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Chapter 177

Charles' statement immediately sent an uproar across the room.

That meant a total of five companies would be able to secure the bidding.

However, there were at least four to five hundred companies in the hall, and only five companies among them would be able to secure the project.

"Rest assured. We will not be favoring any connections. The proposal is all we would .consider," Kingsley assured everyone.

Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when they heard his words.

There's no way anyone can use their connections in Lord Campbell's project. Besides, there is no need to organize a bidding conference if someone is able to utilize their connections and secure the project. Lord Campbell will just give it to them in private.

"The bidding process shall now begin. Please submit your bidding proposals and information," Kingsley said.

Due to Kingsley's reputation, everyone was acting in an orderly manner when each representative submitted their proposals.

There was no trace of emotion on Kingsley's face as he read through the proposals. Everyone in the hall was waiting anxiously for the verdict.

Kingsley finally finished reading through all the proposals after a few hours and said, "I have skimmed through all the proposals briefly. There are over a hundred proposals, and thirty-six among them have a market value above tens of billions. These thirty-six companies are considered to be the more competent ones."

Jennifer's heart sank as she was at a severe disadvantage compared to the other companies.

Her company was like an empty shell, and its liquidity was less than five million. Kingsley picked up a proposal and continued, "Among the thirty-six companies, there are only ten companies who have related work experience. This is the proposal from the Wilson Group. The representative of the company, please step onto the stage." Nigel walked up the stage.

"Hello, Mr. Kingsley," Nigel greeted him.

"I don't like your proposal," Kingsley said.

Nigel's expression changed when he heard that.

He was feeling very confident about his proposal before the bidding conference even began, so he couldn't believe that Kingsley didn't like his proposal.

"Mr. Kingsley, may I know the reason?" Nigel asked Kingsley as he looked at him.

"Thèse apply better in theory than in practice. You wish to develop the real estate and industrial parks, but have you considered anything about the infrastructure development? The land needs to be excavated in rock and soil, so how do you plan to find the materials? Even if you found them, how are you going to transport them to the site?" Kingsley guestioned him.

"I can just subcontract it to another company. These are the problems that they have to worry about," Nigel said.

Isn't this how the construction industry works? Just subcontract it to a third party after

securing the bid.

"Thus, I will not be choosing the Wilson Group. Please leave the stage," Kingsley said coldly as he threw the proposal to the ground.

Nigel's face darkened, but he didn't dare to lose his temper, so he turned to leave. Kingsley didn't care about Nigel's feelings at all. He picked up another proposal and said, "This company is a new company, and it doesn't have a lot of assets. However, I like their bidding document and proposal a lot."

The proposal was projected on the large screen, and everyone could see the graceful handwriting on the proposal.

"This company was initially a pharmaceutical company and a shell company, However, I would like everyone to take a look at what this company has done. The company has managed to set up a steel structure department and a transportation company. Moreover, hundreds of large excavators have been ordered, and even a barren mountain has been reserved to be used as a quarry. She has done everything to prepare for the land reclamation project. I would like to know if any companies in attendance also came up with such detailed preparations," Kingsley said. Jennifer's whole body trembled in excitement because she was the one who made the proposal. The whole proposal was at least twenty thousand words, and it was all handwritten.

The proposal described in detail the complete sequence of the process from the initial stage of excavation to the later stage of reclamation.

Everyone's faces became grim as Kingsley flipped through the proposals on the screen because the proposal was finer than the one that was drafted by a professional architect.

"So, this will be the first company that secures the bid. It's Jennard Construction. The representative of this company, please come onto the stage," Kingsley said.

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Chapter 178

Jennifer immediately fixed her makeup and walked onto the stage. As she looked at Kingsley, she remained expressionless.

She had seen him before.

It was the man who had given her A Midsummer Night's Dream and Eternal Love at the Wilson manor before.

Kingsley was also staring at her at the same time.

With an indifferent expression, he asked, "Did you come up with this proposal on your own?"

Jennifer nodded and said, "Yes, I did everything myself. I also set up the related departments myself.".

Despite Nigel's objection, she used the Wilson family's funds to do so.

"Congratulations, you've won the bid. You will be handling the six square kilometer area at the edge of the reclamation area. The bidding amount will be two billion, Kingsley said.

"Thank you, Mr. Kingsley. Thank you so much!" Excitement filled Jennifer.

If the total bidding amount is two billion, based on the thirty percent profit in the

infrastructure industry, she would get at least six hundred million.

Of course, the amount was before tax.

What she had secured was not only a land reclamation project. After reclaiming the land, she would also have priority in bidding for the land-use planning project in the future.

Nigel's face darkened as he crossed his arms and glared at Jennifer.

She uses the Wilson family's money to set up Jennard Construction!

The bidding process lasted for eight hours and both Reina and Lana also managed to secure the project.

There were also other two companies that succeeded. One of them was a local company, Torson Construction, which was the leader in the industry. Another company was Stardew International which had a close relationship with Pollerton Translations. The whole bidding process was conducted strictly according to the procedures, and there was no sign of fraudulent practices involved.

Charles stood up and concluded the event. "All right, the bidding conference for the first phase of the land reclamation project is officially over. Based on the agreement, both the construction and inspection work have to be done within three months, so I hope all five companies would begin their work as soon as possible,"

After the conference was over, Jennifer immediately told her parents the good news the moment she reached home. "Mom! Dad! I got the bid! It's worth two billion, and I can make at least five hundred million!"

Kevin was delighted when he heard that. "Jennifer, you are so awesome! I'm going to be rich!"

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Jennifer calmed down and said, "However, we need a lot of start-up capital. I need at least one hundred million, and I have no idea how to get it."

"Isn't the Wilson family rich?" Linda asked

Jennifer shook her head and said, "This is an independent company I set up myself. If I hand it over to the Wilson family, they won't give me a single penny. I will try my best to come up with a plan. Only if I'm not able to do it will I hand the project over to the Wilson family. However, I will insist to be the one handling the construction work, because I want to earn the commission from the construction process."

Jennifer was about to get excited when the doorbell rang.

She opened the door and saw that it was Nigel and Alicia.

Nigel walked into the room, looked around, and asked softly, "Are you satisfied with the house?"

Jennifer nodded and said, "It's all right,"

"Cood work. I was wrong about you before. I didn't expect you to make such a detailed proposal and secured the bid despite having only very limited resources," Nigel praised her.

Jennifer felt embarrassed and said, "I just go with my instincts."

Nodding, Nigel smiled and said, "Oh yeah. The Wilson family will be handling the bid." Jennifer's face froze. Before she could say anything, Alicia said, "What? Are you not willing to give it to us? Have you forgotten that you used the Wilson family's money to set up Jennard Construction and bought all those excavators and construction vehicles? You won't be able to handle the project. Besides, the area you will be handling is Blade

Alliance's territory. This organization belongs to Mark."

Mark worked for Noah before he went to Lana's company. However, he immediately turned to Rupert as soon as the latter returned.

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Chapter 179

"Nigel, what do you have in mind?" Jennifer asked.

Nigel thought about it and said, "I'll give you a million, and I'll handle the rest of the thing."

Jennifer's eyes widened in surprise. Is he actually offering me a mere one million to take the bid off my hands? He's indeed greedy!

Jennifer shook her head and refused. "No way. I can hand over the project to you, but I have to be the one handling the raw materials and construction."

The raw materials included reinforced concrete, rock, and granular sands. On the other hand, the transportation sector would involve dump trucks while the construction section would handle excavation work using the excavators.

The project had to be completed in three months, and there was not a single company in Pollerton that was as fully prepared as Jennifer.

Nigel's eyes grew cold. "What if I disagree?

Jennifer bit her lip and said, "Then, I'll handle all of it myself."

Nigel laughed and said, "Oh really? So you think you are independent enough now, don't you? Do you think you can handle this project on your own? The excavators you ordered are still in the production process, and you haven't even started digging the barren mountain yet! What makes you think you are able to handle this project? Besides, I noticed that you only have a few million in your account. You will need at least one hundred million as start-up capital, and another two billion to pay for whatever comes at the later stage of the project. Don't forget you won't get any money before you complete the project. Where are you going to get the money if not from the Wilson family?"

Jennifer's face darkened.

Nigel is right. But I still haven't started looking for investors yet, so I want to give this a try.

"I suddenly realize that one million is too much for you. five hundred thousand is my final offer. You will hand over the entire project to me, or the deal is off," Nigel said as irritation filled his eyes.

He desperately needed the project.

Father is going to retire soon, and the Wilson family is, in need of a leader. That person will be me! I must achieve something great so I can take over the position easily. The land reclamation project will be the project that would solidify my position! Even a fifth of the project is enough for me to take over Father's position!

Jennifer said nothing and continued to shake her head.

Nigel laughed and said, "Fine. I'm done playing with you."

Jennifer's heart sank as she knew what Nigel meant.

The project she had secured was located in Mark's territory, and Nigel had various ways

to get Mark to give her trouble.

The Horizon Group would not be able to handle Mark by then.

After saying that, Nigel gave Jennifer a long, hard stare and left, leaving her in a daze. "Jenny, what do we do?" Linda asked worriedly.

Jennifer thought for a moment and said, "Conner asked me to make up my mind before, so he wants me to ignore Nigel and the rest's feelings." However, I'm afraid it's not going to be easy. Nigel wants me to hand over the entire project, but I don't want to. How can he try to take a project worth two billion away from me with just a mere five hundred thousand?

Jennifer took out her phone and said, "I'm going to give Conner a call."

The call quickly went through. Conner was ecstatic when he learned that Jennifer secured the project. "Jennifer, you did a good job and didn't let me down. Don't worry about Nigel and the rest. Continue to do things your way."

Jennifer was stuck on the next problem. "But the start-up capital..."

Conner became silent as well.

He wouldn't be able to allocate more funds to Jennifer as the Wilson family members wouldn't agree to it unless they got their hands on the project,

Everyone knew that the person handling the project had to come up with a way to raise their capital funds.

"I'm not the sole decision-maker in the Wilson family right now. I have only one question for you. Can you afford to pay an annualized rate of thirty-six percent?"

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Chapter 180

Jennifer could only come up with two ways to handle the problem of insufficient funds,

She could either give away the bid or took a loan to raise some capital.

However, everyone in the country knew that she had secured the project. They would obviously ask for a ridiculous interest rate that was much higher than the industry standard if she were to go for a loan.

These people might even try to take the project away from her:

Jennifer sighed and said, "I understand, Granduncle Conner. I will try and come up with a plan."

Donald didn't appear to be very busy despite being the head of the operation.

The land reclamation project was a piece of cake for him. It was incomparable to what he had done before.

Donald was meeting Bradley at the moment.

Bradley might look gentle like a shy high school student, but he actually had amazing tracking skills. He was able to get a lot of crucial information even though there were only very few clues.

– "Lord Campbell, I've got something. Mistress is in danger," Bradley said.

"Explain in detail," Donald said.

"The Parasite, Noah, used to have a right-hand man named Bernie Walker. He is a hacker that is famous on the dark web, and he did a lot of dirty work for Noah. However,

Noah took his wife away from him, so Bernie hated him since. Bernie kept a lot of evidence when he was doing dirty work for Noah, and he kept it in flash drives. One of it was brought into Pollerton and fell into mistress' hands," Bradley explained. !!

Donald's heart sank as he immediately understood the importance of the flash drive. "How did the drive fall into Jennifer's hands?" Donald asked in a low voice.

"Mistress was attending a charity gala a few days ago, and she saved a little girl on the way. That girl is Bernie's daughter. Rupert abducted the girl and brought her to Pollerton to lure Bernie out. However, Bernie is a smart guy. He hid the flash drive inside his daughter's hoverboard. The little girl, Sara, seems to like mistress a lot, so she gave the flash drive to her," Bradley reported his findings in detail.

"Does Rupert know that the flash drive has fallen into Jennifer's hands?" Donald asked. "Not for the time being, but it's only a matter of time before he finds out about it. They are now investigating everyone whom the little girl had come in contact with, so anyone can be their suspect. In any case, Rupert didn't expect Bernie to leave something so important in the hands of the little girl," Bradley said as he felt impressed "How is the little girl right now?".

"She is all right for the time being. However, I don't think she would live once they found the flash drive," Bradley said.

Donald thought for a moment and said, "All right. I got it."

The land reclamation project approval had gotten everyone excited.

Gideon cracked his knuckles as he was ready to get to work.

As a third-party construction team, no one in Pollerton was more qualified or had a better team than him.

Be it Reina, Lana, or Jennifer, it was impossible for them to have their own construction teams even though they had secured the bid, so they would definitely go to a third party. Gideon Construction which belonged to Gideon was the best third-party construction team in Pollerton.

"Go and make some preparations. We will meet Lana first and discuss this with her, This time, we are going to try our best, and put Mr. Tyrone's mind at ease!" Gideon ordered.

Gideon came and met with Lana at three in the afternoon,

"You want to become our outsourcing supplier?" Lana asked.

Gideon nodded and said, "That's right, Ms. Collins. We have around thirty construction teams and more than a hundred certifications, so you don't have to worry about the quality of our work."

Lana smiled and said, "Go and ask Donald. I will agree if he agrees."

She paused for a moment and added, "You can also ask Old Mr. Campbell."

Gideon was stunned. He almost cursed out in anger, but he managed to control his temper. "Ms. Collins, I don't think personal feelings should come in between something so important. The construction period is three months, and we are the only company in Pollerton that can finish the work in three months!"

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Chapter 181

"Oh, that won't be a problem. My pockets are deep enough, so I wouldn't mind noti having that extra two billion. Okay, it's time for my skincare routine. See you next time!" Immediately afterward, Gideon was kicked out the door.

*B*tch!" Gideon cursed as soon as he was outside. "What did that Donald use to bewitch her?"

Winston scoffed, "Donald must have blind luck to catch Lana's eye. What a good-for nothing pest who lives off women! I think we ought to go see Reina. If things still don't work out, then we will head to Torson International and Stardew International. I really hope that these two companies are not related to Donald."

After meeting up with Reina, she gave them the same answer as Lana did. "I'll agree to this if Donald agrees."

Gideon was fuming, but the consequence was not that bad.

After that, they made a beeline for Torson International.

To their surprise, Torson International's manager instantly agreed to their proposal. That made Gideon regain his confidence.

At the same time, Donald received a call from Reina, but he did not take the news to heart

From his perspective, Gideon and the gang were a bunch of clowns, so he would not waste his energy trampling on them.

After ending the conversation with Reina, his cellphone rang.

As soon as Donald answered it, a crisp voice was heard from the other end of the phone. "Donald, I'm back from studying abroad."

Donald knitted his brows upon hearing the voice of Jennifer's cousin.

Jennifer's aunt was a lecturer at Pollerton University. She was an aggressive woman. Her husband died young. Instead of remarrying, she sold her car and house, and she single-handedly brought up her daughter, Ysabel Zimmerman.

Ysabel grew up well. She was twenty years old that year...

When Donald and Jennifer were still madly in love three years ago, Ysabel had been playing the third wheel, following Donald day in and day out like a shadow.

Then, she had gotten an opportunity to be an exchange student at a top university abroad, majoring in art and design.

Donald queried, "Are you back in Pollerton?".

Ysabel exclaimed, "Yes, yes! I call you the second I landed in Pollerton. So, would you like to pick me up?"

Donald replied, "Your mom told you to stay away from me."

Her mother had always been very attentive.

A few years ago, she had cautioned her daughter to stay away from Donald because, in her eyes, he was not a simple man.

"I'm already twenty years old, so I'm free to be in any relationship!" Ysabel stated happily.

"But Jennifer and I have divorced, so we better not stay in touch." Donald hung up the phone on that note.

Soon enough, the phone rang again. "That's good news to me! We can finally get married."

Donald grimaced. "I'm older than you by eight years."

"And I prefer mature men."

Donald went on, "But I don't like you."

"Destiny is determined by the heavens. How would you know if you don't give it a try?" Donald had a headache as he listened to her nonsense.

"Donald, really, I need to see you." Ysabel sounded serious all of a sudden,

Pondering for a bit, Donald figured he had nothing important on, anyway. Hence, he agreed, "Fine. Where do we meet?"

"Erm... I'll be seeing my classmates at Nocturne Karaoke Bar. Why don't we go together?" Ysabel suggested.:

Donald went silent at that.

Out of the blue, Ysabel went on in a sweet yoice, "Come on, Donald. Pretty please?" Donald could not stand her voice any longer. He answered, "Okay, okay. I'll be there in half an hour."

Nocturne Karaoke Bar was owned by Mark, and it was one of Blade Alliance's equity assets.

Before Noah made a comeback in Pollerton, Mark had worked for the Collins family. Back then, he had withdrawn himself completely from Blade Alliance. Yet, he managed to reign over Blade Alliance again.

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Chapter 182

Meanwhile, there was a commotion in the luxurious private room 888.

A group of youngsters was boozing in the room. Among them, there was a young man, Hector Zahn, who was twenty-two years old. He was tall, rich, and handsome.

All in all, he was the perfect man.

Jiggling his Ferrari car key, he was clad in an Armani suit with an oversized gold watch. He seemed to be bored to the core as he stared blankly at the big screen.

There were six of them in the room, three boys and three girls. Instead of singing, they were gazing at Hector in awe.

"Congratulations to your company, Hector! You're going to be filthy rich," a girl giggled as she said that.

That girl was Cassie Zogby, also in her twenties. She was wearing a mini skirt and a sleeveless shirt. Showing off her smooth pale skin, she looked pretty alluring.

With an indifferent expression, Hector merely shook his head. "It's a family business, and my father's running it. I don't really get involved."

Cassie rolled her eyes at Hector, but she seemed to have a thing for him. "There's no need to be humble. My dad already told me that your family had just won a two billion bid!"

"What? For real?" another guy blurted out exaggeratingly in an envied tone.

"What kind of bidding could be that big? Is it a subway repairing project?"

"Don't you ever forget about your friends, Hector. Let's all get rich together!" Hector's classmates all threw him admiring gapes.

With a two-billion large-scale project, one could simply cut corners and easily earn thirty to forty percent of profit, raking a few hundred million in revenue.

A glint of smirk flashed across Hector's eyes, but he still stayed calm as ever. "It's not

that big of a deal. My father claimed that after the reclamation, there would be a dozen more projects. And that is what they call a big deal."

After a brief pause, Hector changed the topic. "Why isn't Ysabel here yet?" Upon hearing that, Cassie became upset. "Isn't my presence alone enough? You two haven't seen each other for three years, and yet you still have feelings for her?" Hector laughed and replied, "You're not her, Cassie. She's irreplaceable."

Cassie sneered, "But does she even like you?"

Hector responded, "Before she went to West Epea, she had told me that she would give me an answer once she's back. So, today, she'll let me know the answer."

She better gives me a satisfactory answer. If not, then don't blame me for being cruel.

As they spoke, the room's door was pushed open.

A tall, bald man entered the room.

It was Mark. As soon as he set foot in the room, all of them were terrified as they leaped up right away. They were all staring at Mark with a trace of fear on their faces, except for Hector. He sat in his seat, looking unfazed by the ruckus.

It's Mark, the leader of Blade Alliance! Why is he here in our room?

"Thank you for your care, Mr. Zahn. Here, this is for you." Mark handed over a bottle of wine labeled with a bunch of foreign wordings to Hector.

With a stern countenance, Hector took it and uttered, "This bottle of Grand Ennead Manor's limited edition red wine costs two hundred thousand. How generous of you." As he spoke, he looked Mark in the eye.

Mark, in return, smiled faintly and explained, "For Torson International to win a bid from the hands of Lord Campbell, I'm truly amazed. It's my honor to gift you a mere two hundred thousand worth of red wine in exchange for a good impression."

Hector burst into laughter at that. "All right. I'll accept it."

"Okay, then. You guys enjoy yourself. This place is mine, so you can do anything you Wish. If anybody gives you a problem, tell them my name." Mark, too, roared with laughter and left the room.

Torson International had just won a bid, and their stock prices skyrocketed straightaway,

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Those who were absent at the bidding event were presuming that Torson International must have had a close connection with Lord Campbell to win the bid, thus having high expectations of the former.

As Mark shut the room's door on his way out, Hector's phone rang. "Yes, Dad?"

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Chapter 183

"I've reached an agreement with a third-party construction company. You should approach them and socialize with them." A stern voice came from the other end of the line

Hearing that, Hector knitted his brows. "But I'm going to meet Ysabel now. Ask them to come to Nocturne Karaoke Bar, Room 888."

"Okay." The call ended abruptly.

It did not take long for Winston and Derrick to walk into the room.

Derrick was Donald's close cousin, but he joined Gideon and betrayed his own grandfather, Raymond.

"I'm Winston Campbell from Gideon Construction." Winston and Hector exchanged handshakes.

"Derrick Campbell," said Derrick as he removed his earphones.

With a smile, Hector asked, "Why are there only the two of you?"

"Middle-aged men aren't used to these occasions. It's enough for us young people to get to know each other better. I'll pick up the bill tonight," responded Winston. Hector did not refuse.

Moments later, Winston inquired, "Are you waiting for someone, Mr. Zahn?"

"Yes, I'm waiting for a woman who's forty minutes late," answered Hector.

"A woman who can make you wait for forty minutes must not be an ordinary woman." Winston sat down with a grin on his face and scanned around the room. Finally, his gaze fell upon the woman who wore a camisole and hot pants.

Naturally, Cassie felt his gaze, but she was not annoyed by it. Instead, she puffed out her chest.

"You're Cassie Zogby, right?" Winston queried politely.

"Yes. You are?" The woman looked at him, feeling puzzled.

Crossing his fingers, Winston explained, "Strictly speaking, we're in the same trade. Your father, Mr. Justin Zogby, is mainly doing overpass construction, and we've cooperated before."

Immediately, Cassie stood up politely and uttered, "It's a pleasure to meet you."

Derrick, who was sitting beside Winston, could not help but feel envious. As expected of people from prominent families, they can already take it upon themselves at the age of twenty to socialize and entertain guests flawlessly. A commoner like me can never compare with them.

"Let me call Ysabel," suggested another girl.

Instantaneously, Hector glanced at the girl with satisfaction. "Okay, Joyce. Call her now."

Joyce Kramer was excited and swiftly picked up her phone to dial Ysabel's number. "Hello, Ysabel. Hector has been waiting for you for more than forty minutes. Why haven't you arrived yet?" she questioned reproachfully.

Soon, a response came from the other end. "I'm so sorry. I'm waiting for my cousin in-law to pick me up. I'll be there in twenty minutes."

Cousin-in-law?

In an instant, Hector's gaze darkened. He was well aware of Ysabel's family background.

Her father died when she was young, and she was raised by her mother. Hence, the family had simple social relationships.

"Since when does she have a brother-in-law?" asked Hector in a cold voice.

"Hurry up. I'll hang up first," Joyce urged.

After twenty minutes, Ysabel finally pushed open the door of the private room and stepped in with Donald.

She was tall and slender with a height of one point seven five meters, just five centimeters shorter than Donald.

She looked energetic and attractive, exuding a youthful aura.

Her hair was tied up in a ponytail, and she did not put on any makeup. Even so, she looked a lot prettier than Cassie.

As soon as she entered the room, she smiled widely and seemed very happy, revealing her neat rows of pearly teeth. "I'm sorry that I'm late. All of you must have waited for a long time."

Subsequently, she pulled Donald, who was behind her, closer and linked arms with him. "Let me introduce you. This is my cousin-in-law, Donald Campbell."

Hector did not stand up but fixated his eyes on her arm that was holding Donald's.

Cousin-in-law? Why do they look so intimate?

When Winston saw Donald, he was stunned for a moment and asked disdainfully, "Why are you here, Donald?"

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Chapter 184

Upon hearing that, Donald remained unfazed. "Why can't I be here?" Crossing his legs, Hector inquired indifferently, "Do you know each other?" A smile crept onto Winston's face as he shook his head. "Mr. Zahn, you've misunderstood. I guess it's necessary for me to introduce who he is. His ex-wife is Jennifer Wilson, the CEO of Jennard Construction. However, she divorced him a month ago because he was just a security guard. Jennifer is the spokesperson for the main branch of the Wilson family in Pollerton. She has just founded Jennard Decor, so it's reasonable that Donald was driven out of the family. Ms. Zimmerman should be Jennifer's cousin," he explained.

The next moment, a hint of contempt flashed across Hector's eyes. "A security guard?"

What is a security guard doing here?

In response, Derrick nodded. "That's right. He's just a security guard. Back then, when his grandfather was ill, he couldn't even afford to pay the surgical fees of six hundred thousand. Otherwise, Jennifer wouldn't have divorced him."

"If you're a security guard, then know your place. You shouldn't be here," chimed in one of the men in the private room while lighting up his cigarette.

He was also Ysabel's classmate and was close to Hector.

Meanwhile, Cassie remarked sarcastically, "Ysabel, what's wrong with you? He's just a security guard. Why did you bring him here?"

On the contrary, Donald was unconcerned with their mockery since he had long outgrown the stage of showing off.

He would now do whatever he wanted, as long as he was happy with it.

If someone angered him, he would just get rid of them.

He had never been afraid of anyone anyway.

However, Ysabel could not stand it and retorted unhappily, "There's no need to be so rude. I haven't seen my cousin-in-law for three years, What's with that attitude of yours?"

All of a sudden, Hector had a bad feeling about it.

Hasn't seen her cousin-in-law for three years? Why did she emphasize this sentence? She didn't even notify her mother when she returned to Pollerton but asked Donald to pick her up and bring him to this kind of event. It shows that she has a very close relationship with him, not to mention that he's divorced.

A lot of thoughts crossed his mind in a flash. He decided to stop wasting time and went straight to the point. Pointing at the door, he said to Donald, "Get out of here."

Donald shot Hector a glance, and the latter immediately felt as if he had fallen into an icy cellar when he saw the former's apathetic and hollow gaze.

Why is there no emotion in his eyes?

At the same time, Ysabel's expression turned grim. She pulled Donald's arm and was about to go out. "Donald, let's go."

After regaining his composure, Hector laughed self-deprecatingly.

He's just a security guard. What am I afraid of?

Finally, he stood up. "Ysabel, you stay here."

Nevertheless, Ysabel shook her head and responded, "No, I'm going home."

In fact, she was a little disappointed. Initially, she expected her classmates, whom she had not seen in three years, to be friendly when they finally reunited.

However, she realized that she was wrong.

They had all changed in the last three years, becoming avaricious and acting high and mighty.

After letting out a sigh, Winston piped up, "Donald, you're not qualified to be here. I admit that you have better luck with women than I do. However, a person's status is determined by their own strength. Relying on women isn't sufficient. Look around you."

The next moment, he pointed to the surroundings and continued, "This set of couches costs hundreds of thousands, and that fish tank costs about fifty thousand. Even a coffee table is worth around seventy thousand. Meanwhile, you can't even collect six hundred thousand"

Later, Derrick got up and said, "Donald, you'd better leave. We're here to talk about the land reclamation project. Torson International has won the bid with two billion. and we're the third-party contractor. Haven't you realized the difference in status between us?" As he spoke, a look of arrogance showed on his face.

With a huge bid of two billion, they could earn at least one hundred million even if they were only a third party.

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Chapter 185

If they could insource the auxiliary facilities at the later stage of the project, they could easily rake in more than one billion in revenue.

Hector was highly pleased with Winston and Derrick's statements.

Seeing how everyone jeered at Donald, Cassie did not want to be outdone by them. "Please leave."

Since she could not oppress Ysabel, she decided to trample on Donald.

As long as Ysabel was unhappy, she would feel delighted.

"As a security guard, you probably don't understand what this means. Let me explain to you." Cassie looked at Ysabel and Donald arrogantly.

In actuality, she despised Ysabel.

The latter came from a scholarly family. Both her parents were university professors. After her father passed away, her mother raised her up alone.

Ysabel did not let her parents down either and was the campus belle of Pollerton University. Cassie had always been suppressed by Ysabel. Even Hector was smitten with Ysabel.

However, it did not stop Cassie from looking down on Ysabel because her family was wealthier than Ysabel's.

Her father was the director of Pollerton Bridge Engineering Corporation, and her family had been in the bridge construction industry for generations. Even though her father was not a tycoon, her family was rather well off.

"I'll let you know how far apart we are!" Cassie continued, smiling. The lights beamed down on her, enhancing her beauty.

Her face was full of condescension that did not fit her age.

She added, "Last year, Torson Construction, which was owned by Hector's family, made a net profit of three hundred and twenty million. He even won a bid a few days ago. Do you know whose bid he won? You will be shocked when I reveal it. It's Horizon Group's! I don't think I need to say much about this company because its overseer is Lord Campbell! Do you know what winning Lord Campbell's bid means?

It indicates that Torson Construction will have substantial growth in the future, and it's very likely that they might become one of the most prestigious families in Pollerton.

Everyone who rides on Lord Campbell's coattails will flourish and rise to the very top!" Cassie felt at ease after hurling her remarks.

Once she finished speaking, she looked at Ysabel and Donald's reactions, hoping to see a little trepidation and fear on their faces.

However, she was disappointed.

Ysabel pursed her lips in disdain, while Donald was expressionless.

There was a trace of irony in the depths of his eyes.

I'm sorry, but the Lord Campbell you mention is standing in front of you right now. However, you aren't qualified to know that.

Moments later, Ysabel piped up, "So what? Does it have anything to do with me? Donald, let's go."

Hector's expression darkened as he lowered his head. Then, he picked up the bottle of expensive red wine that Mark gave him and uttered casually, "What's the hurry? Come and try this bottle of red wine before you leave.".

Subsequently, he opened the wine and poured it into a glass before handing it to Ysabel. "Give me your answer after finishing it."

In an instant, complicated feelings swirled in her eyes. After hesitating for a while, she took the red wine, mustered up her courage, and gulped it down.

Consequently, she choked and coughed several times.

The next moment, she pressed her lips to Donald's shoulder and rubbed them on his shirt casually. "Hector, my answer is still the same. I think we're incompatible. We can be friends but not lovers."

Having said that, she pulled Donald toward the door.

In the meantime, Hector was shaking the wine bottle in his hand. No one could see his expression because he had bowed his head.

However, Donald noticed the madness in his eyes.

"Stop right there." Finally, Hector raised his head and shot Ysabel a cold glare.

"It's been three years. I've waited for three years. I even waited for more than an hour just now, and you gave me such an answer: Ysabel, I'm not satisfied with your response, so I'll give you another chance to say it again!"

He finally showed his fangs.

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Hector was no longer polite and gracious.

He was, after all, a twenty-two-year-old young man, rash and impetuous.

Ysabel was also hot-tempered. "I already said that I don't like you. I won't fall in love with you even after a hundred years, let alone three years."

Hector was on the verge of losing his mind when he smiled and turned to Winston. "Mr. Campbell, I have some personal matters to deal with today. Let's meet again tomorrow." Hearing that, Winston and the rest nodded and stood up. "Sure. Then I shall not take up any more of your time."

With that, he approached Donald and stared at him. "If you can read the atmosphere, then you should leave with me now. Don't anger Mr. Zahn." ity based

However, Hector stretched out his hand to stop him. "No, he can't leave. Please call Mark for me."

Shortly afterward, Winston, Derrick, and a few other classmates left. Cassie snorted coldly and glanced at Donald gloatingly before being dragged away by her classmates. On the surface, Hector's family was virtuous and glorious, but they had actually done a lot of unlawful deeds in the shadows.

It was the unspoken rule of the industry, and all of them knew it.

In a short while, only Donald, Ysabel, and Hector remained in the private room. Pointing at Donald, Hector questioned Ysabel, "Answer me. Do you like him?"

Immediately, her cheeks turned rosy in shyness. Tugging at the corner of her shirt, she protested weakly, "No. He's my cousin-in-law.".

Even Donald was taken aback and gazed at her with furrowed brows.

Why is she acting this way?

Hector's expression turned gloomy in a flash, and he made no attempt to hide his fury. "So, you're aware that he's your cousin-in-law. You b*tch!"

Later, he went into a state of paranoia as he guffawed and continued, "But it doesn't matter. Do you know how much the red wine you just drank is worth? It's produced by Grand Ennead Manor and is worth two hundred thousand. If you wish to leave, you would need to pay the money for the wine first."

Ysabel instantly widened her eyes in disbelief. "What? You're the one who opened the wine!"

"But I opened it for you, and you're the only one who drank it," replied Hector flatly. The woman's body was trembling with rage as she pointed at Hector. "You're so shameless!"

*Either pay me two hundred thousand or sleep with me here." Hector loosened his tie to make himself feel better. "I'm sure your mother will beat you to death if she finds out that you spent two hundred thousand on a bottle of wine. It's a year's worth of her salary."

"You're just being unreasonable! Let's go!" At that, she held Donald's hand and opened the door.

The next moment, she felt as if she was engulfed in darkness.

A tall, bald man blocked the door and was looking at her and Donald with a gloomy expression.

There was a lotus tattoo on his bare head, which looked hideous.

It was Mark from Blade Alliance.

"What a coincidence, Donald." Once Mark saw Donald, the smile on his face grew wider.

In response, Donald chuckled softly. "It's really a coincidence. Is this your territory?" The bald man in front of him nodded. "That's right. Both Paragon Building and Nocturne Karaoke Bar are my territories. Aren't you surprised?"

At that moment, Hector queried, "Mr. White, do you know each other?"

"Of course." Mark beamed happily. "However, you don't have to worry because I have always wanted to kill him, but unfortunately, I never had the chance. Today, he's in my territory. Do you think he can get away alive?"

The moment Hector heard that, he burst out laughing. "Now, that's interesting." Ysabel was so terrified that the color drained from her face. Hugging Donald's arms, she asked worriedly, "What should we do?")

Although Mark was nothing to the upper class, in the eyes of the youngsters, he was a notorious person well-known among the troublemakers in the school. Even Ysabel had heard of his name.