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## Chapter 186 An Estimated Loss of Over A Billion

Nathan merely replied, "I've given you a chance. You've trampled all over it."

Richard Steele's voice was shaky, "I apologize, I'll apologize right now..."

Nathan was impassive and retorted, "Didn't you asked me to kneel down and lick your shoes just now? Why? You regret it now?"

Richard Steele could not seem to reply him.



"Be consistent and keep up with your bastard attitude. Your mannerism disgusts me. Get lost. I hope you learn your lesson this time and turn over a new leaf."

As soon as Nathan finished his sentence, two of the North Army soldiers took the imitative to come forward.

They then dragged the wailing Richard Steele away from the scene.

The hospital had done all the preparations for the surgery while Richard Steele was



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causing a ruckus.

Dr. Rothschild then went into the operation theatre and performed the surgery on the patient.

Dr. Rothschild had studied the three workers' medical history on his way to the hospital so that he could operate on them straight away.

The operation was done in just half an hour.



The operation was a successful one. The hematoma had been successfully drained from the patient's head, effectively reducing the pressure on the brain, so the patient was no longer in a critical condition.

The doctors and family members waiting outside the operation theatre cheered with joy when the surgery was declared a success.

Dr. Rothschild truly lived up to his reputation. He immediately asked to



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prepare the other two workers for surgeries after he was done with the patient facing intracerebral hemorrhage.

After another two hours, the other two workers' surgeries were also successful, and they were no longer facing life-threatening danger.

The news was widely broadcasted by the media; mainly accolades of Dr. Rothschild's medical skills.

Leaders from governmental bodies, medical fields, and the rich alike expressed their wish to celebrate Dr. Rothschild's successful surgeries.

However, they were all rejected by Dr. Rothschild. He decided to go to Penny's house for a simple homemade meal instead.

The public was gob smacked at his decision, and it sparked a heated discussion on how Dr. Rothschild was related to Nathan Cross and Penny Smith.



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Even Jerry Zabinski, who was scheming against Nathan and Penny, was bowled over.

He immediately ordered his subordinate to find out how Dr. Rothschild was related to both of them.

The result came back almost instantly. It was said that Nathan used to be a soldier in the North Army and that he was a master at chess. Rupert Rothschild played against him but even he was no match for Nathan Cross.

Dr. Rothschild who lost the game promised Nathan's one wish with no conditions.

It was because of this that Nathan asked for Dr. Rothschild's help this time.

Jerry Zabinski was enlightened upon hearing the report and snorted, "I was wondering how Cross and Smith could get Dr. Rothschild to perform the surgery. Dr. Rothschild has only promised them because he stayed true to his promise."





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His subordinate then added, “Now that Dr. Rothschild has fulfilled his promise, he is no longer related to Cross.”

Jerry then smiled wickedly, “Cross and Smith got lucky this time. I doubt they’re going to get this lucky again next time.”

After the dinner, Dr. Rothschild bid goodbye to Nathan, Penny and the Smiths.

He then got on a private plane and headed back to the North.

After Dr. Rothschild left, Sean Smith brought Samuel and Paul over.

Penny’s face darkened upon seeing them arrive. Her expression was hard to discern but she knew something big was going to happen soon.

Sean went straight to the point after sitting down and questioned Penny right away, “Penny, why didn’t you discuss the serious construction site accident with us right after it happened? We’re the shareholders, after all.”



## Chapter 186 An Estimated Loss of Over A Billion

Penny then explained, “Grandpa, uncles. I’ve been busy handling the matter ever since it happened last night.”

“It has been agreed that you guys will not be involved in the management of the company anyway. That’s why I have planned to deal with the matter first before calling for a shareholder meeting.”

Sean squinted his eyes, “Then how is it going?”

Penny continued, “The injured workers are no longer in a critical condition. This incident is now under control.”

“I’ll have to follow up on the treatment of the workers, plus the compensation for them now. I plan to discuss this part with you guys.”

Sean was irritated at her explanation, “There’s no need to tell me the details like medical fees, compensation, and whatnot. Just let me know how much Cross Corporation is going to lose this time.”



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## Chapter 186 An Estimated Loss of Over A Billion

Penny replied in a small voice, “After some rough calculation, the loss is estimated to be about over a billion.”



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## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

The Smiths' face fell upon hearing the figure. They were the major shareholders, and if Cross Corporation were to lose over a billion, it would mean that they were losing millions each.

Samuel added impassively, "I've heard that the Channing Emergency Response Unit has set up an investigation team to probe into the root cause of the accident.

"If the root cause lies in the management of the Cross Corporation, then you'll have to bear the most responsibility."

Penny nodded in agreement, "Yes."

Paul also added, "What's more, I've heard that after the incident, the city council apparently thinks that Cross Corporation is not competent enough to handle the Asiatic Mall construction. Are they really considering to let other companies handle this project?"

Penny widened her eyes upon hearing the news, and shook her head, "This is just a rumor. At least, I haven't heard anything



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## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

from the city council.”

Sean then snorted, “Penny, you’ve caused a big ruckus this time. Not only is the company losing big bucks, but you’re also even going to cause the company to lose our cash cow.”

“Your uncles and I are innocent in this matter. We don’t want to pay for your mistake!”

Penny furrowed her brows, “Grandpa, what do you mean?”

Sean’s face was expressionless, “Nothing. It’s just that we think you should be responsible for your own mistake this time. We want to let go of our shares on hand, and for you to return our nine million capital to us.”

Penny was astounded, “What? You guys asked to be shareholders in the first place. Now that we’ve made losses, you guys are not willing to bear the losses together, and even want to get the capital back in full?”



## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

Sean then replied, "Yes. We're going to give the shares back to you while you're going to give us the capital in full, not a single cent less."

Benson and Leah were incensed at their remark.

They were trampling over Penny.

This construction site accident was quite serious; it would be a huge loss to the company.

If they were going to pull out at this moment, then the company's cash flow would be in a dire condition.

Penny hurriedly added, "Grandpa, you guys really shouldn't do this. Even if we bring this to the court, you guys would be at a disadvantage."

Sean was enraged when he heard Penny, "How dare you! Are you saying you're going to sue your grandpa and uncles?"

Samuel retorted, "Hah! Penny, it seems like



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you're quite bold now, and even dare to rebel against grandpa and us!"

Penny did not really want to sue her own grandpa and uncles.

Even if she had won the case, the Smiths would become the laughing stock among the Channing business circle.

Moreover, they would still withdraw their shares.

The only difference would be that they would get less than their nine million capital as it would be calculated based on the current market price.

Penny then soothed them, "Don't get angry, grandpa and uncles. I'm not saying I want to sue you guys."

"I just want to ask for you guys to hold back the decision to withdraw your shares. Can you guys wait until after the incident has cooled off and for the company to return to its normal operation?"





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## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

The three of them had gotten the news that the city council is considering letting another company handle the Asiatic Mall project in view of the construction site accident.

Cross Corporation would be nothing if they lost the Asiatic Mall project.

The three of them were not willing to bear the risk. That was why they were rushing to withdraw their shares.

They could not care less about Penny and just wanted to get their nine million capital back.

Even if Penny begged fervently at them, they would not budge.

Penny was anxious at their attitude and a glint of tears could be seen in her eyes, "Grandpa, you guys are essentially cornering me if you insist on withdrawing your shares now."

Sean was impassive. "We don't care. After all, it's only been a few days since we



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## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

became shareholders. It's better if you just think we've never become shareholders before."

Benson and Leah were both distressed seeing Penny being cornered by them, but they could do nothing to help.

Queenie was doing her schoolwork, accompanied by Nathan. She was almost sobbing and said in a small voice to Nathan, "Daddy, great grandpa and uncles are bullying mommy again."

Nathan gazed at them, "Honey, no need to be bothered by them. Just let them withdraw their shares if they want to."

"I guarantee that they will repent for life for making this decision today."



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## Chapter 187 No Need To Beg Them

Penny looked at Nathan in disbelief, and even her voice was shaky, “Returning the nine million to them will totally disrupt the cash flow of the company. We might not even have enough to compensate the workers.”

Nathan merely replied, “It’s nothing. There will be other investors after they withdraw their shares.”

Nathan immediately made a call to Colin Dunne, “Pass the message to investors in Channing. Diva Limited is looking for capital investments. Those interested are to see me within half an hour. Limited numbers only, so those interested should be fast.”

Nathan hung up after he passed on the message.

The three of them sneered. Before this incident, a lot of people were indeed interested to invest in Cross Corporation.

However, after this incident and the news of the city officials considering to pass the



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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

project on to other investors, how many would still be interested?

Nathan had even asked for those interested to contact him fast. *What a joke!*

Penny was still doubtful, "Are we really going to return the nine million capital back to them and get our shares back?"`

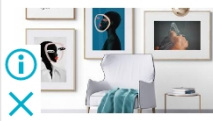
To this Nathan replied, "Of course. It's their loss. Why should we be concerned?"

Penny was still on the fence. Nathan smiled, "Honey, after all I've done, do you still not believe in me? If you trust me, you should get the lawyer and ask them to transfer the 48% shares in their hands back to us."

Penny bit her lip at Nathan's remark. In the end, she chose to trust him.

She then turned to the three people in front of her, "Okay, I will use nine million to buy the shares in your hands."

Penny then called for the lawyer to come.



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The three of them were smug after getting what they wanted.

They initially thought that they were going to lose a huge portion of their capital and that they would not be able to liquidate their shares.

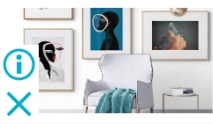
However, they did not expect Nathan and Penny to be so naïve to agree to return the capital worth nine million to them.

The lawyer of the Cross Corporation arrived not long after.

The agreement draft was ready for Penny and the three Smiths to sign.

After they signed the agreement, a few men dressed in impeccable suits came knocking.

They were Zachary Schulz, the richest man in Channing; Liam Harrison, director of Channing Bank; George Miller, owner of Juno Hotel; Wyatt Kent, president of Watsons Holdings Corporation and finally, Calvin Grant, the chairman of the Avery



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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

Real Estate.

The three Smiths were astounded at the billionaires showing up.

Any one of their net worth would easily triumph the Smiths.

It was not an understatement to say that the Smiths seemed like beggars in front of Zachary Schulz.

The three Smiths were dazed by the billionaires. *Oh my goodness. Are these billionaires really here to invest in Cross Corporation?*

The billionaires approached Penny and Nathan directly, validating their guess. Zachary Schulz and the others were all smiles and asked, "Ms. Smith, we've heard that some morons have decided to withdraw their shares, causing your company to be in a tight spot financially. I've also heard you're looking for investors?"

*Morons?*



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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

Sean, Samuel and Paul cast glances at each other. *Are they talking about us?*

Penny was flabbergasted as well, and she turned around to glance at the grinning Nathan. She was visibly nervous at being face to face with these billionaires. “Mr. Schulz, and sirs. Greetings.”

“My company has been facing some difficulties recently, especially in view of my grandpa and uncles liquidating their shares. It’s true that we’re facing some cash flow issues.”

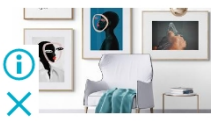
Zachary Schulz smiled, “I wonder how much Ms. Smith needs?”

Penny replied, “Two billion, no- just one billion will do.”

“I just need one billion to get Cross Corporation through this hurdle. Would you guys be willing to invest a billion in me?”

Zachary Schulz and the others laughed at her remark. Schulz was especially generous, “How’s one billion enough? Ten





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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

billion is more like it. The five of us will contribute two billion each!”

Penny’s eyes widened in disbelief.

*Grandpa and uncles were just making noise about liquidating their shares, yet now these billionaires are fighting to invest in Cross Corporation.*

Nathan circled his hands around Penny’s slim waist and smiled, “Honey, since they’re sincere enough to come all the way here to offer to invest their capital, why don’t you just accept their offer?”

Penny then regained her composure and breathed in deeply to soothe the storm raging in her heart, and gratefully thanked them, “Thank you Mr. Schuz. Thank you to all of you. Thank you for believing in me, especially a time like this.”

“I won’t disappoint you guys. I promise to make your investments worth it.”

The billionaires seemed happier than Penny when she agreed to let them invest

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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

in Cross Corporation.

They were all smile. "Sure, sure."

The three Smiths were dumbfounded.

They were not stupid and believed that the billionaires weren't stupid either.

On the contrary, the billionaires were as smart as a whip.

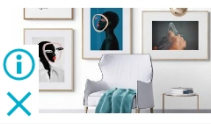
Hence, they believed that it was not a blind investment on the billionaires' part.

It was positive that the news on the city officials planning to pass on the Asiatic Mall project to another company was just a rumor.

Cross Corporation's future was still as bright as day!

The three Smiths then realized that they had made a stupid decision, and regretted it immensely.

However, there were no ifs and buts. They



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## Chapter 188 Future Bright As Day

could only leave in despair.

However, what was going to happen two days later would make regret a word too mild to describe their feelings. They should not withdraw their shares then.



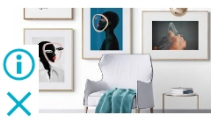
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## Chapter 189 The Influence Of Dr Rothschild

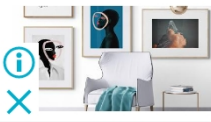
After the Smiths left, Zachary Schulz and the other men did not stay on. Within moments, there was only Nathan Cross and his family left in the house.

There was a blatant look of suspicion on Penny's face as she stared at Nathan. "Nathan, why is it one phone call from you has so many business magnates fighting to invest in me?"

Benson, Leah and Queenie were all staring at him curiously too. After what had happened earlier, Penny was not the only one who had suspicions.

With the workplace incident at the construction site, the safety protocols of Cross Corporation had been called into question. Rumors had it the mayor of the city had wanted to hand the project off to another company.

In light of such a worrying situation, the Smiths had insisted on withdrawing their investment to protect themselves. On the contrary, Zachary Schulz and the others had still been willing to invest.



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## Chapter 189 The Influence Of Dr Rothschild

There was definitely something fishy going on here!

And it all had something to do with the man standing before them.

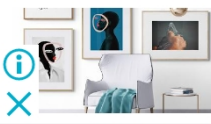
Smiling slightly, Nathan replied, "Mr. Schulz and the others invested in Cross Corporation because they think we're capable. However, there is another reason."

Penny asked eagerly, "What is it?"

"Dr. Rothschild!"

Realizing everyone was staring at him with bewildered looks on their faces, Nathan explained, "Didn't I call Dr. Rothschild to come and do surgery for the construction workers injured in the incident? He had declined the mayor and those business magnates' invitation and came to our house to eat, remember? Naturally, they think I'm very close with him."

Penny interrupted and picked up where he stopped, "Dr. Rothschild is the director of



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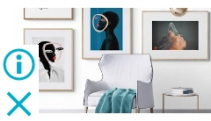
the North Army Hospital and is supposedly the personal doctor of the General of the North Army. Obviously, his social standing is quite high. With that, those people have misunderstood how close the two of you are. Mr. Schulz and those businessmen are hoping to be in his good book so they try to butter you up. Am I right?

Nathan answered with a smile, "Something like that."

Penny and her parents were not sure whether to laugh at the situation. They knew Nathan and Dr. Rothschild Nathan managed to get the doctor's help was because the latter had once lost a bet to him.

Benson grinned as he said to Nathan, "Whatever it is, this is all thanks to you."

Leah had a wide smile on her face as she agreed, "Yeah, that's right! Nathan, you really are our lucky star. Ever since you came to our home, every misfortune we encounter just seems to get turned around and resolved so easily!"



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## Chapter 189 The Influence Of Dr Rothschild

At her parents' words, Penny could not help but smile as well. Her parents were right, Nathan Cross was always doing something unexpected that had led to interesting results. As a result, she found herself at a loss most of the time.

That night, Nathan told the pale-looking Penny and his daughter to sleep first. He had some matters to attend to and had to leave the house.

When he stepped out of the house, Thomas was already waiting outside in a Volkswagen Phaeton.

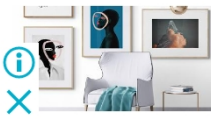
Settling in the backseat of the car, he questioned calmly, "Have you found that Chien fellow?"

Thomas replied, "Yeah. I thought the punk would have already left the city but it turns out that he's still in Channing with his lover."

"Let's go to him then."

"Yes, sir!"





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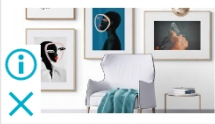
## Chapter 189 The Influence Of Dr Rothschild

The car moved forward at a sedate pace, heading towards the shadier part of the city

Nathan had been discussing the incident with Bob, the supervisor of the construction site. The latter felt the crane toppling over was not a normal workplace accident but the work of someone sabotaging them deliberately.

Hence, Nathan had called Thomas and had the latter carry out his own investigations without waiting for the Ministry of Emergency Management (MEM) to finish their investigations. After all, Thomas was king of the Channing underworld now. Anybody doing this sort of shady business had to answer to him.

At the order from Thomas, the entire underworld went to work on the investigation. After some time, he received information that showed that a person called Chien was most likely behind the incident at the construction site. Unfortunately, the reason for his actions was still unknown.



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### Chapter 189 The Influence Of Dr Rothschild

This was why Nathan and Thomas were now on their way to Chien. They wanted to get to the bottom of this.



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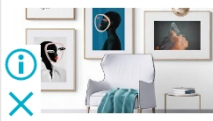


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## Chapter 190 He Is Poisoned To Death

Inside the biggest Diamond Private Room at The Imperial.

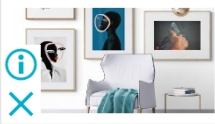
A tall, thin man in a leather jacket had his arm wrapped around a woman as he partied with his friends.

The man was Chien, who had snuck into the Asiatic shopping mall construction site last night under orders from Mr. Zabinski. He had received one million as a reward for sabotaging the construction site.

However, he did not leave the city the moment he got the job done as he was instructed. Instead, he had stayed behind to party with his friends and lover, Marilyn.

Not only had he used a hundred thousand to book the most luxurious private room at The Imperial, he had also ordered a dozen Remy Martin, which cost 5888 a bottle. Then, he exclaimed in a smug tone, "Let's get drunk tonight, boys!"

Marilyn pressed herself against him, cooing, "Chieny, I don't wanna drink brandy tonight. I want to drink wine!"



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Chien shouted arrogantly, "Tell the attendant to bring a bottle of 1982 Lafite for my girl!"

He was flaunting his wealth!

His woman cuddled closer to him in pleasure, her warm and soft pliant body pressed against his.

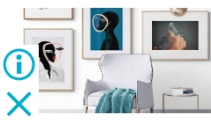
His friends cheered and whooped loudly, one of them calling out, "Chien, you've really hit the jackpot this time if you're willing to drink a wine that costs at least 80,000 a bottle! Don't forget us the next time you have such a ludicrous job!"

Immensely pleased with the adoration and admiration he was getting, Chien puffed up as he answered, "No problem!"

Soon, a young waiter came in with the bottle of Lafite.

Everybody cheered even louder at the appearance of the legendary Lafite.

The waiter dutifully opened the bottle of



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## Chapter 190 He Is Poisoned To Death

wine and poured it for them. In a decidedly respectful gesture, he handed out the wine glasses individually.

As he handed a glass to Chien, he took advantage of the dim lighting in the room to flick some powder under his fingernail into the wine.

Not suspecting a thing, Chien accepted the wine glass and lifted it up in a toast.  
“Cheers!”

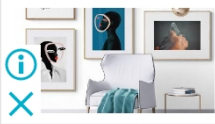
“Cheers!”

Everyone in the room gulped down the wine.

A cold look flashed through the waiter’s eyes when he saw Chien had finished the drugged wine. Pasting a small smile on his face, he excused himself.

...

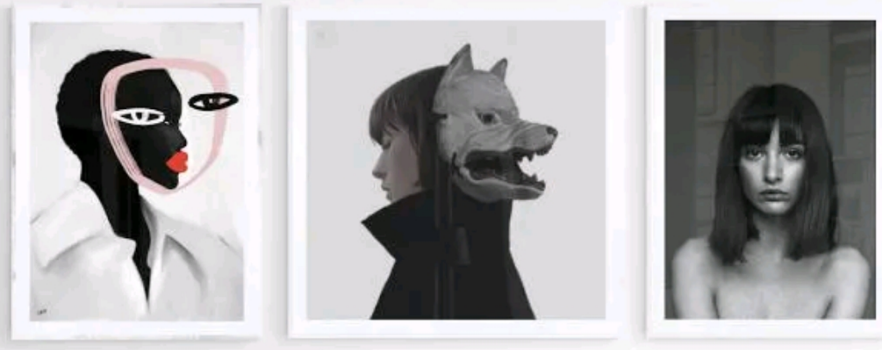
Everyone in the private room was having the time of their lives as they partied and drank.



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Chapter 190 He Is Poisoned To Death



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## Chapter 190 He Is Poisoned To Death

Suddenly, the door opened and a stocky man walked inside. He reached out to turn off the music before flicking on all the lights. The room was as bright as day instantly.

After the man, Thomas, was done turning on the lights, Nathan came inside with his hands clasped behind his back.

Chien and his men were all stunned when they saw the two men who had just entered the room.

“Who the f\*\*k are you? Who let you in?”

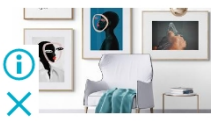
The brawniest of Chien’s friend, Skip, stalked toward the two men furiously. His finger reached out to poke Nathan in the chest as he spoke.

Before his finger could even land on Nathan’s chest, the latter’s hand snapped out to grab his finger and twisted it.

*Crack!*

Skip’s finger was bent backward and





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broken!

“Ah...!”

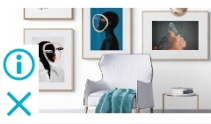
He had barely started to scream in pain when a kick from the other man sent him flying back. He crashed on the glass table shattering it.

As Skip landed before them, Chien and the rest of his friends could see a deep indent on his muscular chest. It was obvious all his ribs were broken.

They then switched their horrified gazes to Nathan. Who would have guessed that he would be so powerful?

Sweeping his eyes around the room, Nathan’s voice was calm as he asked, “Which one of you is Chien?”

The color drained from Chien’s face when he heard his name. He was no fool; he knew the aggressive men standing before him were definitely here about the accident at the construction site.



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## Chapter 190 He Is Poisoned To Death

His eyes darted around as he looked for a way to escape and he tried to make his way to the window of the room.

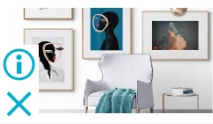
He had barely taken two steps when Nathan picked up a bottle and flung it at him.

The bottle spun through the air hitting the back of Chien's head before breaking into pieces. He collapsed to the floor and did not move again.

Nathan furrowed his brows as he saw this. He had held back when he threw that bottle, so he knew the force should not have been enough to kill the man.

Thomas strode over and yanked the unmoving Chien to his feet, growling, "I'm Thomas Dunn, you pathetic piece of shit. Now tell me, who sent you to the Asiatic construction?"

He trailed off as he noticed the white foam trailing from Chien's lips. Blood was also leaking from all the orifices on his head. The man was dead.



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Shocked, he turned to look at Nathan, "Sir, he's dead!"

Marilyn screamed, which seemed to set the rest of them off as they all started to shout about the two men killing Chien.

"Be quiet!"

The low shout from Nathan shocked them into silence. He went over to the dead body, examining it closely for several seconds. Finally, he muttered, "He's been poisoned. It looks like someone had got to him before we got here."



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