in the black suit, who was still lying on the ground, showed a twisted look of euphoria on his face as he anticipated the scene of the bodyguard killing Lucas with one punch.

Although he wasn’t a member of the royal family’s direct lineage, he worked for them after all, and people were usually very respectful toward him. But he actually got kicked away by this young man in his twenties!

He wanted Lucas to die!

But the grim smile on the man’s face soon stiffened!

The bodyguard’s thunderous punch didn’t land on Lucas. Instead, Lucas grabbed his fist and rendered him immobile!

The bodyguard was shocked!

He knew that Lucas might have some background in martial arts since he had managed to kick the man in the black suit so far with just one kick. Thus, he hadn’t held back and went all out.

But he could have never imagined that even after he threw a punch at full power, this young man would actually catch his fist so easily!

The more terrifying thing was that no matter how hard he tried to break free, Lucas’s fingers were like a steel clamp around his fist, making it impossible for him to break free.

The bodyguard gritted his teeth and roared, “Let go of me!”

Lucas sneered. “Given the strength contained in your punch just now, you must have been trying to kill me. In that case, why should I let you off?”

“Anyone who dares to harm me must pay the price!”

Lucas smiled sinisterly and tightened his grip!

Crack!

The bones in the bodyguard’s hand instantly made a sound that resembled beans being popped. Lucas crushed his fingers and his hand!

“Ah!”

The excruciating pain caused the muscles on the bodyguard's face to twitch. He could only grit his teeth and barely suppress the miserable shriek.

"How dare you cripple my hand!" the bodyguard said while trembling, his face covered in cold sweat.

"Isn't it obvious? That's right. I crippled your hand."

Lucas threw aside the bodyguard's hand, which he had distorted, and said indifferently, "You should be glad that there is an intellectual here today who shouldn't see anything too bloody. Otherwise, you'd suffer more than just a crippled hand."

With that, Lucas stopped paying attention to the bodyguard and turned around to walk straight toward Gemma.

"You... you actually injured a bodyguard of the royals. You're going to die miserably!" The man in the black suit on the ground bellowed in fury after seeing the bodyguard suffering defeat to Lucas.

Lucas stopped and glanced at him. "Oh, I almost forgot how annoying you are."

"Wh-what do you want to do?" The man in the black suit immediately felt a chill all over his body when he saw Lucas's icy cold gaze on him.

He finally realized that he shouldn't have spoken and attracted Lucas's attention again.

"Of course I want you to shut up." Lucas sneered and suddenly kicked a ball of mud from the ground into the man's mouth with impressive accuracy. It was as if he was playing soccer.

Gulp!

The man in the black suit was astonished and furious. The ball of mud covered his mouth and slid into his throat as soon as he opened his mouth.

"Ahem, ahem, you... Pfft!"

The man in the black suit was so livid that he passed out before he could catch his breath.

Lucas stopped looking at the two of them and walked toward Gemma and Flynn.

The bodyguard stood rooted to the ground for a few seconds, waves of chilliness surging in his heart. Although Lucas's kick seemed simple, he actually managed to gather the soft mud together and accurately kick it into the mouth of the man in the black suit. It was a move that required impeccable skill!

He had even crushed all the bones in his right hand in one go. It was simply terrifying!
How could this young man be someone of ordinary status?

It was probably difficult to find such a young expert among the royals.

The bodyguard didn't dare to delay at all. Holding his injured hand, he hurried back to the Bentley.

"Sir, that young man is not an ordinary person. He crippled my hand in one move! For your safety, you'd better leave!" the bodyguard said while bending forward respectfully.

"Hah, you got your hand crippled because you're a good-for-nothing!" A cold and merciless voice came out of the back seat window. The door opened, and a young figure stepped out with an arrogant expression on his face. "As a member of the direct lineage of the royals, how could I possibly hide from someone?!"

The young man was about 31 or 32 years old. He had his head held high, and his hair was combed neatly. His features were handsome, and his expression was cold and indifferent. With his brows raised, he revealed a contemptuous arrogance.

He was indeed a very dashing young man. When he got out of the car, he looked at the vast open space in front of him with strong determination in his eyes. "I want to build a luxurious manor that belongs only to me on this land!"

It was as if he didn't even know that this land belonged to someone else. His eyes were full of aggression.

"But since that punk has the audacity to hit my subordinates, he's really brave! C'mon, let's go take a look!"

The young man named Ashton Hills walked toward Lucas.

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Following closely behind him were eight bodyguards.

On the other side of the empty land...

Gemma looked around and surveyed the topology of the land and the layout of the surrounding river. The more she looked, the brighter her eyes became. She was clearly satisfied.

“Professor Crawford, do you think we can build a Stardust City here?” Flynn chuckled.

“It’s great. I’m very satisfied!” Gemma grinned widely. “Be it the size or location, this plot of land is excellent! It’s definitely one of the best places to build a city within a city!

“You have great judgment. You managed to acquire such a large plot of land, and you even want to develop it into a city! Stardust City is a nice name as well!

“I’ve decided. I’ll go home to pack up now and bring some tools and daily necessities back. From today onward, I will live here! I’ll go through every inch of this land and come up with the best design!”

Gemma spoke extremely excitedly.

But both Flynn and Lucas were stunned to hear what she said.

“Uh, Professor, you don’t have to be so anxious. This is only a barren wasteland with no facilities around. I think it’s better to wait until we set up a preliminary project team, get them to start measuring the area, and set up some simple facilities before you come take a look!” Flynn persuaded.

But unexpectedly, Gemma waved her hand and said, “You guys set up your project team while I do my own things. I can’t wait a second longer. If I can’t get familiar with every inch here, I won’t be able to get the most accurate data and come up with the most perfect design!”

Lucas and Flynn didn’t expect her to be such a hands-on person. Flynn hurriedly said, “I know you’re excited, but no matter what, you can’t live on this wasteland. I’ll immediately dispatch a small team to build a simple house here for now. Just wait for me for a few days, alright?”

“No way, How can I wait a few more days?” Gemma waved her hand repeatedly in polite refusal. “I’ll just bring a tent over. Go ahead and carry out the other projects you want to implement. Just don’t get in my way!”

Seeing Gemma’s firm attitude, Flynn smiled bitterly and could only look at Lucas helplessly.

But suddenly, a cold voice came from a short distance away. “Are you the one who just injured my subordinates?”

The few of them turned around and saw a handsome young man walking toward them, surrounded by eight tall bodyguards.

This young man was none other than Ashton, the young man from the royals sitting in the car just now.

Lucas glanced at Ashton indifferently. "Seems like you're finally willing to get out of your car. But you should be clear as to why I hit your subordinates."

Ashton was stunned.

It had been a long time since anyone had dared to speak to him with such a tone.

"Maybe you still don't know who I am. Let me introduce myself. I am Ashton Hills, and I am a direct descendant of the royals," Ashton introduced himself in a conceited and arrogant tone. "Now that you've injured my subordinates, you owe me an explanation."

Ashton originally thought that after he revealed his identity, Lucas would definitely be aghast and kneel down to beg for mercy, just like the countless ignorant people he had met in the past.

But Ashton was disappointed to find that Lucas, who was a few years younger than him, actually didn't have any change in expression after hearing his introduction. It was as if he hadn't heard him at all!

"Punk, did you hear what I said?" Ashton questioned, unable to contain his anger any longer.

Lucas ignored him and ordered Flynn. "Take Professor Crawford away immediately."

When he saw Ashton coming over with so many bodyguards, Flynn was already frightened out of his wits. Hearing this, he hurriedly held Gemma's arm and wanted to take her away.

"Hold it right there! Who said you could leave?"

As soon as Ashton issued the order, three of the bodyguards behind him immediately surrounded Flynn and Gemma.

"Wh-what do you want to do? We live in a civilized society now. If you dare to get up to any nonsense, I'll call the police right now!"

Gemma had been living in a peaceful and serene environment in college, where all she did was educate. She had obviously never witnessed such a scene.

She was frightened, but she still tried her best to pretend to be calm and use the police to threaten the people in front of her.

"Psht, old fogey, are you tired of living?" one of the bodyguards said in displeasure as he raised his hand to push Gemma.

Gemma was almost 70 years old. If she fell to the ground, she would be seriously injured!

“You have a death wish!” Lucas’s eyes flashed with ferocity. The next moment, he appeared next to Gemma and grabbed the bodyguard’s hand.

Lucas’s movement was so incredibly fast that even the elite bodyguard didn’t see how he moved. A grim look appeared on his face.

“Punk, how dare you stop me?!”

Lucas was squeezing the bodyguard’s hand tightly, and he couldn’t break free at all.

Lucas said, “You deserve to die for trying to hurt her!”

Lucas grabbed his arm and threw a flying kick, striking the bodyguard right in his chest.

Bang!

That bodyguard’s body was kicked more than ten meters away and rolled on the ground. He was no longer moving, and it was unknown if he was dead or alive.

This scene shocked everyone!

Even Ashton felt some dread.

As a direct descendant of the Hills, one of the branches of the royals, he had an incredibly noble status. Even the bodyguards who followed him were not ordinary bodyguards but extremely powerful experts!

But one of the bodyguards had had his hand crippled by Lucas while another was kicked more than ten meters away, making them look like weaklings.

But it wasn’t because his bodyguards were too weak. Rather, it was because Lucas was exceptionally powerful!

Besides, the even more annoying thing was that Lucas dared to harm his bodyguard even after learning his identity. This was blatant disregard for him!

Ashton stared closely at Lucas with a sullen expression.

“Take Professor Crawford with you and leave!” Lucas ordered again.

Only then did Flynn come back to his senses and quickly help the shocked Gemma to where they had parked the car.

Two of Ashton's bodyguards wanted to stop them, but Lucas swiftly moved and blocked them.

Looking at Lucas's cold and merciless eyes, the two bodyguards couldn't help feeling a sudden chill surge in their hearts. They didn't dare to act rashly at all.

The fierce combat power Lucas had just shown made them feel a great threat.

Ashton stared at Lucas and said, "Who are you?"

Chapter 1069: I Want To Buy the Land

Facing Ashton's question, Lucas sneered. "You're not qualified to know who I am."

Then Lucas stopped paying attention to these people and walked away.

Ashton was so angry that he was about to explode. What Lucas did was an act of disregard for his existence!

"Hold it right there! Did I say that you could leave?" Ashton bellowed with fury.

Lucas stopped, tilted his head to glance at Ashton, and asked with a contemptuous smile, "You want me to stay? But can you do it?"

Ashton seemed even more disgruntled.

He had brought nine people out with him today. Aside from the man in the black suit, who was the servant in charge of serving him, the other eight were all elite bodyguards that he had carefully selected.

But Lucas crippled the hand of one of them and knocked another unconscious with a single kick in just a few short moments. The remaining six bodyguards were extremely wary of him.

Given the overwhelming combat power Lucas had displayed, even if the remaining six fought against him together, they were probably no match for him.

At the thought of this, Ashton felt even more suffocated.

"Oh, by the way, I have to remind you that the land you're standing on belongs to me, so I don't want to hear anything about anyone taking over this land. It will make me very

unhappy. You hear me?" Lucas glanced at Ashton's gloomy face and 'kindly' gave him another warning.

Ashton's face became even more gloomier.

In fact, he knew that the land he wanted already belonged to someone else.

He had just returned from abroad and missed the land auction yesterday. He was very upset about it and had decided that he would make whoever acquired the land give it to him.

In Ashton's opinion, the land belonged to him, even though he hadn't paid a single cent for it.

"You mean you bought this land?" Ashton asked Lucas, forcing himself to suppress his anger.

"You're not stupid." Lucas nodded with folded arms.

"I heard that you bought this plot of land for 1.2 billion dollars, right? I'll give you 1.5 billion right now. Sell the land to me immediately!" Ashton said in a commanding tone.

To Ashton, this was already a compromise from him because he was actually offering an extra 300 million dollars to buy this land from this ignorant young man.

Lucas shook his head calmly. "No."

"1.6 million!" Ashton said through gritted teeth.

Lucas sneered and shook his head. "No!"

Ashton glowered at Lucas and clenched his jaws. "You... Don't be too greedy! 1.7 billion!"

He had honestly already offered a very attractive price. After all, the starting price of this land had only been 400 million dollars, and Lucas had bought it for 1.2 billion dollars. In the eyes of ordinary people, this would be considered a loss because there was no longer any room for profit.

And just one day later, Ashton actually offered a price of 1.7 billion dollars. If Lucas sold it to him, he would make a profit of 500 million dollars within one day. This was simply a faster way to make money than any other profitable industry!

Anyone else would have sold the land to Ashton at 1.7 billion dollars.

But Lucas wasn't an ordinary person, and this land was of great use to him. So regardless of how much Ashton eventually offered, he wouldn't sell it.

"I'm not selling it no matter how much you offer," Lucas said indifferently.

Ashton was on the verge of losing his temper.

He had already offered Lucas 500 million dollars more than what he had paid for it. He didn't expect Lucas to still refuse to sell this to him!

"Don't be greedy! I'm already offering a great price! And it far exceeds the original value of this land! Don't think of asking for more!

"Also, I'm here to buy this land on behalf of the Hills family of the royals. If you're smart enough, you should sell the land to me. You'll profit from it and also get a favor from us.

"But if you refuse to sell it to me, then you are an enemy of the Hills! You should know very well how miserable you'll end up if you go against the royals."

Ashton's tone was aggressive and full of menace.

"Is that so? You can try doing whatever you want then."

With that, Lucas turned around and left without looking at him again.

The expression on Ashton's face completely stiffened.

He didn't expect Lucas would still be so adamant after he had already revealed his identity as a royal, offered so much money, and tried to coerce him.

Not only did Lucas refuse to sell the land, but he even disregarded the royals!

This bastard!

Watching Lucas leave, Ashton didn't stop him. Instead, he stared closely at Lucas's back and looked away only after Lucas got in his car and left.

"Send someone to investigate him immediately! No matter what, we have to find out his real identity!" Ashton ordered furiously.

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On the other side, Lucas apologized to Gemma as soon as he got inside the car. "I'm sorry, Professor Crawford. My apologies that you were scared."

Gemma shook her head and asked worriedly with some lingering fear, "Those aggressive people are from the royal family? Nothing will go wrong, right?"

Lucas smiled slightly. "Please rest assured. I bought this land at an official land auction yesterday. All the procedures were completed in accordance with the law, and the land use rights are under my name. Nothing will go wrong."

Flynn quickly said, "Yes, Professor Crawford, don't worry! I went to the auction with Lucas yesterday, and I personally handled all the administrative procedures. There will be no problems."

After hearing their assurances, Gemma finally heaved a sigh of relief. But she was still worried. "But now, the royals are interested in your land. They're not to be trifled with, so you have to be careful!"

Lucas expressed his gratitude for Gemma's reminder. "Alright, thank you for your reminder, Professor Crawford. We will pay attention."

The two of them sent Gemma home. She insisted on moving to the land in the afternoon and would settle all her living necessities there, including food and accommodation.

Facing Gemma's stubbornness in her workaholic mode, both Lucas and Flynn were at their wits' end.