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Acting cautiously, Xavier pretended to have a conversation with Matthew. While Matthew was distracted, he turned around all of a sudden and made a dash for it. But Matthew already had his guard up since a long time ago and chased after him the moment he turned around.

They engaged in a fight for about half an hour and it ended in Xavier being defeated and killed by Matthew.

Matthew set both of their cars on fire to not leave any evidence behind. Then, he took a detour on a road away from the main highway and quietly returned to Eastcliff without anyone knowing what he just did.

Xavier's elder brother had called him just now and he knew that something was amiss, so he asked Travis to send someone to investigate immediately.

However, when they arrived at the scene, everything had been reduced to ashes and the Hughes had absolutely no idea who did it, and they never suspected Matthew.

After all, Matthew was labeled as a useless bum who relied on his wife. Nobody would have thought that a person who was called a wimp for three years would be capable of such a feat.

They suspected the Jacksons because after all, the Hughes wanted to destroy them, so they wouldn't just be sitting ducks.

So the next day, the Hughes mobilized a big group of armed men to Eastcliff and demanded an explanation from the Jacksons. But in the end, they couldn't do anything to them because of the lack of evidence.

To vent their frustrations, they wounded more than a dozen men from the Jacksons and left a bunch of insults before leaving.

Although the Jacksons were furious, there was nothing they could do about it. Since their family wasn't as strong as theirs, they could only accept their fate.

But what peeved them the most was the reaction of the Ten Greatest Families.

Initially, the top ten families were in a coalition, but after the incident with the Hughes, the other nine families immediately kept a distance from the Jacksons.

It would have been fine if the other nine families only refused to help when the Hughes came to make trouble, but they seized this chance to take over quite a few of their businesses behind their backs.

These were the businesses which the Jacksons invested together with the other nine families. Previously, when things were peaceful among them, they invested and made money together, but now that the Jacksons were in trouble, the rest of them couldn't wait to take over the Jacksons' share in the businesses.

In addition, the people who were trying to get into the Jacksons' good books before were now arrogant and domineering when they met them.

Even those who bore a grudge against them from before were using this opportunity to make a scene at the Jackson's Residence, rendering the whole household restless.

In just a few days, the Jacksons, who were once glorious in Eastcliff, had now fallen to such a state. It was just like the saying, 'everybody hits a man who is down'.

During this whole period, the Jacksons practically stayed at home all day and did not dare to go out. Right now, the main members of the family were sitting in front of Connor with worried and sad faces.

"Old Master, what should we do now? It's obvious that the Hughes want to crush us. Are we just going to be sitting ducks?"

"Say something, Old Master. Why don't we plead with the Hughes to let us off? Even if we'll be their slaves, it's still better than having our family ruined and dead!"

A round of discussion broke out amongst them, and most of them were hoping that Connor would plead with the Hughes again.

With his eyes closed and rosary beads in his right hand, Connor appeared as though he hadn't heard them, and they turned even more outrageous when he didn't say anything after a long time.

Finally, someone simply stood up and shouted, "Old Master, I think the incident with the Hughes happened purely because of the miscalculations in your planning. You're getting old and your mind is getting slow, so you're no longer fit to be in charge of the family. Why don't you hand out all your shares and let our elder brother handle it? He can then discuss it over with the Hughes, and our family might still have some hope for survival!"

That made Connor pop his eyes open and he glanced at the faces around him, carefully taking note of their expressions. He knew that these people who wanted him to give up his authority were no longer loyal to him and they shouldn't be kept any longer!

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With an exasperated look, Connor waved his hand and lamented, "Forget it! I'm the sinner of the family for bringing the Jacksons to this state today! You can decide what you want to do. I'm old and it's time for me to take a break!"

Then, he stood up and left slowly. The ones who were truly loyal to him rushed to stop him, but they were unsuccessful.

As for those who already lost their loyalty for him, they were overjoyed because they could finally be in charge of the Jackson family now that he was abdicating.

Unbeknownst to them, Connor was doing this on purpose to find out their true intentions. He was merely pretending to leave this time, but his thoughts were actually all on the medical conference.

Once Matthew won, he would immediately regain his authority. When that time came, he would conduct a complete purge in the family and remove those who were disloyal to him!

Time passed very quickly and it was now the day of the medical conference. The venue this time was set at the Thousand Lakes Manor in Eastcliff.

At six o'clock in the evening, after he finished dinner with Sasha, Matthew was ready to leave for the conference. After resting for a couple of days, she made a full recovery and was even more reliant on him than ever before. "Matthew, should I come with you?" she asked gently.

Before he could say anything, Helen spoke up next to him, "Why are you going with him? Are you going just to witness how he'll be thoroughly defeated? Isn't it

enough that he's going there alone to embarrass himself without you tagging along to do the same?"

"He's my husband, so of course I have to be there to give him my full support," Sasha snapped. "And what makes you think that he'll lose for sure?"

Outraged, Helen scolded, "You're getting better at talking back now, my child! I'm saying all this for your sake. Why are you still clinging on to your unrealistic fantasy knowing that he'll definitely lose?

Your father and I put in much effort to finally detach ourselves from this issue and yet, you insist on tagging along and giving others the idea that we're still supporting him. What should we do when he loses and people come after us? Will you only rest when we die in front of your eyes?"

"Mom, everything you just said is too far-fetched. This is only a medical conference, so why would anyone die? It's not that serious," she replied fretfully.

In a solemn tone, James said, "Sasha, you're no longer a child. Can you please think before you act? Matthew took out more than ten billion to gamble. We have no idea how many lives will be lost if he loses everything.

Your mother and I have worked hard to raise you, and all we want is for our family to be safe. It's fine if Matthew wants to seek death, but no one from our family should be involved in this matter. That's it, say no more. No matter what, you're not allowed to go this time!"

Sasha's face was pale as she exclaimed, "Dad, how can you be so unreasonable?"

James burst with anger. "How am I unreasonable? As your parents, will we harm you? Who was the one attending to your needs for the past couple of days at home?

Haven't you seen how hard your mother worked all day while this husband of yours didn't even step through the door? He's even depending on us if anything should happen. Why can't you spare a thought for us?"

Matthew was dumbfounded as he thought, Was I the one who didn't want to go home? You guys were the ones who drove me out of the house and didn't allow me to return.

What else could I do? However, he didn't dare to start an argument with them. After the last incident, James and Helen were now even more easily irritable.

Previously, Sasha mentioned about it once and a quarrel broke out—Helen had picked up a cleaver and almost cut her own neck, which scared the wits out of Sasha. She never dared to bring it up again, much more Matthew.