

Chapter 1 Divorce

“Mr. Hughes, I am sorry to tell you that your mother is in the late stages of liver cancer...”

Jack stared at the doctor in front of him who was shaking his head, and he suddenly felt dizzy and the rims of his eyes were red with crying.

Since he was a child, his mother and him had been relying on each other. His mother had been working ceaselessly to support his schooling fees, and this had culminated in her current predicament. Without having the chance to enjoy her twilight years, she was suffering instead.

“Doctor, I beg you to save my mother. Is there really no other ways?” Jack’s voice was hoarse and sadness-stricken.

The doctor hesitated for one moment before answering him, “There is actually a way. We can do a liver transplant, and the hospital currently has the technology and resources to achieve that...”

He paused again while looking Jack up and down. He knew very well how the long and arduous medical treatments had taken a toll on Jack.

However, he decided to break it to him, “But... the fees are quite costly. The whole procedure probably needs at least two hundred thousand yuan.”

Two hundred thousand yuan?

Jack’s eyes suddenly lit up as he grabbed the doctor’s hands, “Then you must save her no matter what. I still have two hundred thousand yuan!”

He could work again to earn the amount, but he could never get another mother again if he lost his mother this time.

"Then you should come up with the amount soon. If this drags on further, the liver transplant would not be able to commence."

The doctor nodded while letting out a sigh before turning around to leave.

After exiting the hospital, a drizzle was drumming the earth.

After shooting a glance at Jack, Katherine asked, "Is there no more hope for my Mom?"

"The doctor told me that a liver transplant is the only way." Jack sounded as if he had grasped the last straw of hope as he continued excitedly, "The cost is two hundred thousand yuan, and it's lucky that we have this amount. My mother has one last chance here."

After he said that, he turned around to get the bank card.

However, Katherine's face changed as she halted him, "Jack, stop right there!"

Jack frowned as though he suddenly recalled something important. He turned around and stared at Katherine, "Where's the money?"

She looked guilty as she started to stammer.

"Did you give them to your family again?" Jack raised his eyebrows while flashing a bitter smile.

He headed to the sofa with weak legs while taking out a cigarette box from his pockets. With a flash, he ignited one cigarette and put it to his mouth while sucking in a mouthful. Then, he collapsed onto the sofa.

They had been married for three years, and this was not the first time something like this had happened.

"Katherine, that amount of money is my last hope to save mum." Exhaustion was seeping through Jack's voice. "Is there any

way to get it back?”

“Get it back?”

Katherine’s eyebrows shot up as she screeched, “Jack, what are you trying to say? I have offered that money to my parents as a way to show my filial piety. How can I ask for them to return it?”

A cold look entered Jack’s face as he said, “There is a compatible liver waiting for mum in the hospital right now. If I can pay the cost immediately, the hospital can carry out the liver transplant surgery immediately. From what I see, mum is on her last legs.”

“That is not my concern, you should come up with a solution since it’s your problem.” Katherine suddenly broke out in tears as she mumbled.

“Where do you expect me to get two hundred thousand yuan in such a short time?” Jack felt like his head was going to explode with anger, but he still begged Katherine with a pathetic tone, “Katherine, you have to help me this once. You have to get back that money. My mum needs that amount to stay alive!”

“Jack! I told you that I have given them to my mother. There’s no way I can ask for it again.” Katherine wailed while sitting on the floor. She continued crying, “Your mother is going to pass away anyway, but you still continue to throw all of our money to the hospital. Do you ever stand in my shoes and think for the family for once?”

A shiver ran through Jack’s body when he heard that. He felt that his anger was going to explode at any moment.

He swiftly grabbed Katherine’s phone as he threatened, “If you won’t call them, I will do it myself!”

Before Katherine could stop him, the call came through.

“Mum, Katherine has given you twenty thousand yuan, right?”

Jack implored, "Can you please return it for now? I need it to save my mother. I need that amount to pay for her surgery while she is waiting in the hospital."

At the other end of the phone, his mother-in-law rebuked him with a shriek, "Jack, what nonsense are you spouting now? Katherine has given us that amount to show her sincerity and filial piety, and you have the nerve to ask us to return them? We never agreed to your marriage last time, so you should consider yourself lucky that Katherine would agree to marry you, considering your poor background."

"Now, it's great that Katherine knows how to express her gratitude to us two for raising her, but you are such a good-for-nothing for begging us to return the money. Let me make it clear, Tommy is going to marry soon, and we are going to use that two hundred thousand yuan to pay for the deposit of his future house. You want it back? You will not even get any."

With that, the line went dead.

Jack was completely stunned. Was his mother-in-law somehow unable to understand his words?

"Jack, are you crazy?" Katherine grabbed Jack's clothes like mad as she howled, "How can you do that? Is it wrong for me to give some money to my parents?"

Jack stared at Katherine with listless eyes. His eyes were reddened now, "In your eyes, your brother's new house worth even more than my mum's life."

"Nonsense!"

Katherine let go of Jack before grabbing the items in their house and threw them in all direction.

In an instant, the living room was in a mess.

Katherine then slipped down onto the floor as she continued

to scold, "Jack, you are really a useless man. Why did I marry you back then? Do you know how much money you have burnt for your mother's sake? I have been eating frugally since I was married, and even our house right now is a rental unit. Do you ever think for my sake? Tommy is my little brother, so he is your brother too. If he is going to marry, is it wrong for me as her sister to lend a helping hand?"

"Lending a helping hand?"

Jack was completely mad at the moment, "In the three years that we are married, how many times have you helped that useless Tommy? The reason Tommy becomes a good-for-nothing that he is today is because of you guys, who have been spoiling him non-stop!"

"Don't you ever talk about my brother like that!" Katherine retorted with her face completely distorted as she pointed at him with trembling fingers.

Jack snickered coldly, "Why can't I comment about him? When he caused someone to become pregnant in his university days, I was the one who had settled this problem for him. I was the one who had bought him his car. Do you know how much I have contributed to your family? You are the one who is not thinking for our family's sake seeing that you couldn't stop spoiling your damn little brother!"

"Ah! Shut up." Katherine shrieked with a piercing pitch, "What do you mean by that? Do you want to ruin our lives?"

"You're the one who is planning to use the money which is supposed to treat my mother for your useless brother's house deposit. You're the one who is turning a blind eye towards my mother, so you're the one who is actually ruining our lives!"

Jack shrugged while declaring with a blank face, "Let's divorce!"

Katherine was stunned, "What, what did you say?"

In their three years of marriage, this was the first time Jack had talked to her using such a tone.

"Let's get a divorce." Jack repeated, "It seems like you're too miserable staying with me, and I am not worth your time as well. I can't comply with the antics of your family anymore."

After saying that, he turned around to leave.

He's not someone who liked to drag things around. Throughout the past three years, he had been enduring in silence all the time. He was able to do that because Katherine had agreed to marry him despite her superior background. Furthermore, her feelings towards him that time was another reason for him to carry on.

However, he finally couldn't stand her anymore.

When Jack was finally gone, Katherine finally returned to her senses.

She frantically picked up her phone to call her mother. She wailed when the call connected, "Mum... Jack is going to divorce me."

"That bastard dares to do that?"

At the other end of the phone, a sharp voice was blaring out, "Then just leave him! He's just a poor, useless guy yet he thinks he is something! The two hundred thousand yuan is with me anyway, you can make his wishes come true by leaving him. Let him struggle endlessly with his damn mother!"

At the same time, Jack was wandering aimlessly outside his house.

Tiny droplets of rain were falling down from the night sky, drenching him all over.

He scratched his head with frustration as he took it all out by

kicking the puddle by his feet.

Money! Every damn problem in this world happened because of money!

Now that he had fallen out with the Parry family, how could he get two hundred thousand yuan in a short time to save his mother?

Suddenly, a Rolls-Royce Phantom rolled to a stop beside Jack.

The window slowly unwind, and an old man wearing a traditional Tang suit appeared into view. He was smiling gently at Jack.

“You are the Master Hughes, right? Get in the car now, we are going to the LJ Hospital.”

Master Hughes?

Jack stared blankly at this old man in front of him, seemingly in a daze.

The old man smiled as he added, “Your mother is currently undergoing liver transplant surgery in the hospital right now as we speak.”

Chapter 2 My Father was Really Rich

Throughout the journey, Jack couldn't snap out from his daze.

It was as if he was dreaming in broad daylight.

He was stuck in this state until he followed the old man mechanically to the ICU unit of LJ Hospital and saw his mother bed-ridden with tubes sticking out all over her body, looking like she had just undergone a successful surgery. He suddenly came back to reality at her sight.

He was immediately enveloped by ecstasy, excitement and gratitude. These myriad of emotions came at him in torrents.

"Mr. Ward, as expected, the liver transplant surgery is very successful."

The doctor slowly strode towards them while announcing politely.

Jack was once again in a shock. This doctor was his mother's main surgeon. He was a very well-known specialist in LJ hospital whose reputation in the medical industry spread far and wide. He was an undisputable authority in his field of specialty.

The idea to carry out a liver transplant was suggested by this very doctor.

A distinguished medical giant like him was someone who had long gotten used to the ways of the upper-class society. He would look at ease as he bantered with government officials and peopled with huge power in their hands. However, in front of this old man, he looked strangely humble.

"Thank you, Dr. Hale." Mr. Ward answered with a smile while bowing to him.

Dr. Hale jerked slightly as he waved his hands anxiously, "You

can't do that, Mr. Ward. It is not in my position to receive your gratitude."

Dr. Hale was only able to heave a sigh of relief after seeing Mr. Ward straighten up.

Immediately, Jack looked towards Jack with a meaningful gaze as he smiled meekly, "Jack, you are a filial person, and you are fortunate as well. Your mother only needs to hang on for a while before fully recovering."

When Jack heard these exact words, his eyes reddened with tears as he couldn't hold in his emotions anymore.

"Thank you. Thank you so much Dr. Hale."

When Dr. Hale saw that Jack was going to kneel down, he frantically tried to stop him, "This is what a doctor should do. This is just a doctor's duty."

He was very well aware of Mr. Ward's background.

With Jack's mother so stricken by illness, Mr. Ward had come forth to visit her and take care of all matters concerning her surgery personally. This must mean that Jack was no ordinary person.

Jack was not ignorant too. He had seen Dr. Hale being so awkward when Mr. Ward was thanking him, so he was not surprised that Dr. Hale was feeling equally shocked when he saw Jack like this.

Although he had mentioned that this was a doctor's duty, his words were more suited to describe his previous self when he was diagnosing his mother's disease. At the moment, Dr. Hale was more fearful yet harbouring admiration towards this old man here.

"Mr. Ward, if there's nothing else, I shall take my leave now. I have already informed the dean of the hospital about your arrival." Dr. Hale declared.

Mr. Ward waved his hands lightly, "I don't want to create any buzz this time. So you'll have to pardon me if you want me to see the dean."

"Alright."

Dr. Hale didn't continue to persuade him as he turned around and left after shooting a somewhat regretful glance at Jack and left.

Suddenly, Jack collapsed onto his four limbs, as he kowtowed in front of Mr. Ward with tears all over his face.

"Thank you, Mr. Ward, for saving my mother. I will always remember your great kindness..."

Before he could finish his words, the old man hurriedly helped him up, "Master Hughes, get back on your feet now. I should be the one kneeling in front of you instead."

Jack's face was struck with astonishment as his excitement and agitation after learning the news that her mother was saved finally waned.

Since they met, Mr. Ward had been calling him as Master Hughes.

He was not from a rich background, and he had to depend on his mother for livelihood all the while. It was not until he finished his studies and got a job that his family situation finally began to improve.

This was precisely the reason he always felt guilty when Katherine had agreed to marry him back then. He always kept this gratitude in his heart.

So, the old man seemed like someone who was not from his world, let alone one who came in a Rolls-Royce Phantom!

Mr. Ward smiled faintly as he began to explain, "In fact, it was the master's intention to let me come here to save your mother."

After pausing for one moment, he added, "The master is none other than your father."

Suddenly, Jack felt his whole frame tense, and a drastic change of expression occurred to his face.

His father was someone too far away from him since the beginning.

His mother had told him that his father had already passed away before he was even born.

"That's impossible. My father has long passed away." Jack shook his head weakly.

Mr. Ward looked like he was anticipating such an answer, so he continued his explanation with a smile, "Your father is alive and well. On the contrary, he is someone with an affluent and powerful background. He fell in love with your mother and gave birth to you, but the details are too complicated to be able to explain to you now."

A turmoil of emotions was raging inside Jack's heart. He clenched his fist with his body shivering all over, seemingly unable to accept such a reality, "If he's still alive and as powerful as you claim, then why didn't he visit us even once in the past?"

He sounded more and more aggravated as he pointed at his mother in the ICU ward, "He has to wait until my mother is on her last legs to finally appear in my life? To top it off, he actually didn't come in person. He has sent you instead."

"He is just trying to protect your mother and you." Mr. Ward explained, "Now, he is the head of the family and he has never forgotten about you guys. He always feels sorry for not being able to take care of you, that is why he has sent me to visit you to make up for his mistakes for the past twenty years."

"Make up for his mistakes? How does he think he can do that?"

Jack's eyes were reddened as tears broke free from the corner of his eyes and trickled down his cheeks. He gnashed his teeth, "It's been twenty years. Does he know about our life in the past twenty years? I have been called an illegitimate child since I was young, and my mother had to wake up early every day to work for others so that we would have food on the table. She is in her current feverish state because she is paying the price for leading that kind of life!"

Suddenly, Mr. Ward slapped a black card engraved with a bauhinia insignia into his palms as he said, "This is just one of your father's way of apologizing to you."

Jack stared at the bank card in his palms while feeling stunned.

This was the first time he had seen this type of bank card.

In an instant, a surging rage was welling up from within him, threatening to erupt like the volcano.

Was his father trying to cover for his fault for the past twenty years with money?

However, Mr. Ward didn't give him a chance to explode, "This card is just a form of apology on his part. The reason your father has sent me here is to welcome you guys back to the family so that he can make up for his mistakes for the rest of his life."

"Of course, this also depends on your capability, Master Hughes. You have to make the other members of the family acknowledge you! I am here precisely to assist you in everything and help nurture you into a deserving heir who would someday inherit your father's legacy. By then, you would have command over all the wealth and power in the world. Your mother would be basking in the honour and glory she so deserves!"

Jack was completely dumbfounded.

Mr. Ward's words sounded like a voice from his nightmare as

they reverberated endlessly by his ears.

When finally came to himself, Mr. Ward was nowhere to be seen.

He fidgeted around with the bank card and saw a tiny line at the bottom, which contained Mr. Ward's contact number.

He rubbed his face exhaustedly while flashing a bitter smile. Jack looked at his mother who was lying peacefully in the ICU ward worriedly.

No matter what Mr. Ward had said, his mother's safety was still his top priority.

Earlier the next morning, Katherine called Jack and howled in her sharp voice to remind him to start the divorce proceedings.

Jack didn't say anything at all as he left the hospital with a cold expression. He hailed a taxi to head to the civil affairs bureau.

From afar, he could see an impatient figure walking back and forth in front of the bureau. Katherine was there before he arrived.

When she saw Jack, she immediately put on a strong stance as she scolded, "Jack, you better remember that it is me who wants to divorce you, not the other way around. You better don't regret in the future!"

"Let's do it, I will never regret this decision." Jack answered simply.

Katherine gawked at Jack's back as she was thrown into a daze.

They had been a couple for four years and they had been married for three years, but it was the first time she had seen this side of him.

She stomped the ground angrily before following his footsteps.

The divorce proceedings only needed ten minutes to complete.

After exiting the bureau, Katherine glared at Jack who didn't hesitate to leave as he commented venomously, "You will definitely regret this, you unfortunate man."

Suddenly, an Audi A4L rolled to a stop in front of Katherine. Her brother, Tommy, cocked his head out of the window as he said, "Sister, have you finally divorced that good-for-nothing guy?"

"Yes." Katherine shot a dissatisfied glance his way, "Are you really my brother? Why are you looking so happy when I have just divorced him."

Tommy let out a laugh, "Jack is always that useless guy. He was lucky he could get his hands on you. Now that you can finally leave him, it must be a great relief for you."

Katherine's expression changed slightly as she changed the topic, "Right, how is that matter with you and your girlfriend?"

Tommy showed a sour face, "Don't bring that up ever again. Shirley has a hungry appetite, seeing that she's working in the bank. She wants a betrothal gift worth five hundred thousand yuan as well as a car and a house. It's really a tall order to satisfy her appetite. Jack's two hundred thousand yuan is not going to cut it."

"Sorry to let you down." Katherine heaved a regretful sigh.

At the same time, after leaving the bureau, Jack didn't immediately return to LJ Hospital.

He took a taxi to a nearby bank.

Although he hated the fact that his father had sent Mr. Ward to compensate him financially to make up for his mistakes, he couldn't deny that he indeed needed money. He needed money for his mother's future treatments as well as paying their bills. He needed money the most in his current predicament.

Chapter 3 Bauhinia Bank Card

Walked into the bank, Jack got in line.

When the broadcast called his name, he went to the counter. But he was shocked to see the person behind the counter.

It was Shirley!

What a coincidence.

Jack narrowed his eyes. This Shirley was Tommy's girlfriend.

Although they had never met, Jack heard some stories about her and saw her pictures through Katherine.

He didn't hate her, he was a little bit angry about her.

Shirley had a pretty face and a nice job. Tommy was lucky that she was even willing to take a look at a loser, a NEET like him.

It was up to Shirley how much money she wanted as betrothal gift. He was pissed at the Perry Family, because they took the money he tended to use on his mom. He was forced to help his brother-in-law at no cost.

Jack took a deep breath, trying not to feel so blue. He smiled and put the bank card on the counter, "Hi, I want to withdraw some money."

Shirley was about to ask how much he needed, but she frowned when she saw the Bauhinia Card, "Sir, you sure this is a bank card?"

She repeatedly checked the plastic card while asking.

Jack was stunned for a second. Was that possible that Mr. Wand gave him a fake card?

On second thought, if he could bring out 200 thousand to pay her mom's hospital bill like it was nothing, it couldn't be a fake card.

"I'm sure." Jack nodded, but he was looking her up and down.

He couldn't tell her height for she was sitting there, however, the suits showed her amazing body figure. Her fair skin and delicate facial features generated men's desire to protect her.

He signed to himself, such a nice girl, just didn't know how to pick a man.

Shirley frowned even harder, but she didn't stop the card-reading process.

Her patience drained when the computer said the card couldn't be read.

Bang.

She smacked the card on the counter, and said emotionlessly, "Sorry, sir, this card can't be read."

Fuck!

Mr. Wand lied to me?

First, he gave me 200 thousand, and then fobbed off a fake card on me. It couldn't be right.

"Well, can you please try again? I promise you it's real." Jack was almost begging.

He and Katherine divorced, so he wanted to move into a new place with his mom.

Katherine took the last 20k, which made him so broke. Without money, not to mention pay for his mom's treatment, he couldn't even survive.

"Sir, did you do this on purpose?"

Shirley raised her eyebrow, speaking in a cold way, "I knew you were looking me up and down. If you wanna hit on me, at least come with a real debit card. You are wasting other clients' time, please leave, or I'll call security."

Jack froze. What the hell?

She didn't wait for his explanation. She held her arms in front of her chest, "Security!"

Suddenly, two securities walked over.

It was a busy morning with many clients at the bank, and most of them cast their eyes on Jack.

Jack panicked, he pointed the card and said, "This is a real card, and I am here for real business, how can you throw me out?"

Shirley, wearing a stone-cold face, gave him no response.

The security asked in a serious voice, "Sir, please leave. You harassed one of our staff during work hour, we'll call the police."

"I..." Anger rushed to his throat, he didn't get the money, and now he was considered a pervert.

Right at that moment, a potbellied man in suits came over.

"What's wrong?"

Shirley's attitude shifted right away, twisting her body and acting all delicate and touching. She pouted, "Manager, this guy wants to withdraw money with a fake card. And he was giving me prying eyes."

This scene confused furious Jack.

She could change from cold to flirting that quickly!

He remembered that Katherine told him she was a pure and innocent good girl. She and Tommy had only held hands since they were together.

He was neither stupid nor blind.

Shirley ... How was she pure, innocent and restrained?

The middle-aged man clouded his face, and the way he looked at Jack was completely hostile.

“Sir, this is a bank, please behave yourself. As the manager of this bank, I ask you to leave; otherwise I’ll let the security cast you out.”

The two securities smirked. It was an open secret that Shirley was the manager’s mistress.

Trying to flirt with Shirley? This dude must be insane.

She twisted her body even harder after hearing out the manager. She pouted again, “Manager, don’t waste time on him, just ask the security to throw him out.”

He got so provoked but he didn’t lose his temper, he just looked angry.

He only wanted to withdraw money from the Bauhinia Card Mr. Wand gave him. He was not gonna accept the fact that everybody was taking it on him.

He was a little bit angry at her, but now he saw her reactions, he totally lost his mind.

“Get him out of here!”

The manager frowned his eyebrows and yelled for Jack didn’t move at all.

If it wasn’t for his position, he could have ordered the securities to cast him out for a very simple reason – he cast greedy eyes on Shirley.

The securities were about to take moves, and the crowd was gathering.

Jack wasn’t so easy to pick on, and he wouldn’t swallow insult and humiliation silently.

He blew up because he was bullied so badly.

Bang!

Picking up the card and smacking it on the counter, he yelled,

"I'm to withdraw money, not to get accused of being a rogue. Do you want me to create a scene?"

Securities stopped immediately.

Though the manager was almost killing him with his eyes, he couldn't help but noticing the Bauhinia Card.

One second later.

The bank manager seemed to be stroke by a lightening. He couldn't think of anything but simply stared at Jack, "What ..."

Sweat, size of beans, oozed from his forehead.

"It's fake, manager." Shirley said with a careless sardonic grin, but she was frightened to see the sweat on his head.

Just the blink of an eye, the manager wiped out his sweat and his gloomy face turned into a flattering smile.

He humbled his back to Jack, smiling, "Sir, pardon my rudeness. I didn't know you were a VIP client. Please, come to my office, I will personally handle your business."

Jesus.

Shirley exclaimed in disbelief, "This ... this is real?"

"You know nothing!"

Sweat covered the manager's forehead. He first gave Shirley an angry stare, then suddenly turned to Jack with a smiling face, "Sir, this way."

Finally, someone knew who he was.

Jack lifted his eyebrows, throwing a disdainful look at stupefied Shirley, and followed the manager to his office.

Getting the money was priority. He decided to spare the manager since he chickened out. But he had a brand-new impression on this woman.

Meanwhile, he couldn't wait to see how much money was in there, because only the manager recognized it.

The moment they close the door, the silent lobby was filled with noise.

People were giving each other surprising faces.

No one would think there could be such a twist.

Shirley stood where she was, with tears in her glamorous eyes and her body shaking a little bit.

Because she just realized something serious.

She had made a fatal mistake.

A mistake that no one could cover it up for her.

Chapter 4 Invitation from Ex Sister-in-law

“Sir, it was my fault. I didn’t know who you were, please, forgive me.”

The first thing the manager did after closing the office door was to apologize. He tried to wipe out all the sweat several times, but failed. Even his back was wet.

The Bauhinia Card was very rare, common bank staff had no idea what it was.

Only people on his position or higher could recognize.

Owner of this card, if he went to the head office, head of the head office would serve this person. No one would dare to give him cold shoulder.

The manager was confused, why such an important client came to his branch?

And he actually waited in line to withdraw money.

He felt like his bank was bullying this client.

Jack lifted his head and looked at the manager calmly, “You nervous?”

He put up an embarrassed smile, “Of course not. I’ll make it up by bringing you a cup of tea.”

He knew how much a Bauhinia Card owner was valued, so he would do anything, even kneel to him, to let this guy spare him.

Otherwise, not only Shirley, he would also be fired.

“No, I just wanna take out some money from this card.” Jack said in an indifferent tone.

The manager couldn’t seem to stop sweating.

Was he ... not going to forgive him?

He looked awful, for a strong feeling of regret rushed to his head.

He worked his ass off for decades to get in this position, but one word from the VIP could kick him out of the game.

The manager fell with a flop on the ground in front of Jack, "Sir, that was a misunderstanding, I know you must be a very generous person, please forgive me."

Jack looked at him emotionlessly, wondering where all his arrogance went.

He smiled, "I only care about the money, nothing else, please get it done for me as soon as possible."

Although the manager had butterflies in his stomach, he still stood up and forced a smile, "Okay, I'll get it done right away."

Receiving his Bauhinia Card, he asked, "How much money do you need?"

"500 grand."

Jack could tell by the manager's reaction, this card must be something marvelous.

But his top priority was to get the money and pay for his mother's treatment, then find a place to stay.

"Fifty grand?" the manager almost screamed.

Jack frowned a little bit, but he realized what the manager meant, "Why? Do I need to make an appointment first to get so much money?"

"No, of course not. VIP like you doesn't need to do that," he was a little bit strange, but still explained, "One billion cash is the threshold to get this card, I was surprised you only needed such a small amount of money."

What?

So much was going on in his mind.

One billion?

In cash! Not the client's value!

Then you were only qualified to apply for this card.

My dad was a billionaire?

Not only the manager was surprised, Jack himself was stunned, too.

Some time later.

Jack was back to his calm self, "Just withdraw 500 grand."

The manager nodded and got everything done quickly.

Jack found a black trash bag at the office door and slipped the money into it. He left just like that.

The manager, with his ugly face, tried to beg Jack to forget all the unhappiness again. But watching him leave in a hurry, he gave up. He looked like if he were about to die when he crashed into his chair for sweat covered him.

In the bank lobby.

Jack grabbed the trash bag and strode outside.

Everyone was either looking at him, or gossiping quietly about him.

Shirley froze behind the counter, and her eyes were red out of tears.

As soon as she saw Jack, she went up to apologize.

She intended to follow him, however, Jack was walking too fast.

Disappointed as she was, she signed and stepped into the manager's office.

"Manager, what exactly happened?"

Looking at the manager in the chair, though she knew there was no good response but she asked anyway.

The manager came to himself and forced a smile, "That was a Bauhinia Card owner. One billion in cash only give you the qualification to apply for the membership of this card."

Shirley was so shocked that her pretty face suddenly turned pale.

She could never offend such a big client!

Recalling her attitude towards Jack, she felt so regretful that she could even slap herself.

She should feel lucky if a rich client look her up and down like that.

However, she displeased him.

"Manager, you ... you have to help me."

Shirley begged while her hands wrapped around manager's neck.

"Help?" The manager scratched his head in fret, "I need some fucking help. Even I could have been fired if he was not satisfied."

Shirley was in total despair.

A moment later, the manager's eyes lightened, "Well, are you sure that man looked at you in a different way?"

Shirley bit her red lips and nodded. She seemed lost.

The manager smacked his hands on the desk excitedly, "This can be fixed! This can be fixed! Shirley, I ask you to apologize to him. Do anything that can make him forgive you, or we are both fucked."

"But ..." She hesitated. Tears swirled in her eyes.

The manager made it clear that it was because of him that she can be a bank staff.

She had no choice but to say yes to his request.

Her teeth clenching her lip, Shirley nodded and left unwillingly

She was about to step out the door when the manager's deep voice came, "Remember my words, anything! It's good for both of us."

Left the bank, Jack stopped a cab and went straight to the hospital.

He got a text message on the way to the hospital.

"Hi, Mr. Hughes, I'm Shirley Lynn who handled your business just now. Tonight, I would like to invite you to dinner to apologize for my rudeness back there. I'll satisfy you. XOXO"

Jack sneered and put his phone down.

Shirley was a sexy woman, how could Jack not understand her intention?

The truth was that he was gonna forget all about that, and he wanted nothing to do with that woman.

Because Shirley was girlfriend to that loser Tommy. The whole Parry Family made him sick.

Arriving at LJ Hospital, Jack paid another 100 grand for his mother.

There was 400 grand left, enough for the down payments of a two-bedroom apartment, who would use that to rent a place?

New apartment meant he had to pay for decorations. He needed a place to live as soon as possible, renting was the best solution.

Jack had barely set foot outside the hospital, an Audi A4 blocked his way.

"Damn, isn't this my ex brother-in-law? Look at you!"

Tommy put on a playful smile. He stuck his head out of the

window and took off the sunglasses, looking at Jack with disrespect.

“What a coincidence, Tommy!” Jack smiled, “Where are you going?”

“Date night with my girl. The bank she works in is near the hospital.”

Tommy smiled, and his eyes moved to the trash bag in Jack’s hand. He taunted, “Dear god, you look awful. You live by picking up garbage since you left my sister?”

Jack’s smile faded.

Tommy patted his head, “Jesus, forgive my poor memory. You mom is dying in the hospital, and you have no money, of course you have to do this. My family helped you so much and you dared to divorce my sister? If you two stay married, we may help you a little bit.”

“Help?”

Jack laughed out of anger, and he stared at Tommy coldly, “As far as I know, I paid for your car.”

Tommy’s face suddenly turned red. He refuted, “Bullshit! This is an Audi A4, out of your league, you pauper!”

As soon as he finished speaking, he spit on the ground, slide into the car seat and drove away.

Watching him leave, Jack’s rage was spoiling.

A second later.

He took out the phone and texted Shirley, “You choose the time and place, but it better has a king-size bed.”

Chapter 5 The Charming Scene inside a Hotel Room

The moment Shirley received Jack's message, she immediately applied a leave of absence from her manager to prepare for that night's activity.

This whole thing was closely related to her future, as well as the manager's future. The manager even used unscrupulous method to retrieve Jack's contact number from his discreet information on his bank card.

Just as she was walking out of the bank with a heavy heart, she bumped into Tommy who was just alighting his car.

However, Tommy was oblivious to her demeanour, as he asked with a smile, "Shirley, did you get off work early today?"

"Tommy?"

Shirley was surprised but she immediately regained her composure after recalling her impending date with Tommy at night, "Yes, that's right. I have been feeling unwell, so I have applied for a leave from my manager."

"Ha Ha... That's great, since you can get off work so early, we should look for somewhere to chill. Let's play a game for a while, I have been very good at using this character called "Armour" recently in Honour of Kings. I have been getting consecutive kills with it and dominating the game, so let me lead the way for you." Tommy bragged about his achievements languidly.

Shirley couldn't help but frown. Was this dude having trouble understanding her words?

She stared at Tommy's smiley face while cursing him in her heart. What the fuck! Your girlfriend was going to get herself toyed with by a man tonight, yet you were here bragging about some game?

She suppressed her anger as she replied, "Tommy, I have something to attend to tonight. Let's go on a date at another time."

Tommy froze for a moment as he protested, "But you have already promised me to have a date tonight! We are supposed to have a dinner before going home and play the game together."

Shirley could feel her eyeballs throbbed as she thought about how useless this man was. However, she couldn't do anything to him since he was from the city.

With her background, she had no way of getting herself a property and cementing her status in the city. Even if she hooked up with the bank manager, she was very sure that the manager wouldn't just abandon his own family for her sake.

If it weren't for the fact that she wanted Tommy to help her raise her value, she would have kicked him hard in his nuts.

After taking in a deep breath, Shirley squeezed a smile while lightly pinching Tommy's cheeks, "That's enough, darling, I really have something to attend to at night. Didn't you just see me getting off work way earlier because I'm feeling unwell? I have to make up for my work tonight. We can have our date at another time."

"Alright." Tommy answered while looking dejected.

Tommy offered to send Shirley home, but she rejected him. Tommy could only help Shirley hail a taxi.

The bank manager coincidentally saw this sight, and he couldn't help letting out a chuckle. He muttered under his breath, "Fool."

After getting into the taxi, Shirley bit her bloody red lips while her body which was wrapped in her professional attire couldn't stop trembling. Her tears were about to let loose at any moment.

She pulled her hair with frustration while staring at the

scenery outside the car window with her blurry eyes.

If she wasn't so impulsive today, things wouldn't have worsen to this state.

She didn't mind getting pursued by a rich man at all. In fact, she would gladly throw herself into his embrace like a butterfly fawning towards the flowers. This was precisely what she had wanted, or else she wouldn't become the manager's secret mistress of lust.

However, everything changed after her impulsive actions.

While thinking of what was going to happen to her tonight, a strong sense of humiliation besieged her.

She could no longer hold her head high while flaunting her beauty and charisma and enjoying her deserved treatment. Now, she had to droop her head and be oppressed mercilessly...

Jack had rented a unit with two rooms near LJ Hospital for the purpose of taking care of his mother and tending to her mother's needs after she was discharged from the hospital.

After signing the contract, he promptly looked for a moving company to move his things from the house he used to live together with Katherine.

However, what sent a chill down his spine was the fact that the house was in tatters the moment he opened the door.

Katherine had moved her stuff away before long, and the only things left were his own stuff as well as his mother's stuff. Most of them were scattered messily on the floor.

There were photographs lying around on the floor. Those were their wedding photos, but they had been torn in half, leaving only him visible in those photos.

The other photo frame containing him and his mother was also smashed to the floor and it was now in pieces. There were

visible footprints on the pieces, indicating someone had trampled all over it some time ago.

Jack picked up that photo while gritting his teeth. He managed to force something out of his trembling teeth, "Are my mother and I always so insignificant in your heart?"

After sucking in a deep breath, he carefully kept the photo in his pockets before directing the workers from the moving company to start moving his stuff.

By the time everything was relocated to his new home, it was already six o'clock in the evening. At the same time, Jack also received Shirley's message.

He stretched himself slightly before departing to the hotel Shirley was staying in.

Soon, he arrived at the Aston Hotel.

This was a five-star hotel and Shirley was staying on the top floor. Through the floor-to-ceiling window, one could take in the scenic view of the city.

Shirley was wrapped in a bathrobe while lazily settling herself on a sofa right in front of the window. There was still moisture lingering on her hair, giving the impression that she had just gotten out of the bathroom.

She was swirling the red wine in the glass which she was holding, and she was already drunk. Her cheeks were rosy as she stared at the night view dizzily. However, there were signs of tears beneath her eyes.

She had hailed from the countryside and it was not easy to get into the city. In order to fully become one of them, she would try every means to get a higher status.

Having a work at the bank granted her a bright future and an identity she could be proud of. She gradually became more

confident and prideful.

She became Tommy's girlfriend not because of love, but because he could give her what she wanted all the time.

A betrothal gift worth five hundred thousand yuan, a house and also a car worth three hundred thousand yuan. These were enough for her to brag to others about her life.

Although the betrothal gift amounting to five hundred thousand yuan was not much, it was enough to buy a new house before her marriage. She would at least have some property to her name before her marriage, so in case she found a better partner, she could divorce Tommy and not lose everything.

Unfortunately, her impulsive actions this afternoon had forced her to be humble as she had to endure endless humiliation.

If things could start again from the beginning, she would definitely choose another way and make sure she could witness her dream turning into reality.

There was a slight knocking on the door.

"The door is unlocked." Shirley wiped off her tears while answering with an flirtatious voice.

Jack pushed the door open while coming into the room. He stared at Shirley who was illuminated by an enchanting glow with a blank expression. He was feeling disdainful in his heart.

This woman was basically worshiped by the Parry family and they could even put aside his mother's life and his well-being just to make her their daughter-in-law. However, this same woman was now in this hotel room.

He wondered how would their faces look like if they learnt of this?

"Mr. Hughes..."

Shirley stood up and poured a glass of red wine for Jack. She

handed him the glass, "Mr. Hughes, I'm really sorry for what had happened this afternoon."

Her body language was full of charm and enchantment.

Jack accepted the glass of wine calmly, "Don't you know that it's a serious crime to misuse a client's personal information?"

Shirley froze when she heard that. She didn't expect Jack to go in this direction.

She managed to put on a sheepish smile while she replied, "Aren't I trying to make up for my mistakes to you, Mr. Hughes?"

"How are you going to make up for your mistakes?"

Jack smiled faintly while finishing his glass of wine.

Before he could place his glass on the table, Shirley suddenly pounced on him.

The sound of glass shattering broke the silence in the room. Shards of glass were everywhere on the floor.

The shards were reflecting the city lights from the window and they were glowing faintly.

Chapter 6 Taking the Blame

In the early morning, Shirley gradually woke up from her dreams.

She was all alone in the room.

She sat up with great effort while clutching the blanket which covered her body with a dazed expression. She was still reeling from the effects of alcohol assaulting her brain.

Suddenly, her gaze fell upon a written note on the bed.

When she picked it up to read, she was instantly filled again by that sense of humiliation.

“You... must have practised yoga before, right?”

Although Jack was long gone, she could still feel the mockery through his handwriting.

She pulled her hair in frustration, not being able to vent her anger in any way at the moment.

Nonetheless, she was lucky that he had left behind this note. It probably meant that he had forgiven her for her deeds that afternoon.

At the same time, Tommy called her.

“Shirley, look at my achievements. I was so dominant last night. I was the MVP for ten consecutive games!”

Tommy spoke excitedly at the other end of the phone while Shirley was feeling her anger starting to take over her whole body. His girlfriend had been the MVP for another man the whole night, yet he could only think of a shabby game!

She exploded on the spot, “Tommy, you are an adult now, so why are you acting so childish? When are you planning to prepare my betrothal gift? Do you still want to get engaged to me?”

Do you still want to marry me?"

Tommy was caught off guard at the other end of the phone. After staying silent for a few seconds, he immediately comforted her, "Shirley, don't be angry. My family has been sourcing for money and we only end up like this because of Jack, that useless bastard. I will be able to marry you soon."

Jack?

Shirley felt her whole frame tensed up. That man from last night was called Jack too!

She instinctively asked, "Who's Jack? Is he a rich guy?"

"Rich my ass!"

Tommy began to complain, "He's my good-for-nothing brother-in-law and someone who's from a shabby background. My sister had no choice but to stay with him in a rental unit. Things would be better in multiple folds if he's rich."

Shirley shook her head while cursing at herself. The person that Tommy mentioned didn't sound like the same person who possessed the bank card with the bauhinia insignia.

"Shirley, please be patient for a little longer. My parents and my sister are gathering money as we speak, and soon it will be enough."

At the mention of Jack, Tommy seemed to be engulfed in anger, "If it were not because of that useless brother-in-law, no, I should reiterate, he's now my ex brother-in-law, we would be able to hold our wedding ceremony now."

"What does this have to do with him?" Shirley couldn't understand.

"Since he had married my sister, he had become my brother-in-law. As his younger brother who is going to marry, shouldn't he help me more? Instead, he just focused his attention on his dying

mother in the hospital and couldn't stop burning money for her sake. Not only he didn't help me at all, he has also divorced my sister. Tell me, is he as useless as I have said?"

Shirley had the urge to say something, but she suddenly hesitated. She felt like she had just swallowed dead flies into her stomach.

She replied impatiently, "Let's just stop here, I have been working overtime the whole night. Let me get some sleep." Then, she hung up the phone.

In the upcoming week, Jack was busy trudging back and forth from the hospital to his newly rented place to take care of his bed-ridden mother.

After the liver transplant, his mother had been making a steady recovery. According to the doctor, she could recuperate at home in a matter of days.

As for the matter concerning Shirley, he didn't waste any time worry about her at all.

It was just a whim that one night when he made life difficult for Shirley. He wouldn't do that if he hadn't bumped into Tommy who had cast sarcastic and despicable remarks his way the other day.

Early one morning, after taking care of his mother for the whole night, Jack received a call when he was walking out of the hospital to head home to rest.

"Jack, where the hell are you now?" A sharp male voice bombarded his ears as soon as he answered the call.

Jack frowned slightly. He recognized that this voice belonged to Ben, his superior in DT real estate agency.

"I'm sorry, Ben. My mother has been hospitalized." Jack explained.

“Is she dead? Is your mother dead? If she’s still alive, get your ass back here to work!”

Ben was practically screaming now, “Damn you, during the past week you’ve applied for leave, I was the one saving your ass for you. Get the hell back to the agency now and finish your work!”

Suddenly, the call was cut off.

“Saving my ass? Who is the one saving other’s ass?”

Jack let out a chuckle and a cold glint flashed in his eyes.

He wasn’t someone who was not capable at all. In fact, he always placed in the top rankings in every category during his student days. If it were not for his family situation and the fact that he missed his mother, he was fully capable of securing himself a scholarship and furthering his studies overseas. He could have explored a bigger world.

After graduating from university, he chose to work at a local real estate agency, and in just three years, he had cemented his position among the management ranks in the agency. He was the deputy manager of the agency.

If Ben wasn’t the general manager and his superior, he wouldn’t be stuck at his current position given three years of time in the agency.

The sole reason Ben was able to sit on top of him was because he was the brother-in-law of the director.

Due to his connection, he was able to solidify his grip on the general manager position despite the fact that he was largely incapable and only knew how to play around with women as well as bullying the female staff of the company.

These past few years, Jack was the one responsible for handling the important matters in the agency.

He was also responsible for covering Ben’s mistakes and

faulty decisions.

The funny thing was, the director seemed to have absolute faith in Ben's "capabilities." This had caused Jack to take the blame for most of the fiascos in the agency.

In the agency, he was widely known as the "blame taker", which was a nickname given to him by his colleagues.

He was able to hold on to his job for that long because he did enjoy good benefits and perks as the deputy manager. He needed the money for his mother's treatment as well as assisting Katherine's family. Otherwise, he would have resigned long ago.

He took out the Bauhinia bank card, and his eyes lit up as he snickered coldly, "This card has one billion yuan inside it. Although I hate that people always make up for something using money, I can't deny that money really provides comfort and makes me feel at ease. It has given me more choices in life."

At the DT real estate agency.

Jack hurriedly entered the agency and he was immediately dragged by Ben into the general manager's office.

After a loud slam, Ben settled into his seat with a grave expression. He perched his legs on his desk while lighting up a cigar with a worried look on his face.

Jack furrowed his brows slightly at the smell of tobacco. He never smoked and he hated the smell too.

"If I didn't call you, you would probably never come back anymore, am I right?" Ben spat out a puff of smoke while laughing coldly. He caressed his bald head with his left hand.

"That's not true. I have just been too busy attending to my mother's matters." Jack replied.

Ben was only a little more than forty years old, yet he had seemingly exhausted his youth after all those days immersing

himself in adultery. He already had a bald head even though he was still young. That's what garnered him his nickname as the "Old Mr. Hall".

"Ha Ha!"

Ben narrowed his eyes while letting out a cold laugh, "Jack, let me give you a piece of advice as your elder here. Your mother is the type who is prone to diseases, I am very aware of that. Instead of letting her suffer for no reason, you should just let her go off to heaven. That way, you could invest more time and energy in your work as well."

A hostile look flashed across Jack's eyes as he tried with all his might to suppress his anger, "Why are you summoning me here all of a sudden? What has happened?"

With a loud slam, Ben slammed down a document on the table as he answered faintly, "My brother-in-law is coming to the agency this afternoon to inspect things. This is the renovation contract of the West Shantytowns and it is you who was supposed to negotiate it with the contractors. Damn it, I have to take your place since you've applied leave from the company. This is your fault!"

"They really knew how to hold their drinks, and I was so drunk after a few rounds with them and had no choice but to sign this contract with an exorbitant cost."

Jack didn't even bother to glance at the contract because this was not the first time Ben had done something similar.

Ben could have agreed to a contract that came with a whooping price after a night of drinking and adultery and Jack wouldn't even be surprised.

Seeing that Jack didn't have any reaction, Ben placed his feet on the floor as he sat straight up, "You should know what you need to do, right?"

“Are you implying that I’m to take the blame again?” Jack narrowed his eyes and a frosty glare could be seen.

Ben slammed down his palms on the table while barking, “What the hell are you talking about? Who is asking you to take the blame? I am just caring for my junior here and raising you to a position of power. Do you think just anybody can do this? Jack, I don’t want to give you a lecture, but you should know how to be grateful. If it were not for me, how could you be at your position with your abilities after just three years of working in the agency?”

Jack was so angry he was strangely laughing now. He really should be “grateful” towards him!

Without Ben’s care and tutelage, he would have been a general manager by now.

Chapter 7 Acquiring a Company

“What are you laughing at?”

Ben frowned intensely and said arrogantly, “This matter should have been done by you. I helped you and now you expect me to take the blame for you when things go wrong?”

In what was said, it was obvious that he was distorting facts and blaming the innocent.

Jack shrugged furiously and taunted, “I’m sorry, I’m not shouldering this.”

What?!

Ben was shocked, had this person gone mad?

In the past when something similar happened, he had always agreed without so much as a word!

Ben became flustered when he saw Jack’s resolve. The contract for the project was 30 Million over the estimate.

At this value, when the upgrading of Shantytown was completed, not only will they not make any profits, the company may lose so much that it may become bankrupt.

In the afternoon, his brother-in-law wanted to go to the company to inspect and if this was discovered by him, then it would be sufficient for his brother-in-law to rage and kick him out of the company.

These few years he had been used to having an easy time sitting in the General Manager’s position. If he didn’t find a scapegoat for this, then how will he be able to find another job which doesn’t require him to do anything and yet can enjoy the benefits of the company?

It was obvious that the best person to take the blame would be Jack Hughes, the deputy general manager.

Over these years, when things went wrong Jack had shouldered the blame while he took the credit when things were successful. This arrangement had spoiled Ben to become unreasonable.

But now, Jack's refusal to do the same caught him off guard.

"Jack, what kind of attitude is this? Are you hoping to be fired?"

Ben stood up furiously and pointed at Jack's nose, "I had taken such good care of you all these years. You can sit in this position all thanks to me singing your praises to my brother-in-law. Otherwise, with your abilities, you can only be a minor program manager!"

"You must be grateful to your benefactor. How can you be so ungrateful and bite the hand that feeds you?"

Jack replied coldly, "Were you singing your own praises? Over these years, you are only focused on sucking up to your brother-in-law. Each time when something goes wrong, I was the one who cleared up your mess. Since you mentioned about being grateful to your benefactor, then it should be you who should be grateful to me!"

Bang!

Ben slapped the table and said sternly, "You must shoulder today's responsibility regardless of whether you agree or not! You should consider the hospitalization bills of your mother. If you don't have this job as the deputy general manager, do you think that you can still sustain her life?"

Jack frowned and became furious.

If it was the past, Ben's words would simply cut into his heart like a knife but he was able to suffer the injustices for the sake of his mother's treatment.

But that was then and now things were different.

When Ben saw Jack became deep in his thoughts, Ben thought that he had relented and grinned.

His expression changed as if he was a mafia boss and said arrogantly, "Jack, I know that you are filial. I won't let you take the blame for me for nothing. A hundred thousand! I will give you a hundred thousand if you are willing to take the blame. This amount of money is sufficient for a period of your mother's hospital bills and preserve her pathetic life a little while more."

Ben felt as if he had done sufficient to make up for the injustice to Jack.

As long as Jack wants to save his mother, Ben will be able to manipulate Jack.

Ben had investigated Jack's background thoroughly, otherwise, he couldn't have forced Jack to shoulder the blame for him repeatedly.

"Come over here." Jack narrowed his eyes and said, "I should thank you after all that you've helped me."

Ben was assumed that Jack had given in and laughed in content.

I don't believe that you would not submit to me for a hundred thousand yuan.

He didn't think twice and walked towards Jack feeling at ease and justified. He raised his hand to pat Jack on the shoulder and said, "We are all brothers and as your big brother, there is no need to thank me as long as..."

Bash!

Before he could finish his words, Jack immediately punched Ben on his face.

Ben shouted "Argh" and covered his face in pain and

stumbled backward while bleeding from his nose.

He screamed in surprise, “Jack, are you out of your mind?”

“Exactly! I’m out of my mind! You can say what you want about me but when you start to curse my mother, I will fight you to the death!

Jack was full of anger and rushed forward to kick Ben over and yelled, “This is my thanks to your entire family!”

“Bastard, you crazy fool, you no longer work here, fuck off!”

Ben was sharp and vile with his words but after long bouts of drinking and partying, he had long depleted his body health and dared not get into a physical fight with Jack. “You’re fired! Fuck off from my sight! I will continue to curse your mother. Now that you this crazy mutt is jobless, you can go to the hospital and wait to die with your mother!”

Whack, smash, bash...

Jack stepped forward and ruthlessly stepped on to Ben’s body.

In the three years after graduation, he worked tirelessly and took the blame for Ben repeatedly all because of earning money for his mother’s medical treatment and to provide for her.

He can endure humiliations but he can’t allow his mother to be humiliated!

In the office, Ben began to squeal like a pig.

The commotion attracted many of the workers.

All of the workers looked through the window into the office and were shocked by what they saw.

Oh god! Has the scapegoat forgotten to take his medicine today and gone mad?

But no one went into the office to stop him. Over the years,

the workers had developed a deep resentment towards Ben and when the workers saw Jack beating Ben up, all of them felt that he deserved it and had it coming.

Jack continued to punch him and stopped only when he was exhausted.

Ben was laying on the floor with his face bloodied and swollen. However, he still stared defiantly at Jack, "You're finished! You have doomed your mother to death! Today, even if God comes, you will not be able to retain your job!"

Jack laughed coldly, and his eyes glimmered in disgust, "I came today to quit but now, I have changed my mind."

Ben was stunned.

Then, Jack took out his phone and looked at a note, and made a call.

The call was connected after a few seconds.

"Mr. Wald, I want to take over the DT real estate agency!" Jack said clearly.

Ben, who was stunned, started to laugh heartily.

"Hahaha... I'm so scared, I'm so scared, I was wondering what you changed your mind about. Acquire the company? By a pauper like you? Your money had all gone to the hospitals. What the hell are you going to buy the company with?"

Outside the office, everyone was shocked and in awe.

They were silent a moment ago and now they erupted in amazement.

"Did, did I hear wrongly? Mr. Hughes wants to buy the DT real estate agency?"

"Are you kidding me? The scapegoat must have lost his mind and said it to spite Ben. How does he have the money to buy the

DT? Though the DT isn't big, it is easily valued at a hundred million!"

"Mr. Hughes indeed earned a lot over these three years but all his money had been either spent on medical treatments for his mother or taken by his wife. How does he have a hundred million to buy the company?"

...

Jack was calm as he heard the workers' comments and he sat nonchalantly on the chair and waited patiently.

It was Ben who struggled to his feet as if he had forgotten about the severe beating Jack had just given him.

He spat out a mouthful of blood and with a face of scorn, laughed and said, "Look at yourself, even the workers know about your situation and you are now acting like a boss in front of me? Buy the company? You should use your money to buy an urn for your mother!"

Jack glared chillingly at Ben which caused him to back away in fear and shut his mouth.

As Ben stumbled to his executive armchair to sit down, his phone started to ring.

Ben looked at his phone and the caller was his brother-in-law, Aiden.

The call was nothing out of the ordinary since Aiden had planned to visit the company in the afternoon.

He spat out another mouthful of blood and Ben waved the phone at Jack, "It's my brother-in-law, don't you want to buy the company? Do you want me to pass the phone to you so that you can negotiate with him?"

After saying, he answered the call.

Chapter 8 A Company On The Verge of Bankruptcy

Jack sat nonchalantly on the chair and grinned.

It wasn't easy to acquire a company.

Furthermore, in these couple of years, DT's profits had been on the rise under his management.

But, as long as the price was enough, everything can be bought. All it took was to throw sufficient money at it!

The Bauhinia bank card in his pocket has a billion and was more than enough to buy DT.

But it would be more expedient for Mr. Wald to do the acquisition.

Ben answered the call and laughed gleefully, "Hey, Aiden, when are you coming to the company? I'll receive you in person and report to you on the company's progress. I also helped the company get rid of a trouble maker."

Since he had fired Jack, he can totally hang the overpriced contract incident around Jack's neck and blame it on him.

After all, the fired Jack was 'dead' to DT and if Ben was to put the blame on a 'dead man', how could a 'dead man' speak up for himself?

However, at the next second, Ben's smile turned into terror.

"What? The company had been sold?"

The deafening shrill reverberated through the office.

The workers outside the door were stunned and shocked.

DT's profits had been on the rise these couple of years. If the boss was still thinking straight, it was unthinkable that this cash cow would be sold!

Immediately everyone seemed to have been shocked awake

and remembered what Jack had just said.

Unless...

One by one they looked at Jack in disbelief.

Ben also reacted suddenly and looked at Jack panic-stricken and said with a raspy voice, "You... how did you do it?"

"The company is mine now."

Jack got up slowly and smiled proudly. What surprised him was how fast Mr. Wald completed the task.

But, with this incident, he also witnessed Mr. Wald's capabilities.

He was well aware of the boss of DT. It took more than just money to be able to acquire a company valued at a hundred million in a matter of minutes.

"Impossible, this is impossible."

Ben was flushed with shame and spoke to the phone like a mad man, "Aiden, why did you sell the company so suddenly? Why didn't you discuss it with me? Our company had been profitable, and can soon be listed on the stock exchange, you..."

Bang!

The last sliver of Ben's hope evaporated when the call ended.

Jack laughed and said, "You're jobless now. Even if God comes, you will not be able to retain your job!"

With a tone of disdain, Jack used Ben's exact words against him.

Ben's body trembled and was furious till his eyes were bloodshot. Jack's words were like a huge slap across his face.

But he can't figure out how did a person who repeatedly took the blame for him for the sake of money can suddenly have so much money to acquire the company.

Ben could sense that the workers were rejoicing at his misfortune and became worked up.

Shame, fury, dismay... all sorts of feelings were raging within him.

Suddenly, the contract on the table caught his attention and he laughed heartily.

"Hahaha... acquire the company? Jack, you are great! You are so smart that I have the urge to learn from you!"

Ben pointed to the contract and continued with his laughter but with contempt, "You must have seen this contract on the upgrading of the shantytown. I overpriced it by 30 million! Since you bought over DT, you have to honor this contract. This hot potato is enough to bankrupt your company!"

Before, he was still upset with himself for making such a huge mistake when he was drunk. But now that Jack hit him in the face in front of so many people, this overpriced contract gave him an unexpected victory and revenge.

Although DT was valued at a hundred million, the contract which was overestimated by 30 million was undoubtedly a disaster for DT.

Jack was practically taking over his mistake by acquiring DT at this moment. To think that he wagered his life to get back at Ben!

Just this upgrading contract was enough to cause Jack to go bankrupt.

"30 million?"

Jack's pupils constricted and his expression turned dark, "You are truly a fool!"

Whoa ...

The onlooking workers' expression collectively changed in

exclamation.

Has Ben Hall lost his mind?

As the General Manager of DT, how foolish must he be to sign such an exorbitantly priced contract?

Following that, they all shifted their anxious and doubtful eyes towards Jack.

Seeing Jack's expression, Ben began to laugh merrily with a feeling that he had turned the table.

"By acquiring DT, at the most I will lose my position as a General Manager. But my brother-in-law has many companies and I can easily rise again. But it's different for you. Not only are you cleaning up my mess, you have to incur a loss to the verge of bankruptcy. Isn't that maddening?"

"Are you done? If you're done, get the hell out of the company."

Jack sighed and wiped his face as he glared furiously at Ben.

He was well aware of Ben's incompetence and he anticipated him to sign an overpriced contract.

But he didn't expect it to be overpriced by 30 million.

"I'll leave immediately."

Ben laughed heartily like a victorious general as he left. As soon as he reached the door, he looked at the workers arrogantly, "You've heard it for yourselves, at least I was your boss for such a long time. Now I'll offer you a way out."

He raised two fingers, "Either you leave with me and I will make sure that you can have my crumbs when I feast. Otherwise, you can stay and remain with this worthless bum and struggle until the company goes bankrupt."

But no one answered.

The workers were fully aware who had been managing DT.

Between Jack and Ben, everyone was clear about who was stronger when it came to comparing character or capabilities.

Jack turned and looked at everyone, "Each of you is fully aware of my capabilities. Since I dare to take over DT, what's there to worry about 30 million?"

The workers looked towards Jack with a sparkle in their eyes.

Thereafter, they stepped aside to create a pathway for Ben to leave.

Ben's expression turned blue. He knew that he didn't capture the hearts and minds of the workers but he didn't expect that he couldn't get one of them to leave with him.

"Bunch of short-sighted worthless scums. Do you think that he is a deity? Go ahead and follow him to your death!"

Ben left after yelling furiously.

A moment later.

A worker asked, "Jack, Jack, are you sure we can settle the 30 million?"

"When have I lied to you ever since I became your leader?"

Jack smiled and waved, "Everyone back to work. Now the focus of the company will shift to the West Shantytown upgrading project."

At the moment when Jack took over the DT company, the Parry family had an upheaval.

"Father mother, when are you able to prepare my bridal gifts?"

Tommy tensed up and said, "Shirley's family is pushing me. Do you still want me to get married to her and continue the

bloodline of the Parry family?"

Since he was young, he had been used to getting whatever he demanded and the entire family revolved around him.

The parents were hesitating but became anxious when they heard the words "continuing the bloodline".

His mother, Elissa, said anxiously, "Tommy, don't fret, aren't we already trying to raise the money?"

"Yes yes yes, carrying on the bloodline for the family is an important matter. We are more anxious than you regarding your marriage with Shirley!" His father, Kieran said.

"Anxious? Then when can you produce the money?"

Tommy smashed the cup onto the ground, "One week, just one week. Next week I must give the money to Shirley. I want to be engaged with her."

"Tommy!" Katherine couldn't bear to watch any further, stood up and lectured, "How can you talk to father and mother in that manner? Who in our family isn't anxious about your marriage with Shirley? Why did you smash the cup and raise your voice?"

"Hush Kate! What right do you have to speak?"

Elissa said sternly causing Katherine to be stunned.

Kieran knew that what Elissa said was too extreme and quickly tugged Elissa and said with a sigh, "I told you previously not to rush Kate and Jack to divorce. At least he was the Deputy General Manager of DT and can help to raise the money. Look at the situation now. You took the 200 thousand meant for his mother's treatment resulting in their divorce."

"Blame me?"

Elissa frowned, "Tommy is anxious to get married to Shirley. If we don't take his money, do you expect us to borrow the money? Don't we have to repay if we were to borrow the money?"

"But aren't we going around borrowing the money now? 500 thousand for the cash gift, an apartment, and a car. Even Jack's 200 thousand isn't enough." Kieran said helplessly.

Elissa raged wickedly and suddenly walked to Katherine. She used her finger to jab at Katherine's temple, "All thanks to you for finding a pauper and useless bum like Jack. Now you can't even help your brother. What kind of sister are you?"

Katherine's body trembled and her eyes turned red as the tears gathered in her eyes.

After she scolded, Elissa suddenly remarked, "Yes! Matchmake. Kate, go and participate in matchmaking. This time your father and I will decide for you. We'll find someone rich for you and your brother's bridal gift will be settled!"

Katherine was stunned and her tears started to flow as she said, "Mom, what do you take me for?"

Chapter 9 Turn the Corner

In the rented house.

Wearing a red traditional Tang suit, Mr. Ward was sitting on the sofa and seriously looked at Jack Hughes.

"Young master. It was reckless of you to acquire DT real estate agency this time. DT real estate agency has just taken the project of reconstruction of West Shantytowns, which can result in the bankrupt of it."

Having received the call about the acquisition from Jack, Mr. Ward contacted DT real estate agency at once. Mr. Ward finished the acquisition by his background and the price three times higher than its market value.

However, he was frustrated after investigating the situation of the DT real estate agency.

It wouldn't be a losing business if they had acquired DT real estate agency when it was rising profitable. The 130 million was only for Young master's practice, which was no big deal.

Young master certainly had to go through such kind of practice, if he wanted to go back to the family with his mother.

The business was going to be more and more successful in the future, which would stop those rumors in the family.

But it turned out to be terrible because of the contract.

It was only a matter of time before DT real estate agency went bankrupt.

It wasn't that they couldn't bear the loss of money. After all, there was 1 billion in the Bauhinia bank card that old master gave to Young master. Those 130 million didn't count for much.

The point was that others in the family would consider Young master incompetent, once they knew the failure of Young master's

first business. It was difficult for the young master to take his mother back to the family then.

"You are right, Mr. Ward. I was a little reckless indeed." Jack didn't deny it. The project of reconstruction of West Shantytowns was beyond his expectation as well.

Mr. Ward said with great earnestness, "The reason why old master sent me to help young master is that he wants you to make progress and gain glorious achievements. Then old master will grandly transfer the family business to you in the future. He will fairly take you and your mother back to the family. If the acquisition and bankrupt of DT real estate agency, however, is known to the others in the family..."

Jack rapped the table and smiled, "Who says that I'll lose money?"

Mr. Ward startled.

"Doesn't he want me to do well? That's why I acquired DT real estate agency."

Jack had a confident smiling on his face while some resentment was in his eyes, "He has abandoned my mother and me for 20 years. What's the big deal that I loss some money of his?"

Mr. Ward got a little anxious, "It's not a problem of money!"

"I didn't expect the project of reconstruction of West Shantytowns was 30 million higher than its original value indeed. But I'm not a good-for-nothing who can't bear it as you think. Otherwise, how did I manage to become the deputy general manager within 3 years"

With keen eyes, Jack was full of confidence which made Mr. Ward frown. He continued, "Tell him don't worry. Having been scolding bastard for the past 20 years, I get here step by step. I'll prove my achievements and show my excellence to him."

"Not only I'm going to make it, but also I'll make him astonished by my achievements. It's ridiculous that he brings me and my bother back to the family, giving my mother glory. That's what my mother deserves! I'll bring it to her on my own!"

Jack spoke with a forceful and sonorous tone.

Though Mr. Ward was quite calm, he changed his expression involuntarily. Mr. Ward got the deep resentment from Jack's words.

He was about to persuade him, but was shocked on the spot by Jack's following words.

"DT real estate agency won't be bankrupted in my charge. Instead, it's going to be more prosperous. I'll make profits from the reconstruction of West Shantytowns rather than loss money!"

Jack smiling held up three fingers, "Give me three days. As long as you do me a favor, I have the confidence to turn the corner!"

If it was previous Jack, let alone the takeover of DT real estate agency, though having money, he could do nothing but take the failure, facing such a situation.

But now, he was totally different!

This was also the reason why Jack got shocked for only a second when knowing that Ben Hall had signed the contract with an outrageous price.

He had the total assurance to turn the corner!

"Is it really profitable, young master?"

Mr. Ward became excited. He was sent to assist the young master. He couldn't explain to old master if young master failed at his first business. Jack's confidence and determination, however, gave him some hope. "Just tell me, Young master. I'll definitely put all my efforts!"

10 minutes later, Mr.Ward delightedly left the rented house.

Getting on the Rolls-Royce Phantom, Mr.Ward couldn't wait to make a call.

"Old master, it seems that we have underestimated young master. He have made more progress than we thought over the years."

Once the phone got answered, Mr. Ward said in excitement, "The acquisition is going to be a great success if it follows Young master's plan."

Pausing a few seconds, Mr.Ward sighed and said helplessly, "However...Young master is resentful for what you have done at that time. His resentment..."

In the rented house, Jack had no idea that Mr.Ward was calling his father and reporting everything to him.

Rubbing his face and calming down, Jack went into the kitchen. His mother was still in recovery in the hospital, so necessary nutrition needed to be well prepared.

Although take-out food was convenient, Jack couldn't trust it. No matter how busy he was, Jack would rather cook for his mother on his own.

He tried so hard to earn money after graduation. On the one hand, he didn't want to disappoint Katherine's expectations. On the other hand, he was trying to pay back the love that his mother has been doing for him these years. Jack wanted his mother to have a happy life.

He couldn't help the Parry family. After divorce, all his mind was on his career and taking care of his mother.

Expertly putting all the ingredients into the casserole one by one, Jack turned into the soft fire to stew. He then went back to the living room to have a rest.

At this moment, his WeChat had a ring of adding contacts.

Checking the message, Jack smiled helplessly. Did the former sister-in-law not get a serious lesson?

After Jack clicked "Confirm", Shirley soon sent a message.

"Are you free tonight, Mr. Hughes? I would like to invite you for a dinner."

It appeared that the lesson last time wasn't enough!

Jack rubbed his nose. Katherine tried so hard to let him help her brother marry Shirley Lynn, whereas Shirley came to him. What was the reaction of the Parry family if they knew it?

Jack quickly replied a message, "Sorry. I'm busy. My mother is in the hospital and I need to take care of her. By the way, you are harassing me, I think."

Shirley almost replied immediately, "Harassing? Yes, I'm harassing you. Mr. Hughes, you are such a bad guy."

Jack sneered. He was about to put the phone aside and ignored her.

All of you sudden, a message was sent from a friend who hadn't contacted me for a long time.

Jack looked at the screen in a daze.

A message was sent from the other side, "Jack, I heard that you got divorced with Katherine?"

Rubbing his nose, Jack had a bitter smile.

It was inevitable that their divorce would be known to the people around them. As for the Parry family, they absolutely wouldn't hide it that he, a man who came from a humble background, had been dumped.

Nevertheless, he didn't expect it was her that first asked about it.

Simply replying "Yes", Jack switched off his phone. He came to the kitchen again and carefully cooked soup for his mother.

On the other side, Shirley curled up in the bed with her hair down and sexy shoulders exposed. She knitted her brows and stared at the phone.

"Why no reply? I've made it so explicit. Does he not get my point?"

Shaking her head, Shirley was amused by the thought.

Didn't get it?

If so, why he was straightforward last time?

Hesitating for a moment, Shirley then sent another message to Jack, "Mr. Hughes, is your mother sick? Which hospital is she in? I want to visit her."

Shirley was clear about what she wanted. That was why she would want to marry Tommy Parry.

However, when there was a better goal, she didn't mind continuing to chase.

Even she had lost her dignity which was wantonly trampled down in front of the man.

For adults, there were only advantages and disadvantages rather than right or wrong.

And now, swallowing all her pride and frankly chasing Jack Hughes would have more advantages than disadvantages in her mind.

Having not received Jack's reply for a while, Shirley frowned even more and was a little upset.

Tommy sent a message at this moment.

"What are you doing, Shirley? Let's play Arena of Valor together. By the way, my parents said the betrothal gifts will be

fully prepared after one week. Then we can get engaged and prepare for getting married."

"Annoying!"

Shirley impatiently scolded a word and quickly replied, "Aright. I know. I'll take a shower first."

Chapter 10 Encounter

In the early morning of the next day, Jack came to the hospital to look after his mother with breakfast.

His mother was getting better and better day by day. It wouldn't take a long time for her to be discharged and nurse her body at home.

Because of Mr. Ward, his mother had been meticulously taken care of in the hospital. Jack was quite relieved about that.

Then, Jack ought to prepare for the reconstruction of the West Shantytowns.

It was his first time to come to the public and work on a project.

Although it was him who had fully operated the business of DT real estate agency before, Ben Hall, the jerk, falsely claimed the credit as his own after all.

But this time, he would not only turn a corner at the project of reconstruction of West Shantytowns but also make DT real estate agency famous.

More importantly, he wanted to prove his ability to his father.

Having abandoned and betrayed them for the past 20 years, now he suddenly appeared and planned for a reunion.

The money given by Mr. Ward had solved his urgency indeed.

But Jack was clear that money was very important, while there were some things that couldn't be made up by it at all.

His father, who he had never met, was essentially dealing with him.

If he succeeded, Jack could take his mother back to the family. He could take charge of everything and make his mother

the most honorable lady.

If not, he and his mother would live as usual, while his father might be as if he had never existed as well.

The only difference would be the Bauhinia bank card in his pocket.

Jack and his mother had been living with each other for 20 years. She had devoted everything to him. Even if it was not for himself, Jack had to get the glory back to them which originally belonged to his mother.

Jack slowly went out of the hospital at a slow pace, he was thinking about the project of the reconstruction of West Shantytowns in the mind.

Meanwhile.

There was a traffic jam on the road out of the hospital.

In an Audi A4, seeing the still traffic, Tommy got angry and slapped the wheel.

"Damn it. What the hell are they doing? The damn cars cost only hundred thousand. How could they dare to drive these ones on the road and made me so unhappy?"

Sitting on the passenger seat, Shirley slightly knitted her brows, "Are you a Road Rage, Tommy? What's the matter that they drive cars costing hundred thousand?"

"I'm only afraid that you may be late for work."

With a saccharine smile, Tommy changed the topic, "By the way, Shirley, you said you went to shower when I invited you to play the Arena of Valor last night. Why didn't you log in later? You didn't know that I played it..."

"Can you grow up and be mature?" Shirley looked away and berated him, "I was too tired last night and fell asleep after the shower."

Actually, Shirley had been upset and distracted due to no reply from Jack. She had no mood to chat with Tommy at all.

Of course, she couldn't tell Tommy the fact.

Tommy frowned and was quite unhappy,

"What's wrong with your bank. You are only a bank teller. Why they make you so tired? You just had an overnight shift a week ago, right?"

Shirley's expression instantly changed. With flickering eyes, she lowered her head down and dared not to look at Tommy. Shirley was afraid that he might find out something unusual.

Tommy, however, considered the scene that Shirley was really exhausted.

Tommy felt sorry for her and said, "It's OK, Shirley. My parents will prepare the betrothal gifts well after a week. We can get engaged then. After we are married late, you don't need to work if tired."

"Will you support me if I don't go working?" Shirley glanced at him.

Tommy paused and soon chuckled, "No problem. You are my wife!"

"How will you support me?" asked Shirley.

Tommy waved his hand, "My sister, of course. Don't worry. She has divorced the loser bother-in-law. My mom now is busy getting a rich man for her. We don't need to worry about the money."

More tightly frowned, Shirley disliked Tommy suddenly.

Tommy didn't feel ashamed at all while saying so. How could he take it for granted?

How could a mommy's boy talk so reasonably?

She even had a feeling of guilt for Katherine.

Taking a deep breath, Shirley oddly asked, "What did your sister do wrong?"

"Isn't that what she should do? She is my sister. Marrying you is to have a son to carry on my family name. She ought to help me." Tommy talked as a matter of course.

That made Shirley more annoyed. She wished to give him a slap if not for the marriage.

Because of their marriage, not only Katherine got divorced, but also Tommy's brother-in-law became an unlucky wretch.

She suddenly was sympathetic to the man named Jack. He was really unlucky.

Thinking of Jack, a little bitterness flashed through Shirley's eyes.

Squinting at Tommy, Shirley somehow asked, "Tommy, your former brother-in-law is called Jack. Is he really poor?"

"Oh well...He was a man comes from humble background. How could he have money." Tommy rolled his eye. "Why do you ask about it again?"

Shaking her head, Shirley thought she was madly thinking of the man.

Names like Jack were quite common. Why she was naively led by a name.

Shirley explained, "A customer named Jack came to our bank a week ago. He withdrew money with a bank card which I didn't know at all, so I was pretty impressed. You said that the name of your former brother-in-law is Jack as well. That's why I asked so."

"HaHaHa... What are you thinking about, Shirley? How could it be possible?"

Tommy laughed his head off and said with disdain, "Jack Hughes, the wimp, is a total poor man. He does have some achievements and now is the deputy general manager of DT real estate agency. However, the money he earns has all been spent on his sick mother for sustaining her life in the hospital. If he is rich, I'll write my name backwards!"

Sick mother?

Shirley felt a shiver. She suddenly thought of the message replied by Jack Hughes last night.

Was this...a coincidence as well?

Tommy continued to sneer, "But the Jack Hughes you met is pretty awesome. Even you don't know the bank card he has. He must be wealthy. My former brother-in-law, the wimp, is also named Jack Hughes. Why the difference between them can be so huge?"

All of a sudden, out of the corner of his eyes, Tommy glimpsed the doorway of LJ Hospital. A familiar figure appeared in his eyes.

Tommy smiled scornfully and said to Shirley, "Shirley, you haven't met my former brother-in-law, right? What a coincidence. I'll introduce him to you and you may tell if he is a rich man."

After saying so, he quickly turned the wheel.

Getting out of the traffic, the Audi drove into the gate of LJ Hospital.

Shirley was startled by Tommy and screamed, "Are you crazy, Tommy? Do you want to die driving like this on the road?"

Creak!

Audi stopped in front of Jack.

Jack stopped suddenly while he was thinking about the reconstruction of West Shantytowns. With knitted brows, he

looked coolly.

Almost!

If Jack didn't stop quickly in time, he would be directly hit far away by that fast driving car.

"Tommy Parry?"

Jack angrily looked ahead and just saw Tommy getting out of his car. He then coldly asked, "Are you trying to kill me?"

"HaHa... Jack Hughes. It was a joke. Did I scare you? Sorry," Tommy said indifferently and laughed.

Joke?

Jack soon had a totally serious look. Making fun of someone's life was a joke?

Tommy didn't care much about Jack's feelings. He raised his hands and pointed to LJ hospital, "Again, you come here...to see your mother?"

"Yep," Jack answered coolly.

"She isn't in a good condition now, is she?"

Smiling weirdly, Tommy shrugged, "You are my former brother-in-law anyway. I have to say something to you about it. Your mother is going to die soon. You barely sustain her life by spending plenty of money in the hospital. You may just let her go quickly in case losing both her life and your money."

Crack!

Jack clenched his hands suddenly and the knuckles were cracked loud.

Meanwhile, Shirley had already been stunned in Audi.

Shirley stared at Jack with her wide eyes, the cool face she saw was like a hammer that heavily hit her eyes. The face was entirely the same as that in her memory.

She covered her red lips with hands and nearly screamed out.

It was really...him!