That Can Be Arranged chapter 71

Chapter 71 False Leverage

Tessa chewed on her lower lip. Of course she didn't want to stay at Nicholas' place for the night. After all, that wasn't her home, but she had nowhere else to go or spend the night as things were.

At last, after a long debate with herself, she nodded and said, "Very well, then. I'm sorry for the trouble."

That night, she followed Nicholas and Gregory to Dynasty Gardens.

Gregory, in particular, was so happy with how his night had turned out that he did a little dance to celebrate. After his bath, he clung to Tessa like a baby koala and said, "Can I sleep with you tonight, Miss Pretty Lady?"

She gave him a maternal smile and said, "Okay, I'll sleep in your room tonight then."

Nicholas did not put a stop to this, which was surprising, but his lips curled unknowingly into a smile as he headed into his study to continue with work.

At the same time, he had Edward look into whatever incident that culminated into Tessa's injury. She hadn't said much on this, but Nicholas had a feeling that something had rattled her.

Edward, on the other hand, did not press further as he set himself to work right away. However, he found himself wondering just what Nicholas' intentions were for Tessa.

Meanwhile, over at the Reinhart Residence, the bodyguards who had been dispatched to Pinnacle Residence to trap Tessa returned without success, which irked Lauren to no end.

She thought about how Tessa had threatened to call the police on them and a shudder went through her. Seized with a sudden ferocity, she knew she could no longer drag things out.

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If Tessa really did call the police on us, then that little brat Timothy will escape right under our noses! All the hard work we did will be for nothing! At the thought of this, Lauren immediately revealed her worries to Silas.

Having heard her reasons, he agreed that time was something they could not afford, so they rose and left to see Timothy in the dead of the night.

Timothy was presently being held captive at the old Reinhart Manor, which was heavily guarded by the bodyguards patrolling downstairs.

It didn't take long for Silas and Lauren to arrive. They had only just stepped through the door when Silas scoffed and asked snidely, "Have you considered our offer yet, you brat?"

Timothy was sitting in the corner of the room with his eyes closed, but when he heard this, he let out a harsh bark of laughter. He didn't even want to dignify Silas with a response.

At the sight of his defiance, Silas grew incensed and his voice took on a harder edge as he demanded, "Watch your attitude, you punk!"

Lauren, however, hurried to soothe him. "Now, now, honey, why are you getting all riled up for? Leave this to me." Then, she turned to glare at Timothy as she drawled icily, "Looks like you aren't too bothered about whether your sister lives or not, Timothy."

Timothy bristled at this, and his eyes flew open at once. He fixed a cold and baleful look on her as he asked through gritted teeth, "Tessa? What did you do to her?!"

Her chin tipped up at a haughty angle as she cackled. "Oh, I guess there's something that gets under your skin, after all. I suppose I'll just come right out and tell you that after your dear sister discovered you were taken away, she came over to our house to look for you. Unfortunately, a petite girl like her was no match for any of my bodyguards, and now she's being kept under lock and key. She can scream herself hoarse and no one will come to her help!"

"You two are—" Timothy clenched his jaw, looking belligerent as he growled, "You're despicable!"

"Despicable?" Lauren repeated in amusement, as if considering the word. "Why, I suppose we are, but what are you going to do about it? I know you care deeply about your sister, Timothy, so I won't hurt her just yet. If you hand over that software of yours, then maybe I'll consider letting you go. If you don't... I guess your sister will just have to be married off for our benefit."

She rubbed her temple as if the idea of this wore her out. "Our family has a few elite acquaintances, and we know a few rich boy-types who would not hesitate to pay a handsome bridewealth if they find a gorgeous lady they want to marry. That alone would be ample money for us to live off of! So, I suggest you think this over carefully, Timothy. If you don't give us the software, then I'll simply pawn off your sister. The Reinharts are in an extremely precarious position right now, and I'm desperate enough to do anything!"

The last part of her speech came off as a vicious threat and Timothy could tell she meant it. A loud, maniacal roar escaped him as he shouted, "You evil witch, Lauren! If you so much as lay a hand on Tess, I will rip you all to shreds!"

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Chapter 72 Cut All Ties

After yelling, he rushed forward in anger, as if he wanted to fight with his life. However, the bodyguard instantly came forward and fiercely pushed Timothy to the ground. Suppressed by him, Timothy frantically yelled, "Let go of me! Let go!"

As if looking at a clown, Lauren sneered, "How we act depends on what your decision is. Tonight, we came here on purpose to inform you that by 8:00AM tomorrow morning, we must have the answer; otherwise, you will never get your sister back!"

Timothy was so furious that his wrath skyrocketed and he was almost hysterical with rage. Suddenly, he glared at Silas and bellowed, "Silas, is this your intention?"

Silas opened his mouth, but he didn't deny it. Thus, Timothy let out a bone-chilling sneer. "Good, you're really a good father! You're giving your daughter up for fame and threatening your own son!"

Being spoken to like that made him inevitably feel a little uncomfortable, but for the sake of his individual interest, he remained silent.

Timothy's eyes flashed with a strong hatred; he hated this father of his who gave him life but never took responsibility. In Timothy's eyes, such a person who gave birth to children but did not care to raise them and even used them as bargaining chips was simply worse than an animal! I hate him! I hate him to the bone!

Under Timothy's glare, Silas felt guilt rising in him, so he hurriedly left with Lauren.

...

The next day, Tessa ate breakfast early in the morning and immediately called the Reinhart Family to ask them angrily, "Lauren, are you going to let him go or not?"

At this point, it was already 7:30AM. It was still half an hour before the 8:00AM appointment with Timothy, so naturally, Lauren could not release him.

Lauren laughed aloud on the other side of the phone and spoke in a reckless tone. "Tessa, do you want to report to the police? It's not 24 hours since Timothy has disappeared, so you don't have enough time to actually file a case. Do you think the police will care about it?"

After speaking boldly, she hung up the phone.

Tessa was extremely exasperated. Of course she knew that the police would not open a case if people had gone missing for less than 24 hours. However, she couldn't wait any longer! She immediately went out, ready to head to the police station to report the case. Before leaving, Gregory pulled the corner of Tessa's shirt and said in a reluctant manner, "Will you still come over at night, Miss Pretty Lady?"

She leaned over and lovingly stroked the boy's head, softly saying, "I am not sure, but if I do come, I will call you in advance."

He nodded, his two dark and round eyes like grapes. Then, he asked again, "So, does what you said yesterday still count? Will you come back to teach me?"

Tessa smiled warmly. "Of course. Don't worry, Sweetheart. I won't go back on my word."

"Yay!" The little boy nodded, looking much more at ease, and only then did he allow her to leave.

Coincidentally, at this time, Nicholas happened to leave the house too. The morning sunlight fell on his tall figure as he came out of the house, shrouding him in a dazzling halo of light. As he came to the door, he had arrived just in time to see Tessa also going out, so he casually asked, "Miss Reinhart, where are you going? Let me give you a ride."

Tessa did not want to trouble Nicholas, so she quickly refused. "Thank you, President Sawyer, but there is no need."

With that, she turned around and went to the road to hail a cab by herself, and soon disappeared from sight. Seeing that, he furrowed his brows. However, he did not care too much and soon, his slender but imposing figure entered the waiting vehicle.

After getting into the car, Edward reported the situation to him, "President, I found out about the situation last night."

"Go on," Nicholas spoke icily without raising his head.

Edward explained, "President Sawyer, according to my investigation, Miss Reinhart's brother, Timothy, seemed to be in school yesterday, but was taken away by people from the Reinhart Family. Miss Reinhart was not at home last night because she went to them to bring him back, but not only did she not get her brother back, but she was also injured."

Hearing this, Nicholas suddenly turned cold and stern. "Why does the Reinhart Family want to take Timothy captive? I thought the siblings have severed all ties with them?"

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Chapter 73 My Brother Has Been Kidnapped

Edward nodded and continued, "President Sawyer, according to previous investigations, this is indeed the case, but the Reinhart Family took Timothy captive for a reason this time."

The topic finally came to the most important part.

He looked inexplicably grave as he continued, "From my sources, Timothy and his classmate have recently developed a high-end artificial intelligence software. The software's concept is state-of-the-art and unprecedented on the market, so its value is high. These years, the Reinhart Family's company has been going downhill and in danger of going bankrupt. Hence, they urgently need a product to resolve the current dilemma. Coincidentally, they are interested in Timothy's software. Unfortunately, Timothy does not want to cooperate with them and has repeatedly refused them. Nevertheless, the Reinhart Family continued to pester him without giving up. At first, they did not know that the software was designed by Timothy, so they did not do anything to him. They somehow learned later that Timothy was the developer of the design of this software, though. Since they were eager to grab it to boost their own interests, they decided to employ the use of violence and took him captive."

Having said that, he let out a deep sigh. "President, I would say that the Reinhart siblings are really unlucky. They actually have a father who is so irresponsible and who even uses his own children for his own benefit! It's ridiculous!"

After listening to the story, Nicholas' expression was stiff and his brows were unconsciously tightened. He recalled how Tessa had hurried out earlier...

Could it be that this woman is going to get Timothy back by herself again?

Although this woman appeared meek on the surface, she was actually stubborn. Clearly, since she still couldn't get her brother back home, she refused to give up and went back there early in the morning.

Suddenly, Nicholas coldly ordered, "Drive faster and follow Tessa. I want to see what she really is going to do."

When Edward heard this, he was slightly startled. "President, forgive me for saying this, but are you not a little too concerned about Miss Reinhart?"

Too concerned? As Edward finished his words, Nicholas glared at him from the rearview mirror. "She will continue to teach Greg, so I just hope that there will be less unnecessary trouble. In addition, I am very interested in the artificial intelligence software that Timothy developed. If we can get this and sign the contract smoothly, it will be of great help to the company."

Hearing this, he suddenly realized Nicholas' intentions. So, he immediately stepped on the gas and caught up with Tessa.

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A few minutes later, she alighted from the cab at the police station and ran straight in to report the case.

"Officer, my brother has been kidnapped. I want to report a crime!" she shouted loudly.

Once the police heard that it was a kidnapping case, they hurriedly went up and asked about the situation, including the identity of the kidnapper and any possible feuds.

Tessa told them the truth, but after the police officer listened to it, he frowned and apologized, "Sorry, Miss Reinhart. There is no way to file a case for adults who have gone missing for less than 24 hours. Besides, how do you know it must be a kidnapping? Maybe it's just a family dispute. I suggest that you handle it privately."

When she heard this, she became anxious. "No, Officer. This is not a family dispute; this is a kidnapping!"

Her tone was urgent as she added, "You may not understand the situation well yet. My brother's legs are weak and my stepmother took him away with bad intentions! Now, my

brother is imprisoned and I don't know what bad things he is experiencing. Officer, please help me!"

Tessa pleaded out of desperation. Unfortunately, the police officer still shook his head and said sternly, "Miss Reinhart, it's not that I don't want to help you, but the law is the law. If you want to report a case, you must wait for your brother to disappear for 24 hours before we can accept the case. However, I'll make a note about the information you gave first. If your brother has not returned 24 hours later, we will certainly send someone to communicate with the other party."

That Can Be Arranged chapter 74

Chapter 74 Use More Force

So, it was still a lost case. This made Tessa extremely difficult to accept in her heart.

In the blink of an eye, the time was now 8:00AM. After Timothy thought about it the whole night, he finally made a decision.

When Lauren came, he spoke in a cold voice. "If you want the software in my hands, I can give it to you, but I have two conditions. First, you have to release my sister and make sure she is safe and sound. Second, you have to give me 10 million. This software is the result of joint research and development between me and my friend, so I have to give him his due."

When she heard these demands, it was as if she was listening to a joke. She sneered, "Timothy, why do you think you are qualified to state to us your conditions? Let me tell you, the only choice you have now is to give us the software you have for free, and I will let you and your sister go. It's that simple!"

She was implying that they didn't want to pay anything in exchange for the product without any due compensation! At this, his eyes glowed with rage.

They must be dreaming! However, Timothy was not naïve. He knew well what the Reinhart Family's situation was like now, so even if Lauren really wanted to marry his sister off, there might not be someone willing to pay a high price for the bride, in which Lauren might not be able to get what she wanted.

It was something that Timony had realized after thinking about it for the whole night. Thus, he sneered with a cold face. "Lauren, do you think you can threaten me with this?"

Lauren's pupils contracted; she gritted out between her teeth, "You little brat, what do you mean?"

Looking indifferent, he rebuked, "I mean, if you do not do as I say, then we shall just tear each other apart without a deal. Anyway, if my sister is harmed in any way, I'll drag the Reinhart Family down with us! Let's see whether the Reinhart Family can afford being struck!"

"Y-You brat! How dare you!" Her throat tightened as her voice trembled with anger. She knew that Tessa was stubborn, but she did not expect that Timothy also had a tough attitude. She originally planned to grab Tessa and thereafter use her to intimidate Timothy to force him to behave, but Tessa had actually escaped! In this way, all of Lauren's threats would not work on him.

Lauren was so angry that her breathing hitched. Gritting her teeth again, she glowered at Timothy with hatred. It seems that we have to use more force on these two to get what we want!

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However, just as she was about to do something, Silas suddenly spoke from the side, "I will give 1 million, but no more."

Saying that, he handed the phone directly to Timothy, then ordered, "Call your classmate now and have him send that software over. Otherwise, I will send your sister to the Linus Corporation."

Linus Corporation? Timothy had never heard of the name, but his intuition told him that the Linus Corporation was definitely not a good place to go to.

"Hah." As he was pondering, Sophia suddenly laughed at the side. She looked at Timothy disdainfully and gloated, "The young master of Linus Corporation is of an excellent husband

material. It is said that he has married two women before. One of them was forced to commit suicide because she couldn't stand domestic violence whereas other one disappeared without a trace overnight and her whereabouts are still unknown. Tsk, my sister will be very 'happy' if she can marry him."

Hearing this, he felt his blood surge with fury whereupon he roared in rage, "Silas, how dare you!"

Silas narrowed his eyes contemptuously. "Why wouldn't I dare? Brat, if you don't want me to mess with your sister, immediately call your classmate. I want to see whether you think money is more important than your sister!"

Timothy clenched his teeth in outrage, the sarcasm in his eyes incomparably deep. "Silas, do you think everyone is as cold-blooded as you and only care about money? You b*stard! You will never meet a good end!"

After saying that, he grabbed his phone and called Henry.

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Chapter 75 This Is Against the Law

On the other end of the phone, when Henry heard that Timothy wanted him to bring his computer, he didn't even think about it and quickly agreed. After that, they hung up.

Upon seeing that Timothy finally caved in, Lauren, whose face was still twisted with anger, now looked smug. She raised her chin as the corners of her mouth curved up into a sneer. "Now, wasn't that easy? You have to be aware of who you are. You're just a b*stard without a mother. Thus, you're not qualified to fight us."

Resentment boiled deep within his heart, but he did not say a word. All he did was clench his fists so hard that his knuckles became white! In the blink of an eye, half an hour passed and

Henry had finally arrived. While entering the door, he saw at a glance that Timothy was with Silas, and he could not help but be surprised.

"Timothy, what's going on?"

Henry took a few steps forward in uncertainty. Timothy looked at Henry, his eyes full of guilt before explaining why he told Henry to come.

"What?" After hearing the explanation, Henry was shocked for a long time. He had never thought that Timothy and Silas were actually father and son. Moreover, there was such a deep conflict between the two!

Immediately, Henry clenched his teeth and became resentful. He was angry, not because the software could only be sold for 1 million in the end, but because Silas had actually treated his own son like trash! He could even use his own son to gain benefits! Is he even human?

Henry immediately opened his mouth, his voice as cold as winter. "Mr. Reinhart, you are a true businessman. How ruthless you are to scheme against your own son! You're not worthy of being a father! Moreover, I'm afraid you've forgotten that it wasn't only Timothy who developed this software. I also participated in its development, so I also have the right to make decisions. I won't sell this software to you, so it is useless even if you threaten Timothy."

With that, he took the computer and turned around to leave.

When Lauren saw that, her eyes instantly darkened! How dare this boy leave after he has come? Dream on! She suddenly shouted in wrath, "Stop right there! It's either you leave the software here today, or you cannot leave! Guards, grab him for me!"

The bodyguards swarmed forward and blocked Henry's path. A frowning Henry suddenly sneered. "What, are you going to force me to give it to you? You businessmen are really despicable nowadays, but let me warn you first that I am not related to you. If you use force on me, it's equivalent to robbing me and this is against the law! Try me if you dare!"

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Everyone felt stunned upon hearing this! As for Silas, he was really frustrated. He had never imagined that this problem would occur right after he managed to force Timothy to agree to sell the software.

Moreover, what Henry said was true. It didn't matter if Silas had forced his own son, but it was against the law to coerce others. After thinking about it, he suddenly relaxed his tone a little and said, "Then, how about this, Mr. Tompkins? I can give you 5 million as originally agreed. You just need to leave this software here with us and both of you can leave in peace."

Nevertheless, Henry sneered and responded, "Sorry, I'm not selling it for 5 million. I already said I want 20 million for it."

When these words came out, everyone in the whole room was stunned. Timothy was taken aback too, but soon realized that Henry was trying to obtain justice for him. Thus, his heart could not help but feel a little warm.

As for Lauren, she was livid. How could anyone defy her?

Greed and menace intertwined in her gaze as she clenched her teeth and suddenly shouted, "Stop talking nonsense! I have no time to discuss with you. I won't give you 2 million, let alone 20 million! You have to give us the software today no matter what! Guards, grab his computer for me!"