

## The Protector Chapter 116

Will did not have the courage to stay a second longer in the same room as Levi.

“We’re not finishing the meal anymore. We’ll be leaving now,” Pamela said.

Aaron and Caitlyn were worried. “Have you forgiven us then?”

“Yes! I’ve accepted his apology. By the way, you are allowed to attend Mother’s birthday banquet this year. She has accepted your return to the family,” Bailey Black answered.

Caitlyn was delighted after she was informed of the news. I can finally attend Mother’s birthday banquet since I left my home 20 years ago.

“We will be there!” Aaron said emotionally. We can hold our heads high by the time we attend the banquet because Zoey’s project is progressing well.

Caitlyn glanced at Levi happily after Pamela and her family left. “Alright. We will forgive you this time.”

Aaron pleaded with his wife sincerely, “Will you allow me to hang out with my friends tonight, Caitlyn?”

“Fine. Off you go. Take this bank card with you. I’m warning you now. Do not gamble tonight!” Caitlyn handed a credit card to Aaron.

Levi knew Aaron was a gambling addict since a long time ago. He lost a lot of money in the past. I even had to clear his debt previously. Caitlyn forbids him from taking part in those entertainments afterwards. He’s not allowed to drink with friends too. I suppose she’s making an exception today because her return has been accepted by the Black family today.

“Alright! I’ve quit gambling for a long time now!” Aaron was elated like a child.

Levi was amused by his behavior. He’s a typical henpecked man.

The four of them parted ways afterward.

Aaron went to meet up with his friends.

They were tipsy after gulping a few bottles of wine down.

Alex Glen placed his arm around Aaron's shoulder. "I heard there's a new underground casino in North Hampton. Why don't we try out our luck there?"

Aaron shook his head. "No way! I made a promise to my wife not to gamble anymore."

"Don't worry. We are just going to play a few rounds to try out our luck. You won't lose any money," Alex persuaded him.

"That's right. We did not bring a lot of money with us anyway. We'll play in small amounts, just for fun. What if we get lucky? Do you know Andrew Zafer from the marketplace? I heard he earned 800 thousand from the casino with a mere 3000 starting amount!"

"He's right. We are so jealous of him!"

Aaron's resolution wavered as his friends convinced him. "Fine. I'll go. But I have to say this in advance. I can only fork out 5000."

"Sure, sure..." Aaron and the gang headed toward the underground casino together.

Aaron was especially excited when they arrived at the venue.

A man, dressed lavishly with a glass of red wine in his hand, was seated on the second floor of the casino while he gazed at the crazed gamblers beneath him. He asked with a smile, "Aaron Lopez is here?"

"Yes, Mr. Rogers."

The men engaged in that conversation were none other than Oswald Rogers and Howard Corbyn.

Oswald sneered while looking at Aaron. "I've been thinking of ways to target all of you, but here you are, offering to step into my trap on your own accord."

Howard sought out Oswald's opinion. "How should we proceed, Mr. Rogers?"

"He's going to lose! We'll make him lose everything. Even the Lopez family will not be able to cover his debt. I am going to force Levi to his death with this staggering amount of money!" Oswald grinned like a madman.

Howard nodded. "I'll make the necessary arrangements, Mr. Rogers. I will make sure to let Aaron Lopez learn his lesson well this time."

## The Protector Chapter 117

Aaron was oblivious to the incoming danger that awaited him. He was enjoying himself to his heart's content at that moment.

He had won for a few consecutive rounds and earned roughly 100 thousand. On his 10th straight win, Aaron's earnings accumulated to a few million.

Alex and the others persuaded Aaron to continue with his gambling. "You're too lucky today, Aaron! Go on! Let's go big! 10 million is easily achievable with your insane luck tonight!"

A gambling addict caught up in his moment of glory often lost his ability to think rationally. Aaron was confident he could bring home 10 million by the time he was done gambling that night.

Zoey and Levi were startled awake by the ringing from their phones in the middle of the night.

Caitlyn had dialed their numbers relentlessly.

Zoey was wide awake the moment she answered the call. "What? Oh my God!"

Her face went paper-white as the phone slipped out of her hand and fell onto the floor with a thud.

Levi asked immediately, "What's wrong?"

Zoey sobbed. "Father went to the casino and lost 300 million. He's being detained right now because he was caught cheating."

"What? 300 million? How did he lose so much money?" Levi frowned. Something's wrong. Someone must have set a trap for Aaron.

"Where is he?" Levi added.

"I don't know. Let's meet up with Mom for now."

Caitlyn was already tear-stricken by the time Levi and Zoey arrived.

Levi floored the accelerator toward the underground casino after Caitlyn informed them of the location.

The atmosphere inside the casino was unbearable. Deafening noises and cigarette smoke lingered in the air.

A few muscular men came in front of Levi, Zoey, and Caitlyn. "Who are you people?" They inquired fiercely.

Levi stated the aim of their visit directly. "We are here to look for Aaron Lopez."

"Oh. You are that cheater's family. Follow me." They led Levi and the others to the second floor.

Levi sounded the situation out in the meantime. "What happened here, actually?"

"Aaron Lopez cheated after he started to lose money. Then we caught him red-handed. How dare he cheats after losing 300 million to the casino? We need to follow the rules here and chop off his fingers!" One of the men sneered.

Zoey and Caitlyn were frightened as their faces turned to the shade of chalk.

More than 10 men stood menacingly inside a large private room on the second floor with batons in their hands.

Levi, Zoey, and Caitlyn caught the distinctive smell of blood the moment they entered the room.

A person was lying on the floor in a curled position. His body twitched faintly in a pool of blood.

"Dad! Aaron!" Zoey and Caitlyn rushed forward when they recognized the person to be Aaron Lopez.

Levi grimaced when he saw how terribly beaten Aaron was.

"Save me! Save me, please!" Aaron yelled fearfully when he saw his family.

The few thugs surrounded Levi and the others instantaneously.

A scary-looking man sat on the sofa with a gold necklace around his neck, dressed in a leopard-printed shirt.

He tossed a cigarette butt on the floor and crushed it with his foot. Then he looked up. "Are you Aaron Lopez's family members?"

"Yes. That's right. He's my father-in-law." Levi met that man's eyes.

"Let me introduce myself. I am the owner of this casino. My name is Enzo Fielder. Everyone refers to me as Mr. Enzo."

Enzo pointed at Aaron. "Your father-in-law lost 300 million to the casino and tried to trick us. According to the rules of this casino, he will have to settle the 300 million debt and let us chop off all 10 of his fingers to settle the score. Otherwise, he's going to die here! Hehe!" Enzo threatened Levi and the others.

Zoey and Caitlyn were trembling in a terror-stricken manner.

Aaron cowered in Caitlyn's arms as his body quaked uncontrollably.

## The Protector Chapter 118

Levi sized up his surroundings and said mockingly, "Why do I feel that this casino is not a place of such high standards that someone could lose 300 million in a night?"

"Hmph! That's because your father-in-law took a great risk. He thought he could win 100 million after earning 10 million. So who is to blame for his greediness? More importantly, no one can condone his cheating behavior in this place." Enzo waved his hand. Alex and the others were dragged forward swiftly.

"Tell them whether I'm speaking of the truth or not!" Enzo ordered.

Alex and his friends answered immediately. "Yes. That is the truth. We told Aaron to stop after he won 10 million. But he wanted to continue gambling to win more money. So he brought this on himself for losing ultimately. We did not expect him to cheat afterwards! Why do we have a friend like you, Aaron?"

Aaron looked at his friends incredulously in a daze. "All of you framed me! You set a trap to frame me!" Aaron roared.

Alex glowered at him. "Did we force you to do anything? You made all the decisions on your own accord!"

Aaron fell silent. True, no one forced me to do anything. I did everything willingly. I can only blame my own greediness.

Zoey understood that it was a set-up, so she whispered to Levi, "Should we call the cops?"

"No. Calling the cops will only worsen the situation. They might resort to desperate measures if we do that," Levi answered.

Unfortunately, Enzo overheard their conversation. He sneered. "Call the cops? Sure, go ahead and do that. He borrowed the money from others, so we have written proof as well as the various documents he mortgaged to us. We carried out every procedure according to the law. Please feel free to contact the cops. The court will confiscate the Lopez family's business and properties by that time!"

Everyone looked at Aaron in bewilderment.

Aaron nodded. I did mortgage the family house and business. I deliberately went to the Lopez family house to steal the documents after I lost all my money. I wanted to get the money to turn the tables around. But I lost everything instead and even incurred a 300 million debt on myself.

"Please don't tell my father about this. He will kill me if he knows what I've done!" Aaron said hurriedly.

Enzo jeered at Levi and the others. "Do you want to call the cops? It's up to you to make the decision!"

Zoey was clueless as to how she should react to the unexpected turn of events.

Levi grimaced. They clearly planned every move to target us.

"Have you made up your mind?" Enzo asked.

"We will not call the cops, and we'll return the money. But we do not have 300 million with us right now. Can you give us a few days to collect the sum?" Zoey proposed.

“Sure. No problem!” Enzo added mockingly. “I am not worried at all. If all of you disappear, then I will look for Harry Lopez instead.”

“But can you please don’t chop off my father’s fingers?” Zoey pleaded for mercy.

“I’ll do you a favor. You can bring him away now. But for every extra day you fail to return the money, I will chop off one of his fingers...” Enzo smiled sinisterly.

“Alright. We agree.” Levi brought Aaron and his family away from the casino in the end.

Caitlyn was on the verge of tears when they reached the entrance. “What should we do? Where can we find 300 million at a moment’s notice?”

“We have no other choice but to say that we’ll return the money. This is the best we can do to delay the situation from turning south immediately,” Zoey lamented.

Aaron rebuked Levi when he saw the smiling expression on the latter’s face. “Why are you smiling? Why don’t you come up with a solution instead, you useless piece of shit! I could’ve settled this issue effortlessly if my son-in-law is a capable person. Regretfully, you are a good-for-nothing piece of crap! You are to blame for everything that has happened today!”

## The Protector Chapter 119

Levi was stunned after listening to Aaron. He looked at his father-in-law in disbelief. Is he blaming me for his own wrongdoings?

Zoey was slightly upset. “What are you saying, Dad? You caused this mess yourself. Levi has got nothing to do with this matter.”

“Don’t give me that nonsense! He could’ve paid for the 300 million debt easily if he’s as successful as before. But he doesn’t even have a single dime with him now!” Aaron stared at Levi hatefully. “Aren’t you capable? You said you’re acquainted with the God of War, right? Can you handle this mess now? You must divorce Zoey if you fail to take care of this matter. I am a man of my word!”

Aaron vented all his pent-up anger at Levi after the horrible experience he underwent.

Caitlyn glared at him. "What are you talking about? That's not important. The most important thing is to find a way to collect 300 million as soon as possible. Let's go home now!"

Enzo dialed a number after Levi and the others left. "I've executed your orders, Mr. Rogers."

"Okay. You can pay Harry Lopez a visit directly after a few hours." The person on the other end of the phone replied.

Aaron suggested when they arrived home, "Honey, only your brother, Bailey, can help us now. Let's borrow money from them while they are still in the city!"

"You are only going to infuriate them for knocking on their doors in the middle of the night. We'll wait until tomorrow before we do anything!" Caitlyn glowered at her husband.

Zoey asked her father with a grim expression, "What happened exactly, Dad?"

Aaron described everything in detail from the beginning. He had won multiple rounds consecutively and accumulated winnings up to 10 million initially. But when he seized the opportunity to gamble further, he began to lose...

"I realize now that I've been tricked. Alex and his friends are a group of bastards!" Aaron snarled.

Zoey nodded. "That was indeed a trap."

"We have two ways of resolving this issue now. The first way is to return the money. The second method is to investigate this matter and find out the person who set you up. Personally, I think the second method is a wiser choice. We should investigate deeper before we pay them." Levi offered his idea.

Aaron stared at him fiercely. "Are you suggesting that on purpose? Did you not listen to what they said? Now you're telling me to wait and spend time to carry out an investigation? By the time we find out anything, I'll be left fingerless and even toeless!"

"Alright, let's not argue anymore. We'll go to my brother's place to borrow money from them come morning." Caitlyn was displeased.

Levi left the house quietly afterward.

Zoey wanted to think of an alternative solution, so she left as well.

The next morning, everyone in the Lopez family was still sound asleep when someone busted the door open with a loud bang.

A group of burly men covered in tattoos rushed into the house in an imposing manner.

They went straight to the Lopez family's living room.

Harry and the others hurriedly checked out the situation as they were startled by the commotion. All of them were frightened by the unwelcoming sight.

"What are you doing? You're trespassing on private property, so don't you dare do anything to us!" Harry bellowed in rage.

Enzo threw Aaron's IOU at Harry without saying a word.

Harry and the others were shocked after reading the note. "What? Aaron owes you 300 million? He even mortgaged the Lopez family's properties and business?"

Harry's vision went black as he nearly fainted.

Enzo said with a smile, "That's right. All the Lopez family's possessions are mortgaged to me now, including this house. Aaron Lopez even brought me all the necessary documents, so we are simply following the legal procedures here."

## The Protector Chapter 120

Harry hurriedly went to look for the mortgage documents, but he soon realized all the documents were stolen.

"I was wondering to myself why Aaron sneaked into the house last night. So he came here to steal the documents!" Henry said angrily.

"You better pay me 300 million as soon as possible, now that I own all your properties and business. I will have the court to confiscate these possessions

if you do not cough up the money!” Enzo urged the Lopez family in a joyful manner.

Harry Lopez did not say a word. I had not distributed the Lopez family’s inheritance previously. So Aaron’s IOU is legally binding because of his status as my descendant.

“You son of a b\*tch, Aaron Lopez!” Harry was seething with rage.

“You have one day to return the money to me. Otherwise, I’m sure you know what consequences await you.” Enzo left after he spoke.

All hell broke loose in the Lopez family.

“Let’s go to Aaron’s place right away!”

Aaron and Caitlyn were about to depart from their house at sunrise.

Bang, bang, bang...

Someone banged on their door impatiently.

A group of people rushed into the house with Harry leading the way after Aaron unlocked the door. He slapped his son across the face without a second thought. “What a dumb son I have! What have you done?” Then Harry slapped Aaron a few more times.

“You... You already know, Father?” Aaron asked timidly while covering his face.

“A bunch of people came to stir up a ruckus at the family house early in the morning. What do you think?” Harry panted heavily.

Fabian said with a grimace, “You better start talking.”

Henry sneered. “I heard you lost the money because you gambled again? You are just like your son-in-law, always failing to correct your bad habits!”

Harry fixated his eyes on Aaron. “I’ll chop off your ears if you do not explain everything clearly today!”

Aaron glanced at Caitlyn before he began. “This is all Levi Garrison’s fault!”

“What? How is this matter related to him?” Harry asked in surprise.

Aaron nodded. "Levi lost the money because he went to the casino. I had no other choice but to steal the documents because they wanted to kill Levi on the spot!"

He knew his family would beat him up if he informed them of the truth while their anger was at the boiling point. So he placed all the blame on Levi instead.

They did not trust Aaron's words at that moment, so everyone turned to look at Caitlyn.

Caitlyn said through her gritted teeth, "That's right. It's all because of Levi Garrison. Aaron has already quit gambling for 6 years now. Levi has been gambling because he wants to become rich. Do you still remember the money we paid back previously, Father?"

Harry nodded. "Of course. Don't tell me that Levi earned that 5 million through gambling?"

Caitlyn nodded. "That's right. He did not borrow the money but got it through gambling. This time, he lost 300 million."

Henry questioned her, "But I verified this myself. He really did borrow the money."

Caitlyn responded with a question on her own, "Do you think he can borrow that large amount of money without anything to mortgage, Henry?"

Henry understood instantaneously. "Now I get it. The bank loaned him the money because he has the capability to return the money through gambling!"

Caitlyn's speech convinced every member of the Lopez family.

Aaron gave his wife a thumbs-up internally. She's brilliant! We've successfully placed all the blame on Levi with that perfect excuse.

Aaron seized the moment and said, "Don't you see why Levi is not here? That's because he fled in advance!"

Harry was infuriated to his limits. "I'm going to kill you, Levi Garrison!"

"Let's go and find Levi now!" Everyone left angrily.