

Pursuing My Ex-Wife Isn't Easy chapter 1697

chapter 1697

Joshua did not expect Jim to toss the question over to him.

He narrowed his eyes and said impassively, "I believe only the results of the police's investigation."

Jim sneered as he wiped away the blood trickling out of the corner of his lips. "I know that too, but I'm asking you that as Luna's ex-wife, the father of Luna's four children, do you, Joshua Lynch, think that Luna could have killed Cheryl, the woman that posed no threat to her at all whether relationship or career-wise?"

"What do you mean, she posed no threat to Luna's relationship or career-wise?" Cheryl's parents could not believe this at all.

Mrs. Martin tried to release herself from Joshua's grip as she glared at Jim. "Luna clearly killed Cheryl because she didn't think she'd be able to compete against her when trying to win President Lynch's heart! How dare you even say she posed no threat to Luna? You're talking nonsense!"

Seeing that Mrs. Martin was about to be freed of Joshua's grasp and lunge toward Jim, two police officers approached them and restrained her.

"Me? Talking nonsense?" Jim sneered. "Even though I sympathize with you over your loss, I still hope the two of you can be awoken to the truth."

"The reason Luna had stayed in Merchant City was that she didn't want to return home with Joshua Lynch. She longed for nothing more than to get rid of him, so why would she want to compete with your daughter for him?"

“Do you want me to play the audio clip of your daughter insulting Luna and calling her a hooker?”

He swept his cold glance over Mr. and Mrs. Martin’s shocked faces. “Even though parents always think the best of their children, I still hope you have some self-awareness.

“If you continue pestering me like this, I’ll expose all of the humiliating things your daughter did when she was alive, so I suggest that you refrain yourselves to show some respect to her.”

With that, he turned to glance coldly at Joshua. “You’re still unwilling to admit the truth, aren’t you?”

He lowered his head to adjust his cufflinks and continued, “Eight months ago, when someone stabbed my mother in her chest with a knife, you were the prime suspect.

“At that time, Luna’s first reaction was to doubt that you were the culprit. If it weren’t for the fact that all of the evidence pointed toward you, she wouldn’t have changed her mind, but what about you?”

“Now that Cheryl’s death was still a mystery and the fingerprint on the murder weapon clearly didn’t belong to Luna, you chose to ignore that fact and instead insist that she was the culprit.”

Jim let out an exhale and curled his lips into a smirk. “You don’t deserve Luna at all.

“Just now, she wanted me to tell you to visit her because she wants to see you, but I don’t think that matters anymore now. After all, there’s nothing you can do apart from upsetting her.”

With that, he turned and strode away.

Joshua remained motionless and narrowed his eyes as he watched Jim leave.

“Mr. Lynch.” After Jim disappeared from sight, Mr. and Mrs. Martin rushed toward Joshua. “The murderer must’ve wanted to trick you into thinking she didn’t do it, and that’s why she wanted to see you! You can’t fall for her tricks!

” Don’t visit her...even if it was for Cheryl, you shouldn’t...”

Joshua glanced impassively at the elderly couple and replied, “I’ve told you that I’ll help investigate the truth about Cheryl’s death.”

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“However, you have no right to impinge upon my freedom.”

With that, he strode over to the nearest police officer and said, “Give me a visitation form.”

Mr. and Mrs. Martin exchanged a glance, and a hint of displeasure flashed through their eyes.

Their daughter had died because she had attended a wedding with Joshua Lynch. However, this man had no intention of bearing the responsibility of this and even stopped them from beating up a member of the murderer’s family!

Regardless, they knew that they did not have the right or ability to fight with Joshua on this.

Therefore, the elderly couple could not do anything apart from watching quietly as Joshua disappeared into the visitation room after filling in the form.

“Sir, Madam.” One of the police officers approached them, smiling. “As for the dead body, if you have successfully identified it as your daughter, you’d better bring the body for cremation as soon as possible. Now that it’s about to turn summer soon, the police station can’t hold onto it for too long.”

Mr. and Mrs. Martin almost fainted when they heard this.

As soon as they thought about their daughter, they started sobbing, holding onto each other. “Our poor Sherry...

“You suffered such a cruel death, but the murderer can’t even receive the punishment she deserves... There’s nothing else we can do...”

The officer narrowed his eyes and, after checking to make

sure no one else was around, said in a low voice, “I can’t help pitying you for this...

“I have a friend who works as a reporter for a radio station. If you don’t mind, I can give you his contact details, and maybe he can help you.”

Mr. and Mrs. Martin’s faces lit up when they heard this.

The two of them nodded their heads furiously and said, “ Yes, please, thank you very much!”

Since they could not make Luna pay for her actions through legal prosecution...they would use other ways to make sure neither Luna nor the Landry family could survive in Merchant City!

Inside the visitation room.

When Luna was brought out by the prison guard, Joshua was leaning in his chair, trying to solve a Rubik’s cube.

Luna recognized from first glance that this was the Rubik's cube that Neil had made himself.

Neil was different from other children his age. Other children would enjoy solving Rubik's cubes or other puzzles, but as compared to this, Neil enjoyed making these toys instead of playing with them.

In the past, before they returned to Banyan City, Neil would always make these toys in his room.

Every toy he had made would be engraved with the letter N to identify him as the creator.

Because of this, Luna could recognize that the Rubik's cube in Joshua's hands belonged to Neil.

She narrowed her eyes as she stared at it.

It seemed that Joshua and the three children had grown closer during these few months.

She strode over and sat down in a chair across from him. "Joshua Lynch."

Joshua gracefully placed the cube on the table and pushed it toward her. "I let the police check this just now, and it's not a prohibited item. I'm giving it to you so you'll have something to play around with in jail."

Luna took the cube from him, sneering. "Are you saying that you're definitely not going to let me out of jail now?"

"I know that you don't want to become CEO of Landry Group at all; they're forcing you to stand against me, against your will.

"Therefore, I hope that you can take some time off while in jail and be freed of the chaos of the outside world. That seems like a good choice for you, isn't it?"

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Joshua's words were just as cold as his tone.

Luna furrowed her brows as she stared at the man before her.

All of a sudden, she realized that she did not understand this man as well as she thought.

She had always thought he loved and cared about her.

Even when Jim told her what he had said, she still thought that Jim was exaggerating and that Joshua could not possibly be unaware of how bad the living conditions in prison were.

If he cared about her, he would not subject her to such suffering.

However, what Joshua had said felt like a slap to Luna's face.

He had said that he would rather she be imprisoned than stand against him.

Luna bit her lip and lifted her head to stare at Joshua, not knowing whether to laugh or cry about this. "Joshua, do you think that your vengeance toward the Landry family is more important to me?"

Joshua narrowed his eyes and stared at her, smiling. "What do you think?
Luna—"

He stared at her with a solemn expression. "I had been planning my defeat of the Quinn and Landry families for almost a year now. If you hadn't been pregnant

with my child for the first nine months, the Landry family would've been on the verge of bankruptcy, like the Quinn family, by now.

“It's true that Granny Lynch had indeed killed your uncle, Charles' brother Colin, but on the other hand, the Landry family had also poisoned Granny Lynch and almost made her lose her life.

“After being rescued from the verge of dying, Granny Lynch kept on telling me not to cause any more trouble for the Landry family so that the vengeance wouldn't fester.”

As soon as he thought of Granny Lynch, a glimmer of hatred and malice shot through Joshua's eyes. “From the

moment I took over Lynch Group, Granny had been telling me over and over that the vengeance between our two families had ended, and she hoped that Lynch Group would become a clean and forgiving company in my hands, but what happened after that?

“Granny still died in the hands of a Landry.”

Luna bit her lip.

Even though Granny Lynch had died because of Michael, she could not deny that Joshua was right because...

Even if Michael had not killed her, Granny Lynch would eventually die of Rosalyn's poisoning.

On top of that, Mickey had been to Granny's room the day she died.

At that time, Luna, who was accompanying Granny by her bedside, had passed out after inhaling the smoke bomb that Mickey had brought over.

If Michael had not killed Granny that day, what would have happened?

What was Mickey doing there?

Also, the butler had told her before that Rosalyn was the only person who had access to the poison used by the Landry family, so how else would Aura have managed to get her hands on it?

All of these facts pointed toward a conclusion that Luna did not want to face...

Rosalyn had been the one who reignited the rivalry between the Lynch and Landry families.

Seeing that Luna had fallen silent, Joshua let out an exhale and stared intently at her face. "Luna, you know better than anyone just how much Granny meant to me. Therefore, the Landry family must pay the price of their actions. As for the Quinn family..."

He continued, still staring at Luna, "Even though they hadn't done anything wrong to me in the past, but they did, to you.

"Not to mention, the Landry and Quinn families are now merged into a single unit."

Joshua curled his lips into a smirk. "Give me one month. A month later, I'll come personally to help clear up your name and bring you back to Banyan City.

"By that time, not even the Quinn or Landry family could stop us from being together."

A glimmer of malice shot through Joshua's eyes as he said this.

Luna could not help feeling that the man sitting before her was like a stranger to her.

She asked in a hoarse voice, "What if I don't want to go home with you?"

Joshua chuckled. "I'll make you want to come home with me."

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With that, Joshua leaned against the back of his seat elegantly and said, “Don’t worry, your time in prison won’t be that awful.

“I’ll never let what happened in that mental asylum in Banyan City happen again; I’ve already asked Luke to find you a few female security guards. Today and tomorrow, they’ll be sent into prison under different charges and protect you every single second of the day.”

Luna could not help feeling suffocated when she heard this.

Firstly, this man had sent her into prison under charges of first-degree murder.

Secondly, he had arranged for a few female inmates to be sent into prison and look after her.

What difference was this from imprisoning her himself?

The only difference was that what he was doing was legal.

As soon as she thought of this, Luna sneered and stared at Joshua’s face coldly. “I’m starting to think that you sent someone to kill Cheryl yourself so that you could send me into jail.”

The entire room fell silent.

Amid the dead silence, Joshua curled his lips into a smirk and said, “Well, if that’s what you’d like to think, I won’t stop you.”

With that, he stood up. “Luna, no matter what happens, I’ll never let you become my opponent.”

If she truly stepped up as CEO of Landry Group...

Winning against her in battle would mean losing her, and losing her would mean losing his entire world.

Joshua did not want to disappoint Aunt Lucy and Granny Lynch, nor was he willing to lose the company that his ancestors had left for him.

At the same time, he did not want to lose Luna.

As soon as he finished his sentence, Joshua stood up and strode out of the room.

Luna sat in the visitation room as she held the Rubik’s cube, staring at Joshua intently as he left.

“Sir.” As soon as he came out of the police station, Lucas approached him and handed him the reports of Landry and Quinn Group as he followed Joshua into the car. “Just a few moments ago, Landry Group infused a large sum of money in their funding, and the amount is far more than all their money in the past.

“Jim has successfully revived Landry Group, and as of now, he’s hiring people to replenish the supply chain we had cut off.

“The Quinn Group has also...announced that they had made it past this hurdle with the Landry family’s help.

“All of our efforts yesterday...had been reduced to nothing, and it seems that both Landry and Quinn Groups would be able to turn the situation around...”

Lucas could not help frowning as he reported this. “Where on earth did this money even come from? We’ve been investigating Landry Group’s money flow for the past two years and never found traces of this money at all...”

Joshua was far calmer as compared to Lucas’

nervousness. “No wonder Charles wanted to appoint Luna as CEO last night.”

Lucas froze, unable to understand how this was related to the situation at hand.

“What do you mean, Sir?”

Joshua glanced at him and replied, “It’s only natural that the person with the most powerful monetary influence gets to become CEO.”

He had known for a long time that Charles and Rosalyn had left a sum of money for their long-lost daughter many years ago, but he never expected that they would have left so much money for Luna.

He had always thought this couple did not value their daughter at all, but he was wrong.

As soon as he thought of this, Joshua let out a sigh and leaned against the backseat helplessly. “I guess I can’t keep her by my side after all.”

If Charles and Rosalyn mistreated Luna, he would still be confident that Luna would one day want to return to his side.

However, it seemed that the two of them were quite generous to their daughter after all...

Lucas grew even more puzzled when he heard this. “Sir, didn’t you say that as long as Cheryl’s parents insist that Ma’am was the one who killed their daughter, Ma’am won’t be able to be bailed out of jail, and she would have to be imprisoned until the true culprit is found?”

“In that case, how is it possible for you not to keep her by your side?”

Joshua shot him a cold glance. “Do you honestly think I’ll let her be stuck in jail indefinitely just for my benefit?”

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Lucas was confused to hear this.

Joshua had been saying the same thing for the whole day, whether to Cheryl's parents, Jim, or even the police.

He had claimed that if Luna refused to return to Banyan City with him, he would let Luna be imprisoned forever.

He would not let her out or give her even a small taste of freedom until the Landry and Quinn families were destroyed.

All of a sudden, Joshua was saying that he would not let Luna be imprisoned indefinitely for his benefit.

Glancing at Lucas' puzzled look, Joshua narrowed his eyes and said in a cold voice, "Luna is just one of the suspects in this murder.

"Even the security guards who witnessed this only saw Cheryl choking Luna before she died, demanding to know why she wanted to kill her, none of them saw Luna assaulting her. She merely struggled, and she didn't even fight back.

"On top of that, the cops have found a fingerprint that didn't belong to Luna on the murder weapon. Because of this, everyone knows that there is another suspect out there."

With that, he curled his lips into a smirk and said, "What would you do after Luna was brought into jail if you were the murderer?"

Lucas fell silent for a moment, then suddenly came to a realization. “If I were the murderer, I’d be keeping a close eye on the investigation progress of this case.

“If the police and the victim’s family all insist that Luna is the murderer, then I will act as though nothing had happened...

“However, if they were to come after me, I’ll leave Merchant City immediately!”

Joshua smiled when he heard this. “You’re getting cleverer now.”

Having been praised by Joshua out of the blue, Lucas scratched his head meekly and replied, “It turns out you were just worried that the murderer would escape, and that’s why you chose to keep Ma’am in jail...”

Joshua murmured in approval and continued, “I’ve already asked Nigel to help me get his hands on the complete guest list of the wedding last night.

“Keep an eye on all the male guests that attended and watch out if anyone has sought medical help recently because of a right index finger injury.”

Lucas froze for a moment, then quickly nodded. “Yes, Sir.”

After giving these orders, Joshua rubbed his brows in frustration and leaned against the backseat lazily. “Where are Cheryl’s parents?”

Lucas furrowed his brows and shook his head. “After you went in to visit Ma’am, the two of them left after signing the papers to claim Cheryl’s body.

“When I asked them where they were headed, they told me that they had some relatives living in Merchant City and that they were going to discuss cremating Cheryl.”

With that, Lucas could not help shaking his head. “What a pity...”

Joshua murmured in approval, his eyes closed. “Yes, a pity indeed.”

Joshua suddenly recalled what Luna had told him in the visitation room.

“I’m starting to think that you sent someone to kill Cheryl yourself so that you could send me into jail.”

Joshua curled his lips and let out a bitter chuckle.

He wanted nothing more than to tell her...that he had plenty of other ways to imprison her if he wanted to.

According to his influence in Merchant City at this moment, as well as Luke’s power among the gangs, he could have kidnapped Luna and kept her by his side. No one would be able to save her, not even the Landry and Quinn families combined.

However, he had never thought of doing this at all because he respected and loved her, but that was not what she thought...

What kind of person did she think he was ?

“Sir.” Lucas pursed his lips and glanced in the rearview mirror as though he could understand what Joshua was thinking of. “Is Ma’am still having misconceptions and misunderstanding toward you ?

“Why don’t I...see her and talk to her about this myself ?

“I believe that if she finds out about the effort you put in for her, she’ll definitely—”

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“There’s no need,” Joshua interjected Lucas curtly. “The Quinn family also has a few spies among the cops.”

If Lucas were to tell Luna the truth, the change in Luna’s attitude toward him would surely give them away, even if no one was eavesdropping on their conversation.

Glancing at Joshua once more, Lucas let out a sigh but did not say another word.

Soon, the car arrived at Lynch Tower.

As soon as Joshua and Lucas got out of the elevator, they came face-to-face with Theo and Gwen, waiting outside his office.

Seeing that Joshua had returned, Gwen immediately stormed forward and glared at him. “I hear that you were the one who convinced Cheryl’s parents to keep Luna imprisoned, weren’t you?”

She gritted her teeth as she continued to glare at him. ” Don’t you know what kind of person Luna is and whether she can possibly kill someone or not? How dare you do this to her!”

Joshua glanced impassively at Gwen and curled his lips into a smirk. “How dare you talk about this with me?”

“When Luna’s mother was injured, didn’t she also doubt my integrity? If you hadn’t notified Luke and me, I would’ve become the murderer that almost killed Rosalyn.

“When Luna mistrusted me, you didn’t blame her at all, but now, you’re blaming me for doubting Luna.

“I know you’re Luna’s friend, but that doesn’t mean you can hold double standards like this, does it now?”

With that, Joshua circled past Gwen as though she were made of thin air and strode toward his office.

Gwen clenched her fists and gritted her teeth but could not say a single word.

All of a sudden, Theo walked toward her. He gently patted her shoulder and said, “I’ll go talk to him.”

With that, he followed Joshua into his office.

As soon as the door closed behind him, he sat down in the seat across from Joshua, smiling. “How’s Luna doing in there? You must’ve sent some people to protect her, haven’t you?”

He gave Joshua a gentle smile and continued, “I wouldn’t want what happened at the mental asylum to happen once again. Luna has only nine fingers left, you know.”

Joshua narrowed his eyes and shot Theo a cold glance, then smirked. “Why aren’t you reprimanding me?”

“Because I know you too well.” Theo let out an exhale and shifted into a more comfortable position in his chair, a small smile playing on his lips. “When I went to see Dr. Rachel, she told me she had met you before and that you were a weirdo.

“You were so busy, yet you had the time to wait outside her house for a week so that you could convince her to come with you to Merchant City and save a woman that was your mortal enemy.”

With that, he fixated his penetrating stare on Joshua and continued, “I’m sure neither Luna nor the Landry family knows about all this.

“Since you were willing to beg Dr. Rachel to save your mortal enemy for Luna, how can you possibly not trust her and instead frame her for murder?”

Joshua fell silent upon hearing this.

He did not expect that the person who would understand him the most was the man who had once competed with him for Luna's heart.

Joshua could not help letting out a bitter chuckle when he thought of this.

He lifted his head to stare intently at Theo. "Do me a favor."

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"Something terrible has happened, Vice President Landry!"

At Landry Group Tower, Jim had just finished gathering his notes of the Landry Group and Quinn Group's merge and was pondering how to solve this predicament when his secretary stormed into the room. "Something bad has happened!"

Jim furrowed his brows. "What's wrong? Why are you so anxious?"

His train of thought had been utterly interrupted.

The secretary said, panting, "Um... Someone has shown up with a banner at our building entrance right now to cause trouble!"

"They're claiming that the CEO of Landry Group, Luna, had killed their daughter, and they have many reporters with them!"

“They even said if Landry Group doesn’t give them any compensation for their loss, they’ll bring their daughter’s corpse over to let everyone know the truth about us...”

With that, the secretary quickly took out his phone and handed it to Jim. “Look, the whole ordeal is going live on the internet right now!”

Jim quickly stood up and took the phone from the secretary.

The secretary was right. The people in the live footage were none other than Cheryl’s parents, which he had bumped into at the police station that morning.

Hundreds of thousands of people were watching this live stream, and the audience was all postulating what had happened.

[Luna is a murderer.]

[Landry Group has lost its money and killed innocent people.]

[Landry Group should get out of Merchant City.]

All this news about Luna and Landry Group had surged to the top of the search results.

Jim narrowed his eyes and looked closer at Mr. and Mrs. Martin in the livestream.

Soon, he noticed some familiar faces.

Jim recognized a few of the people that were protesting among the crowd.

They were actors from a famous PR firm in Merchant City, and this PR firm...belonged to the Quinn family.

Jim narrowed his eyes and strode into the control room.

According to the security footage, it took less than an hour for Mr. and Mrs. Martin to arrive at the building entrance until the entire city heard about this news.

Jim narrowed his eyes. Someone had planned this.

The only person who could do this...

It was either Joshua's work, or the Quinn family were behind this.

However, this was not the time to find out who the mastermind was.

The most important thing at hand was to reassure his employees so that they would not panic over this sudden twist of events.

As soon as he thought of this, Jim let out an exhale and said, "Contact Malcolm Quinn, and then count how many reporters are gathered downstairs. I want to sue each and every one of them for falsifying news.

"Also, invite Cheryl's parents into the VIP room and serve them well.

"Finally, I want you to get rid of the crowd that's here to cause trouble!"

After giving these orders, Jim let out an exhale and rubbed his temples in frustration after returning to his office.

A few minutes later, he received a call from Malcolm.

"Jim." Malcolm let out a bitter chuckle. "Heather and I have also been kicked out of the Quinn family after what happened last night.

"You shouldn't contact me about anything regarding the Quinn family anymore. Contact my Granny instead; she's the head of the family now."

With that, he let out a sigh and added, "Heather and I have both been kicked out of our respective families overnight.

"Can you take us in, Jim?"

Jim furrowed his brows upon hearing this.

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“You’ve both been kicked out of your families?” “That’s right.” Malcolm did not even get the chance to continue when he heard Jim slamming the phone down without a hint of hesitation.

On the other end of the line, Malcolm closed his eyes helplessly when he heard the dial tone.

“How did it go?” Heather, who was holding Riley in her arms, approached him. “What did Jim say?”

Malcolm shot her a cold glance and tossed the phone onto the ground with a thud. “He’s not willing.”

Jim’s attitude was enough to prove everything.

The phone landed on the ground with a loud thud that startled Riley, who burst into tears. Heather furrowed her brows and gritted her teeth as she tried in frustration to shake the baby to sleep. “Shut up!”

“We shouldn’t have stolen this baby! Now, we’re broke and can only live in this rented house, yet we still have to take care of this one-month-old baby!”

Heather wanted nothing more than to choke this baby to death right this instant.

Malcolm glanced at her, frowning. Then, he suppressed the rage in his heart and strode over to take Riley from her. “We still have to look after her; she’s the only thing that can give us money at this time.”

Heather bit her lip. “I’ll go find Joshua Lynch right now!”

“No, we can’t go to Joshua.” Malcolm narrowed his eyes. ” He’s too intelligent, and if we use Riley to threaten him, we might not even get anything in the end.

“The only thing we can do now is help the Landry family get Luna out of jail.

“She’s already a sensitive and fragile woman, but on top of that, Riley is her biological daughter...

“Besides, now, as CEO of Landry Group, Luna has a lot of money and power in her hands. She’s the perfect target for us to get what we want.”

Heather pouted slightly and asked, “How are we supposed to get by now? We’ve already sold our cars and luxury items but only managed to get a few million dollars out of that. On top of that, we have a child with us, and we’re bound to use up all this money in a matter of days!”

“I have a plan.” Malcolm narrowed his eyes, picked up the phone he had tossed onto the ground, and dialed Hunter’s number.

Hunter soon picked up the phone. “Hello, Malcolm.”

“Hunter.” Malcolm curled his lips into a small smile. ” Congratulations on becoming the sole heir of the Quinn family fortune.”

Hunter fell silent for a moment, then chuckled. “What on earth are you talking about, Malcolm?”

“Granny is just angry right now, but by the time she gets over it, you’ll be able to come home.”

As he said this, Hunter was leaning against the headboard of the hospital bed, staring at his index finger-less right hand. "I'm not as competent as you, so how can I possibly take over the Quinn family?"

Granny Quinn would never allow a handicapped person to take over the family business.

The fact that she had ordered for his finger to be cut off not only allowed him to evade suspicion as a murder suspect but also meant there was no way he would be able to inherit the family fortune anymore.

No one was more heartless than Granny Quinn.

Samuel had once claimed that Granny Quinn was the cruelest woman on earth, and on that day, Hunter had finally realized this was true.

"Of course I know that. I'll return to the Quinn family eventually." Malcolm curled his lips into a small smile. "Nonetheless, I'm having some financial difficulties now, Hunter, and it'd be great if you can help me out a little, but if you can't..."

Malcolm's laughter suddenly turned sinister. "Then I have no choice but to expose everything you did in the past to the media in exchange for some money to feed my family."