

UNTOUCHABLE

Chapter 401: Sweet Nothings

“Tch. You’re both full of sweet nothings now, but will you still talk to me so calmly after I tell you the truth? Do you really think that I’d believe you? Don’t think that you’ll be able to fool me. I’ve lived much longer than you. Do you think I won’t see through your lies? You’ve promised to give me a benefit and then told me that you wouldn’t do anything to me so that I’d be tricked into telling you the truth. Once that happens, I’ll have no choice but to listen to whatever you guys say, even if you want to punish me, right? I wonder what’s going on in your mind. Do you really think I’m a fool? I’m not a fool. I’m a genius!”

Yvette Larson couldn’t help but lament inwardly that she really had an unreasonable mother.

Linda James was probably the only one who could describe herself like that, yet it was exactly because of this that Yvette Larson wanted to know just what her mother had said to Melanie Taylor.

‘Considering how crucial the situation is, she must’ve told Melanie Taylor a huge secret. If we don’t get the truth out of her, Finn will definitely fail at whatever he is going to do.’

“Mom, do you not trust me? Alright then, tell me what you want me to do to gain your trust?”

“You better forget about it. I’ll never trust you no matter what you say.”

“Mom, I’m your daughter. Do you not even believe your own daughter?”

“That’s true, but you’re already siding with an outsider. Your heart is already with Finn, so you’re no longer useful to me.”

“Forget it. Since we can’t get anything out of her, we have no other choice. We have only one way of preventing her from telling Melanie Taylor even more—locking her up.”

“What? Finn Taylor, repeat yourself! Did you say that you want to lock me up?”

“I’m sorry, but we don’t have any other choice. You also know that Melanie Taylor is a tough one to beat. As my mother-in-law, you know way too many secrets about me. If I don’t handle this well, you might expose all of my secrets to them. Then, it’ll be too easy for them to defeat me. I don’t have a choice. I want to live, and I’m sure you want to live as well. Give me some respect, and I’ll thank you for that. We might not be mother and son, but I’m still your son-in-law after all. Do me one last favor by staying here for another three to five years. I’ll definitely let you out once I settle this matter.”

“Oh right, I can swear on my life that I will never kill you. I’m just locking you up here; you won’t be in any danger. You should know that I like your daughter too. If I harm her mother, I wouldn’t be able to answer to her anyway, so you can rest assured that I won’t do anything to you.”

Finn Taylor went on a long monologue, yet it sent chills down Linda James's spine. "Finn Taylor, don't test my limits. No matter what, I'm still your mom, right? You admitted to it. Is that how you treat your mom—locking me up? You can't do this!"

'I definitely will not let myself be locked up. I still have my whole life ahead of me—living in Number One Pacific Heights and spending my wads of cash! I have too much to lose if I get locked up for years.'

"Mom, I don't really want to lock you up either, but I want to live. I have no other choice, but you do. If you don't want to be locked up here, you can just tell me the truth. Didn't you say that you've never hurt me? Didn't you say that you treat me well? But you told Melanie Taylor my secret. Why don't you tell me what exactly you told her?"

These words caused Linda James to falter slightly. She was weighing the pros and cons of revealing the truth. *'What will happen to me once I tell them about it? What will Finn Taylor do to me?'*

Eventually, she decided to spill the beans. *'They can do whatever they want to me, but I'm sure he won't kill me since Yvette is here. Anything is better than death.'*

"Actually, I didn't say much. That day, I heard you say that you were going to buy the Nile Street neighborhood and resell it to Melanie Taylor from your call to Yvette. At that time, I already knew that you weren't any match for the Taylor family from South-East Asia. If I managed to tell Melanie Taylor about your plan, I thought that our family wouldn't be implicated. Hence, I went to look for Melanie Taylor, but she refused to meet me. Eventually, I came up with a plan to get her attention."

"But before I could even say anything, she slapped me in the face and insulted me! She said I wasn't even worthy of stepping into her office, and she even said that I couldn't compare to her receptionist! In the end, I was humiliated and chased out of the building. I lost all dignity! I sold my soul, wanting to tell her my greatest secret and beg her to spare our lives, yet she didn't even give me that chance. She trampled on me as though I was nothing but a puny ant!"

"This was why I didn't want to tell you about it. It wasn't because I was afraid of being punished but because I feel embarrassed every time I think about it. I feel so worthless. Alright, I've told you everything. You can do whatever you want to me—even kill me. It doesn't matter to me anymore.."

Chapter 402: Remarrying

Linda James thought that her son-in-law would definitely deal with her after she told him the truth. After all, she had exposed his greatest secret to Melanie Taylor. *'Melanie Taylor and Finn are basically mortal enemies. It's obvious that Finn will punish me for telling the former about his weakness. The two are basically mortal enemies, and doing that meant that I've sided with his enemy. It would only be wise to get rid of me while he still has the chance.'*

To be honest, Finn Taylor desperately wanted to do so. However, kinship still mattered to him.

Finn Taylor liked Yvette Larson, and Linda James was the latter's mother. This meant that the former couldn't possibly treat the older woman simply as his enemy.

"Finn, I'll support you no matter how you decide to deal with my mom." Yvette Larson had never expected her own mother to go to such extents, and her heart was in a twist. *'If this was anyone else, my husband would've already killed that person. However, it's hard for him to make a decision because of me. I believe Finn will make a wise decision. I should support him in whatever he chooses to do.'*

"Keep Mom at home for now. I'll need some time to think about what to do with her." Finn Taylor didn't make a decision on the spot. Besides, onlookers were always more likely to see a clearer picture of the situation.

In other words, someone else might've taken action decisively. Unfortunately, this was his mother-in-law he was dealing with.

The latter was naturally displeased to hear that she was being locked up at home. However, it was good enough that her life wasn't in danger, and she couldn't possibly test the man's limits.

Finn Taylor then brought his wife downstairs. "I've thought about it. South-East Asia's Taylor family is really strong, and Melanie Taylor came prepared. Not only did she bring her men with her but also more than enough funds. Did you really think that I'd be able to defeat Melanie Taylor with just the Nile Street project? How ridiculous—that's impossible! I can't defeat her in such a short time. I gave it some thought during our time apart, and I realized that I really missed you. I was emotionally worn out, and I had nobody by my side. I realized just how important you are to me. Apart from Grandpa, you're the only one who has ever treated me well. I want to get remarried—what do you think of that?"

'Grandpa? This is Finn's first time talking about his family. Although I've met some of them, Finn has never mentioned them in our conversations. They're no different from strangers to him, but his grandpa seems different. Besides, Finn also said that his grandpa was the only one who treated him well.' Yvette Larson could feel just how important she was to Finn Taylor. "Finn, I've been miserable during this period of time too. I missed you so dearly, and I felt as though I was a walking zombie. I lost all spirit and will to live, but I won't agree to get remarried."

Finn Taylor had never expected his ex-wife to refuse his offer. *'Has Yvette had a change of heart? Are television dramas really right about how fake divorces eventually turn into real ones? That's brutal! Is that what's happening to me?'*

Even Finn Taylor wasn't absolutely sure; he just felt that his wife wasn't someone like that.

They had been through so much over the past three years. If she didn't want to be with him, she could've chosen to divorce him a long time ago. After all, her grandpa's wishes no longer mattered since he was long dead.

Even Yvette Larson's living relatives couldn't restrain her, much less a deceased one.

"You don't want to get remarried?"

“What are you thinking? All we did was sign divorce papers, but we never got them finalized. We have a marriage certificate but not a divorce certificate, so we never really got divorced.”

Now that Yvette Larson had said so, Finn Taylor burst into a foolish smile. Because he hadn't truly intended to get divorced from his wife, he hadn't gone to process the papers. *'How could I have forgotten about that?'*

“Hahaha, I nearly forgot about that. We've never really been divorced, so we don't have to get remarried. Come on; let's treat ourselves to a feast today.” Finn Taylor then brought his wife to a top-tier restaurant.

There, the couple bumped into two young women—his ex-neighbors!

The latter two were here for a meal too, but it was their ex-colleague who had brought them here. Said person wasn't a big shot and was merely a manager with five to six men under his leadership, but he still had to put on an act and bring them to a fancy restaurant.

Yet, they had never expected to meet Finn Taylor there.

“Hey, why are you here, Mr. Taylor? Aren't you the chairman? Why are you here too? Why are you two holding hands? What's going on?” Michelle Yeller couldn't help but feel as though she had exposed a huge secret, and shock was plastered all over her face.

However, Josie Meyer was fuming as though Finn Taylor owed her money. Yet, she couldn't afford to say a thing because he was holding the hand of her chairman.

“Since you've already seen it, I won't hide it from you. Do you remember that you've joined Larson Corporation? I was the one who set up the new company that you moved to. I'm that mysterious chairman.”

“Oh, you're the chairman? I thought Ms. Larson was the chairman.”

“Can't you tell? We're holding hands because we're married.”

“Married? Didn't you just get divorced? Oh right, you said that your wife caught you with her best friend. No, do you mean that the wife you were talking about was Ms.. Larson?”

Chapter 403: Chairman

“What's going on? You two are married? How's that possible?”

Her friend's expression turned sour too. *'If he's telling the truth, that means that he's always been our chairman. I remember that we were rather interested in finding out about our chairman some time back. I thought that I would definitely fall for someone like that and that perhaps he would even fall for me.'*

How could the chairman turn out to be someone I look down on the most?! I don't even have anything to say about how ridiculous this is!

"That's right. We're married. Didn't you know?" said Yvette Larson. 'How could they not know about this? The whole of San Francisco knows that we're married. I seem to be quite infamous, much less Finn. Everyone seems to recognize his name around here. Even a toddler or an octogenarian knows about Finn being the Larson family's matrilocal son-in-law, so why would they not know about this? Besides, they're my employees! You should know the people around me well enough! Do you really not know who my husband is? That's impossible!'

However, that was indeed the truth since the two young ladies had come from Chicago.

It was only because they had heard of a famous company—the Larson Corporation—being on the verge of bankruptcy that they had moved over, hoping to earn some credit by doing well in a failing company. That way, their futures would be set. This was the reason they had moved to San Francisco.

Needless to say, they knew nothing about what the company even did, who the chairman was, or who that man's wife was. In fact, they even thought that Yvette Larson was the company's chairman and that she had the final say in the company. They had heard rumors of a mysterious chairman's existence, but they had never seen that man throughout the months they worked there.

Perhaps those rumors had been nothing more than baseless rumors. The two new employees naturally didn't dare to ask others about it for fear of being punished for spreading gossip.

It was because of this that they had misunderstood the situation. Yet, they couldn't help but be shocked now that they had cleared the air.

"What, are they your friends?" The man who had brought Josie Meyer here had been a manager at his previous job. Although he didn't really understand the conversation between the group, he didn't like that the women he had brought along were chatting with a stranger.

"That's right. We're friends and neighbors, and he treats us very well." Michelle Yeller was an innocent young lady and said whatever came to mind. She didn't think that there was a need to hide the fact that her neighbor treated her well.

Yet, the man's face immediately darkened. It was obvious that he had invited the two women out with ulterior motives.

Everything depended on self-interests and benefits in the real world. There was no way he would treat them to a meal just out of kindness. He was only doing so because he felt that he had something to gain from it.

Yet, one of the women was praising someone else in front of him!

Now, the sight of Finn Taylor annoyed the manager.

Unlike the man, Yvette Larson was slightly curious about how her husband had gotten to know her employees.

Finn Taylor didn't hide anything and quickly explained, "Didn't I move out? I bought a small apartment, and they happened to be my neighbors. I heard that they were looking for jobs—at Larson Corporation, no less. I even thought that you sent them to keep an eye on me, but they were really here for an interview. Hence, I encouraged them to go for it. Wasn't one of them assigned to your office? I was the one who assigned her there. I did that so that I could get some news about you from them, but there's no need for that now. You can assign them to whatever jobs you deem fit now."

Finn Taylor's words stunned Michelle Yeller. *'I wasn't assigned to my position because of my own merits but because Finn Taylor wanted to understand what's going on in the company since he had gotten divorced from Yvette Larson.'*

"Do you mean that you've been taking advantage of me, Mr. Taylor? I don't think that's very nice of you."

"I'm sorry—I sincerely apologize. I had no other choice. You two just so happened to be interviewing at that company."

"So you mean that you were the one who assigned me to such a lowly job with such low pay?" Josie Meyer was incensed and spat out her dissatisfaction.

"I think you're quite suited for the job. It's true that I deliberately assigned her to Yvette's office, but as for you... I always see you lurking around men, and the manager of the public relations department isn't bad. I think you'll do a good job if the company runs into any trouble, don't you think so? I didn't put you on the spot. Besides, I didn't shortchange you in terms of your pay. That's what a secretary in your department should earn. Well, a secretary to the chairman is different. She can't possibly be earning as little as you, right?" Finn Taylor seemed to be scheming his way through, but they had to admit that he made sense.

Josie Meyer was enraged, yet there was nothing she could do..

Chapter 404: Brutal Society

"Finn Taylor, you're such a b*stard! How could you get back at me for your own personal matters at work? You assigned me to such a terrible place and even paid me less! Do you really think that badly of me? Now, I finally understand why you got divorced. You didn't get divorced because you were cheating on your wife but because there's something inherently wrong with your character. You look like a gentleman, but you're even more petty than a woman!" Josie Meyer couldn't help but voice out her displeasure.

"Do you really think I'm petty? If I were, you wouldn't even be working at the company now. You would've been fired a long time ago. Do you believe that you won't be able to find a job in San Francisco

if I say something about you? They all say that my company is on the verge of collapsing and that another corporation has set their eyes on it, but haven't you heard the saying that a starving camel is still bigger than a horse? Even if my company might go bankrupt, it will be impossible for others to bring it down in the short term."

"On the contrary, I can very easily bring them down, and my influence doesn't just extend to San Francisco. I can easily cause you to be out of a job in New York or Chicago. You can go ahead and try your luck if you want to. You say that I'm petty, and you're absolutely right. My conscience is clear because I always put people where they deserve to be. Since you're always around men and are such a social butterfly, you must be good with people. It was only right to send you to the public relations department then. As for her, she's meek and obedient. Hence, I would feel more assured with her by Yvette's side."

Josie Meyer didn't believe anything Finn Taylor said. She felt that the latter was simply making excuses for himself. *'Putting me where I belong? Does he think that I can do nothing else just because I'm sociable? I've contributed to the company too, and I've had some achievements. I wanted to further my career here, not just help the company do public relations. This is such an insult!'*

"What? A social butterfly? Why exactly did you send my friend to that department?" Josie Meyer's friend finally spoke up. He was a manager too and had a fiery temper.

Although he held a managerial title, he had only five to six men under his leadership. If he worked in Finn Taylor's company, he would probably be a mere team leader. However, some people always thought highly of themselves. This man thought that he was an important person who should be respected.

How was he to know that he wouldn't even qualify for the same position in Finn Taylor's company?

"Josie Meyer, is he your man? Does he hold a high position? Why does he speak so haughtily?"

"Finn Taylor, you better watch your words. What do you mean by that? What kind of woman do you think I am?"

"Do I really have to tell you? How do you think I view you? That's exactly how it is then. I won't say a single thing." Although Finn Taylor didn't say anything, his behavior made it clear.

This irked Josie Meyer even more. She couldn't help but feel that Finn Taylor was trampling all over her dignity now. "Finn Taylor, let's not beat around the bush—I quit. I can't work in your company. You'll face retribution for what you've done. I've heard about Melanie Taylor being at odds with you. It's just as well that she's dealing with you. I'll go work for her. I believe that a day will come when I will trample all over you and humiliate you! I'll make you realize what a huge mistake you've made today once your company goes bankrupt!"

Without a moment's hesitation, Josie Meyer swung around and stomped off, the manager following closely behind her.

However, Michelle Yeller stayed rooted to the spot.

“Aren’t you leaving?” Finn Taylor was curious why the young lady would stay. After all, the two were best friends who had grown up together. Why would she turn against her friend for the sake of a stranger?

“Why did you have to say that to her? You know that she doesn’t have ill intentions. She’s just bad with words.”

“It hasn’t been long since you graduated, right? I guess you haven’t even been working for three years. Reality is brutal. I’m telling you that being bad with words is probably the worst mistake you can make. Only your family will pamper you and not fight with you no matter how rude you are. However, you better keep that fiery temper in check outside because nobody wants to be lectured. While we were still neighbors, she lashed out at me every time we met and even insulted me. You say that she doesn’t harbor ill intentions. Even if that’s true, her words were no different from insults. I don’t think it’s wrong for me to get back at her for what she’s done.”

“Don’t try to convince me to be kind. You’ll never be able to imagine what I’ve gone through. Have you met any bad guys? The worst ones you’ve seen are probably people who can’t pay for their bus fares, those who spit on the streets, or those who steal other people’s money. Do you know what I’ve been through? Have you witnessed anyone being killed? Have you ever been subdued and had your life threatened? Have you ever experienced how it feels like to have the whole world look upon you as a freak? No, your life has been so smooth-sailing. I’m telling you this as a friend: Society is brutal. You better grow up and not have such high expectations of others..”

Chapter 405: Friend

Society was indeed brutal.

Josie Meyer thought that she was being scheming by joining a company that was on the verge of bankruptcy. She even thought that the boss of the company would think of her as their benefactor and that her future would be unbridled.

That was why she had done all that.

Because of everything she had done, Finn Taylor could tell that it hadn’t even been three years since the young lady had graduated.

After all, if a company was really going through such a major crisis that they were on the verge of shutting down, the higher management would definitely choose to fire the lowest-level employees first.

Why? Because it was humiliating.

They couldn’t afford to chase the more experienced employees away, so it was only natural for the newest employees to be chosen instead.

It was obvious that Finn Taylor saw Michelle Yeller as his friend from how he saved her from a kidnapping, and he hoped that the latter would take his advice.

"I'll be honest with you. If my company really goes under, you'll have no choice but to resign. If I manage to toil through and defeat Melanie Taylor, I'll fire you."

That surprised Michelle Yeller. "Why? Didn't you say that we're friends? If we really manage to get past this crisis, you should give me some credit for helping you. Why would you fire me?"

"It's simple, so don't make such a big fuss over it. It's obviously to cover up the truth so that nobody will talk about it. After I fire you, I'll simply use the excuse that you exposed my secret. It won't matter whether you actually did it since I'm your boss. What you say will never mean anything."

"Finn Taylor, you're so vicious! I never knew that you were a person like this. I always thought of you as my friend; I thought you were a good man. Who would've thought you'd be someone like this?" Michelle Yeller felt a stone weighing down on her heart. *'I was wrong this time. I've always thought that he was a good man ever since I first met him. He was always ready to offer his help to others, but I never expected him to be so vicious when it concerned his company. I thought I was on good terms with him, but he so heartlessly said that he'd fire me! He even left without sparing me a glance!'*

She now wondered if she would follow in her friend's footsteps and show up for work at Melanie Taylor's company the next day. She would have to spend some time mulling over the matter.

"Do you know them well?" Yvette Larson asked her husband after they left.

"Are you jealous? But that's normal. I'm sure no woman would want their husbands to have so many other women by their sides."

"I'm not jealous. I just think that those two girls are quite childish, just like you said. They'll resign on their own accord before long. You're right; I've seen their resumes. It's only been slightly more than a year since they graduated. Someone already told me about their intentions for joining the company when they first joined us. But I don't think there was a need to tell them the truth; they wouldn't understand it anyway. They won't be satisfied with whatever they hear and will only grow to hate you. It seems like you were quite close to that girl."

"Yes, that's why I was so direct. She's still young, and she should learn just how cruel this society is. I'm doing it for her good. Sometimes, it's in someone's best interest to hurt them instead of protecting them."

Finn Taylor made absolute sense. Although it seemed as though he was hurting the young girl on the surface, the truth was that he was protecting her.

Now, it was up to Michelle Yeller whether she took his advice.

"Let's talk about someone else."

"Who's that?"

"Willow Stone."

"Do you know her family background?"

"No, but I heard that her parents are farmers. However, I'm sure she was lying to me. I've tried to look into it, but I wasn't able to find out anything about her parents."

"That's fake. They're from a prominent family in Europe. They're probably among the top 20 families, and their family is even on good terms with the royal family there."

'Part of the top 20 families in the world? That's far beyond my imagination! I never expected her to be so impressive. Still, we had no choice but to part ways. We're more like enemies now.'

"Why did you suddenly bring her up? Do you want to tell me something?"

"Yes, you're right. I collaborated with her some time ago since we have some common enemies like Quince Larson and Melanie Taylor."

"Common enemies? I don't think Willow Stone has had any interactions with Quince Larson. It's much more likely that they think of you as their common enemy. I guess it's because she likes you." Yvette Larson didn't beat around the bush. It was an open secret how her ex-best friend liked her husband. However, nobody dared to say anything about it.

"You don't have to care about that. I'm sure you know about how we pretended to be having an affair. What I want to tell you is about Melanie Taylor."

Willow Stone was the one who approached me, saying that she wanted to work together with me to defeat Melanie Taylor. It's not because she has anything against the Taylor family but the power behind them—a family in Europe. Because of that European family, she wants to help me deal with South-East Asia's Taylor family so that I'll help her defeat said enemy in the future.."

Chapter 406

"What, did you think that I'd get upset? Did you really think that I'd be angry about you working with Willow?" Yvette Larson chuckled. "Don't overthink it; I'm not as petty as you. That young girl was your friend, but you took advantage of her. You assigned her to such a lowly position and even gave her such a low salary!"

Finn Taylor wanted to laugh. He couldn't tell if his wife was putting him down or whether she was angry at him. If she wasn't angry, that would be even stranger.

'If your husband and best friend met secretly—even if it was only for work—shouldn't you get angry as a woman? Wouldn't you get jealous? I'm sure you're lying if you deny it. It's natural to get jealous. Everyone experiences joy, sadness, and anger.'

But Yvette Larson knew her husband well and knew that he had his own limits. She was certain that he would never cross the line with her ex-best friend.

"Actually, this isn't what I want to talk to you about. Have you thought about it? Willow Stone only wants to work with me to defeat that family in Europe, not the Taylor family of South-East Asia. However, I don't even know how powerful that European family is. From what I can tell, South-East Asia's Taylor family doesn't even mean much to Willow Stone. She can probably easily destroy them as long as she wants to. It's just that she doesn't want to do that just yet."

"When I talked to her that day, she said that the Taylor family was just an underling of that European family. If she really wanted to deal with them, they would be no match for her. Yet, Melanie Taylor is such a strong opponent for me. If I take the wrong step, I might very well die in her hands. However, someone who has my life in their hands means nothing to Willow Stone! That can only go to show how influential that European family is! I'm starting to regret my decision to work with her, but I can't possibly go back on my word. I'm worried about you."

His wife was confused. "Me?"

"Yes, I'm worried about you. I never should've agreed to work with her. It's alright if something happens to me, but you've now been implicated as well. What if that family tries to kill us? The Taylor family from South-East Asia is putting enough things on my plate, and I now have more to deal with. Sigh, I can only blame my incompetence. I met my master a few days ago, and he reminded me how he had tried to train me when I was younger. However, I slacked off and always thought that I could put off my training till the next day. That was how I lost so much precious time."

"Master told me that finances aren't the only thing I'm lacking at the moment. I'm lacking in my martial arts skills too. Who will I be able to beat up, much less kill? Those people may be influential, but don't you think that they'll be afraid of you if you're able to beat them down with a single punch? If I could do that, the Taylor family of South-East Asia or even that European family will mean nothing to me."

"Finn, remember that we're married. We'll stay together for better or for worse, do you understand? I'll repeat myself if you don't. Don't try to bear the burden alone. I've never regretted marrying you, and I'll support whatever decision you make. I don't object to you working with Willow. Who cares about South-East Asia's Taylor family or that family in Europe? You're the strongest in my eyes. I believe that you'll be able to defeat them! Didn't your master say that you'd be able to protect yourself as long as you're skilled enough? Stop wasting time here then. Let's get down to training."

"Haha! There's no hurry for that. Let's go have something to eat first." Finn Taylor hadn't expected his wife to be in more of a hurry than himself. He had brought her here for a meal, yet she wanted him to start training before they even had said meal!

"Have our meal? Do you think this is a joke? Since your master already said so, I'll have to supervise you on his behalf."

"No, no. Master is right, but I have something to say too. Humans need to eat to survive. I haven't eaten yet, so how am I supposed to have any strength to train? Come on; a meal won't take us long."

"I'll trust you one last time. Let's go for a workout after this then."

Finn Taylor then brought his wife into a restaurant. He had been here once and had enjoyed his meal. The man then ordered several dishes before turning to his wife and asking what she wanted.

"Hey, I didn't realize that you like cilantro."

'I thought you didn't like eating cilantro. I remember that you even scolded me for buying it in the past because I wanted to have some. Don't they say that there are only two kinds of people in this world—those who like cilantro and those who don't? It's obvious that we're split right down into those different camps.'

"But I've changed for your sake, and I eat it now. What, do you feel moved by my love?"

"Of course. I'm very moved that you love me so deeply that you were willing to change your old habits. I'm so lucky!"

"Stop it with your glib tongue and eat your vegetables!" However, Yvette Larson understood that her husband was the one who had truly made the most sacrifices in their relationship. While they had gone through the past three years together, Finn Taylor had always been the subject of ridicule, not her.

Chapter 407

The three years had been an arduous journey for the couple. Firstly, Linda James had always tested their relationship as though she couldn't wait to see them get divorced. In fact, it didn't just happen while he was at his lowest. Even after Finn Taylor's identity was exposed and everyone learned that he was the young master of the Taylor family, Linda James remained indifferent to that fact.

Everything had to go her way; otherwise, she would find all ways to get back at him.

Besides, she was also a slacker who wished to enjoy the benefits of hard work without doing anything. This was exactly why she had married her husband in the first place. The Larson family had been quite a prominent family in the past, and Francis Larson was the eldest of the family. Logically speaking, he was the first in line to the family's inheritance and would even become the family head.

Yet, how was she to know that her husband was such a good-for-nothing that he never tried to fight for any of the family's assets? Even when his younger brothers took him for a ride, he never once complained about it, saying that it was only right to give in to them since they were family.

But Francis Larson never seemed to realize that people changed over time and that his younger brothers were no longer the same young boys they were in the past. This was especially so after their father passed on—they were nothing but relatives in name.

Francis James had been tricked over and over again by his brothers, but he had gotten used to it and could only swallow his displeasure. After all, he had been raised to give in to his brothers.

However, his wife couldn't stand living a life like that, and that was why she didn't treat her husband well. If not for the fact that they had a daughter, the couple might very well have gotten divorced a long time ago.

Yet, their daughter had gotten married to Finn Taylor—who had a similar personality to Francis Larson! All he knew to do was remain silent and take whatever beatings or scoldings he received.

Linda James probably thought that she was blind for having allowed someone like this into the family.

People always said that a person had four chances to turn their lives around.

The first was the lottery of birth—one that nobody had a say over.

The second was at college admissions—everything depended on how hard one worked. Linda James wasn't a genius, nor did she work hard enough. Hence, this didn't change her life either.

The third would be getting married to a rich man, which would set one up for life.

As for the fourth? That would be their children's marriage—whether the child was a son or daughter.

Of course, it would be better if one's child was a daughter. Then, her family would be able to leech off her and get to live blissful lives too.

But it wouldn't matter even if that child was a son. In Linda James's eyes, Finn Taylor had also led a blissful life after marrying into their family.

It was just that she hadn't expected Finn Taylor to be hiding so much from her.

Linda James had already used three of her four chances, and all her hopes were now pinned on the last one. Yet, Yvette Larson had gotten married to a good-for-nothing. As such, she had spent the past three years trying to tear the couple apart, going so far as to prevent her daughter from getting close to her own husband.

Yet, as fate would have it, the couple's relationship only improved. They even fell deeply in love with each other.

Just as Linda James lost all hope, she suddenly discovered that her son-in-law wasn't just an ordinary man but a filthy rich one. It seemed like her daughter had gotten married to a wealthy man!

Just as she was about to rejoice over that, Finn Taylor got into deep trouble with his family. Not only was he about to go bankrupt, but even his life was in danger. If her son-in-law could be threatened even with all the money he had, it was obvious how much more the Larson family stood to lose.

She couldn't just stand still and watch that happen. She had to make her daughter get a divorce, and that was exactly what she did.

Even though her daughter had done as she had wished, Linda James had only grown even more paranoid and had even tried to suck up to Melanie Taylor. She had thought that Melanie Taylor would accept her if she exposed Finn Taylor's secret. Perhaps Melanie Taylor would even reward her!

Yet, reality was a slap in the face. She couldn't even match up to a dog in front of the wealthy.

While Finn Taylor was polite to her, it didn't mean that everyone would do the same.

People could only be friends when their self-interests were met. If one of them was rich while the other was poor, it would be impossible for them to be friends.

Their paths would never cross, and even if they were to meet, they would be nothing more than strangers.

As Linda James was woken up to reality, her son-in-law returned and told her that he was getting remarried to her daughter!

Linda James naturally thought the situation incredulous. *'How could things have turned out this way? I tried all means to get the couple divorced, yet they got back together after everything that had happened! I'm no different from a clown!'*

"Are you done eating? Let's go for your training then."

"Let's go. I'll do just as my wife says."

"Oh right, can I be trained in martial arts too? At least I'll be able to defend myself in the future and won't always have to rely on you to save me. That will save both of us some worry."

"Sure, but not the kind that I do. I'll find a chance to get my master to teach you something more suitable for you."

"Why is this not suitable for me? Are you looking down on me?"

"Well, I'm not looking down on you, but it's really not for you. Have you heard of having a tree placed on you as part of your training? Do you think it'll be alright for you?"

Chapter 408

Yvette Larson had intended on following her husband for his training, but it no longer seemed feasible. His training sounded alright for a man, but she knew that she wasn't cut out for something like this.

Finn Taylor arrived in the woods in San Francisco's suburbs with his wife.

Looking around her, Yvette Larson blushed.

"Don't overthink it. I'm here for my training."

Yvette Larson knew that her blushing face had exposed her, but that didn't matter. They were a married couple. Even if they didn't do that now, they were bound to do so eventually.

"Oh, you guys are here too." As the couple walked further into the woods, they spotted several familiar faces—Hilary Stone and Quinn Larson.

Finn Taylor didn't hate the mother-son duo as much as Quince Larson, but they didn't share a close relationship either. They were simply working together for their own self-interests.

"Finn Taylor, I heard that you got a divorce from Yvette. Is that true? Doesn't everyone in the city know that you two are on good terms with each other? Why would you suddenly get divorced?" Hilary Stone suddenly asked.

"I'm not telling you anything." Master Peregrine had no intention of continuing the conversation, and he picked up his wife's hand and walked further into the woods.

"Don't leave; wait for us. We're family, so why are you so afraid of us that we can't go together? We're not going to eat you up."

That was true, but Hilary Stone was brutal.

Finn Taylor wanted nothing to do with her. *'It's your fault that the Larson family is in this state now, Hilary Stone. You married the fourth son of the family but had affairs with the second son and third son. You even ganged up with their families to go against our family! That's why the family is in such a mess!'*

Besides, Master Peregrine still had an unanswered question: How her husband died. It seemed that the family had a violent objection to the mention of his name, as though it was taboo.

More importantly, he had never seen a single member of the Larson family commemorate his death anniversary.

So why was his death such a taboo? There was definitely something fishy about it.

The worst-case scenario—which was also Finn Taylor's first thought—was that the second son and third son of the Larson family had ganged up with Hilary Stone to kill their younger brother because the latter had found out about their affairs.

If this was to be exposed, the Larson family would be done for since they would be implicated in a murder.

"I don't think we know each other very well. We might be relatives, but we're not that close. There's no need to bring you two along, right?" Finn Taylor straightforwardly rejected Hilary Stone. It was not only troublesome but also dangerous to bring them along.

Although Yvette Larson seemed like a strong and independent woman, she was too kind and forgiving. On the other hand, Hilary Stone seemed to be a meek and gentle woman, but everyone who knew her understood that she was like a deadly viper. Anyone she targeted would have no chance of surviving.

"Listen to what you're saying. We're still relatives. It's normal for families to get into tussles sometimes, but we shouldn't hold it against each other."

Of course, Finn Taylor wasn't going to be taken in by her words. "We're leaving. Don't you dare follow us; otherwise, I'll punch you."

"Tsk, tsk. Let's see what you can do to me. Are you going to beat me to death?"

Finn Taylor led the way, and Hilary Stone followed behind as though she was stuck to him. It didn't matter what he said.

"We're going on a trip. We're not planning to do anything." Finn Taylor had no choice but to let the older woman follow him. He would've run away if he was alone. Given his speed, there was no way the latter would be able to catch up to him. However, he didn't have a choice since his wife was around. *'Alright then. I'll have no choice but to change my training session into a trip.'*

His wife understood why he had chosen to do so too—he couldn't get away from the other pair.

"Why are you guys following us? Are you up to something?"

It was true that Finn Taylor didn't know the mother-son duo well, so he felt uncomfortable that they were following him around.

"Of course not. It's not like you own this place. You're free to visit this place, so why can't I come too?"

Finn Taylor was baffled. *'You can go anywhere you want to, but why do you have to follow me? What are you really up to?'*

"Ignore them. Let's go," Finn Taylor suggested since Hilary Stone had ruined his mood, and he no longer had any intention of staying.

Yvette Larson was never one to go against her husband, so she naturally agreed.

"You're leaving so quickly? Aren't you going to admire the beautiful scenery for a while longer?"

'How annoying!' Finn Taylor had to resist the urge to punch the woman. 'How can people be so annoying? I wanted to bring Yvette around, but she's standing in my way. Forget about how she was vicious enough to land the Larson family in trouble, but does she want to break my family up too?'

"Scram!" Finn Taylor replied with only one word before picking up his wife's hand and leaving.

Thankfully, the other woman didn't follow them.

Yet, that made him even more curious about what she was up to. *'She even brought her son with her! I'm sure they have something up their sleeves.'*

However, Finn Taylor wasn't too bothered by Hilary Stone and didn't think too much about it.

Chapter 409

Finn Taylor wasn't truly curious as to what Hilary Stone was up to, so he left.

How was he to know that he had narrowly missed a good show? Hilary Stone and her son were in the woods waiting for someone, and that person was none other than Gremlin.

Of course, Finn Taylor had no idea that he had missed out on witnessing such an exciting scene, much less that Hilary Stone was working with Gremlin.

Neither did Hilary Stone know that Finn Taylor knew Gremlin.

However, such was fate.

"Why did you come only now?" Although Hilary Stone had only been with Finn Taylor for a short while, she had been waiting in the forest for a long time. Gremlin casually strolled over three hours past the time they had agreed on.

"Why? Did you feel anxious waiting for me? You can tell me if that's the case."

"We're working together as equals. The way you treat me annoys me."

"Equals? You think too highly of yourself. Who are you? San Francisco is so small. I don't even care about Finn Taylor, much less you!"

"Finn Taylor? You know him? What kind of relationship do you have with him?"

Hilary Stone's heart skipped a beat when she heard that name. *'What's going on? Does Gremlin know Finn Taylor too?'*

"How interesting. Finn Taylor has done a great job of hiding his identity over the past three years. You guys don't even know anything about his background."

"What are you trying to say? What is his background?"

"Have you heard of the Taylor family from Chicago or Peregrine Hall? Your family's matrilineal son-in-law is a prominent figure—he's the eldest son of the family and Master Peregrine of Peregrine Hall!"

This was indeed news to Hilary Stone, and shock was evident on her face.

"No wonder! I finally know why I lost to him—it's because he has so many influential people by his side. I couldn't understand where he got all that help from, but I guess I know now."

"What do you know? You're just weak. There's nothing more than that."

"What do you mean?" Hilary Stone felt that the man was insulting her. *'Does he mean that I deserve to lose to Finn Taylor just because he's the eldest son of the Taylor family and Master Peregrine? Does he mean that nobody in San Francisco can win against him?'*

"So what if he's the eldest son of the Taylor family? So what if he's Master Peregrine? I'm telling you that he doesn't mean a thing to the family and that everyone looks down on him—his parents, his brother, and even his grandma. He's like an orphan. Did you think he's so powerful because of his family or Peregrine Hall? No, he's earned it all by his own merits. He's been plotting this since he was six. We've all underestimated him."

Gremlin's words threw Hilary Stone off. *'What does that mean? He's been planning this since he was six? He's not powerful because of the Taylor family backing him?'*

"Supporting him? There are so many people in the Taylor family who want him dead. Besides, his brother is going all out to kill him. Do you know just how many enemies he has back in Chicago?"

"That's impossible. No matter how evil people are, they won't kill their own kin. You must be lying to me." Hilary Stone refused to believe the other. *'I'm already vicious, but I will never kill Quinn no matter how much you offer me.'*

"Why would I do that? You can go make inquiries in Chicago if you don't believe me."

"Then, tell me why they want to kill him. He's part of their family too."

"That's easy. When the Taylor brothers were born, someone said that Finn Taylor was a jinx to the family and that he would only bring trouble to them. Eventually, he would cause the downfall of the entire family. On the other hand, his younger brother was a saint who would bring the family to greater heights."

Hilary Stone burst out into laughter. "I always thought that the Taylor family would be smarter than an average person since they helm Peregrine Hall, but it seems like they're even dumber than me. This is obviously a trap to pit the brothers against each other so that the Taylor family will be weakened. I'm sure you guys won't admit to this mistake since you were the ones who fell into such an obvious trap. Now, you can only push all responsibility to Finn Taylor."

While others might not have spotted the trick, Hilary Stone understood it at once because she had done the same thing in the past. Was she really a promiscuous woman? No, she had only married into the Larson family to get her revenge. Her family had died at the hands of the Larson family, so she was going to pit the family against each other and bring them down too.

Who would've expected this? A woman's revenge was the cause of the Larson family's downfall!

She had pretty much succeeded. The Old Master had died a long time ago, and his sons no longer got along with each other now, with the youngest already dead.

But the biggest problem now lay in the family's third generation. Quince Larson was incapable, and so was Eleanor Larson.

The latter was basically a fool in Hilary Stone's eyes.

Since she had control over her son, the greatest problem lay with Yvette Larson's family. Everyone looked down on Finn Taylor, but not Hilary Stone.

That was why he was the first person she had looked for after returning.

Chapter 410

'I never thought that such an average person would have such an extraordinary identity. The whole of San Francisco thought of him as a joke and looked down on him, but not me. When I returned to the Larson family, he was the first person I looked for because I've always thought highly of him. It's easy to determine just how impressive someone is. Just take a look at Finn Taylor. He's been insulted and humiliated for three whole years, but has he ever wavered? No, he simply ignores whatever everyone else says. He won't be easily shaken. Do you know how much willpower you need to endure that?'

'Let's not talk about others. Just think about it. If you were embarrassed and scolded or beaten up every day, do you think you'd be able to hold it in until the day you have enough power to get back at your abusers? I know I can't. I don't know how many people in this world would be able to do that, but I'm sure the number is small. How interesting. So he's the eldest son of Chicago's Taylor family and Master Peregrine. I can't believe he hid such a huge secret.'

Gremlin chuckled. "You don't have to be so shocked. He might be powerful, but he has to remain alive for that to be of any use. What use would his power be if he's dead? Haven't I already said that the Taylor family doesn't like him? His father and grandma are both dead, and it seems like his mother has already changed and is now on his side. I'm on his younger brother's side. What I want is for you to join hands with us. Trust me; we'll easily be able to defeat him. Once that happens, I assure you that your future is set."

"You don't have to tell me about all this. You should already know that we're in the same boat—you're against Finn Taylor while I'm against Yvette Larson. Since they're married, I'll have no choice but to stand on your side. But to be honest, I don't have very high hopes for you because you guys are such failures. If I were in your shoes, I would've dealt with Finn Taylor a long time ago. How could you let an abandoned child become Master Peregrine? You've had plenty of time. What have you guys been doing? Didn't you say that he planned this from the time he was six? You guys lost to a six-year-old kid! Gremlin? Or are you Sprite? I don't know what your position in the Taylor family or Peregrine Hall is. No matter what, you managed to find me. That can only mean that you must be powerful. Still, it's a fact that you've lost to Finn Taylor."

Gremlin nearly exploded in anger. *'I'm here to offer her a collaboration, not to be scolded.'*

"Do you think that I won't dare to kill you?"

"Sure, you can go ahead and try. But before you do that, I have something to show you." Hilary Stone then took out a photo. It was a photo of them with Finn Taylor; it had been taken just moments earlier.

"Do you see this? I met Finn Taylor here earlier. This means that he knows that I'm here. Don't you think that he would conduct his own investigations if something happens to me?"

It was purely a coincidence that she had run into Finn Taylor, yet he had inadvertently saved her.

"What do you mean? Did you tell Finn Taylor that you were meeting me here?"

"Of course not! Do you take me for a fool? I just happened to bump into him here. You should be thankful that he left before you came; otherwise, you'd be dead meat."

"Dead meat? What a joke! His skills are no match for me. I could kill him if I wanted to."

"Stop making things up. If you were really capable of killing him, he'd be dead, and you wouldn't need to be working with me."

"What? I really am capable of killing him."

"Of course, I know that you're strong enough to do that, but that doesn't mean that you'll dare to kill him. I'm sure that there's someone more powerful behind Finn Taylor. I'm sure you're not even anywhere near close to his level. Do you think I would be easily fooled just because I'm a woman?"

Gremlin was at a loss for words. He had never expected the woman to be so acute and analyze the situation so accurately.

Finn Taylor had Maximus Brugel backing him, and the latter was the most powerful man in the entire Peregrine Hall. Apart from Finn Taylor's grandpa—whom nobody knew whether he was still alive or dead—nobody had ever managed to beat Maximus Brugel.

He had indeed thought of killing Finn Taylor in the past, but he had been taught a painful lesson.

Because it was better to keep some things under wraps, he naturally said nothing about what had happened, and Finn Taylor did the same. Of course, it was in Maximus Brugel's best interest to keep them confidential too. Yet, that woman had managed to see through everything and learn of the truth!

'This woman isn't one to be trifled with. Who is she? What kind of grudge does she hold against the Larson family to be going to such an extent?'

"I'm sure you're not an ordinary person either. Which family are you from?"

"My whole family was killed off a long time ago, so don't bother trying to look into my background. I have nothing to hide, and there's no need to suspect me since we have the same goal. You want Finn Taylor dead, and I want Yvette Larson dead. It's as simple as that."

"How interesting. This is just a family tussle, but you're talking about bringing down an entire family?"

"So you better know not to lie to me anymore.. My family background isn't any worse than Finn Taylor's."