Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

Shane fixated his gaze on Penny and grinned, "Hi, Ms. Smith."

Penny looked at him defensively. "Can I help you?"

Shane continued to grin and say, "Don't worry, Ms. Smith, I come with good intentions. I owe you a thank you. I wouldn't have been made the CEO if you didn't send my sister to jail."

Penny replied coldly, "Your sister brought everything upon herself, and has nothing to do with anyone else."



Shane continued to smile at her.

He glanced greedily at her voluptuous chest and said, "I heard that Cross Group wants to bid for the vaccine distributorship. However, I also heard that you didn't even get a party invitation from Professor Jenson?"

Penny wondered how Shane knew about it, but she still replied coolly, "I believe that this is none of your business." Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

Still beaming, Shane said, "Chance Pharmaceuticals is considered a leading drug manufacturer in the South. I have two invitations from Professor Jenson, and I could give you one of them."

Penny was surprised but she quickly calmed down. "I am not connected to the Larsons in any way. In fact, we are somewhat enemies because of your sister. Tell me what you have in mind for you to give one invitation to me."

Shane grinned. "Indeed, you are smart to know that there is no free lunch in this world. As I've said, thanks to you for taking down my sister, I finally get to be the CEO of Chance Pharmaceuticals. Therefore, I don't hate you at all. On the contrary, I've always had a soft spot for you, Ms. Smith. I've been intrigued whenever I heard my sister talking about your private life. All this while, I've wanted to find out if you were as good in bed as my sister had made you to be. Therefore, spend one night with me, and I'll give you one of the invitations. Don't you think that's a good deal?"

OPEN

Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

Penny was so offended that her face turned white. "Shane Lennox, your sister made all those things up and she is now paying for her misdeeds. I hope that you will learn to show me some respect as well."

At this very moment, Nathan arrived in his BMW m760li.

He looked at Penny and then Shane in the Bentley as he frowned. "Penny, what's going on?"

Shane instructed his driver to drive off when he saw Nathan appear. Before he left, he said, "The party is tomorrow night. Let me know when you change your mind."

Penny got into Nathan's car with a pale face.

Nathan asked her calmly, "What happened?"

Penny had never hidden anything from Nathan, and told him everything that had happened.

Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

Nathan snorted. "These Larsons are tired of living, aren't they?"

Penny said immediately, "Nathan, they are a very powerful family and Chance Pharmaceuticals is worth over twenty billion. Sylvie was caught and sent to jail only because she offended Ms. Ivanov. We can't afford to offend the Larsons, so let's just ignore them."

Nathan ignored that and called up Thomas Dunn. "Tell the Larsons to have Shane apologize to us on bended knee within three days. If not, they can kiss their glory days goodbye."

Penny stared at Nathan helplessly.

He was a perfect husband, especially when it came to protecting her.

However, he can be really domineering sometimes. This time, he actually wanted Shane Larson to apologize to him on bended knee within three days?

Despite feeling touched, she was more

OPEN

Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

worried that Nathan would infuriate Shane.

She quickly changed the topic. "Oh yes, Professor Jenson is refusing to see aby guests. However, he has decided to hold a business cocktail party tomorrow in the evening and has invited many established pharmaceutical companies. He will also announce the distributor of the vaccine tomorrow. We don't have any background in drug manufacturing at Cross Group, and we really are not as strong as Shane Larson and the rest of the competitors. That's why we didn't even get an invitation. I guess that's the end of our journey as far as the distributorship is concerned."

Nathan smiled and said. "Professor Jenson's party? We will just go there directly tomorrow. There is no need for an invitation."

Penny was dumbfounded. "How can we go without an invitation? We would just be kicked out."

Nathan smiled and said, "How is that possible? It's already his greatest honor to

Open



Chapter 241 We Do Not Need An Invitation

have us appear at the cocktail party."

Penny could not help but roll her eyes at Nathan. "Such thick skin you have! There are so many big shots and foreign corporations attending the function tomorrow. We are nothing in their eyes, and you call us honored guests?"

Nathan smiled and did not explain further.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

The next day at nightfall.

At Nathan's bidding, Penny was dressed in an elegant white gown and a pink diamond necklace which was a gift from Nathan.

She looked at her beautiful reflection in the mirror and also at Nathan who had a smile on his face. She could not help but ask softly, "Nathan, are we really going to Professor Jenson's cocktail party?"

Nathan smiled and said, "Of course!"

Penny asked worriedly. "How are we going to get in without an invitation?"

Nathan said with full confidence. "What invitation? Don't worry, we will definitely be able to get in.

Nathan and Penny drove to the venue to attend the cocktail party.

Professor Jenson had chosen to hold the party at the top level of the building, which was at the Cloud Palace.



Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

There were actually eleven armed soldiers at the entrance to admit the guests who had an invitation card with them.

It turned out that Colin Dunne was in charge of Professor Jenson's security all this while.

Colin had also arranged for more than thirty soldiers at the venue to ensure order and safety for the night.

A junior lieutenant was grimly checking the guests' invitation cards.

He returned the card to a well-dressed couple and said, "Your invitation card is all right, so please enter."

Penny could not help but turn towards
Nathan when she saw how strict they
were. She whispered, "Nathan, I didn't
expect there to be special forces here to
maintain order at Professor Jenson's
party. We are not going to be able to get in
without an invitation."

A sniggering voice piped up behind her.



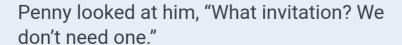
Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

"Hoho, and here I was thinking that Ms. Smith had found herself an invitation when she didn't look for me last night. Who would have thought that you were planning to gate crash?"

Nathan and Penny both turned their heads to see Shane Larson behind them.

Shane was dressed impeccably in Dior with a few bodyguards behind him.

He then fished out two gold-foiled invitation cards and bragged triumphantly, "Ms. Smith, now that you can't enter without an invitation, are you regretting your decision now?



Shane snorted at her. "You don't need one? That's because you are planning to sneak into the place! Don't get caught by these soldiers!"

Penny became slightly flustered.



Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

Shane Larson guffawed as he stepped forward and handed one of the invitation cards to be verified by the junior lieutenant.

He then said gleefully, "I am here for Professor Jenson's party, and I am also one of the honored guests who is bidding for the distributorship of the vaccine."

The junior lieutenant glanced at the name on the invitation before saying expressionlessly, "I am sorry, but your invitation has been cancelled."

With widened eyes, Shane said, "What did you say?"

He quickly retrieved the other invitation. "What about this card?"

The junior lieutenant took a look at the other card and continued to respond coldly. "I'm sorry, but both invitations that were issued to the Larsons have since been cancelled."

Shane cried out loud. "How can this be



Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

possible?"

The junior lieutenant spoke coldly, "Nothing is impossible. Professor Jenson found out today that the Larsons have not been kind people despite your fortune. This is against his principles as he created this cancer vaccine to benefit mankind. Hence, Professor Jenson has instructed me personally to cancel the Larsons' invitation to the party. Please leave now, sir!"

Everyone around him could not help but began to chatter about the Larsons' bad deeds, and how they have finally received their lesson tonight.

Embarrassed, Shane Larson hollered at the junior lieutenant, "That's not possible! I am the CEO of Chance Pharmaceuticals, Shane Larson, and Professor Jenson had issued the invitation to me personally. You'd better allow me to go in right now."

Voilal

The ten guards next to the junior lieutenant

Chapter 242 Leave After The First Warning

all raised their 95 Automatic rifles at the same time and aimed at Shane Larson and his group.

The junior lieutenant then said blankly. "This is my first warning. Leave now."



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

Cold beads of perspiration began to appear on Shane's forehead. Deep down, he knew that he had to surrender.

If it was not for all the familiar famous faces around him, together with Nathan and Penny watching him closely, he would have run away in fear earlier.

However, he had to stick it out a little longer in order to preserve his reputation.

Anyway, this was only the first warning. Normally, they would only take action if three warnings did not work, so there was nothing to be afraid of.

He then mustered up the courage to grill the junior lieutenant. "Which department are you from? Do you want me to make a complaint to the Mayor and to have all of you land in trouble?"

The moment he finished talking, the junior lieutenant had slammed his gun on his face.

With one scream, he fell onto the ground



Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

with a bloodied face.

He was at the point of breaking down as he wailed, "What is going on? Don't people only take action after three warnings?"

Crack!

It was the sound of a gun cocking.

The junior lieutenant pointed his gun at Shane who was lying on the floor. "This is your last chance. Are you getting out of here?"

Shane was so frightened that he pissed in his pant and he replied immediately, "Ok, I'll leave now. Just don't shoot..."

With the support from his men, he left in a helter-skelter manner.

When he walked past Nathan and Penny, he saw Nathan smile at Penny and say, "All right, let's go in."

Shane stopped and watched the two of them with utter disbelief.



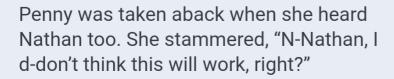
Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

I couldn't even get in with an invitation card in hand, and was even been beaten up badly!

And here are these two who are still thinking of getting in without an invitation. They would probably get executed on the spot!

With this thought, Shane decided to not leave just yet.

He held onto the wound on his forehead and sniggered at Nathan and Penny, waiting to see their fate eagerly.



Nathan grinned and said, "Why not? I've told you that we don't need an invitation, and I meant it. Don't you trust me?"

Penny said with great difficulty, "I trust you, but"

Nathan smiled. "There is no but's about

Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

this. Come on, let's go."

Penny did not object and merely followed him meekly.

She clutched onto Nathan's arm tightly and shut her eyes as they walked towards the entrance together.

Shane, together with every guest out there, was watching the two of them closely as well.

The moment Nathan and Penny arrived at the entrance, the junior lieutenant and the other ten soldiers immediately sprang into action.

All of them saluted them in a uniformed manner. "Welcome to the party, Mr. Cross and Mrs. Cross!"

What?

Shane and the rest of the guests were completely taken aback.

Not only did the guards not ask them for



Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

an invitation card, they extended the highest honors to them.

Even the richest man in Channing, Zachary Schulz, did not receive this kind of treatment at the entrance!

Penny's face was filled with disbelief as she held onto Nathan's arm and walked into the venue with him dumbly.

She felt like she was in a dream and nothing was real.

All the guests at the entrance began chattering about it.

Shane could not help but step up to the guards huffily and shouted, "Why were they admitted without an invitation, and I am denied entry even though I have an invitation?"

The junior lieutenant replied coldly, "This is because they are the honored guests, while your invitation was canceled."

Shane spat out, "Bullocks!"



Chapter 243 They Are Honored Guests

Bang!

The junior lieutenant held up his gun and whacked it on Shane's face again.

Shane let out a bloodcurdling wail as he fell onto the ground.

From the corner of his eye, Nathan spied upon the wailing Shane. A cold glint appeared in his eye.

It was his idea to cancel Shane Larson's invitation to the party.



However, this would only be the beginning for the Larsons if Shane did not beg for forgiveness on his knees as instructed.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

Nathan and Penny walked into the elaborately decorated party venue.

Under the spotlights, there was an exquisite champagne tower, and a live band playing some soothing music.

Numerous well-dressed men and women were chatting to each other in small groups with wine glasses in their hands.

Everyone was very curious as to who the eventual distributor of the liver cancer vaccine would be.

Ever since the news about Professor Jenson's success in creating this vaccine spread, countless groups had contacted him.

Every single one of them had submitted their proposals to get the distributorship of this vaccine from his hands.

Everyone had assumed that Professor Jenson would definitely take advantage of the situation, allowing the bids to get higher and higher before finally selecting



Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

the highest bidder to become the distributor.

However, no one had expected that he would have chosen such a commonplace Southern city as Channing to hold a cocktail party and to make the announcement.

Most of the corporations did not see this coming, hence those in attendance tonight were mostly local corporations, with fewer foreign companies.

Out of these local companies, there were more Southern companies than Northern companies.

Out of all the representatives of the Southern groups, the most outstanding of them all would have to be Shannon Russo. Tonight, she was dressed in a wine-colored cocktail dress and looked as luscious as a blooming rose.

There were many other bosses and CEOs surrounding her eagerly that evening.



Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

Penny had seen her from afar the moment she stepped into the venue, and she looked troubled immediately.

Nathan noticed the change in her expression and asked her curiously, "Do you know her?"

Penny then replied in a low voice. "Yes, she is the daughter of the Russo family which is one of the Southern Four. She is Shannon Russo, the CEO of Cathay Pharmaceuticals."

Three years ago, Penny attended a charity fundraising event on behalf of her family, and Shannon Russo was there too.

That night, Shannon had donated eight million, and the other bosses purposely donated less than that amount so they don't steal her limelight.

However, Penny was not savvy enough and donated ten million as per her grandfather's instructions.

Her unintentional action had immediately



Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

offended Shannon on the spot.

Shannon had already been jealous of Penny's beauty. Now that Penny had donated more money than her, she saw it as a complete snub and a direct attempt to snatch the limelight away from her.

Hence, at the group photo session, Shannon refused to take a photo with Penny, and even requested for the event organizer to throw Penny out of the venue.

Shannon was from the Russo family who wielded the largest influence in the South.

The organizer did not dare to offend her, and immediately sent Penny away.

That night, Penny was thrown out of the venue disheveled. Shannon had even jeered at her. "You are just a worthless unwed mother. Who are you to fight with me in front of the media? Get lost!"

Nathan's eyes grew chilly as he heard about the past between Penny and Shannon.



Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

At the same time, Shannon had also noticed Nathan and Penny's presence.

There was no way around it as Nathan was unbelievably handsome and Penny was drop dead gorgeous.

This brilliant-looking couple stood head and shoulder above others in the cocktail party, and it would be hard not to notice them.

When Shannon saw Nathan, a glint of hatred flashed through her eyes.

Giovanni Russo was her brother. Nathan Cross had murdered him and she would never forgive that bitter feud against her family.

However, her main aim this trip was not to avenge her brother's death, but to fight for the distributorship rights to the vaccine.

This was the difference between the Russos and the Zabinskis.

The Russos were more rational, and



Chapter 244 So You Are Nathan Cross

focused more on their financial benefits.

To the Russos, revenge was not as important as getting the distributorship that will earn them big bucks.

On the reverse, the Zabinskis felt that revenge was more important than making money.

Therefore, after Jerry and Giovanni's bodies were sent back to their respective families, the Russos had immediately sent Shannon to fight for the distributorship rights to the vaccine, while the Zabinskis had called out to all their followers to head to Channing and kill Nathan Cross.

However, Shannon could not help but speak coldly when she saw her brother's murderer. "So you are Nathan Cross."

At that very moment, all eyes fell on Nathan.



Nathan replied coolly. "Indeed I am."

Shannon said, "We the Russos always take revenge. You'd better watch out."

Nathan smiled. "You've said the exact advice that I wanted to give to you Russos. What else is left for me to say?"

Shannon did not expect Nathan to be so savage. He killed her brother and was about to tell the Russos to watch out? Who else in this world could be as arrogant as this bloke?

Shannon could feel her chest heave violently, but she still suppressed her emotions. Her main mission tonight was not to get rid of Nathan Cross.

Her gaze fell on the woman next to him. She could barely hide her jealous eyes as she looked at her beauty. "We know each other, don't we?"

Penny said quietly. "I am but a commoner. How would I know you, Ms. Russo?"



Chapter 245 How Dare You Hit Me

Shannon snorted. "Stop pretending for I have excellent memory. It was you who stole the limelight from me at the charity fundraising event three years ago. And I threw you out of the event during the photo session."

Penny bit her lip. "I did not expect you to still remember that, Ms. Russo."

Shannon sniggered. "No woman in the South can snatch the limelight from me, let alone a slut like you. The very sight of you makes me want to throw up."

Nathan immediately flew into a fury upon hearing how Shannon had insulted Penny continuously so held up his hand and landed a huge slap on Shannon's face!

Slap!

That was a furious slap as it immediately drew blood from the corner of her lips and messed up her makeup.

It even transformed her delicate hairstyle into a disheveled mess that resembled a



bird's nest.

"How dare you hit me?"

Holding onto her burning cheek, Shannon stared at Nathan with disbelief.

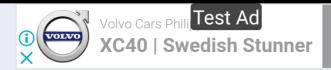
Her bodyguards and the rest of the guests were all dumbfounded. How dare someone hit Ms. Russo?

Even Penny was petrified. Nathan had actually slapped Ms. Shannon Russo because of her.

On the other hand, Nathan was completely calm and said nonchalantly to Shannon. "You were asking for it with what you said, weren't you?"

The egotistical Shannon could not feel any worse after being slapped by Nathan in public.

When she finally regained her composure, she immediately roared like a lion who had been stepped on. "He hit me! How dare he hit me? Guards, beat this a**hole to



death!"

The bodyguards behind her suddenly collected their senses and charged angrily towards Nathan.

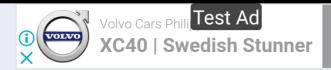
At this very moment, an old man shouted angrily. "Stop!"

Then, everyone saw Professor Jenson, who was escorted by Rachel Jenson, Jason Moore, Kylie Tonkins, and a few other people.

There were another dozen armed guards behind him too, all on standby to protect him.

When Shannon saw Professor Jenson, she screamed out loud as if she saw a glimmer of hope. "Professor Jenson, you have arrived at the right time. This slut's husband had the audacity to hit me. You must settle this for me."

Penny quickly spoke up anxiously. "No, it's not like that. There has been a misunderstanding."



Shannon sneered at her. "You call this a misunderstanding when you asked your husband to slap me?"

Penny was very worried but could not find the words to defend herself. All she could do was to allow hot tears to well up in her eyes.

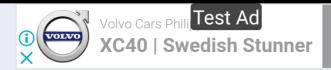
Then, Professor Jenson said calmly. "How would you like me to settle this, Ms. Russo?"

Shannon pointed at Nathan menacingly. "I want this a**hole to kneel down and apologize to me while I slap him ten times. Finally, I want the two of them to be thrown out of the venue, and not to attend this party!"

Many guests shook their heads as they shot Nathan and Penny looks of pity.

An impulsive slap on Ms. Russo could very well mean a price of ten times of that or more!

Penny's face fell immediately too. She was



humiliated by Shannon Russo three years ago, and was she going to be humiliated together with her husband once again three years later?

Professor Jenson nodded at Shannon before instructing his guards. "Haul up Shannon Russo, slap her ten times before throwing her out, and don't let her step foot into my party after that!"

What?

Every single person was dumbfounded by Professor Jenson's words.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Shannon shrieked, "Jenson, are you kidding me? I'm Shannon Russo of the Russo family, the president of Cathay Pharmaceuticals! You should be teaching that damned couple a lesson, not me!"

Professor Jenson roared in anger, "Shut your mouth! Mr. and Mrs. Cross are my honored guests tonight; how dare you be so rude to them! Slap her!"

At his order, the soldiers of the North Army leaped into action. Some of them restrained Shannon's bodyguards while two of them restrained the woman herself. Next, one of the soldiers raised his hand as he began to give her loud, resounding smacks across the face.

These soldiers were all Nathan's men. To them, he was like their war god. When Shannon had been rude towards Penny and Nathan earlier, they had already been itching to teach her a lesson.

This was why the soldier did not hold back at all as he smacked her with relish. Within moments, her face was badly swollen and



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Chapter 246 What Right Does She Have

blood stained her pretty face.

Soon after that, Shannon and her men were thrown out of there.

The remaining guests at the party could not believe their eyes. They had not expected Professor Jenson to punish Shannon so severely nor had they thought he would actually throw her out of the party. After all, in the end, she was still part of the Russo family and that entitled her to a certain status in the South.

A status the professor had completely disregarded.

Then again, with Shannon out for the count, that meant one less opponent for the rest of the party guests. They could not help but to feel relieved and happy at that notion.

Picking up the microphone, Professor Jenson smiled as he said, "Mr. and Mrs. Cross, my dear guests, I sincerely apologize for the unhappy incident earlier."



After that, he announced the official commencement of tonight's party. What followed next was the mayor of Channing and several other notable doctors coming on stage to give their speeches.

As the final speech ended, thunderous applause rang out, livening up the atmosphere.

It was at this point Professor Jenson announced that the distribution rights to the liver cancer vaccine Dawn Medical Research Institute had researched was to be handed over to Cross Pharmaceuticals, a subsidiary of Cross Corporations.

The moment those words left his lips, everybody present was shocked speechless. Even Penny herself was stunned.

Cross Pharmaceuticals was the newly subsidized pharmaceutical company under Cross Corporations.

Compared to all the other major companies present, Cross Corporations



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Cross Pharmaceuticals was the newly subsidized pharmaceutical company under Cross Corporations.

Compared to all the other major companies present, Cross Corporations



was probably the most insignificant of the lot. By extension, that meant Cross Pharmaceuticals was also the weakest contender here.

Although Penny had put her all into preparing the proposal, she had not actually expected to get the distribution rights for the vaccine.

Nudging Penny to snap her out of her shock, Nathan urged, "Penny, stop daydreaming. Aren't you going to go on stage to give a speech?"

Regaining her composure, she walked on stage and reached to shake the professor's hand. Grabbing the microphone, she could barely contain her excitement as she said, "Thank you. Thank you for believing and trusting in us, Professor Jenson. I give you my word that Cross Pharmaceuticals will do right by this vaccine. We won't let society down."

As she finished her brief speech, the other people in the room snapped back to their senses. An angry murmuring rose as the



various representatives were deeply unhappy at the professor's announcement. They could not comprehend what was happening.

"Her company is clearly inferior to ours; why does she get the vaccine rights?"

"Yeah, exactly! Our corporation is a lot bigger than hers and we have more funds. Our agency fee is at least three times hers too!"

"Our pharmaceutical company is the biggest in Channing! She doesn't even have a factory for production; what right does she have to get the vaccine?"

"That's right! Professor Jenson, aren't you being too hasty in your decision?"



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As everyone continued to shout their protests, Professor Jenson gestured for silence. Once the hall was quiet again, he explained calmly, "I'm sure all of you know I retracted my invitation to President Shane Larson of Chance Pharmaceuticals due to his indecent behavior. And as you just saw for yourselves, I also threw out President Shannon Russo of Cathay Pharmaceuticals.

"From these two incidents, some of you probably would have guessed I value good character above all. The capability of a company will always come second to me."

Here, the professor paused and looked at Penny before continuing with a smile, "Mr. Cross is a dear friend who has always supported my research. As for Ms. Smith, I know what kind of a person she is and she's more than reliable. I trust and believe in both of them with all my heart, which was why I decided to hand the rights over to them. I hope all of you will understand."

Although a lot of the businessmen present were still unhappy with the professor's



Chapter 247 I Value Good Character

decision, they really had no other choice but to accept it.

While Penny was basking in the immense joy that came from obtaining the rights to the vaccine, someone else was stewing in their boiling rage.

And that person was none other than Shannon Russo.

Shannon had just finished having her injuries tended to. Although she was not too badly wounded, her cheeks were still hugely swollen. The normally beautiful and delicate features were gone, leaving a bloated pig of a face in its place.

She was currently shrieking like a madwoman, vilely cursing Nathan Cross, Penny Smith and Noah Jenson.

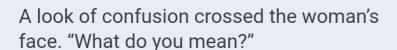
In a voice trembling with rage and hate, she ordered, "Cain, have the family send some men over. I want to kill that damned couple, Cross and Smith, as well as teach Jenson a lesson."



Cain was one of Shannon's loyal subordinates. As a man in his forties, he was as steady as they come. His tone was calm and soothing as he spoke up, "Ms. Shannon, please calm down. I believe there's no need to tell the family just yet."

Shannon screamed furiously, "My beautiful face was reduced to something resembling a f***ing pig, how can you tell me to calm down?"

"Cross and Smith are vile people, yes, but they're soon to be dead. There's no point in you getting so worked up about them," Cain answered respectfully.



With a sly grin, he replied, "Ms. Shannon, have you forgotten the Zabinski family's call to arms? They're gathering all their followers in Channing to kill Cross and his family."

At his words, Shannon's eyes brightened. "I totally forgot about that! Supposedly,



Kingston Zabinski's eldest son, Finley, is arriving in Channing tomorrow with all their men."

"Exactly! That's why I said the Cross couple are soon to be dead. There's no need for you to make a move yourself."

Her head nodded slowly. "According to the latest news, Jenson handed the rights to the vaccine to that bitch, Penny Smith. Fine, I'll wait till the Zabinski family kills them off before I have a little chat with the professor. That vaccine is mine!"

Bowing slightly, Cain murmured, "Wise choice, Ms. Shannon."

Shannon growled vengefully, "I can't wait to see Finley Zabinski murder Cross' entire family."

...

Meanwhile, at Alberesque Airport.

A convoy of black Mercedes Benzes cruised through the airport gates before



coming to a halt on the tarmac.

"Quick! Quick!"

As the cars stopped moving, men in black suits poured from them like a swarm of ants. Within moments, hundreds of men were gathered in two neat rows.

From the lead car, a Mercedes Benz S600L, a tall and well-built middle-aged man stepped out. The man had sharp features and piercing eyes.

The man was Kingston Zabinski's eldest son and Jerry Zabinski's father, Finley Zabinski

A thin, shifty-looking old man appeared beside Finley. In a respectful tone, he said, "Sir, the plane heading for Channing is prepped and ready."

Nodding, Finley asked coldly, "Kurt, have all of our men gathered in Channing?"

A wide grin split Kurt's lips as he replied, "Yes, sir. Thousands of the Zabinski family



followers have flocked to Channing. They're awaiting your arrival so you may lead them to get revenge."

Satisfied, Finley ordered, "Board the plane. It's time we kill Nathan Cross and avenge my son."



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chapter 248 Are You Threatening Me

After Professor Jenson and Penny signed the agreement, the liver cancer vaccine was officially handed over to Cross Pharmaceuticals.

When that was done, she went on stage to give a speech expressing her gratitude for the professor's trust. She promised to do her very best to benefit society with this vaccine and even welcomed the experts in the medical field to keep an eye on her.

From below stage, Nathan stared at Penny with a smile playing on his lips. He loved seeing her smiling like that. It made her whole face light up and she looked ten years younger. She looked radiant and beautiful, like an angel upon Earth.

Colin, who had silently appeared by his side, whispered, "Sir, Ma'am looks really happy."

Nathan murmured back, "She and Queenie have been through so much these past few years. I want her to be as happy as she is now for the rest of her life."



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Changing the subject, Colin reported, "I just received news that Kingston Zabinski has summoned all the Zabinski family followers to gather in Channing. They're here to get revenge for what you did to Jerry."

"Revenge?" Nathan queried casually.

"Yes. The Zabinski family has sworn to kill your entire family."

Nathan's face instantly darkened at the mention of his family. "Brazen, pretentious fools. The one month's time I gave them to retreat is nearly up. Since they insist on throwing their lives away, I'll oblige them. Let them suffer the consequences of their actions."

"Sir, I have something else to report."

"Speak!"

"It's to do with Franklin Wilson. His team is having an award ceremony tomorrow for their lieutenant colonels and he hope that you can attend. He says his team idolizes



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you and has always wanted to meet you in person. If you have the time to attend the ceremony, I'm sure the troops would feel honored and encouraged."

"Of course I'll support Franklin. He's from the North Army, which makes him one of us. Besides, no matter the division, lieutenant colonels will always be the mainstay of the military. Tell him I'll be there," said Nathan.

A wide grin spread across Colin's face. "Hahaha! When Franklin hears about this, he'll definitely be over the moon."



Nathan was quick to remind the other man, "Remember, I don't want my identity to be known, which means there can only be our people there at the ceremony. Make sure no outsiders are invited to join."

"Yes, sir. I'll let Franklin know."

• • •

The next day, news of Cross Corporations obtaining the distribution rights to the



Chapter 248 Are You Threatening Me

vaccine had the company shares skyrocketing.

The moment Penny arrived at her office, she threw herself into work, preparing for the production and distribution of the vaccine.

In the past few days, Kylie had discovered quite a few secrets about the elusive man her cousin had married. The more she found out, however, the more she felt there was something else. Subsequently, her admiration and curiosity toward Nathan grew.



In the morning, she pranced over to Nathan before asking, "Nathan, Penny said you should take me around the city to take in the sights. Are you free today?"

"I'm busy. I have to attend a function later," replied Nathan mildly.

Unable to hide her disappointment, she pleaded, "What function is it? Can you take me with you? I've been so bored here at Aunt Leah's place."

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He immediately refused, saying, "You can't come to this function; it's not suitable for you."

That only served to deepen Kylie's curiosity. *Just what is this mysterious function?*

Noting how he seemed determined not to let her go with him, her eyes moved upward as she pondered. Several seconds later, a sly smirk curled her lips. "If you don't take me with you, I'll grow bored at home."



"And if I grow bored, I might just talk to Aunt Leah. If by accident I spill out all your secrets, do you think they'll be shocked?"

Nathan's face hardened. "Are you threatening me?"



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Kylie gave a throaty chuckle as she replied in an innocent tone, "Of course not. I'm just feeling really bored today. Take me to the function with you!"

The two of them had a stare down, neither of them was willing to back down.

To Nathan's great frustration, the woman was not afraid of him at all.

Finally, he relented, "Fine, you asked for it. Don't come crying to me when you regret your decision."

The man's words had her a little anxious, but her curiosity got the better of her. With false bravado, she said, "I'm not afraid. It's not like you're a bad person."

Nathan was not sure whether to laugh or cry at the woman's declaration.

Leaving the house, they got in the old Volkswagen Polo.

The moment the car left the Riverside Garden neighborhood, two vehicles



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immediately followed behind it from afar. One was an unassuming motorcycle while the other was a Lexus.

Glancing at the rearview mirror, Nathan noted the two vehicles stalking them. His lips pulled into a smirk.

Noticing the amused look on his face, Kylie asked curiously, "What is it?"

"Somebody's following us. Two different factions too," he answered lightly.

In a panicked tone, she questioned, "Who is it? Is it the Zabinski family and the Russo family here for revenge?"

"It's possible. Are you scared? Do you want me to drop you off at the crossroads up ahead?"

Kylie's heart pounded in her chest furiously as adrenaline pumped through her body. She was nervous, but at the same time, she felt that this was rather exciting. Shaking her head, she refused, "No. With you around, I'm not afraid of anything."



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Nathan smiled wryly. Who knew this sisterin-law of his trusted him so much?

In truth, he was not wrong. The two vehicles following him were indeed from two different factions.

The motorcyclist had been sent here by Shane Larson. After he had been declined entry to the party last night and been humiliated in front of everyone, hatred for Nathan and Penny welled up in him. He had sent the motorcyclist after Nathan today to kill him.

The Lexus, on the other hand, had been sent by Finley Zabinski. By this time, Finley had already arrived at Channing. He had wanted a real time update on Nathan's whereabouts so it would be easier for him to plan his move.

The Polo drove along the roads, gradually leaving the city behind and headed out into the countryside.

Finally, they approached a secret military base hidden out in the remote countryside.



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From the outside, the base looked much like an abandoned factory, with tall walls and tightly shut gates.

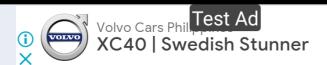
However, when Nathan drove the car closer, the gates slowly opened to permit them entry. After they entered, the gates closed behind them and all was quiet again.

Realizing Nathan had entered a seemingly abandoned factory, the two vehicles following him instantly turned around.

They had to report Nathan's current location to their respective bosses.

At Mt. Nova Hot Springs.

The hall was crammed near to bursting with more than three thousand men.
These men were all from the Southern underworld, the various bosses and thugs. With so many violent men gathered together in such close quarters, the atmosphere around them was understandably tense and charged.



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Just as the tense rumblings grew to a roar, Finley Zabinski appeared with several of his men.

"Big Boss is here!"

The entire hall burst into loud cheers and shouts before gradually quietening. All the eyes in the room focused on Finley.

In an arrogant tone, he boomed, "I've gotten news that Cross has entered an abandoned factory out in the countryside. To me, men! We shall capture him and all of you shall get a chance at him. I want him to die a horrible, agonizing death!"

Three thousand voices roared out in agreement, "Yes, sir!"

With that, the men piled into their vehicles and the massive convoy charged towards the countryside, all with only one destination in mind.



Chapter 250 Never Forget Your Duty

At the secret military base, the award ceremony was currently ongoing.

Out on the training field, twenty thousand soldiers in full combat gear were standing in neat rows. Beside them were tanks, armored cars and other combat vehicles.

In the hangars nearby, several military helicopters and fighter jets were parked.

At present, all those soldiers were excitedly watching the proceedings on stage.

The reason for their unwavering attention was Nathan Cross. After all, it was not every day the General of the North Army, AKA the Ares of the North, himself appeared before their very eyes. He was the idol of many soldiers and everyone was awed to see him attending this function.

Admiration and respect were obvious in their eyes as they gazed at the man, who had just finished awarding the lieutenant colonels their badges.



Chapter 250 Never Forget Your Duty

Dressed in casual clothing, Nathan gave a short speech, "My fellow comrades, it is an honor to be a soldier of China. Never forget your duty and march forward bearing the burden of your responsibility. Protect your country with all your heart and if need be, your life."

Franklin, Colin and the twenty thousand men echoed his words with a loud roar.

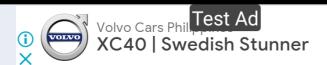
Standing below stage, Kylie was staring at Nathan with a dumbfounded look on her face. There was no way to describe what she was feeling right now.



Is he really just a normal retired soldier? Why do the other soldiers look like fans meeting their idol? It even feels like he's even more impressive than General Wilson!

As she lost herself in her thoughts, Nathan had come down from the stage. Colin, Franklin and the other higher-ranking officials were walking beside him.

Franklin politely enquired, "Would you like to have lunch with the men before you



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leave?"

Before Nathan could give his reply, a sentry suddenly appeared on the grounds. He flew towards the group of higher-ups, shouting as he neared them, "Reporting, sir!"

Furious at the interruption, Franklin bit out, "What's this all about?"

Snapping out a salute, the sentry reported loudly, "Sir, there's a large number of vehicles outside the gates carrying thousands of men. They seem to be trying to invade our base."

Astonished, Franklin repeated in disbelief, "There are thousands of men outside assaulting the gates of our compound?"

Nathan spoke up, "I was followed on my way here. If I'm right, those men outside are probably from the Zabinski family. They're here to get revenge on me."

"The Zabinski family must have a death wish! Mobilize Team Alpha and Beta to



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capture all those fools outside. That is an order!" Franklin shouted.

His subordinates immediately left to carry out his orders.

They had barely taken two steps when Nathan called out, "Wait! Don't go out there. Let them come in."

It took Franklin a few seconds to understand the other man's meaning. A wicked smirk graced his lips as he nodded. "Yes, let them in. We can deal with them once we cut off their escape route."



Turning to the sentry, he ordered, "Tell the guards on duty to retreat and let those men in."

"Yes, sir!"

In the spacious area in front of the base gates, several hundred vehicles were parked. Among them, there was a variety of expensive cars such as BMWs, Bentleys, and Mercedes Benzes. There were even a few small busses scattered



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throughout.

Three thousand vicious-looking men swarmed out of their cars with bloodthirsty looks on their faces. All sorts of weapons glinted in their hands - knives, metal pipes, and even guns.

Finley appeared at the head of the group of men. Narrowing his eyes at the tightly shut gates of the 'abandoned' factory before him, he asked the man standing beside him, "Kurt, you're sure that Cross is hiding in there right now?"

Kurt nodded his head in reply. "Yes, he's in there."

"What factory is it?"

Checking his phone, Kurt grinned as he answered, "The map says this used to be a pharmaceutical factory. However, it was abandoned more than a decade ago."

Furrowing his brows, Finley muttered, "An abandoned pharmaceutical factory? What the hell is Cross doing here?"



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"The Cross couple recently acquired the distribution rights to the liver cancer vaccine from Professor Jenson. I'm guessing Cross is here to check out this location to see whether it's suitable for their factory."

Finley snorted as he commented, "It's not suitable for a factory, but for a grave, it's more than perfect."

Waving his hand, he shouted, "Get to it, boys! Bring Cross to me, alive! I want to make him suffer before he dies for what he did to my son."





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