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Once the commotion had simmered down, Janet brandished her phone with a triumphant grin. "Vivi, don't be so quick to dash off. Your boss caught the live feed and she's en route."

Previously, when Brandon had ordered his bodyguard to confront the lurking individual in the corner, they unearthed a surprising fact. Rather than merely recording a video, the individual was orchestrating a live broadcast of the unfolding scene in real time. Given the recent high-profile clash between Vivi and Janet, the livestream skyrocketed to the top of the trend list.

Vivi's boss, seeing the unfolding drama, promptly reached out to Brandon's assistant, expressing regrets and announcing her intent to personally mitigate the situation.

At Janet's words, Vivi's beautiful face gradually lost its color.

She hadn't anticipated the situation to spiral so drastically out of control.

Her predicament left her helpless, hemmed in by the bodyguards 'iron circle, like a bird in a cage.

Soon, a fiery-red Lamborghini pulled up outside the hospital. A tall woman in a razor-sharp white suit, power radiating off her in waves, stepped out and strode towards the throng.

Vivi blanched at the sight of her.

As the woman sauntered past Vivi, she paused to give her a look of contempt.

Vivi bit her lip, holding her tongue.

The woman came to a halt in front of Janet, extending a hand with a gracious smile. "Hello, 1 am Suzanne Duncan, the CEO of Star Entertainment. I apologize for the inconvenience caused by my employee."

Janet shook Suzanne's hand, her smile undiminished. "No harm done. But, Vivi here alleged that the online trolls attacking me were bankrolled by Star Entertainment. I wonder if there's any truth to that?" Suzanne's eyes hardened as she turned to Vivi, her voice icy. "You have not only failed in your role as a public figure, but have also publicly defamed my company. It seems I've been too lenient."

"Ms. Duncan..." Vivi begged.

"Silence!" Suzanne's voice cracked like a whip. "I've coddled you enough! Over here, everyone."

She clapped her hands, signaling her assistant to bring in the legal team. Suzanne's frosty gaze fell upon the visibly shaken Vivi. "We all must face the consequences of our actions. Don't try to shift the blame. It's time for some honesty."

"I... I.." Vivi was on the verge of tears, stammering under Suzanne's imposing presence.

Suzanne closed the gap, her voice dropping to a deadly whisper. "Vivi, quit playing the victim. When you mess up, it's on you to make it night."

Vivi's gaze landed on Suzanne, a blank stare that held for a breathless moment before crumbling into despair. Tears welled up, spilling down her cheeks as she confessed, "I did it! I orchestrated the entire charade. I hired the cyber trolls to target Janet, and I set up Mandy. It was all me."

A frigid laugh slipped from Suzanne's lips as she snapped her fingers. In an instant, her lawyer materialized by her side, a contract in hand.

With a voice as frosty as winter's breath, ninjanovel.com the lawyer addressed Vivi, "Given your repeated slandering of our company and the consequent damage to our reputation, we've decided to end our cooperation with you. Please sign this contract."

A pen was thrust into Vivi's hand, her fingers closing around it almost mechanically. Yet, she paused, pen hovering above the dotted line, her name waiting to be etched.

Suzanne, noting the hesitation, chilled the air further with her icy retort. "Need me to sign on your behalf?"

Vivi's teeth found her bottom lip, gnawing at it. Seconds ticked by before she finally forced her trembling hands to sign the contract.

With the Vivi debacle handled, Suzanne had no more time to waste on her. She swiveled towards Janet, a sincere apology on her lips. "Miss White, I truly regret the turmoil you've been through. I hope you won't bear a grudge."

Her words hung in the air as her gaze slid towards Brandon, a conversation yet to be had written in her eyes.

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Janet shook her head and calmly said, "If Vivi's actions were solely her doing, I won't hold Star Entertainment responsible for it."

Just as Suzanne was about to breathe a sigh of relief, Janet calmly added,

"However, if you happen to be the person behind it all, that'll be a different story."

"Miss White, please believe me. I bear no grudge or ill will towards you. I have no reason to frame you, as that wouldn't serve me in any way," Suzanne quickly reassured Janet, with her gaze repeatedly wandering nervously towards Brandon.

Janet smiled but remained silent. Her eyes subtly shifted to Brandon, making a quiet inquiry about the nature of his relationship with Suzanne.

Brandon caught Janet's gaze and innocently shook his head, signaling that he didn't even know Suzanne.

Upon noticing the coded interaction between the two of them, Suzanne smiled amicably and clarified, "Miss White, please don't get me wrong. Our company is planning to tender for the Larson Group's project, and I was worried that this incident might give Mr. Larson a bad impression of us. That's why I wanted to provide him with some clarification."

Janet immediately understood the situation. "I see."

Suzanne nodded and addressed Brandon with a palpable tone of sincerity, saying, "I truly hope that this incident won't give you a negative impression of our company, Mr. Larson. Please accept my apologies once again on behalf of Star Entertainment."

Brandon maintained a composed expression as he responded, saying, "Tender evaluations are always based on each company's merits and capabilities. Until I review your company's tender documents, I won't hold any bias or judgment influenced by personal emotions against it."

Suzanne let out a sigh of relief and expressed her gratitude. "Thank you both for your understanding. I was quite worried. Now that we've resolved this matter, I'll take my leave." Janet and Brandon nodded in agreement.

After apologizing to the two of them once again, Suzanne turned around and left, her steps eased by her sense of relief. As Janet watched her walk away, an inexplicable sense of hostility towards Suzanne suddenly welled up within her. Janet couldn't pinpoint the exact reason why, but she had an instinctive aversion towards Suzanne and didn't want to have too much contact with her.

"What's wrong?" Brandon asked with concern after noticing the odd look on Janet's face. "Are you feeling unwell?"

Janet shook her head and thought for a moment before saying, "I can't quite put a finger on it, but something feels off about what happened."

Brandon held Janet's hand and comforted her gently, "Don't worry. If there's something wrong, I'll take care of it for you."

After the drama ended, the onlookers dispersed, and Frank, who had been patiently waiting on the sidelines for a long time, finally had the opportunity to approach Janet and Brandon.

"I didn't expect so many things to happen this morning," Frank remarked with a dejected shrug. "Will you still be going for your check-up today?"

Brandon glanced at Janet, and upon seeing her nod, he replied, "Yes, we'll proceed with the check-up as scheduled."

Once inside the hospital, Janet muttered with a mix of anxiety and dejection, "What a way to start the day. It's just my luck to have encountered such an unfortunate incident. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that we'll get good results from the check-up." As she spoke, she closed her eyes and prayed in silence. Brandon couldn't help but find Janet's ninja novel.com move amusing. He gently reached out and rubbed her head, comforting her in a soft voice. "Don't worry. The check-up will go well. Everything will be fine."

Janet's anxiety began to subside as Brandon's words sank in. She took hold of his large hand and leaned up to give him a tender kiss on the cheek. "Yes! Everything will definitely be fine!"

heard the I walked her

After finishing her words, Janet heard the doctor calling her into the examination room. Taking a deep breath to calm her nerves, she walked towards the room, with the invisible support of Brandon's encouraging gaze.

He watched her slim but strong figure as she made her way towards the room, feeling an infinite wave of love and tenderness wash all over him.

So what if there even was a problem? He would always be Janet's protector, ready to solve any problems she encountered. No matter what happened, they were going to have a child of their own.

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A flashy red Lamborghini glided into the underground garage. Abruptly, a disheveled figure lunged in front of the car, bringing it to a sudden halt.

The individual obstructing the car was none other than Vivi, who had pleaded with Janet earlier that morning.

At this moment, Vivi was glaring at the car's occupant with a venomous look, shouting hysterically, "Suzanne! You monster, this is all your fault! You've ruined me completely!"

Suzanne stepped out of the car unhurriedly and remained coolly composed in the face of Vivi's frenzied outburst.

Adjusting her attire nonchalantly, Suzanne queried, "What do you mean by saying I've ruined you? We had an agreement. I instructed you to approach

Janet and stage this spectacle. In return, your liquidated damages would be wiped clean. I also offered an additional 200 grand. You were quite eager to accept the term, weren't you?"

Vivi's glare intensified as she shrieked at Suzanne, "But I'm destroyed! My life is in shambles! I'm a total outcast now, with no hope of redeeming myself!"

Suzanne's smirk was full of disdain as she retorted, "Your future is your own concern, not mine. However, it's true that you've offended both the White family and the Larson family. There won't be any room for you in Barnes from here on. But with the 200 grand I gave you, you should be able to make do for a while."

Fueled by Suzanne's taunts, Vivi's face twisted even more grotesquely. "Had you not pressured me into confronting Janet, | could have apologized to her earnestly and possibly salvaged the situation! But now, all hope is lost. Everything is over. It's all your fault! Damn you!"

Suzanne cast a scornful look at her, withdrew a paper bag from her car, and flung it onto the ground with a condescending air. "Here's 200 thousand in cash. Take it and disappear from my sight. Make yourself scarce."

Two bundles of cash tumbled out. Vivi swiftly scooped up the money, clutching it tightly.

Suzanne's expression grew more disgusted as she took in Vivi's greedy demeanor, stating, "Now, get out!"

Vivi bristled, ready to retaliate, but when she met Suzanne's icy gaze, an unexpected fear gripped her.

Previously, during her stint at Star Entertainment, Vivi had heard whispers about Suzanne. Rumor had it that Suzanne had powerful connections, and any

Internet celebrity who dared to offend her faced severe consequences.

Vivi recalled a chilling tale of an influencer who had angered Suzanne and had subsequently been sold to a nightclub to work as a Stripper, left to the mercy of obese and lecherous men. This thought sent a shudder through Vivi, and she no longer dared to raise her voice against Suzanne.

Sensing Vivi's newfound meekness, Suzanne nodded approvingly, saying, "Seems you're not entirely brainless. Take the money and get lost. Don't dare to cross my path again."

Vivi bit her lip and hesitated for a few seconds, but ultimately didn't dare to keep arguing. She grabbed the money and scurried out of the underground garage, her face flush with embarrassment.

Leaning against the car door, Suzanne watched Vivi's retreating form, a cryptic smile dancing on her lips.

Later that night, a news article titled

"Internet Celebrity Vivi Died in a Car

Crash, An Accident or Foul Play?" rapidly ascended the trending topics.

Alongside the news of Vivi's fatal car crash, a video of her desperately begging

Janet for mercy also went viral, topping the list of trending topics.

In the video, Vivi implored Janet for forgiveness and mercy, but Janet regarded her coldly, her face devoid of any emotion.

Often, even the most reprehensible individuals garner sympathy once they pass away. This was especially true for someone like Vivi, whose young life had ended in such tragic circumstances, eliciting a wave of sadness and empathy from many. Furthermore, the ambiguity of the news article's headline, coupled with the video captured outside the hospital, seamlessly connected the two incidents, ninja novel.com fueling public suspicion and outrage. "She was already on her knees, apologizing. hy did Janet persist in her arrogance? Does she truly believe she holds so much power?"

"It's highly probable Janet was involved in the car accident. What are the odds that Vivi dies right after her troll scandal comes to light?"

"Indeed. Janet wields power and influence, she's fully capable of orchestrating a fatal accident for Vivi!" :

Various conjectures and theories kept spiraling across the internet, showing no signs of slowing down.

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At that moment, Janet had just finished a shower and was sprawled on the couch, browsing through celebrity gossip. Suddenly, a headline about Vivi's fatal car accident surfaced, leaving Janet taken aback. She blinked at the news article, doubting her own eyes, and clicked on it. After reading, a chill ran down her spine.

Vivi... was truly dead!

What on earth had happened?

Was it a mere accident or a vicious murder?

Janet's mind swirled with confusion.

She haphazardly scrolled through a few comments and, just as she had anticipated, numerous users were berating her for her supposed cruelty, malice, and high-handedness.

Some had even cooked up conspiracy theories connecting Vivi's death to the morning's uproar outside the hospital. They speculated that Janet had not let

Vivi off the hook and had someone sabotage Vivi's car, intentionally causing the accident and subsequently leading to Vivi's demise. Some even outright labeled

Janet as a murderer.

Upon seeing such comments, Janet scrolled further down and was appalled to find some individuals had purposefully posted dubious "evidence" to accuse her directly as the perpetrator. What irked Janet the most was that some people actually bought into these accusations and began incessantly urging the police to investigate her.

Janet seethed with anger, but she quickly regained her composure. She knew that fury wouldn't resolve the situation and that Internet users were often

swayed by rumors, lacking the discernment to distinguish truth from fabrication. She realized that her immediate course of action should be to uncover the truth. Janet quickly contacted Brandon and her family, urging them to probe into the matter and determine the truth as swiftly as possible

If Vivi's car crash was merely an accident, it would be a regrettable tragedy but understandable. However, if it was a deliberate act, it meant someone was specifically targeting her. The mere notion that someone could target her with such malevolent and insidious tactics, even risking an innocent life to frame her, sent shivers down Janet's spine. Without uncovering the truth, she would be unable to find peace in her daily life.

Upon receiving the news, Brandon grew concerned for Janet's safety and hastily returned home.

Upon his arrival, he found Janet curled up on the sofa, looking alarmingly drawn and visibly shaken by the incident.

Brandon's heart ached at the sight, ninjanovel.com and he quickly approached Janet, enfolding her in a tight embrace and reassuring her gently, "Don't worry, it might just be an accident."

Janet's fingers dug into the fabric of Brandon's shirt, her frame quivering like a leaf in the wind. "It doesn't seem like some random occurrence. It feels... personal, calculated. The odds... they're just too stacked," she admitted, her voice barely more than a whisper.

Brandon's hand traced soothing circles on her back. "Easy, Janet. You're not alone in this storm," he murmured in reassurance. But his words, meant to comfort, seemed to fall on deaf ears. If anything, the terror gnawing at Janet's insides only seemed to intensify, a relentless tide with each passing second. 1

She lifted her ashen face to his, her lips quivering like a frightened bird. "Vivi's death wasn't just some freak accident. It couldn't be that straightforward. It's like

I'm caught in a web, a meticulously spun trap. The puppeteer had Vivi plead with me in the morning, and by evening, she was a casualty of a fatal car crash. They manipulated dubious evidence, riling up the Internet users and drawing me into their play. It's all laser-focused on me!" Her voice dropped to a dangerous growl, her eyes flashing fire. "It's despicable, utterly inhumane! They sacrificed an innocent life just to frame me!" Sensing her emotions spiraling, Brandon pulled her closer, his arms a firm anchor in her storm.

Nestled in his embrace, Janet drank in his comforting scent, and the chaos within her began to ebb away.

She took a steadying breath, locking her gaze with his. "Brandon, level with me. What are the odds this crash was just that—an accident? J] need the unvarnished truth."

His brows furrowed in thought, the gravity of the situation weighing on him before he finally conceded, "It's a minefield of coincidences. It's highly likely there's a puppeteer pulling the strings."

A sad, knowing smile touched Janet's lips as she nodded, a whisper of resignation tinging her voice. "I thought as much." Brandon exhaled a sigh heavy with self-reproach. "I let my guard down. I should've sniffed out the puppeteer sooner, before they had the chance to ensnare Vivi in their scheme."

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Vivi's sudden death and the unfounded accusations and curses from Internet users left Janet in a state of unprecedented depression.

Knowing that Janet was in a bad place, Brandon didn't say much. He decided to hold her tightly and stay by her side. Both of them were aware of the imminent danger that was waiting for them at every corner.

They felt like helpless preys targeted by a vicious predator.

The White family and Brandon's subordinates were all efficient. Within one night of investigation, they managed to investigate Vivi's accident, digging for all the details they could find. The news was disappointing nonetheless.

On the day of Vivi's car accident, the car she was driving was actually a new purchase. That same afternoon, she bought it from an unlicensed dealer. She wasn't the first owner of the car which turned out to be illegal too. With the dash cam damaged, no evidence of what had happened during the crash was left. In addition, there were no security cameras where the car was parked

before it was sold. It was impossible to know if anyone had tampered with the vehicle. The only clue they had was footage from a surveillance camera that caught Vivi's car before her accident.

But it was far from the exact site and when she passed, Vivi's car showed no signs of deceleration. She didn't even change her lane before colliding straight into the nearby roadside.

Considering the driving conditions at the time and how a human would normally react during an emergency, there were only two possibilities: either the car had malfunctioned or the driver wasn't in a prime driving condition.

As they studied the evidence, Janet and Brandon grew more certain that what had happened wasn't an accident.

Everything that had happened until now was all linked to a bigger conspiracy. One that was done almost flawlessly.

"I'm afraid this entire incident was really aimed at us," Brandon said. His voice was low but it reverberated in the room. With his eyebrows knitted, he watched the surveillance footage of the accident. "That time when Vivi pleaded for forgiveness at the hospital entrance was likely a part of their plan."

Janet was still pondering every detail they knew, but she nodded. Finally, she said, "We had just arrived at the hospital when Vivi appeared back then. The timing seemed too perfect. She must have known our schedule beforehand.

Some resourceful person must be supplying her with the information."

Brandon considered her words and everything else. He was lost in thought for a while before he added, "Moreover, Vivi even brought someone along to livestream the incident. I thought it was just one of her accomplices, but after what had happened, I'm certain a mastermind planned it all. That person was probably sent to assist Vivi.

"The enemy is hiding really well. We, on the other hand, are in plain sight,"

Janet said. A grim expression settled on her face. "The live stream at that time wasn't so Vivi would gain the users "sympathy. It was part of a bigger plan. The mastermind wanted the users to suspect me, with the live stream as their basis."

"That should be the case," Brandon agreed. "They used these two events to provoke the users' emotions. They want to direct the target toward you. Furthermore..."

Janet's eyes were calm as she said, "Furthermore, visit ninjanovel.com as your wife and the daughter of the White family, the stocks of the Larson Group and my family's company will surely be affected by this." Janet's gaze turned cold in an instant. "What a clever way to kill three birds with one stone."

Brandon looked down at the file his subordinates brought. He examined the evidence once more. After a while, he frowned and said, "What's even more cunning is that Vivi, for fear of media harassment or our retaliation, chose a route without surveillance cameras when she left the hospital. There's no way to find out where she went or whom she met after she left."

Janet's gaze landed on the documents as well. She studied each of them as carefully as she had just several moments ago. And just like earlier, she came out empty-handed.

A raging headache was brewing in her temples. She rubbed them while saying, "The people behind it had spent a long time calculating all this. So far, every step they took was perfect. They want us to go through mountains to find clues."

"Let's start investigating by other means," Brandon suggested. "With how meticulous they were, I doubt we'll find anything from the car accident. Let's begin by looking into the people that Vivi had any kind of contact with recently. We'll investigate everyone we can, including her colleagues, friends, and even strangers she may have spoken to."