

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 171 -

Alex Cohen shook his head and said, "The situation's critical now! People's lives are at stake, so I have no other choice but to go over."

Hunter Yates blocked Alex and said with a straight face, "Young Master, I don't know exactly what the situation is currently, but the kidnapers are most probably Keon Well's men. If you go over, you'll definitely die, and my duty is to protect you..."

"It's not like I haven't experienced this kind of situation before...you know that I've always managed to turn a bad situation into a good one every time."

"This time is different! Young Master, this opponent is more vicious than any opponent you've encountered in the past. It's evident enough that they can just kill someone at the drop of a hat. They have no sympathy for the innocents. Let alone for their enemies like you! Besides, even if you go, the hostages will most likely die along with you!"

"But...if I don't go there, Isla's parents will die!"

"Young Master, after Big Ken briefed me on the situation, he drove over there to handle it. You should just wait at home. Actually, Young Master, there's no room for discussion on this matter. You can't go anywhere today. This is a fixed command Big Ken ordered me before he left."

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Hunter was going to say that even if he knew that Victor Sullivan and Xena Sanders would die, he would still not allow Alex to go over.

Big Ken had also expressed a similar view more than once.

Even though they were all people, Alex was much more valuable than the average person. His life was even more so.

Hunter and Big Ken reached a consensus on this and it was their duty to protect Alex.

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Everyone had a different perspective on the issue as they all had different roles to play.

Alex appreciated their concern and understood Hunter's decision. He knew Victor and Xena were kidnapped because of him and their lives were hanging by a thread, so he could not just sit back and do nothing. Otherwise, he would feel guilty for the rest of his life. Although Big Ken had rushed over to the scene, the situation was different.

If Big Ken stepped in, it would not meet the demands of the tattooed man, so Alex would not be able to save the hostages.

“Sigh...”

Alex was adamant, took a deep breath, and said to Hunter, “I’ve made up my mind, so don’t bother persuading and stopping me. It’s my own choice to bear all the consequences. I’ll call my father later to explain the situation, and whether I return today is not due to your negligence and you don’t have to take responsibility!”

Hunter shook his head and said, “Young Master, Big Ken and I forbid you to go over there, not only because we don’t want to be punished for negligence...”

“I know...hey, there’s no time to explain. I have to go!”

Alex shook his head and took a step forward, ready to walk around Hunter to leave.

Hunter suddenly reached out and clasped Alex’s right arm and said with a sullen face, “Young Master, I’m sorry...”

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“Hey!”

Hunter had grabbed Alex’s right arm. Shortly after, Alex felt a tingling pain, so he instinctively retracted his arm.

Only then he saw the thin needle about 3cm in length, wedged between Hunter’s middle and forefinger.

“What the hell?”

Alex suddenly felt a sense of dizziness and realized something was wrong. He froze and said to Hunter, “You...you drugged me?”

“Young Master, I’m sorry, but I was forced to do so.”

Hunter quickly put the fine needle into a small box and tucked it away, his face was sullen as he said to Alex, “I know it was a reckless move but I am willing to accept the punishment. Don’t worry, it will temporarily make you lose your mobility. It won’t cause any damage to your body. After three hours, the toxic components will degrade and leave no side effects.”

“Three hours? By then, the hostages will be dead! Hunter, hurry up and give me the antidote!”

“Sorry Young Master, I don’t have the antidote with me...even if I did, I can’t give it to you.”

“Hunter, I’m ordering you to give me the antidote immediately! Or else, I...I...”

Alex did not finish his sentence, he felt his strength draining from his body and within seconds, he was unable to stand up and was collapsing. His head was also getting dizzy and it desperately made him want to sleep as if he had not slept in a few days and nights.

Nonetheless, he could not sleep at this urgent time!

With his quick reflexes, Hunter caught Alex from falling to the ground and helped him onto the sofa. He turned to Isla and bowed, then said sincerely, “Ms. Sullivan, I’m really sorry. My duty is to protect the Young Master and I won’t let him go over to save the hostages. Please understand. Big Ken is already on his way to save your parents and he’ll do his best to rescue them. If...if he did not manage to, please don’t put the blame on Young Master. You saw earlier his determination in saving your parents. I stopped him from going, so if you had to blame someone, it should be on me...”

Isla was not drugged, but she felt drained and was about to collapse. She leaned against the wall as she made her way to the sofa to sit down. Her eyes were red as she stared blankly at her toes and fell into deep thought.

She was torn when she found out that the tattooed man was Alex’s enemy.

If Alex was willing to go over, should she support his decision?

To support Alex, it was like allowing him to risk his life with the possibility of never returning.

On the other hand, if she opposed it, she could be taking away the only chance to save her own parents.

One was her beloved and the other was her biological parents, all of whom she cared and loved the most.

Any choice she made would leave a knot in her heart.

No matter who died and lived, Isla would suffer from the guilt for the rest of her life.

After listening to Hunter explain the situation, she finally made a decision. If Alex went over, her parents would be of no use to the bandits and could be killed. If Alex did not go over, perhaps the bandits would let her parents live a little longer to hold it over Alex.

Thus, Isla could not allow Alex to go over and instead turned all her hope on Big Ken.

Just when she was about to take a stand, Hunter acted first and forcibly restrained Alex, so she did not have to struggle with her decision. There was no other choice, so she prayed for Big Ken's triumphant return. At that moment, she felt very useless. At a time when her parents' lives were at stake and help was urgently needed, she could not do anything but count on others.

Generally, when people were nervous and troubled, they would overthink and that was what she did.

The more Isla thought, the more anxious she became. She could not sit still, so she stood up, and started to pace back and forth in the room. Every few seconds, she would look at her and Alex's phones. Hopefully, the kidnappers would call again for a chance to continue negotiations, or better yet, she hoped that it would be good news from Big Ken. Either way, it was much better than simply waiting.

Unfortunately, as time passed by, there was no movement from the phones. The 40-minute deadline the tattooed man gave was closing in, Isla's palms and back were sweating and her heart leaped to her throat.

In an urgent situation, it should feel like time was passing by slowly.

Instead, Isla felt that time was flying by too fast and all she wanted to do was to try to save time for Big Ken. She stayed in a trance for 40 minutes until her phone rang right on time. It was another video call from her dad. She prayed her father was rescued and was calling her to tell her he was safe.

On the other end of the video call, Victor and Xena were still kneeling on the ground.

Isla was disappointed but that did not make her give up. She said eagerly, "Alex...Alex is already on his way there! He left right after he talked to you. But you're quite far from us, so 40 minutes isn't enough. Just wait for a bit, he should be arriving soon!"

The tattooed man shook his head and asked, "How do you know I haven't already seen Alex Cohen? He didn't come at all, right?"

"No, no, no...he really went!"

"Even if he really was on his way here, the deadline's long overdue. I'm a man of my word, so it's time to kill the second one. Isla Sullivan, these two remaining people are your parents, right? Just because you're pretty, I'll give you a chance to choose. Which one do you want me to kill first?"

"Don't mess around! If you dare kill my parents, I won't let you go even after I die!"

“Let me remind you that Alex is the reason your parents are getting killed. It has nothing to do with me. It looks like you don’t want to choose, so I’ll have to make my own decision...”

After the tattooed man finished speaking, he did not look into the phone. He ignored Isla’s hysterical cries and raised his gun, aiming the muzzle on Xena’s head. To him, there was no difference between Victor and Xena. Xena was simply closer to him.

Without having to take a step, he could already reach her.

Isla was crying and shouting in hysteria until she lost her voice, but to no avail.

Hunter noticed that the tattooed man was going to do it, so he hurriedly grabbed the phone over. To watch her parents die was nothing but cruel. If Isla watched her parents getting shot, it would leave a scar in her heart and traumatize her forever.

On the other hand, Xena was so scared, she pissed her pants. Her survival instincts kicked in and she struggled violently, but again to no avail.

When the tattooed man was ready to pull the trigger, Victor suddenly leaped over to knock Xena away and kneeled in front of the tattooed man. He stabilized himself and went forward to press his head to the gun barrel. With his bold and determined eyes, it was as if he was saying to the tattooed man, “Kill me first!”

The tattooed man was stunned by the action. Instead of shooting, he ripped out the towel in Victor’s mouth as he curiously asked, “From what I observed it seemed like your marriage was just average. It looked like you wanted to run away from the house when I saw you earlier. Yet now in this situation, you’re willing to take a bullet for her? What’s with this change of heart?”

Victor said righteously, “Despite our disagreements, she’s my wife who stood by me for decades. Till death do us part, right? I’m well aware of the decision I’m making and I stand by it! If you’re a man, shoot me instead! Don’t lay a hand on a woman!”

“How righteous! I’m so touched...Dumb*ss! Since you want to die in place of your wife, then I’ll grant your wish.”

“Wait! Please give me a minute to say my last words!”

“Tsk...what’s the use? In a few minutes, she’ll be following in your footsteps.”

“Just a minute!”

Victor quickly turned and stared at Xena, then said, “What happened today was fate. No one should be blamed, especially not Alex. Alex has always been extending his hands to help us. I ended up living a comfortable life and I can’t ask for more. The only regret

is that I wasn't able to walk Lala down the aisle. If you can survive this, live your own life and avoid the temptations of fame and fortune. You must see to it that Lala and Alex get married and help them start their family. Cherish what you have and enjoy life every day. This is what's most important because you never know if tomorrow will ever come. And...if there's an afterlife, I hope to be together with you again in my next life. For now, I'll say goodbye. I love you, honey!"

In his last moments, Victor Sullivan let go of all resentment. He was usually not good at expressing emotions, but at this crucial time, he blurted out all that he could think of. After decades, this was his first and last "I love you" to Xena Sanders.

Victor took a deep breath, looked at the tattooed man, and slowly closed his eyes...

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 172 -

Although Victor Sullivan's actions and words at that critical moment were very touching, unfortunately, not everyone was soft-hearted. The tattooed man was the kind of thug who treated human life like trash. To say he had a heart of stone was an understatement. It was more accurate to say that he was evil-hearted.

While Xena Sanders was speechless through Victor's touching words, the tattooed man was keeping tabs on the time.

Soon, a minute passed.

The tattooed man's thin patience worn off. He raised his gun to Victor's head and without hesitation, pulled the trigger.

Bang!

With a muffled sound, Victor collapsed. Like the nanny, he died on the spot.

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Xena sat paralyzed on the ground and petrified. At this stage, there was no fear, but numbness. Her mind was blank and she had temporarily forgotten the fact that she would be in Victor's footsteps in a few minutes.

The tattooed man took out his phone and looked at the time, then called his man who was standing guard at the entrance of the neighborhood, and asked, "Nothing unusual, right?"

The man whispered through the phone, "Everything's normal."

"Then bring the car over. We'll wait for two more minutes and if Alex Cohen still doesn't show up, we'll retreat."

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The tattooed man hung up the phone and said to his companion in front of him, "Clean up the mess and get ready to retreat."

The companion nodded gently, hesitated for a few seconds, and finally asked, "We're not waiting anymore? What if Alex Cohen is on his way here? After all, 40 minutes is barely enough time to reach us. Including red lights and traffic, it'll definitely affect his arrival time."

"Let's not wait! If my assumption is right, Alex knows about who we are so he knew even if he showed up, these people would still die. As a result, he probably chose to call the police or arrange for his people to come over. We must get out of here before his people arrive. Even if he is on his way, we will have to show him our capabilities. We killed a few people today, so it's not a wasted trip."

"Well...you've got a point. Killing a few people related to Alex Cohen was not the main thing. It was all about destroying his relationship with the people around him, especially his wife. After this, people will be wary of helping him! As long as he is left isolated, he'll be an easy target ."

"That is why I have repeatedly emphasized to Isla Sullivan that the killings were all caused by Alex Cohen!"

The corners of the tattooed man's mouth curled up, revealing a sinister smile with a treacherous plan...

Every time Alex encountered an emergency, he was able to turn the tide to his favor.

This time though, Lady Luck did not appear in time, and neither did his people.

After Big Ken delegated the task to Hunter, he rushed over in the Lavidia, but he was a step too late. There was a slim success rate for rushing directly into the neighborhood to rescue the hostages was slim as the deadline was long overdue and the hostages could have already been killed before he arrived. Big Ken did not go into the neighborhood and parked his car a few hundred meters away before climbing to the roof of a building with a sniper rifle on his back.

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Big Ken was familiar with the area so he chose a building facing Victor's house with a clear view. He skillfully set up the sniper rifle and lied on the edge of the roof. Using the high-power scope that came with the sniper rifle, he looked through the window and quickly observed the situation in Victor's house.

As he expected, two people were already dead in the house and Xena was left as the only hostage.

With his marksmanship, Big Ken could kill any enemy from a distance of several hundred meters. The problem was that there were two kidnappers in Victor's house. After shooting one of them, the other would go into hiding or use Xena as a human shield, which would force him into a passive position.

Big Ken focused his attention on the situation and carefully thought of countermeasures. Suddenly, his eyes lit up.

He noticed that one of them was unmoving and guarding Xena, while the other was cleaning up the scene by running around the house with a towel, wiping down any fingerprints they might have left behind in preparation to retreat.

This situation gave Big Ken a ray of hope...

Big Ken adjusted his breathing and paid close attention to the position of the two enemies.

When one of them completely blocked the other one, Big Ken pulled the trigger.

The bullet bore through the tattooed man's head from the side and pierced his companion's head.

Two kills with one shot! Perfect!

The two enemies were killed and Big Ken immediately called Captain Pannell with his phone. When he was on the way to the neighborhood earlier, he had informed Captain Pannell of the situation beforehand.

At this time, Captain Pannell settled a few dozen meters away from Big Ken's car. Due to the special circumstances, he did not sound the siren or rush over. Only after receiving a call from Big Ken and learning that the threat in the house was solved and the remaining hostages were safe, he sounded the siren and drove there as fast as possible.

The man assigned to guard the entrance of the neighborhood noticed something was awry when he heard the sound of gunfire and was about to check on the situation in the apartment. All of a sudden, he heard the police siren, and with fear, he rushed back to the car. Using one hand to start the car, his other hand picked up the phone to dial the tattooed man's number. The phone rang for more than 20 seconds and no one answered the phone.

"It's over!"

The man knew something went wrong, hung up, and drove away speedily.

Big Ken did not know that the tattooed man's underling had left and remained on the roof of the building, maintaining a sniper's posture to keep a close eye on the Sullivan family's situation through the scope. He put away his gun after he witnessed Captain Pannell rushing into the house with his men to rescue Xena. He then gave Hunter a call after.

Hunter received news from Big Ken and gave Alex the antidote, then he relayed the situation that Big Ken briefed him earlier to Alex.

When Alex was drugged, even though he could not move his body, his brain was still conscious. Only after taking the antidote, his strength started recovering rapidly. The news that Victor Sullivan had been killed caused his heart to sink immediately. All of his breath was taken from his body, leaving him limp. It was not from the relapse of toxin, but it was because he just could not accept the fact of Victor's death.

Hunter was frightened and hurriedly apologized to Alex.

"Young master, I'm sorry. Big Ken said he did his best..."

"Sigh..."

Alex let out a long sigh and looked at Isla, who was sitting in a daze far from him. He added, "Does she know yet?"

"Not yet. Young Master, do you think we should tell Ms. Sullivan now?"

"She'll know sooner or later...I'll go and tell her."

With Hunter's support, Alex slowly walked to Isla and told her about the situation.

After Isla heard the news, she was disconcerted and did not truly want to accept it.

Alex knew Isla would not be able to absorb anything so all he could do was accompany and comfort her. He asked Hunter to drive and send them to the neighborhood. After they met up with Big Ken, they found out that Captain Pannell had taken away the deceased and sent Xena to the hospital. The Sullivan home was already sealed as the scene of the murder.

Xena was not physically injured but the mental trauma she had suffered needed to be treated.

Alex felt Isla needed support, so he called Cynthia Walker over...

It was a long and torturous sleepless night.

Under Cynthia's and Alex's persuasion, Isla finally accepted her cruel reality.

Acceptance was the first step of many. Trying to get Isla back to her old self would be a long process.

A new day began and Isla was prepared to go out after washing up. She had seen her father's body last night and had visited her mother in the hospital. At this traumatizing time, she needed to care for and comfort her mother. As a daughter, she had to control and suppress her own emotions and focus her efforts on getting through this traumatic event with her mother.

Alex realized that Isla also needed to be tended to, so he said to Isla, "Your mother is being treated by experts in the hospital, so you should rest for now. You didn't even sleep all night and you're not in the best state mentally and physically. You really need some rest!"

Isla suddenly raised her head, stared straight at Alex, and said indifferently, "If I didn't meet you in the beginning, my father wouldn't have died, right?"

When Alex heard this, he felt dejected...

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 173 -

For Alex Cohen, this was not a good sign.

Big Ken heard the underlying meaning from Isla Sullivan's words and subconsciously glanced at Hunter Yates, taking a few steps forward. He faced Isla and gave her a deep bow, then said sincerely, "Ms. Sullivan, I'm sorry! Last night, I was the one who gave Hunter the order to use whatever means necessary to stop Young Master from going over to replace the hostages. Unfortunately, I was a step too late by the time I arrived..."

"Stop it, I don't want to hear this."

Isla stopped Big Ken, looked at Alex, and said, "Cynthia will accompany me. You can go your own way."

"I..."

Alex was anxious, and he did not know what to say.

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Alex knew that he could not push the blame for Victor Sullivan's murder and he would never run away from reality or shirk his responsibility. That did not lessen the blow to his heart when Isla treated him indifferently. He did not blame Isla for her actions. Instead, he blamed himself.

Cynthia wanted to persuade Isla but knew it was not the right time. She waited until Isla walked out before she said softly to Alex, "Lala's mind isn't clear enough to make the right judgment, so don't overthink it. After she has time to stabilize, I'll try my best to advise her."

Alex nodded gratefully and said, "Thanks. Go with her, I...I'll follow from behind."

"Okay."

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Cynthia nodded and quickly caught up with Isla. She drove the Maserati and set off with Isla.

Alex, accompanied by Big Ken and Hunter, also rushed to the hospital where Xena was admitted in.

Isla was waiting for the elevator when she saw Alex following her and said without any expression, "Didn't I tell you not to come?"

Alex shook his head and responded, "Isla, the root cause of what happened to your family lies with me. I must apologize to you and your mother regardless of whether you both can forgive me. When I came last night, your mother was busy with her appointment with a specialist and I could not meet her..."

"Have you ever thought of how my mother would feel when she sees you? She's at the most vulnerable time of her life! Whatever you have to say, wait until she recovers. If you see her now, you would make it worse!"

"You're right... It seems like I'm not the considerate one."

Isla made a good point, so Alex called Hunter to the side and explained, "Continue to follow Isla secretly like before and make sure to protect her. The people Keon Wells sent haven't all been captured yet. All those who are related to me are in potential danger."

"Understood!"

Hunter nodded and took the keys of the Lavidia from Big Ken's hand.

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Alex patted Hunter's shoulder and walked away with Big Ken.

Suddenly, Isla received a phone call from Xena. After a few short words, she hung up the phone and quickly caught up to Alex, "Wait a minute! My mom wants to talk to you!"

“Huh?”

Alex felt surprised and asked in a daze, “So should I go?”

“Of course you should. Just keep your mouth shut and don’t say anything you shouldn’t. No matter what she says, just bear with it. If you dare agitate her, I won’t forgive you!”

“Don’t worry, I won’t.”

“You better!”

Isla warned Alex before they went upstairs and entered Xena’s ward.

Both Alex and Cynthia followed Isla in while Big Ken and Hunter stood guard at the door.

The few counseling sessions helped Xena mentally, but her face was still glum. She ruthlessly glared at Alex and said to Isla, “Do you know what to do now?”

Isla nodded and said, “You can recuperate at ease. I’ll make sure to take care of Dad’s funeral.”

“I’m not talking about that. I’m asking how you plan to handle your relationship with Alex!”

“I...Mom, what do you think?”

“Isn’t it obvious? Your father is dead because of Alex! He caused this situation and he’s a murderer! Don’t tell me that you still want to be with the person who killed your father? Even if I agree with it, will your father be able to rest in peace? Can you feel at ease?”

“I know.”

“Listen to me. Break off your relationship with him immediately so you can reserve the right to pursue legal responsibility. Lala, this is a top priority for our family, so you must get it done for me. If you don’t completely cut off all ties with him, I...I’ll join your father!”

Xena knew threatening her own life was the ultimate move that would make Isla understand how serious she was.

Isla fell for it and quickly asked, “Mom! I didn’t disagree with you yet. I thought about it last night. Even if you didn’t mention it, I’ll break it off with him. I have to take some responsibility. If I didn’t make an impulsive decision in the beginning, I wouldn’t have met Alex and it wouldn’t have led to where we are now. Sigh...the butterfly effect is too scary...”

“Since you know it, hurry up and change!”

Xena understood Isla’s attitude. She turned to stare at Alex again and said coldly, “You heard it with yourself! Lala will not be involved with you anymore! If you’re sensible, don’t pester her. Otherwise, I would risk my life and never let you live peacefully!”

Alex quietly let out a deep breath and nodded, “I’m sorry, I was wrong.”

“What’s the use of admitting your mistake? Actions speak louder than words! You may not be Victor’s child, but he died because of you. During the funeral, you must fulfill the duties of a child and repent in front of his grave! On top of that, you need to compensate for our mental health, just as I told you to do last night.”

“Hmm...”

“What? You’re not willing?”

Alex was a little stunned. He did not realize that Xena was more stable than he expected.

He expected a woman who just lost her husband to be grief-stricken and distraught, but Xena Sanders looked fine. There was not a trace of sadness on her face, and her thought process was clear. It annoyed him that she also actually took Victor’s death to guilt-trip Isla.

Alex could not contain his shock. Big Ken and Hunter who overheard the conversation at the doorway also felt anxious.

In Big Ken’s perspective, Alex had no direct relationship with the Sullivan family. It would not be a problem for Alex to attend Victor’s funeral to offer his condolences and pay respects. However, to let Alex repent in front of Victor’s grave was asking too much. The police did not pursue Alex’s legal responsibility, so why should Xena demand compensation?

Hunter felt suffocated from the atmosphere and empathized with Alex. He clenched his teeth as he rushed in and interrupted, “Sorry to disturb, but please allow me to say a few words!”

Everyone in the room was startled at the interruption, not knowing what Hunter would say.

Xena knew Hunter was Alex’s henchman and could assume that Hunter would not say anything good. She raised her eyebrows, ready to kick him out.

However, Hunter spoke first and said to Xena with a straight face, “Before Mr. Sullivan left, he left his last words and his wishes. We should respect the dead. No matter what

his relationship was with you, shouldn't you try your best to comply with Mr. Sullivan's wishes? Otherwise, how can Mr. Sullivan rest in peace?"

"Hmph..."

Xena's heart sank. She glared at Hunter and said, "Who permitted you to speak here? Numbskull, get the hell out!"

"Wait a minute!"

Isla was anxious, looked at Xena, then curiously stared at Hunter and asked, "What were my father's last words? How did I not know?"

Hunter scratched his head and answered, "I'm sorry, Ms. Sullivan. At the time of the incident, I snatched away the phone to prevent you from seeing it. It was at that time that Mr. Sullivan said his last words. He said his last words to your mother, so you...you should ask her directly."

Isla quickly pulled Xena's hand and asked eagerly, "What did Dad really say?"

Xena was so nervous, her forehead started sweating. She did not expect Hunter to hear Victor's speech in his last moments. However, it suddenly occurred to her that Hunter did not have any proof, so she said to Isla, "What I just said to you were your father's last words...Your father said that he wouldn't let go of Alex even after he died!"

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 174 -

Isla Sullivan pursued further and asked, "Mom, are you saying that Dad wanted me to break off my relationship with Alex?"

"That's right!"

Xena Sanders nodded and answered with conviction, "When your father was on the verge of death, his biggest regret in his life was that he didn't get to draw the line between you and Alex in time. If he hadn't condoned your involvement with Alex from the beginning, the company he worked so hard to build and run wouldn't have been taken away by an outsider. The relationship between the three of us wouldn't have become so unaffectionate and we wouldn't have been held hostage last night! All that has happened to our family is caused by Alex Cohen!"

"No...I'm also partly to blame."

"Lala, you were young and reckless in the past and your father was here to support the family, so I can forgive you for the mistakes you made before. Now that your father's gone and you're not a child anymore, you should know how to behave. In the future, this family will have to rely on you. You must take back what is rightfully ours!"

“Sigh...Mom, I know. I’ll follow Dad’s last wish!”

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Isla let out a deep breath and nodded with a heavy heart.

Isla suffered too much and she had a big change of heart. Her mind was a mess and had no energy to foster any opinions. Even the most basic judgment was non-existent. She believed the last words made up by Xena and under the pretense of “avenging her father”, so Isla treated Alex as an enemy, just as Xena had hoped for.

Isla’s belief on how love was unwavering was lost to the harsh reality of the world.

To be precise, a reality forged by Xena Sanders!

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Cynthia Walker, who matchmake Alex and Isla, realized the situation got worse. However, she could do nothing to persuade Isla and contradict the old, miserable Xena at this time. Without proof, even if she tried to convince them, it was impossible to change Isla and Xena’s state of mind.

The only one they could count on to come up with evidence was Hunter Yates, who knew the truth.

Alex, like Cynthia, knew Victor Sullivan too well to know his last words conveyed by Xena were all fabricated. He wanted to know the truth and the words spoken by Victor in his last moments. However, he knew it was not the right time when Hunter could not suddenly conjure out evidence, so even if he told everyone, it would be meaningless. He remained quiet and would wait till they left the hospital to understand the real events from Hunter in private.

It was too late for Isla though, her attitude towards Alex had shifted after being brainwashed by Xena.

As of now, this problem could not be solved.

It could only be left to time.

Alex quietly sighed and said to Big Ken and Hunter, “Sigh...let’s go first.”

“Wait!”

Cynthia grabbed Alex’s sleeve and continued, “We haven’t finished speaking yet. What’s the hurry?”

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Cynthia thought that Alex would have asked Hunter to defend himself, so that was why she did not ask Hunter. Unexpectedly, Alex was going to leave the situation without explaining himself. Helplessly and only risking being cursed by Xena, she said to Hunter persistently, "Before Mr. Sullivan passed away, what exactly did he say?"

Xena immediately became anxious and glared at Cynthia with cold eyes.

"What do you mean by that? You don't believe what I just said? Besides, this is our family matter, what does it have to do with you? Cynthia Walker, don't think I don't know that you were the one setting up Lala and Alex. You could be considered as Alex's accomplice and may even have some responsibility for what had happened to our family! Since you and Lala are good friends, I won't bother with the past. Although in the future, you should find your place and not meddle in our business!"

"No Aunty, I...want Lala and Alex to be together. The two of them used to like each other and now that something has gone wrong, I want the situation to be cleared without any misunderstandings to avoid even more heartbreak. After all, one should have a reason to break up a couple."

"In the end, you still don't believe me? Well, I don't care if you're suspicious. If you want to investigate and collect evidence, find the right person at least. Hunter Yates is Alex's lapdog, so he'll certainly speak in favor of Alex and it's impossible for him to be impartial. No, wait! Cynthia, you seem so eager to help Alex out. Are you his lapdog receiving benefits from him too?"

"Aunty, no offense, but your words are really a bit too presumptuous."

"You don't like to hear it? Then stay out of my family's business! Get the hell out of here with them!"

"I..."

Cynthia expected that Xena would get angry, but she did not expect the sharp words to shoot their way to her. She felt her nose tingle, and with tears streaming out of her eyes, she turned around and ran out.

Alex chased after Cynthia to the elevator, handed her a tissue, and said, "Xena is a person with no control and filter. She is cynical, so please don't stoop to her level. Don't give her the satisfaction if you are mad at her. It's not worth it. I would also like to apologize to you for dragging you in this mess."

When Cynthia saw someone coming, she walked to the hallway with her head down, dried her tears, and said to Alex, "Everything I did was voluntary. It has nothing to do

with you, so you don't have to apologize to me. It's just that in the future, you and Lala will have to face things on your own without my help."

"Oh, Cynthia! Don't do this! You know that Lala and I are both new to relationships and we may not know much, but we hope that you can continue nudging us in the right direction. When we do get married, Lala will definitely ask you to be her maid of honor, right? So you won't be able to stay out of our lives."

"After all this, you still believe you'll get married? Are you so sure Lala will even ask me to be her maid of honor?"

"Good things come in small packages. I believe that one day, all the misunderstandings will be soothed out and resolved. As for you and Lala...she won't misunderstand you as Xena did. You both are close like sisters so even if she cut all ties with me, she won't be bare to leave you too. But, as you said, she's just very confused and lost now. She needs someone to comfort her, so please just bear with it and be there for her. Do it as a favor for me. She doesn't have many friends and now that she treats me as an enemy, the only one who she is willing to seek comfort from is you."

Cynthia pondered for a moment, took a deep breath, slowly lifted her head, and said, "You're a genuine and responsible man. I wasn't wrong about you and Lala didn't choose the wrong guy. Since you're so sincere, I'll remember your words and treat Lala and Aunty differently. Your marriage is between you both and Aunty can only give her opinion but can't just stop it at will!"

"I'm glad you understand! Thank you in advance. No matter what's the outcome, I'll keep this favor in mind."

Alex finished his talk with Cynthia and called Hunter over. Cynthia was still there when he asked Hunter about the situation.

Hunter, like Cynthia, did not agree with Xena. He recalled his memory and relayed word by word of Victor's last speech that he heard through the video call. He then added, "This is what I heard and what I saw. Every word I said is absolutely true. The only problem was I didn't get to record Mr. Sullivan's last words..."

Alex shook his head and said, "Who would've thought Xena Sanders would be so cruel to lie about Victor's last words?"

Cynthia nodded and said, "I knew Mr. Sullivan wouldn't say those words. If Lala was in the right state of mind, she would have not believed what Aunty said either. I hope that Lala can realize the false words. Our comfort and guidance can only be used as an aid. The main thing is that she has to figure it out herself and make the right judgment."

"That makes sense."

Alex agreed.

In the next few days, Isla kept herself busy. In addition to taking care of her mother, she had to organize Victor's funeral. Although funeral services in the city were given to the funeral home, Isla, as the only child of Victor and Xena, had many things to settle and did not get to rest.

Alex saw all of it and his heart ached.

Isla, however, refused all the help Alex offered with indifference and did not even return to the villa. Instead, she stayed at Cynthia's house.

It was not until the morning after the funeral that Isla went back to the villa. She found Alex and got straight to the point.

"I'm here to move out..."

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 175 -

"Huh? What did you say?"

Alex Cohen was flustered. He could understand and even accept Isla's cold attitude towards him. After all, old couples gave each other the cold shoulder over trivial matters, let alone that the two of them were only lovers who had yet to establish their relationship and that Isla's family had just undergone a big change.

However, Isla just expressed her need to move out like she wanted to completely cut off her relationship with him.

Separation was much more than giving him a cold shoulder.

Alex truly hoped that he had heard wrongly. Or perhaps Isla was joking?

Isla did not care about Alex's thoughts and continued, "We don't have a relationship anymore, so I can't continue to live in your house. According to the agreement we signed before, I was supposed to do three years of housework for you, so this is a breach of contract on my part. If you have time, hire a nanny yourself, then I'll compensate the three years' salary to you at once. If you think it's too troublesome, I can also find a nanny for you after I settle down."

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"No...now's not the time to discuss the agreement. Come in and sit down. Let's talk it over."

As Alex said this, he instinctively reached out to pull Isla's hand.

Isla sidestepped and avoided Alex's hand, then walked around Alex to go into the house and sat down in the living room. She said without an expression, "I'll give you five minutes to say what you want to say. I'm quite busy, so I have to pack up my things as soon as possible and try to finish moving by today."

"Hey..."

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Alex sighed and said to Isla, "Are you really compelled by your mother? You'll really listen to her about everything?"

"I may not be as smart as you, but I'm not stupid either. I can think for myself. If I fully listened to my mother, I would've made you repent in front of my father's grave and take back Gold Stone. But did I do that? I admit that some of what my mom said was excessive, but it wasn't all unreasonable. But even if I did what my mom wanted, it should not be a reason for you to accuse me."

"You've misunderstood me. I didn't mean to accuse you."

"Then do you have anything else?"

"I...Isla, do you know exactly what were your father's last words? It wasn't at all what your mother said..."

"Stop it! As far as I know, there are only two people who may have heard my dad's last words which are my mom and Hunter. My mother's words aren't credible, but does that mean what Hunter said would be the whole truth? Alex, unless you can produce evidence, don't talk to me about this. It won't have any meaning to me."

"You just said that both your mother's and Hunter's words aren't credible. Then why are you following these so-called last words of your father?"

"You misunderstood me. Every decision I make now is from my heart and not influenced by anyone. Including what my mom said. I agreed to it only because I didn't want to make her sad again, not because I wanted to follow her words."

Isla shook her head and spoke very seriously.

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Alex listened attentively and realized the problem was deeper than he would have ever thought.

He initially thought that everything Isla did like cutting ties with him and holding a grudge against him was due to Xena. If it was, then as long as Isla figured it out and

distinguished right from wrong, their relationship could be restored little by little and hopefully return to normal.

However, listening to Isla's words, he realized it was completely her choice to break off their relationship.

Isla lost her feelings for Alex!

This was not what he could easily fix.

Alex did not expect the situation to develop to this point, with all his last-minute efforts to persuade her falling into nothing. The moment she got up, he panicked and was rendered speechless as he slowly watched her head upstairs to pack her things.

Fortunately, Cynthia Walker came to the house.

Alex hurriedly greeted her and desperately asked, "Isla wants to move out. Do you know about this?"

Cynthia nodded and replied, "Yes."

"Then you should help me persuade her! If she moves out, my relationship with her will be harder to repair and her safety will be threatened. Those who know the situation will know that she and I have fallen out, but the enemy doesn't know this. They would seize the opportunity to repeat the same trick by capturing her as a hostage and threatening me! I'm not afraid to work hard for the relationship, but I don't want to put her in danger!"

"I understand what you mean, but...I'm afraid this matter can't be undone."

"Oh? How so?"

Cynthia shook her head, then went over to the coffee table and sat down. She poured herself a glass of water, drank it to moisten her dry throat, before she said to Alex, "On the way over, I've been discussing this issue with her. Although I didn't get through to her, I understood how she felt. She made up her mind to move out because she believes that it's the only way to completely draw the line with you and put an end to the recurrence of all this tragedy."

Alex probed, "So is she afraid? Afraid of being dragged down by me?"

"No...she is afraid, but not for herself. She's only considering her mother. After these exhaustive few days, her mind is clear. She came to a realization that she and you are somewhat responsible for her dad's death. Just like you, she is blaming herself for what has happened. In the end, she does not want the same thing happening to her mother so she decided to make this change. She goes by these eight words. Cherish life and stay away from Alex Cohen!"

“So that’s how it is... Then do you know where she’s moving to? She can’t possibly move back to the old house, right?”

“That house is a sad place for her and her mother, so they certainly can’t go back. Originally, she wanted to rent another house in a different neighborhood, but after a long night of persuasion, she finally put off the idea of renting a house and is willing to live with me. By luck and coincidence, one of my sisters who shared a room with me moved out, so she can live with me in one room, while Aunty can stay in the other room.”

“That’s good, that’s good... With you looking after her, I feel much more at ease.”

Cynthia nodded, poured another glass of water and drank it, then got up and said, “Alex, I know you’re anxious, but things have come to this and you can’t rush it. I think it’s best to give yourself and Lala some time and space. Lala and her mother are still grieving now. They’re also angry with you, so it’s unlikely that they’ll want to understand your side of the story. It’ll only be possible after they’ve calmed down.”

“I understand. Then I’ll have to trouble you to take care of Lala.”

“The company’s counting on you though... you can’t just desert the company because of personal matters, right?”

After Cynthia finished speaking, she went upstairs to help Isla pack up her things.

Alex sat on the sofa and fell into deep thought. Cynthia said that the company was counting on him, which meant that Isla would not be the general manager of Gold Stone, or at least it was impossible for her to work for him during this period. He was in a dilemma since he was not good at managing the company, nor did he have that kind of time.

He urgently needed to find a replacement.

Alex’s first thought was to transfer Felix Moore over, but he was worried about Felix’s safety.

Just as Alex was scratching his head, Big Ken came in and said, “Young Master, good news!”

“What’s the good news?”

Alex instantly became spirited, anything would lift his spirits in this hellish moment.

“I asked for help from the Master a few days ago. Master agreed and has already sent two helpers over.”

“Where are they?”

“Right at the gate.”

“Quickly, invite them in!”

Alex needed capable helpers at the moment, regardless if they were brain or brawn, as long as they were excellent and talented.

Without delay, Big Ken immediately ran out and brought in two sturdy dark-skinned men and introduced them to Alex. The slightly shorter one was called Ivan Beare and the other was Ivar Beare. They were brothers who had lost their parents at a very young age and were raised and trained by Wayne Larson as loyal subordinates.

The Beare brothers learned of Alex’s identity and simultaneously bowed to Alex while they shouted in unison, “Good day, Young Master!”

Alex waved his hand and responded with a smile, “There’s no need to be so polite. No matter what your status is at my father’s place, when you come to me, you become my brothers, just like Big Ken and Hunter...”

As he was talking, Alex’s phone rang. It was Zeke Martin calling. He picked up and Zeke’s voice came through without waiting for Alex to speak, “Alex! It’s urgent, something may have happened to Symore...”

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 176 -

“What’s the situation?”

Alex Cohen was startled and bounced up from the sofa. All the nerves in his body were tense.

It was already an eventful time for Alex, so he was most afraid of hearing more bad news.

Zeke Martin on the other end of the call was also very anxious and spoke with urgency.

“Last night, Symore attended one of his acquaintances’ birthday party and still hasn’t returned. I just called the guy, but they said Symore left before midnight. Now his phone can’t be reached, and we can’t find him. Maybe...sigh, I just hope nothing has happened to him.”

“Send me your detailed location. I’ll come right over!”

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Alex hung up the phone and said to the Beare brothers, "Sorry, I have some urgent matters I must deal with immediately. You guys can just rest here. I'll come back immediately after I settle this matter. You guys can go and catch up with Hunter too."

Ivan Beare shook his head and said, "Young Master, we're not tired and don't need rest. Both of us are willing to follow you and help where we can. We've just arrived, so please give us a chance to prove ourselves."

"In that case...alright, then you can accompany me and Big Ken on our trip."

Alex did not hesitate and immediately took the Beare brothers to the Lamborghini, where Big Ken drove.

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On the way, Alex explained the problems he encountered to Big Ken and the Beare brothers.

Big Ken was clear about Alex's current situation, so after he heard this, he immediately had the same thoughts as Alex. If Symore was really in trouble, it was most likely Keon Wells' doing. Symore was now the newest street boss of Quill City, so he had a lot of people under him and even had the support of Alex and Gunner Young. Symore was in his prime, so the average person absolutely would not dare to provoke him.

Moreover, taking hostages to blackmail Alex was his opponent's favorite trick.

Alex had a doubt though.

If Symore was really captured by Keon Wells' men, then he should have contacted Alex last night.

Ivan and Ivar Beare were not aware of Alex's situation, but were prepared to help Alex with his problems. In addition to this, the two brothers also had another problem, which was the way Alex addressed them. They were merely Wayne Larson's subordinates, and in terms of status, they were lower than both Big Ken and Hunter, so they did not dare to be brothers with Alex.

This small hiccup was finally solved with a word from Big Ken.

"Young Master, why don't you just call them Big Beare and Small Beare like us?"

Alex could not help but laugh and said, "That's an interesting nickname...I'll only use it if you guys are fine with it."

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The Beare brothers nodded their heads and the matter was settled.

Soon, Alex and the group arrived at a bar that Symore had connections with. They met up with Zeke Martin in a conference room on the third floor. Symore's sidekick, Seth, was also present. After everyone was seated, Seth was just about to brief Alex on the details when Alex suddenly received a call from an unknown number.

Alex immediately became alert and made a gesture of silence before picking up the phone and asking tentatively, "Who is it?"

In the next second, he heard the voice of an old acquaintance over the phone, "Cohen, I heard you've been having a hard time lately?"

"Charles Lucas?"

"That's right, it's me."

Alex did not expect that Charles would call him at this time and subconsciously accused him.

"Don't tell me that you've captured Symore!"

Charles' tone on the other end of the call changed instantly as he said, "What? Symore was captured? It seems that your recent situation's more difficult than I thought it'd be. You must be anxious, right? But why do I feel so great? What's going on here?"

"Don't try to be shady! You're just a clown and aren't qualified to gloat in front of me. Charles Lucas, you better not have captured Symore. Otherwise, when I find out the truth, I'll come for you. If you have something to say, say it quickly! What do you want from me?"

"Tomorrow's the deadline for the IOU and I want to talk to you before the court deals with it. If it can be handled privately, there's no need to go through the legal process..."

"We have nothing to talk about. You can either pay up the debt for Chase Lucas or wait for the court to offset the debt with the properties under his name. To me, there's really no room for negotiation on this matter. Don't try your luck. If you have anything to say, just talk to the judge."

After he said that, Alex hung up the call.

Isla's situation was still pressed in his heart and Symore was in trouble again.

Alex was already in a mess and did not have the energy nor the time to talk to Charles Lucas. He tucked the phone away, then looked at Zeke and Seth as he asked, "What exactly is the situation?"

Zeke looked at Seth and said, "You know better than I do, so you can brief them."

Seth nodded and took over the conversation.

"Alright then. Mr. Cohen, it's like this. Last night, the owner of a nightclub with which Symore partnered with had a birthday party and invited him over. I accompanied him there, but I didn't go in with him and was just waiting outside in the car. At around 11:30 pm, Symore called, saying that he was getting lucky at night and won't be going back, asking me to leave first.

Since it's our partner's place, I thought nothing would happen, so I obliged. As soon as I woke up this morning, I called Symore but he didn't pick up. Later, he sent me a message saying that he was too tired from all the action last night and even wanted to go another round later since it's a rare opportunity. Then he told me not to disturb him..."

Zeke nodded and continued, "That's when I called Symore, but still couldn't get through to him. So I called Seth and got to know about this. Is it possible that he's exhausted from all the action and was still resting? Or maybe he forgot to charge his phone?"

Alex shook his head and said, "I don't think it's so simple. Based on my understanding of Symore, he doesn't seem like a person who would overindulge. Seth, has this ever happened before?"

"No!"

Seth frowned and shook his head, as he added, "Mr. Cohen, you just reminded me of something! As you said, Symore has good self-control and rarely hooks up with women. He's not a womanizer who loses control around beautiful women. If that's the case, this might be a serious problem.

Symore didn't answer my call and replied to WhatsApp with text rather than a voice message. This means that the person who replied to my messages might not even be Symore!"

"Let's go! Take me to where Symore last appeared."

Everyone immediately got up and drove off, with Seth leading the way. According to Seth's description, Symore had first gone to dinner, then to the birthday boss' bar for the after-party. It was in the bar that Symore called Seth, and that was also the last place Symore was last seen.

Seth found the boss, then introduced Alex and the others.

Alex did not have to beat around the bush and went straight to the point.

“Boss, last night at about 11:30 pm, were you there when Symore called Seth?”

“No...”

The boss already knew about Symore’s disappearance. He looked very nervous and continued, “At that time, Symore was hooking up with a chick, so I didn’t bother him. Mr. Cohen, at first I didn’t care much, but now it seems that it’s quite suspicious. Last night, Symore didn’t take the initiative to approach that chick.”

“What do you mean?”

“That chick was the one who approached Symore. Perhaps Symore has become too popular lately and offended someone, so this was his rival’s seduction trick and he fell for it? I’d actually arranged rooms for all the guests last night, just upstairs in the hotel my brother owns. Symore initially agreed to head upstairs to get some rest, but when it was almost midnight, he suddenly said that he’ll spend the night elsewhere. Perhaps it was the chick who asked to spend the night somewhere else.”

“The surveillance camera should be able to see it, right?”

“Yeah! I figured you guys might come looking for clues, so I put together the relevant surveillance footage before you came.”

The boss immediately brought Alex and the others to the office, then clicked open a cropped surveillance video on the computer. He pointed to a skimpily dressed slim woman that Symore was hugging on screen and said, “This woman was the one who approached Symore.”

“Urgh...”

Alex stared at the woman carefully and his pupils instantly dilated a few folds.

“It’s her?!”

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 177 -

When the boss heard this, his eyes widened in shock and said incredulously, “Mr. Cohen, you know this woman? She...is she your enemy?”

Seth also panicked, thinking that if the one who seduced Symore was Alex’s enemy, then Symore would be in danger.

Alex frowned, nodded, and said to Big Ken, "Bro, you still remember her, right?"

Big Ken responded, "I remember. She's that old classmate of yours called Sukie Lane, right?"

"That's right, it's her. I haven't seen her for a few months and thought she left Quill City a long time ago. I didn't expect that she's still here and even seems to have more guts than before..."

Seth was puzzled and interjected, "Mr. Cohen, why would your old classmate harm Symore?"

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Alex shook his head and said, "In addition to being my old classmate, Sukie Lane has another identity! In the past, Chase Lucas had a henchman named Shane Locke, who was sent to prison by me. Sukie Lane was Shane's girlfriend and she later had a fling with Chase. She's trouble and I almost lost my life because of her."

"Does that mean she might've taken Symore to get back at you?"

"We can't rule out this possibility, but there's another problem with that logic. If she wants to deal with me, why hasn't she contacted me after capturing Symore for so long? Forget it...now's not the time to dwell on this issue. First, let's use all personnel and contacts to do an all-out search for Symore and Sukie Lane!"

"Alright! I've already arranged for people to look for Symore, so I'll just have the brothers keep an eye on Sukie Lane at the same time."

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After Seth finished speaking, he took out his phone and took a few pictures of Sukie Lane on the computer screen, then sent them to his men.

Big Ken also took a picture and sent it over to Gunner Young because last time, it was also Gunner's men that found Macy Falks.

A few minutes later, Seth received a call from his men. Thinking that someone had found Symore or Sukie Lane, he quickly picked up, but only after he listened to the report did he know that something had happened. After he hung up the phone, he immediately reported, "Mr. Cohen, someone leaked information about Symore's disappearance and that his gang would soon diminish. It's not just casual gossip, but people are widely spreading this rumor. I think it's deliberately planned by people with ulterior motives!"

“The person who spread the rumor is definitely the one who knows what’s going on, or might even be the one who started it...”

Alex quietly pondered then said to Zeke, “How’s the situation on the streets at this stage? If my guess is right, this could be the work of your rivals.”

Zeke Martin thought for a moment and said, “When we first took over Chase Lucas’ territory, we encountered at least five small gangs that obstructed us, but they were all quickly defeated. Later, with the financial support of Jared Xavier, Hash Lucas emerged with great fanfare. Although he came with great force, they were all bark and no bite, so they were also forced into retreat. Currently, no one is considered a threat to us. Those people are probably afraid of being beaten up and haven’t come to trouble us for a long time. If the situation hadn’t stabilized, Symore wouldn’t have had time to go to the birthday party.”

“In that case, brief me one by one on all the rivals that you know are still active on the streets.”

Sukie did not seem like the mastermind, but acted on orders and was probably used as bait by the people hiding in the shadows who wanted to deal with Symore. If that was the case, then Symore was not taken as a hostage to threaten Alex. This was purely a gang fight. The first suspects to be considered were the small gangs that once tried to thwart Symore but in turn, suffered a loss at his hands.

Zeke guessed what Alex was thinking, then carefully recalled and retold the events.

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According to Zeke’s introduction, the bosses of the small gangs who had been leading attacks against Symore were all involved with some sort of business. These businesses include illegal bettings, organized underground fighting, loan sharks, and others who specialized in collecting debts. They were in all kinds of industries, but one thing they had in common was that they were all illegal businesses. Generally, those bosses engaged in these industries would hire a group of thugs, or they simply could not continue their line of work.

Take loan sharks, if there were not enough people to help collect debts, they would go bust!

Alex wanted to analyze the potential suspects by comparing them so that he could pick one or two suspects to have a greater focus on the investigation. However, after listening to Zeke’s introduction, he found that none of them were good people and all of them had the possibility of having a grudge against Symore, so he could not exclude any of them. He only said to Seth, “Immediately arrange people to keep an eye on the gangs that Zeke just mentioned. Symore might be captured by one of those rivals! It’s better to have a target than to blindly look for someone on the street.”

“Okay, I’ll arrange it right away.”

Seth was Symore’s loyal sidekick that was single-handedly trained and promoted by Symore.

Now that Symore’s whereabouts were unknown, Seth was undoubtedly the most anxious and functional.

Alex just finished making arrangements before his phone rang again. When he saw the number, he frowned. Alex hesitated for a while before he impatiently answered the call, “What’s the matter again?”

Hash’s voice sounded from the phone, “I just mentioned earlier that I wanted to talk to you.”

“Then I’ll tell you again and for the last time. You and I have nothing to talk about! Do you think we’re friends? Don’t ever call me again! Get lost!”

“Wait a minute! Alex, I know you’re in a hurry to find Symore. As long as you’re willing to come over, I can provide you with an important clue that I just paid a lot of money for. If you follow this clue, you can definitely find Symore. I’ll send you the address right now, but whether you believe it and come over is up to you...”

Hash did not wait for Alex’s response and simply hung up after he was done talking.

In less than two minutes, Alex received a text message from Hash, asking him to meet at a high-end business club downtown.

Big Ken understood the situation and looked a bit hesitant.

“Young Master, could this be a trap that Hash Lucas set up for you?”

“I don’t think so...”

Alex responded, but after consideration, he added, “Hash Lucas doesn’t want the court to offset the debt using Chase Lucas’ properties, so he just wants to fight a little more before the deadline comes. Now that I have the upper hand, it’s reasonable to say that he won’t dare to mess around. He’s not a fool, so he must know that further offending me at this juncture wouldn’t be beneficial to him.”

“That’s true, but I’m still a little worried. After all, he’s your enemy.”

Alex waved his hand, looked around, and said, “It’s okay. Even if Hash Lucas arranged an ambush, with all you experts around, what do I have to be afraid of? Besides, what if he can really provide valuable clues? I must meet up with him anyhow.”

“Well...okay then.”

Big Ken knew he could not argue with Alex, so he agreed.

Alex did not delay for another second and asked Seth to return to the main camp immediately to preside over the situation. He then set off with Big Ken, Zeke and the Beare brothers. All four of them, except for himself, were all first-rate experts. It was not an exaggeration to say that the five of them would still have a fighting chance even against ten times the number of ordinary thugs.

Moreover, in broad daylight, Hash would not dare to start such a large-scale fight on the streets.

A few minutes short of noon, Alex arrived at the place where Hash had agreed to meet him, and the person in charge of meeting them at the door took them straight to a private room located on the second floor. As Alex expected, in addition to Hash Lucas, Jared Xavier was also there. There were also two of their men standing on the side.

Alex ignored the menu that Hash threw to him and even asked the waiter who was ready to pour the tea to clear the room. He then swept back and forth with a straight gaze at Hash and Jared. He bluntly said, “Tell me, what intel do you have?”

Hash looked at Jared to confirm that he did not have the intention to speak before he said, “Surely we must talk about business first. After we’re done...no, I’ll only tell you after we’ve reached an agreement.”

“What do you want to talk about?”

“Of course, it’s Uncle’s debt...”

“What’s there to talk about?”

Alex leaned back in his chair and slowly said, “Hash Lucas, you’re not trying to repudiate the debt, are you?”

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 178 -

‘Repudiate the debt?’

‘I wanted to...but you’ve f*cking took legal action and the IOU was also confirmed by the court, so how can I repudiate?’

Hash Lucas sulked and cursed Alex in his heart. After his mood was slightly relieved, he shook his head and said, “I’m also half a businessman and do one-shot deals. Everything’s based on honesty, so I definitely won’t repudiate the debt.”

Alex listened and said sarcastically, "Aren't you afraid your nose will grow when you say this? Forget it...let's talk about business."

"I called you over today to tell you a very realistic situation. Although my family has a bit of money, \$190 million is still an astronomical figure for me. My uncle's family was slightly better off than mine, but before he died, he basically spent all of his family's money, so now he's even poorer than my family."

"Does it matter to me? Besides, can't you just use his properties to repay the debt?"

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"That's exactly what I'm about to say. Those properties under Uncle's name should be left to Aunty, so no one has the right to take them. You're a big man. You're not going to steal from a woman, right? What I want to say is that we'll pay back the money Uncle owes you, but we won't be able to pay it back for a while."

"What exactly are you saying?"

"I have a suggestion. You can tear up that IOU that Uncle gave you, then I'll give you a new IOU. The amount owed is still \$190 million, it's just that the repayment period will be changed to three years instead. You can rest assured that I'll repay the money within three years. If I can't pay it back, you can take my life."

Alex shook his head and said, "Hash Lucas, are you taking me for a fool?"

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Hash said in all seriousness, "Alex, if you think that you're making a loss, I can compensate you. Take it as you're lending the \$190 million to me. I can give you interest according to the interest rate of bank loans...you can also raise it a little as you see fit. As long as it's not too outrageous, I'll accept it. This way, I temporarily won't have the pressure to repay the loan and can devote myself to making money. You can think of it as an investment with a steady profit and no loss."

"That's what you're hoping for?"

As soon as Alex heard this, he could already guess what Hash was thinking. It was just one word: delay!

Hash Lucas was only willing to suppress his hatred for Alex at the moment and try to communicate with Alex by all means because the deadline for repayment was one day later and he was in too much of a hurry. Hash could not think of any other way and had no choice but to do so. Once the repayment period was changed to three years, the court would not compulsorily use the properties under Chase's name to offset Alex's debt.

In that case, Hash's urgent problems could be solved.

Then, he could focus on dealing with Alex Cohen. Three years was a lot of time to get a lot of things done, and there would be many changes in various aspects. Perhaps even before the final deadline for repayment, Alex would already be dead! This was exactly what Hash Lucas had in mind.

It was impossible to kill Alex at the moment, but who could predict the future?

Hash also knew that Alex would not easily agree, so he threw out his chips in time and said, "Alex, as long as you're willing to ease the pressure for the repayment, I'll immediately share the clues that can lead you to Symore free of charge. Let me just tell you that Symore's currently in a very dangerous situation. If you can't find and rescue him in time, he'll certainly die. He seems to be the one you promoted, right? He's your brute force and your henchman. If he dies, you'll not only lose a helper, the morale of your camp will also be affected."

Alex did not reject Hash's proposal right away so he could get the clue and said patiently, "I have to think about your proposal...honestly, I have to weigh the value of the clue you can provide before I can give you an answer."

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"That won't do. The only way to get this clue is if you've agreed to my offer."

"That's a tough one. If you don't give in, then there's no chance of a deal."

"Why do I have to make concessions and not you?"

"How about this? As long as you're willing to provide me with the clue first, if I eventually choose to adopt your proposal, I'll waive the interest. A \$190 million loan, according to the interest rate of a bank loan, the total interest for three years would be around tens of millions of dollars, right?"

Alex knew that Hash was treating him like a fool, so he was not to blame for treating Hash like a fool too.

Hash could not refute Alex and did not know how to answer.

At this time Jared Xavier finally spoke.

"Cohen, initially I thought you were a righteous gentleman that was affectionate and loyal. I didn't expect that you're a hypocrite. Symore is your henchman. Now that he's been taken away and there are clues to find him, you're still hesitant? I feel sorry for those people who work for you."

“Are you trying to provoke me?”

Alex slowly said and continued, “Jared Xavier, if my assumption is right, you probably thought that I’d agree to any of your conditions without a second thought just to obtain a clue to find Symore right? That’s why you called me over, to use the clue as a bargaining chip, huh? In actuality, you don’t have any intel at all, do you?”

“How do we not have any intel? Someone watched Symore being taken away by a woman. Do you know who that woman is? Alex Cohen, that’s all I can say for now. If you don’t agree with our proposal in exchange for the clue, just wait to collect Symore’s corpse!”

“Are you so sure that without your clue, I won’t be able to find Symore?”

Jared was confident as he said, “Yes, I’m sure of it! Without our clue, there’s no way you can find Symore! Unless there’s a miracle...”

Just then, Alex’s phone vibrated.

He took it out to find that it was a message from Seth that read, “Mr. Cohen, we’ve found Sukie Lane!”

Alex stood up and said to Jared, “Now it’s time to witness a miracle!”

After he said that, Alex turned around and walked away with nobody stopping him.

Hash did not gather a large number of people, so Alex’s analysis was right.

He was at a disadvantage and no matter how much he hated Alex, he would not make a fuss before Chase Lucas’ debt was taken care of.

Alex and the others left the club without incident, rushed back, and met with Seth. He eagerly asked, “Where’s Sukie Lane?”

Seth said with a frown, “With Kayson Tannin.”

“Kayson Tannin?”

Alex twisted his head and looked at Zeke as he asked, “Didn’t you just mention this name to me?”

Zeke nodded and said, “Kayson Tannin is the boss of a gang that once fought with us for the territory. Through formal channels, we can only find out that he’s the owner of an amusement park. In fact, he’s the number one man in the city’s underground fighting community. Even though he didn’t hire many thugs, a group of fighters supports him

and their strength shouldn't be underestimated. In the beginning, if not for our advantage in numbers, we might've suffered a big loss at his hands."

Alex's interest immediately piqued as he asked, "Then how did Sukie Lane get involved with Kayson Tannin?"

Seth interjected again, "Mr. Cohen, I've already gotten someone to investigate just now. Sukie Lane is one of Kayson Tannin's lovers. The two of them just got together not long ago and he favors her now, so they're together almost every day."

"In that case, it makes sense that they took Symore. Whether it's Sukie trying to get revenge on me, or Kayson wanting to grab the territory, they have the motive to capture Symore. Seth, can you locate them now? Do you know what they're planning to do with Symore?"

"Kayson Tannin usually doesn't show up during the day, but will appear at the amusement park at night from time to time. What we know so far is limited and we still don't know where they've taken Symore or what they intend to do with him. I'm afraid we can only figure out all of this when we find Kayson."

"Then let's go to the amusement park and wait!"

Alex immediately took his companions out to grab a bite, then rushed to a large amusement park located inside a park. On the way here, Alex looked up the number and WhatsApp that Sukie Lane used before and learned that the number was deactivated and she could not be contacted.

If his guess was right, Sukie Lane had probably given up all her previous contacts.

Alex walked around the amusement park and did not find any clues. He then took out his phone to look up his contact list and suddenly thought of a person who should be able to contact Sukie, which was Felix Moore's girlfriend, Quinn Shetford! The two of them were originally friends and might still keep in touch.

Thinking of this, Alex immediately gave Quinn a call and learned something. Combined with the continuous pieces of information received by Seth, Alex could roughly guess Sukie's situation.

Previously, Sukie was arrested by the SWAT team in the abandoned factory but did not go to jail. That was because she did not participate in the kidnapping of Alex but was only invited to see how Alex was disposed of after Chase Lucas sent someone to kidnap him. After a week of detention, she was released.

According to Quinn, because Sukie failed to get Shane Locke out of jail, Shane's men were ordered to beat up Sukie's parents until they were permanently disabled.

Essentially, she was to blame for ending up in such a situation because she should not have found a boyfriend like Shane Locke.

If Sukie had realized this, she should not be greedy and live her life in a down-to-earth way. However, she did not let go of her hatred and did not go back home to take care of her parents. Instead, she chose to stay in Quill City and used her body to seduce Kayson Tannin, who was quite powerful.

Relatively speaking, Kayson was a notch more powerful than Shane Locke.

Alex could imagine that Sukie should have put all the hatred on him. Through their previous encounter, Sukie probably realized that with her own strength, she could never win over Alex. Therefore, it was obvious that Sukie was not just trying to live a better life by sucking up to Kayson. More importantly, she wanted to use Kayson's power to seek revenge on Alex.

If she wanted revenge, then she must first cut off his wings, such as Symore.

Kayson also had his sights on Chase Lucas' territory.

Thus, the two of them hit it off and decided to go after Symore first...

Alex thought that he had analyzed the whole situation, so the next thing to do was to find Sukie and Kayson, then find a way to rescue Symore. He just did not know if Symore was still alive.

Just when Alex was secretly praying for Symore, Seth suddenly came over and said, "Mr. Cohen, Symore should still be alive, but..."

Alex's heart tensed up and asked, "Why? What's wrong?"

Seth clicked on a video on his phone and said, "Mr. Cohen, just take a look at this."

Alex hurriedly took the phone and watched the video to find that it was a video of a fight in the ring.

The surroundings were dark and the only place illuminated was the fighting ring in a mysterious place. Two people were sparring. One of them was a tall, powerful man wearing a full set of protective gear and boxing gloves, while the other had no protection whatsoever. Even his clothes were stripped off of him, with nothing but his underwear. This almost naked man was none other than Symore!

In less than two minutes, Symore was beaten down. His face was bruised and swollen. He looked terrible.

After falling to the ground, Symore was fiercely beaten up again.

Then, the screen was fixed and a line of text appeared on the screen, which read, "This is your boss!"

Alex watched the video and subconsciously thought, 'I'll kill and torture whoever did this!'

Seth did not wait for Alex to ask questions and took the initiative to explain with a bitter face.

"Mr. Cohen, this unknown person somehow mixed into our group chat and sent this video. Kayson Tannin wants to make a fool of Symore in a way that makes us lose confidence in him. If our camp is dispersed, then his opportunity will come..."

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 179 -

"Abominable! This is simply diabolical!"

Alex Cohen gritted his teeth in anger, threw the phone to Seth, and said in a deep voice, "Don't just add people indiscriminately to the WhatsApp group. Make sure to minimize the spread of this video, fewer people see it the better!"

"I know."

Seth nodded and immediately kicked the one who sent the video out of the group. He then ordered everyone in the group not to forward this video. Although he found it in time, the video could not be deleted and dozens of people in the group had already seen it.

Fortunately, this group consisted mostly of Symore's trusted men, so it would not cause too much negative impact.

Alex fell into contemplation again during the time Seth was busy.

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After watching that video, he understood why Kayson Tannin and Sukie Lane did not contact him.

Kayson and Sukie did not capture Symore threatening Alex, instead, it was to disrupt Symore's camp morale. With Symore taken away, his gang was left without a figurehead. Seeing the leader of their gang bullied and tortured could easily affect morale.

Just as Seth mentioned, if Symore's camp started to disperse, then it would mean that they collapsed from within.

Then, their rival's opportunity to seize the territory occupied by Symore would come.

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On the bright side, Symore was still alive.

After all, a video of Symore being beaten up was not enough to bring down Symore's forces. The rivals must keep Symore alive and follow up with more brutal videos to break down the confidence of Symore's camp little by little. As long as they could make people feel that there was no future in following Symore, his gang would be scattered and the rivals could do as they desired.

What Alex urgently needed to do was to save Symore before the worst-case scenario happened!

Zeke Martin and Symore had only known each other for a short time, but after working together for some time, they understood each other. The two of them got along very well and became good friends and brothers who fought side by side. Zeke could not bear to see his brother get humiliated like this. He walked to Alex and said with a grim face, "We can't just wait like this! What if Kayson Tannin doesn't even show up at night? Won't we be waiting for nothing? Also, the longer we wait, the more Symore's in danger because no one knows when Kayson will want him dead."

Alex responded helplessly, "I'm also anxious, but...what can we do if we don't wait?"

"Isn't this Kayson's territory? If he's not here, then we can force him to show himself!"

"You mean...create some trouble here? But this may not necessarily make Kayson show up."

"How do you know if you don't try? If a little trouble can't bring him in, then let's make a big mess!"

"Let me think..."

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Alex felt that Zeke had a point and immediately ran to the entrance of the amusement park. He then peered inside and observed intently.

It was noon and the sun was blazing. Since it was very hot, not many people were there at the amusement park. Even so, most of the rides were still operating. Finding trouble was also a technical task, mainly because Alex did not want to hurt the innocent. If the people there were all Kayson Tannin's men, then it would be a good idea to just rush in and start fighting.

A group of them were discussing countermeasures when a few amusement park employees that were guarding the entrance came over. Their leader was a fat middle-aged man with a big belly. He was gnawing on a slice of watermelon as he scrutinized Alex's group and said in an unfriendly tone, "Are you here to play? If you're not, then get out of the way! Don't hinder our business!"

Alex subconsciously glanced at Zeke. He was just worried about not having the opportunity to find fault, but God was helping him.

Although Alex did not explicitly thank the fat man for his divine help, he still seized this great opportunity and said to the fat man blankly, "I'm not standing in the boundary of your amusement park, so how am I hindering your business? Besides, this place is spacious, am I blocking anyone?"

"Hmph...you're blocking the entrance of the amusement park and you dare say that you're not obstructing our business? I've observed you guys for a long time. You just walked around and didn't even ride anything. You think I didn't notice? From what I can tell, you're either f*cking looking for trouble, or you're our competitor's spies. If you guys are smart, you should hurry up and get lost before I get angry. Or else, ahem..."

"Or else what?"

"Or I'll give you what you deserve! Why don't you ask around whose territory is this? A few small farts like you want to cause trouble?"

"I was initially thinking of just walking around, but since you provoked me, I'm not leaving! What can you little minions do to me?"

The groundwork was almost done and Alex could not wait to make a move.

The fat man's temper rose and he viciously threw the watermelon rind on the ground and waved his hand.

"Come on, guys! Take them all down! We must show them what'll happen if they dare to make a fuss on Mr. Kayson's turf! Don't hold back, if something happens, I'll take care of it!"

"No problem, but you better call all your men."

"Call all my men? Is that necessary? These people here can beat the hell out of you six! Let's go!"

After the fat man finished speaking, he led three ordinary employees that were wearing the amusement park shirt, as well as two young men in security uniforms who had just arrived to support them. Then they pounced at the same time. The big battle had

already kicked off, but none of them were nervous. This proved that this was not their first time doing this kind of thing and they were no strangers to group fights.

They also seem like they were not the slightest bit intimidated by Alex's group.

Both parties had six people on each side, which was just right for each other.

However, the difference in combat strength was outrageous.

Normally, even with Big Ken or Zeke, any one of them could solve the battle single-handedly.

To make a big fuss so they could force Kayson Tannin to show up later, Alex did not want to show off and personally led all his companions to fight. They all knew that if they wanted to meet Kayson, they would have to get past this hurdle first. They did not even have Kayson's contact information, so they could only count on the fat man to tip-off Kayson as soon as possible.

Therefore, Alex and the others did not hold back their strength.

The result was that with just one look, all six opponents including the fat man were scared into retreat.

Nonetheless, they did not stop their advances and chased after them to continue the fight.

Their purpose was clear, which was to fight until Kayson showed himself!

The fat man did not expect Alex and the others to have such frighteningly high combat power. After being knocked to the ground, he did not dare to stand up. He just rolled and crawled back inside the amusement park. He pulled out his walkie-talkie with a red face and shouted angrily, "We have a situation at the front entrance. Everyone get your *ss over here now!"

Shortly after, all the ordinary staff and security guards of the amusement park rushed to the entrance. Nevertheless, they still failed to defeat Alex's group.

Although Kayson had a group of professional fighters with outstanding combat ability, they were all money-spinners that Kayson invested in. Thus, they were either in competition or training and were not stationed at the amusement park. Those people at the amusement park were all ordinary people and did not pose a threat to Alex's group.

Defeating these people at the amusement park was as easy as chopping vegetables for Alex and the others. They were all subdued in a few seconds.

The fat man who got the key “attention” was beaten until he vomited the watermelon he just ate. Since the food he ate was as red as blood, when passersby saw a large red puddle on the ground, they were shocked and some even shouted for help. Fortunately, there were not many people in the park at this time, otherwise, it would have been chaos.

The fat man was also so frightened that his confidence disappeared and he no longer dared to act tough. As soon as he caught his breath, he took out his phone and dialed a number.

“Mr. Kayson! It’s bad...someone came to pick a fight and we can’t handle it...”

The fat man’s confidence only recovered a little after Kayson Tannin said that he would “immediately bring people over”. After he hung up, he said coldly to Alex, “You’ve got the f*cking guts to come to Mr. Kayson’s place and look for trouble! Just you wait...don’t run if you have the guts!”

Alex heard this and let out a sigh of relief.

As long as there was no accident, their efforts would not be in vain.

About 20 minutes later, two groups of people rushed over respectively from the front and back entrance of the park.

Seth stared at those people carefully. Suddenly, his eyes lit up, and pointed to the front entrance as he said, “Mr. Cohen, the one at the front with the slicked-back hair is Kayson Tannin!”

Alex looked in the direction Seth was pointing and stared at Kayson. All of a sudden, he had a feeling of déjà vu...

Super Son-In-Law Chapter 180 -

Alex Cohen was sure that he had never met Kayson Tannin before. He had only heard of him earlier today for the first time.

However, the feeling of familiarity was getting stronger. This feeling was very accurate, especially in recognizing people, which was previously proven.

Prompted by curiosity, Alex searched his brain like a computer and compared Kayson Tannin’s face with the people he knew in his memory bank. Soon, he matched it with a person he was not very familiar with and quickly asked Seth, “Is Kayson Tannin related to Delmont Tannin, the CEO of Sincere Co.? Are they brothers by any chance?”

Seth responded, "Yes, they're twins! The two brothers look identical and people who aren't familiar with them will find it hard to distinguish them at a glance. Mr. Cohen, have you met Delmont Tannin?"

"No. I've only met his son, Arthur Tannin. I felt that Kayson's face resembled Arthur's, and on second thought, Kayson also had the last name, so I confirmed it with you. Since they're brothers, Kayson can be considered half an acquaintance to me. I didn't expect that after a big detour, I've met yet another acquaintance..."

After hearing this, Seth could not help but said in awe, "Mr. Cohen, your ability to recognize people is truly amazing!"

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Alex waved his hand and saw that Kayson had already come over, so he did not dwell on the topic with Seth.

The fat man, supported by two companions, quickly greeted Kayson, adding more flare while describing the incident. He then pointed at Alex, clenched his teeth, and added, "It was his fault in the first place, yet he still beat us up! Mr. Kayson, you've got to fight for us!"

"Rubbish!"

Kayson gave the fat man a fierce glare and said coldly, "There are only six of them in total, while there are more than ten of you. You lost when you had an absolute advantage in numbers, yet you still have the f*cking face to ask me to fight for you? Your loss of reputation is secondary, but you f*cking disgraced me! If this thing gets out, people will think that I hired a bunch of losers!"

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"No wait...Mr. Kayson, it's not that we're incompetent, but they're just too good."

"What does it matter? Disgrace is disgrace. You're still f*cking looking for excuses? Do you still want to work for me?"

"Yes, yes, yes...Mr. Kayson, I was wrong."

The fat man was already holding back his rage and he was even dissed by Kayson, so he felt even more suffocated. Even so, he did not dare to show it. He only secretly refuted in his heart, 'If you felt disgraced, do you think I don't want respect? I already told you that they're powerful but you don't believe me. Then why don't you fight them? I'd like to see how f*cked you'll be!'

He secretly vented, then went to the side with the other wounded, ready to watch the show.

Although Kayson was scolding the fat man, he could not completely ignore this matter. However, he was not thinking of avenging the fat man to relieve his hatred. Kayson just wanted to get his reputation back. After all, this fight happened on his territory and his men were also beaten.

One should always look at who they were offending.

If their underling was bullied, the boss would be disgraced!

Kayson rushed in front of Alex with fury and scrutinized him. When Kayson realized that Alex did not look familiar, he asked in a deep voice, "Who are you people? Why are you making a fuss here? Let me just tell you that I don't like repeating myself. You have one chance to explain the situation. Once you miss this opportunity, I don't care who you are, you'll have to pay the price for what happened today by tenfold or a hundredfold!"

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Alex looked around and roughly counted that Kayson brought more than ten people with him. Together with the first group that could barely fight, the six of them were now surrounded by close to twenty opponents. Moreover, the new arrivals seemed like they were all professional fighters. Visually, their combat strength was a bit higher than the previous batch of the amusement park staff.

Nonetheless, Alex was still not intimidated and said to Kayson calmly, "No wonder you didn't contact me after you captured Symore. It turns out you don't even know me. Kayson Tannin, since you're not aware, you're not to blame. I can also give you one chance, as long as you..."

"Wait, don't tell me...you're Alex Cohen?"

Kayson had not seen Alex before, but shortly after he met Sukie Lane when he was doing a background check on her, Kayson had learned of Alex Cohen. Recently, when investigating Symore's origin, he heard of Alex Cohen yet again and even saw several secretly taken photos of him. Although the pictures were not very clear, his face could still be seen clearly.

After he examined Alex, Kayson confirmed Alex's identity and asked with a puzzled face, "You're the one who ordered Symore to seize Chase Lucas' territory and not long ago, injured many of my men? This is really what it means to find something by chance when it should take great effort. I didn't go to you to settle this score, yet here you are, taking the initiative to come to me!"

“You mean, you want to seek revenge on me? That’s great then. Let’s settle the score today and be done with it.”

“Since you’ve already come to me, I’m guessing you have some evidence, so I won’t hide it any longer. That’s right, Symore is in my hands. In such a situation, who are you to settle accounts with me? I have a hostage. What about you? What bargaining chips do you have?”

“I have no hostages, no bargaining chips, but I have the strength.”

Alex had already found Kayson and based on his tone, Symore was still alive, so Alex did not need to be too anxious.

On the other hand, Kayson was only feigning calmness. The moment he learned of Alex’s identity, he was nervous. Although this was the first time he met Alex, he had previously heard many rumors about him and knew how powerful Alex was. Knowing that Alex was surrounded by several masters, Alex was not someone an ordinary person could easily touch.

The combined strength of these people he brought was indeed above the amusement park staff, but they were still several notches away from those experts Alex brought and were only ordinary people. Against those masters, they would only be defeated in seconds. Alex was able to achieve a complete victory in the fight with the fat man earlier, so against these people he brought, it would also be a piece of cake.

Suddenly, Kayson sympathized with the fat man and understood his unexplainable suffering.

When Kayson realized that he could not take down Alex right then, he hid his inner panic and said to Alex while pretending to be calm, “This is a rare opportunity and I also think that we should put an end to all the grudges between us. However, it’s broad daylight and this is a public place, so it’s obviously inappropriate to settle grudges. I’m not worried about the onlookers, but if the police are alerted, it’s bound to cause unnecessary trouble.”

Alex guessed Kayson’s intentions but did not rush to point it out.

“Then what are you thinking?”

“Didn’t you say you have the strength? If you also have the guts, follow me to a place where no one will disturb us.”

“You want to lure me to your lair?”

“Just say whether you dare or not. If you don’t dare, let’s not talk about the rest today...”

“No need to provoke me. There’s no place I wouldn’t dare to go in all of Quill City! But I have two conditions. The first one is I have to meet with Symore first to confirm his condition. Secondly, your lover, Sukie Lane, must be present when we settle our grudge.”

To prevent Alex from backing out, Kayson nodded readily and said, “Sukie’s in the car. You can see her later. It’s just that Symore is a bit far from here, so it’s not practical to arrange for you both to meet immediately, but I can let you see him via video call.”

Likewise, Alex was afraid that Kayson would back out and agreed without much thought.

Kayson immediately took out his phone, pressed the video call button, and held it up to Alex.

Symore appeared on the screen. He was in a dark and damp place with blood all over his body. His nose and face were swollen and he looked very defeated. It was the complete opposite of Symore’s usual bold and grand stance. A man who lost his position would be subject to indignity.

The good thing was that Symore was still alive!

Alex’s heart ached and could not bear to see this. He briefly chatted with Symore, then urged Kayson to lead the way.

The whole group went over to the main entrance of the park. From a distance, Alex could see that next to the parking lot, a woman was staring at his Lamborghini with fascination.

That woman who he had not seen for several months was none other than Sukie Lane...