Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 141

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 141 I Can Also Bear Your Child

Alicia was stunned upon hearing the chuckle and the following footsteps. Then, she quickly

looked in the direction where it came from. With a glass of warm water in her hand, Rachel

leaned against the door frame of the living room, looking at Alicia with an indifferent

expression on her face. "Rachel, you..." Alicia muttered as her face slightly turned pale. "I"ve

heard that people would have the tendency of losing some of their memories if they hit

their heads. But I didn"t hear that it could also happen when one drowned in water. How

intriguing..." Rachel revealed a smile, but her eyes were filled with extreme coldness. Alicia

bit her lips and glanced at Victor subconsciously. Obviously, she was worried that Victor

would start doubting her after hearing what Rachel said. Her heart began to pound so hard

that she could actually hear it. Eventually, her pink lips moved and trembled. "Victor, I didn"t

lie. I"m telling the truth..." Not really noticing what Alicia was saying, Victor was only focused

at Rachel. He couldn"t help but let out an evident frown. "What are you doing down here?"

he asked straightforwardly. Rachel blinked her eyes and the smile on her face instantly

disappeared. She then raised the glass of water in her hand and said, "Me? I"m just here to

refill my glass. When I passed by, I happened to hear Miss Schultz say that her memory loss

was actually because she almost drowned. It just interested me."

At this time, Alicia was almost trembling, not knowing how she could defend herself. She

even clenched her fists so hard to stop herself from shaking. Looking at the guilty look on

Alicia"s face, Rachel sneered in her heart. She was thoroughly enjoying what she was seeing.

Just before the accident, Alicia was confidently claiming that she was different from those

who did nothing but frame and slander others behind their backs. Ironically, she had

become that exact same type of person. Compared to Alice, who was really good at playing

tricks at others, Alicia looked dignified on the surface. But surprisingly, she could also do the

same while pretending to be innocent. In fact, this type of person was even worse than the

likes of Alice. 1 "Rachel." Victor uttered her name coldly, warning her in a low voice. Hearing

this, Rachel turned to Victor and stared straight to his eyes. Recognizing that Victor was

about to get angry, Lukas immediately stepped forward and persuaded Rachel, "Miss

Bennet, the doctor is about to arrive. I think it "s better to get back to your room and wait for

him there." Seeing the worried look of Lukas, Rachel averted her gaze from Victor and

forced a smile.

Anyway, she had to meet with Andy tomorrow. It wasn"t easy for her to be finally allowed to

go out, so she couldn"t risk being grounded again. She deemed that there was no need to

take that risk just because of Alicia. "Okay then," Rachel agreed after a moment. Hearing

this, Lukas breathed a sigh of relief. Afraid that she might suddenly change her mind and

argue with Victor again, he immediately offered Rachel that he would escort her back to her

room. Of course, Rachel was aware why he was so worried. Since she knew that it wouldn"t

be good for her to be willful, she just went along with what Lukas suggested. After Rachel

and Lukas were finally out of sight, Alicia was able to breathe a sigh of relief. Then, she

looked at Victor with her twinkling eyes.

"Victor..." "Do you have anything else to say?" Victor interrupted before Alicia could

continue speaking. Looking at Victor"s seemingly emotionless face, Alicia couldn"t read what

was going on in his mind. "Do you think that I"m lying to you?" Victor looked directly in her

eyes but didn"t say anything. Alicia was beginning to think that Victor might have been

suspecting her. But out of nowhere, he opened his mouth and said, "No." Hearing this,

Alicia"s eyes lit up and a smile appeared on her delicate face. Taking a look at his watch,

Victor remarked, "I have to go back to the company. If you have nothing else to discuss, you

may also leave now." Alicia"s mouth hung a little open as she was rendered speechless. She

clearly recognized that Victor wanted her to leave already. Obviously, she didn"t expect that

he would make her leave this soon. In the past, she didn"t have much chance to come to

Sue Garden, Even if she did, she could only stay for a short while. She used to think that he

just really didn"t like women staying at his place. However, right now, even though Rachel

was already living here, he was still deliberately driving her away. Out of frustration, an

impulse suddenly came out of her chest. She blurted out, "Can I stay here for tonight?" Her

voice was neither loud nor low. She wasn"t shy nor too pushy. However, Alicia came to her

senses and averted her eyes. Right after she spoke the words, she regretted it. After all, she

was a lady who was raised in a prominent family. But then she shamelessly asked a man if

she could stay at his place. If this piece of news was leaked out, she would tarnish the good

name of her family. But she thought again, her brows furrowed. If Rachel could stay here,

why couldn"t she?

The more she thought about it, the more upset she got. "I..." She paused and slightly bit her

lip before continuing. "My dormitory was being repaired today, so the power wasn"t back

yet. However, upon checking, the hotels near the school were fully booked already, and I

don"t really think it is safe to stay at a hotel. So now, I really don"t know where else I could

go..." Taking a deep breath, she gritted her teeth and mustered her courage to ask, "I was

thinking if I can stay here for the night. Is that okay?" Then, Alicia looked at Victor with great

expectation. Her heart was beating so fast. "No." However, without even taking some time

to think, this word came out from Victor"s mouth. He answered with no hesitation, and there

was a hint of decisiveness in his calm tone.

This was the second time that he directly refused her.

All the expectations she built were shattered just like that. The first time he rejected her was

when Victor was about to marry Rachel. She went to him, swallowed her pride, and

confessed her love to him. Then, she asked him if he could marry her instead of Rachel.

At that time, he said the very word that she heard just now-cold and straightforward. His

face was like an unmovable iceberg as he looked down at her and refused her. This time,

she set aside her self-esteem and pride again. After all, she thought that since he and Rachel

were already divorced, there was no reason for him to turn her down. 1 However, she had

already gone this far. If she let this chance slip by, everything would be in vain. "But I really

have no other place to go..." Looking on the floor, she tried to stand firmly, unwilling to give

up. "I can ask Ivan to book a nice hotel for you and ask someone to clean your room," Victor

responded, not budging at all. He didn"t really want to waste any more time, so he started

walking towards the door after he finished talking. At this point, the frustration was pretty

evident on Alicia"s expression. With a lowered head, she clenched her fists. She even

swallowed her pride and practically begged him. She wondered why Victor was making

things so difficult for her. It was only one night. Why was he being so rigid? "Victor..." As

Victor got past her, she instinctively grabbed his sleeve. At the same time, Victor

immediately stopped and frowned. He actually didn"t like being touched by others, and

even Alicia should have known that a long time ago. In fact, he had always been keeping a

distance when they were together. Noticing that he wasn"t pleased at what she did, Alicia

quickly let go of his sleeve. Then, with her head remained lowered, she asked softly again,

"Why is that?" Victor turned his head towards her but didn"t utter a word. His dark eyes

clearly told her

that he didn"t need to answer her question. "But you let Rachel live here even though you"re

divorced. Why can"t you let me stay here for just one night? Is it because she is pregnant

with your child? If that"s the case, then ..." Alicia looked at him with tears almost welling up

in her eyes. "I don"t mind bearing your child as well!" She paused and blushed, realizing that

she said it out loud. "I-I mean it. I have loved you for two years. Did you ever notice that?" 1

"Tell me one thing first. How did you know that she"s pregnant?" Victor didn"t even react to

her confession. With a straight face, he asked her a different question. 1 At the same time,

there was an evident coldness in his tone, as if he didn"t like what he just heard

Realizing that she made a grave mistake, Alicia"s face instantly turned pale. She had

forgotten that Victor didn"t know the fact that she learned about Rachel"s pregnancy.

Looking at Victor"s sharp eyes, she was taken aback. "I... ..." Victor"s imposing manner was so

intimidating that Alicia felt like there were heavy stones being pressed on her chest, making

her unable to breathe and weakening her legs. At this moment, she was subconsciously

taking a few steps back, as if she wanted to get away as soon as possible.

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 142

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Chapter 142 Saved It For You

"I... I just heard it from someone." Her hands held each other, sweating and slightly

trembling. Alicia was caught off guard, not expecting that she would make such a blunder.

"You heard it? From who exactly did you hear it?" Victor"s eyes narrowed as he asked. His

tone and expression weren"t really angry. But his aura was obviously intimidating. Alicia

swallowed hard, carefully thinking the words that she would say. After a while, her pink lips

moved. "I heard it from a servant passing by when I was waiting for Rachel by the lake the

other day." After she finally made up a story, the entire room was filled with total silence.

Victor didn"t say a word, but his eyes were still fixed on Alicia. Alicia was so afraid that she

couldn"t stare back into Victor"s freezing eyes. She felt guiltier and uneasy that he wasn"t

saying anything. "Victor..."

Not able to take it anymore, Alicia tried to explain again, but she was suddenly cut off by

Victor. "I" Il ask the driver to send you back to school." After saying that, he strode towards

the stairs, not letting Alicia have a chance to say another word. A while later, Lukas came

downstairs and saw Alicia there, alone. She was standing still, with her pink lips tightly

closed. Her eyes looked red as if she had just finished crying. "Miss Schultz, let me walk you

out..." "It"s fine. I can do that by myself." Before Lukas could finish his words, Alicia

interrupted with her hoarse voice. Then, she turned around and quickly walked outside the

house. Looking at her obviously upset and aggrieved back, Lukas sighed. He watched Victor

grow up. For so many years, he had never seen Victor take any woman seriously except for

his grandmother. 1 In fact, even Rachel, who had been married to him and now pregnant

with his child, was no exception. Victor didn"t treat her any better, let alone Alicia.

"Lukas..." After quickly striding away, Alicia suddenly stopped and turned towards Lukas,

revealing her still reddish eyes. "Yes, Miss Schultz. What can I do for you?" Lukas asked,

trying to be considerate with the pitiful-looking girl. "Well... It"s actually my birthday next

Wednesday, and my family will hold a party for me. Will you please tell Victor about it? If it

is possible, I want him to be there." She took a deep breath and added. "Please tell him that

I"ll wait for him in Crown Club." "Yes, of course. I"ll be sure to tell Mr. Sullivan," Lukas

answered. After getting the response she wanted, Alicia didn"t say anything more and eventually left.

A few moments later, Lukas went upstairs and knocked on the door of the study. "Come in."

Victor"s voice sounded from the other side of the door. Lukas pushed the door open and

walked in. Victor had just put down his phone to end a call. So, he turned around and

looked at Lukas, who just came in. "Mr. Sullivan, Miss Schultz has already left." Lukas paused

for a moment before he continued, "Before she left, she actually asked me to tell you that

her birthday party will be held next Wednesday at the Crown Club. She will be expecting

you." "I see." With an expressionless face, Victor replied vaguely. Lukas couldn"t determine

from his answer if he would go or not. Then, Victor"s phone suddenly vibrated, hinting that

he got a message. As the screen of the phone lit up, he saw that the message was from Ivan.

Seeing this, he was reminded that he had an appointment with a business partner. "When

will the doctor arrive?" Victor asked Lukas while he was texting Ivan back. Then, he took the

documents on the desk to prepare for his appointment. "I just received a message from the

doctor. He said he would be here within ten minutes," Lukas replied.

Victor just nodded. He

was actually thinking what Alicia just said earlier, and he deemed that he should do

something about it. "By the way, investigate who were in the garden on the day Alicia fell

into the water. Once you find out who they are, kick them out." Hearing this, Lukas was

stunned. He didn"t know why Victor would suddenly ask for such a thing. "Okay then. But

may I ask why?" It was a strange order, so Lukas wondered why he needed to suddenly

investigate that event. "I don"t like servants who don"t know when to shut their mouths."

After saying that in a cold tone, Victor walked out of the study. When Victor was out of

sight, Lukas frowned and his face became more puzzled.

It seemed that someone must have said something to Alicia or Rachel that day, but he

couldn"t be so sure. The following day, Rachel got up early and prepared to set out. It was

the day that she would visit the Bennet family after quite a long time. These past days, Andy

had been living in the Bennet family. Therefore, when he heard the knock at the door, he

immediately opened it. As he opened the door, he greeted with a smile, "Miss Bennet!

You"re here." "Oh, Andy." Rachel smiled back, a bit surprised that he answered the door this

quick. Then, Andy took a look at the Maybach behind Rachel, as well as the men in black

who stood beside the car. Moreover, when he saw the Obsidian around their neck, he

couldn"t help but frown and sigh.

He had no clue what Rachel had been doing ever since she moved into the Sue Garden.

Furthermore, he had no clue if she was just alright. He couldn"t gauge how Victor was

treating Rachel there. "Miss Bennet, didn"t Abby come with you?" "No, she has been very

busy," Rachel answered but didn"t explain further. Then, she proceeded inside. Hearing

Rachel"s words, Andy glanced at the men in black standing in front of the house with a

serious look on his face. Although Rachel seemed fine, he still felt that something wrong

was going on. Although he hadn"t known Abby for a very long time, he knew that she

adored Rachel very much. In fact, she almost always stayed by her side. However, ever since

he was taken away and Rachel moved into Sue Garden, he had never seen a glimpse of

Abby again. "Miss Bennet..." The more he thought about it, the stranger he felt it was. He

stopped and looked at the back of Rachel, wanting to find some answers. Rachel turned

around and saw the confusion and worry in his eyes. Of course, she immediately guessed

what he was thinking. But just like she was doing all this time, she didn"t show any hint of

emotion. Instead, she asked casually, "What"s wrong?" Andy hesitated for a moment,

knowing that Rachel was just pretending that everything was alright. "Is Abby doing okay?"

"Of course. Why wouldn"t she?" With a firm tone, she asked, "Did someone say something

to you?" "No. It"s not that..." Obviously, he didn"t have any definitive proof. He was just

basing his assumptions on what he could perceive. Hence, he wondered if he was just really

thinking too much. Andy frowned as he didn"t find anything wrong with Rachel"s expression.

There were only two possibilities. It was either Rachel was just very good at hiding her

emotions, or she was telling the truth. Of course, he wished that it was the latter. "We need

to talk and I just don"t want Abby to get involved in this, so I didn"t bring her here. That"s

all," Rachel finally said to dispel his worry. Eventually, Andy bought it. He felt at ease to hear

what Rachel said. After all, he knew that if something really happened to Abby, Rachel

wouldn"t look calm and do nothing at all. But when he realized that Rachel came directly to

the home of the Bennet family, he became puzzled again. "Miss Bennet, is something the

matter? Didn"t you say that we would meet in a cafe today? Why did you suddenly decide to

come here instead?" Seeing that Andy still looked so serious, Rachel was amused and

couldn"t help but laugh. She wasn"t really thinking of doing something big.

However, it was true that it might be a big sensation if the situation was different. "Nothing.

I just think it "s more convenient to discuss it at home. After all, it could save your time, and

we can be more at ease." The truth was because she was now free to go out, she didn"t need

to sneak out anymore. In order to reduce the risk of being discovered, she initially told Andy

that they would meet at the cafe. After all, Victor could easily find out about it if she went

home. But since the situation changed for the better, she deemed that it wasn"t necessary to

hide anymore. It was also such a pity though, that it took her three hours to successfully

break into the security system in Sue Garden. She didn"t need that security system to help

her out now. "So what is it that you want to discuss?" Andy eventually sat opposite Rachel

and asked in a low voice, "The money I gave you, how much of it is left? Did you use it all

up?" Rachel asked straightforwardly. As soon as she finished her words, Andy took out the

bank card from his pocket and put it on the table. "I haven"t used any of it. It"s all in here."

"The five million dollars?" "Yes." Andy nodded and added, "Miss Bennet, you said that these

money could be used to save the Bennet Group. Although five million dollars is a huge sum

of money, I know that it is still not enough. Currently, the Bennet Group is supported by the

Sullivan Group. Although it doesn"t make any profit now, it can at least keep things in a

balance. So I thought that it"s best to keep the five million in case you need it someday. I

can"t be of much help to you, but I thought this money could become necessary one day."

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 143

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 143 The Shares

A strangely comfortable warmth settled in Rachel"s heart. She lowered her eyes and looked

at the bank card on the table. She couldn"t help but feel ridiculous when she remembered

what Victor had said about Andy as he threatened her to sign the agreement. She hadn"t

believed him at that time. Now, as she looked at the card, she was sure of her choice. Andy

couldn"t be bribed. She had given him five million, but he never even touched any of it. He

even kept it safe for her in case she ever needed it someday. He certainly wasn"t as bad as

Victor had painted him to be. She picked up the card and gave it to Andy once more. "Andy,

you can take the five million dollars. Take it." "I won"t. This has always been your money. I

was just keeping it for you. Now that you are here, it is only fair that I give it back." Andy

shook his head slowly as he refused. He pinched his nose bridge slightly in embarrassment

and laughed. "I don"t mind if you laugh at me, Miss Bennet. In all the forty years I have lived,

that was the first time I held so much money in my hands. Ironic, isn"t it?" "Then why would

you give it back to me?" Rachel asked. "Because that money is not mine." All the humor left

Andy"s face as he said seriously, "I"ve been a lawyer for twelve years. I"ve enjoyed glory and

seen what real power was like. I, more than anyone, know the importance of drawing the

bottom line. When I applied for law school, everyone around me thought that the path

wasn"t suited for me. A boy born from an average family, they all thought I would get lost in

between, so none of them even bothered to support me. Everyone, except my high school

teacher. He patted me on the shoulder as he smiled and said he believed that I could make

a great lawyer." Thinking of the past, Andy"s eyes lit up in a way Rachel hadn"t seen before.

Maybe he really enjoyed being a lawyer. "He told me that there was no job was easy in this

world. That as long as I knew my limits and kept to my boundaries, no matter how tough it

became, I wouldn"t lose myself." Andy looked at Rachel with the same smile and said, "So I

can"t take this money. I did not earn it. Miss Bennet, please forgive me. I might be poor, but

I have my principles." "I understand." A person who stuck to their limits was always someone

to admire. "But I"m afraid you will have to take the five million even if you don"t want to.

And it"s more than five million." Rachel grinned.

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"What exactly do you mean, Miss Bennet? I don"t think I understand." Andy leaned closer.

The confusion in his eyes made Rachel smile. "Andy, other than the shares owned by

Sullivan Group and me, how many do the other board members own? And how many are

the scattered shares?" Andy"s eyes lit up in desperation. "Miss Bennet, are you going to buy

back the shares from all these people?" Rachel leaned back with a faint smile still on her lips.

She didn"t say anything, but her look expressed her affirmation. "In addition to the ones

transferred by your father some time ago, Miss Bennet you currently hold eight percent of

the Bennet Group"s shares." After thinking for a while, he continued, "The Sullivan Group

holds fifty-five percent of the shares. That way, even if we buy all the shares from the board

of directors and individual investors, we still won"t have enough to take back control of the

Bennet Group." As soon as he finished his words, Andy looked at the bank card once more.

He now got why Rachel said there would be more than five million. If she decided to

redeem the shares, it would take both time and effort to buy all of them back from the

individual investors, not to mention how the shareholders would obviously demand

exorbitant prices. Rachel grabbed a pillow and leaned back into the seat comfortably. "I am

not trying to regain the control of the Bennet Group." "Then..." Andy was even more

confused, "If you don"t want to take back absolute control of the Bennet Group, then why

do you want the shares?" "To sell them." Rachel"s smile grew even wider at Andy"s reaction.

"I only have eight percent now, it will be too insignificant to sell, right? But if I have the rest

of the forty five percent, I think we can get a good price for it." Andy was stunned. He hadn"t

expected such from her. "Miss Bennet, you are really going to sell the Bennet Group?" "Yes."

Rachel nodded. "But your family worked so hard to build it in the first place. Why would you

sell it?" Andy couldn"t even begin to comprehend the thoughts behind Rachel"s decision. A

few days before, Victor had pushed her hard, but she hadn"t given Bennet Group to him.

She had even agreed to work for the Sullivan Group in order to keep her family business.

But now that she had finally saved it, why would she suddenly want to sell it? He couldn"t

get his mind around it. Rachel didn"t answer him then. Instead, her eyes around the living

room evading his. After a long time, she looked at him and said, "I"ve already made up my

mind. So I need you to help me contact the board of directors and you will buy their shares

on my behalf." "Miss Bennet, why don"t you think..." "Andy, I said I"ve made up my mind."

Rachel knew that Andy was only worried about her.

After all, in his opinion, the shares she had of Bennet Group were her last support. As long

as the shares were in her hands and the Bennet Group remained the same, she was still

considered a celebrity. But he also knew that as long as Rachel made up her mind, no

matter what he said or did, it would all be useless. . Rachel was just stubborn as her mother

sometimes. Andy sighed slightly and said, "Okay. I will do my best." "Thank you, Andy." "I

promised your mother that I will look after you, Miss Bennet. You don"t have to thank me. I

am just fulfilling my duty." Andy shook his head. "But if we are going to buy all the shares..."

"We will need a lot of money," he finished his sentence in his mind. With only five million, it

would be a tough job to redeem the shares from the individual investors, let alone the

sophisticated and sly directors in the board. The major shareholders have been there since

Bennet Group was first establish, and they would not be easy to deal with. Even at a time

like that when the Bennet Group was on the verge of collapsing, they still didn"t sell their

shares. It was not because they had any emotional attachments to the Bennet Group, but

because of they saw hope in it when the Sullivan Group came into the picture. They felt that

with the support of the Sullivan Group, as long as they still held their shares they would get

the dividend, and perhaps the Bennet Group would rise again eventually. Therefore,

everyone just waited on the edge for things to turn around. So if Rachel offered to buy their

shares, they wouldn"t be so agreeable. Even if they did, they would ask for more than what

the shares were actually worth. "How much do I need?" Rachel asked. After hesitating for a

while as he did the math, Andy finally stretched out two fingers. "Twenty million?" Rachel

said. "Umm... More like two hundred million." Andy said in a whisper before he put down his

hand. "If we want to redeem all the shares, we need at least two hundred million." Rachel"s

eyes darkened, as thoughts raced through her mind. After thinking for a while, she said,

"Okay." "Miss Bennet, what did you say?" When Andy heard her decision the second time it

was even more shocking. That was an extremely large sum of money they were talking about.

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 144

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 144 A Notice

They were talking about two hundred million dollars... But why did Rachel make it sound

like that much money was so easy to get? "Miss Bennet, we"re talking about to two hundred

million here... even if we sell this house, it won"t be enough." Andy frowned. "I"m not going

to sell the house." Rachel smiled as she straightened the flannel of the throw pillow she was

holding. She planned to leave Apliaria with Abby after she settled this. That young lady was

a simpleton. Rachel wasn"t sure she"d be able to survive on her own if she was left all alone

in Apliaria. Not to mention Victor was here. He might try to hurt Abby once more. She had

also considered taking Andy with her, but he would probably refuse. He said he had a

dream to chase, and it convinced her more that he would never leave this place. After all, it

was in Apliaria where he built his dreams and made it come true. Andy had made numerous

sacrifices for the Bennet family and for her throughout the years. She couldn"t be so selfish

as to ask him to leave the city he adored, so she decided not to sell her family home but to

hand it to him instead. Since he didn"t want money, she couldn"t just watch him live in the

basement all his life. She had to help him in some way. Rachel knew he would never refuse if

she asked him to look after the house while she was away. "Wait a minute... If you"re not

selling the house..." Andy mumbled, his brows meeting in the middle. An idea flashed

through his mind. He stood up and looked at Rachel seriously, and said, "If we don"t sell the

house, how are we going to get the two hundred million? Miss Bennet, please don"t do

anything stupid!" he yelled before she could respond. "You can"t be reckless for any reason.

If something happens to you, I would fail to keep my promise to your mother. I meant to

keep you safe." Seeing him react like this, Rachel couldn"t help but burst into laughter.

Andy"s face was contorted with anguish. "What"s so funny, Miss Bennet?" "Oh, Andy. What

did you think I was going to do? Why would something happen to me?" Rachel"s laughter

made him pout. "Andy, do you think I"m going to sell my body for money?" "..." Rachel

guessed it even though he said it vaguely. Andy bit his lips and couldn"t think of anything to

say. "Andy." Rachel put the throw pillow down and stood up. She looked at him with a soft

smile, saying, "I promise I won"t do anything that I would regret in the future." Although

Rachel said this calmly, Andy was still worried. After all, they needed two hundred million

dollars. It was difficult to obtain a significant amount of money in such a short period of time.

"Miss Bennet, can you tell me how exactly you"re going to get the money?" TAKE Rachel

smiled helplessly and shook her head, "I can"t tell you how I"ll get the money, but I can

assure you that it's clean." Andy sadly looked at her and sighed, "Okay. I"ll take your word

for it, Miss Bennet. It's just that... I'm afraid you'll get deceived. It's not good to trust just

anyone." Rachel was stunned for a moment and then smiled. It felt great to have someone

look out for her. . "Don"t worry, Andy. I won"t let anyone swindle me." Andy felt compelled

to speak more but because Rachel seemed to prefer to not talk about it anymore, he had no

choice but to give up for the time being. He pondered for a moment, his gaze falling on the

bank card. "I will go visit those board members tomorrow." Andy firmly said. "How long will

it take to purchase all of the shares?" Rachel sat down on a swivel chair, never taking her

eyes off him. "Individual investors don"t have many shares in their hands," Andy

replied, frowning slightly. "Besides, we can contact a specific securities consultant to redeem

their shares. That will be easier and could buy us at least two more weeks." There were two

things about individual investors. One was that their shareholding ratio was relatively low,

and an individual investor might only hold a few percent of the shares.

The other one was

they were dispersed around the country, and it was nearly impossible to bring them all

together. However, these individual investors bought the shares of Bennet Group through

the stock exchange. If they worked along with the securities expert, the shares would be

collected more quickly and easily. Rachel raised her eyebrows and cocked her head. It was

good to know that she could repurchase the scattered shares in two weeks. Andy, on the

other hand, was still in a conundrum. Rachel noticed it and immediately knew his concern.

"Okay, what about the board members? How long will it take to purchase theirs?" Andy

pursed his lips together. Without saying anything, he shook his head slowly. He wasn"t sure

how long it would take. After all, these big fishes weren"t easy to deal with. Seeing that he

was uncertain, Rachel understood right away. "It appears I"ll have to pay these board

members a visit at some point." Rachel smiled mischievously. "Are you saying you" re going

to talk to them personally, Miss Bennet?" Rachel winked at Andy. "Technically, not a talk, but

a notice." Andy"s eyes widened in shock. Rachel reached for the glass of water on the table,

took a sip, and then continued.

"I suck at negotiating with such people. It"s a waste of time and words for me. I want to end

things as soon as possible, so... could you please make appointments for me? Tell them...

That I want to treat them to a meal." Andy simply nodded. Rachel didn"t linger long and left

after asking Andy to help her with the arrangements. The Maybach slowly drove into Sue

Garden and finally came to a halt at the bottom of the stairwell. As soon as Rachel got out

of the car, she received a text message from her phone. It was a message from the bank,

and she started counting the figures. One, two... Eight. There were eight zeroes in total, no

more no less, two hundred million dollars. Rachel grinned and slid her phone inside her

pocket. She expected the money to be transferred a little later, but she didn"t expect it to be

so fast. She hummed as she entered the house and told Lukas that she would have lunch in

her room, then excitedly headed upstairs. As soon as the door was shut, her phone buzzed

heavily. She looked at the caller ID, and it was a virtual caller.

"Boss! Your money in the Swiss bank has been stolen!" As soon as she answered the phone,

she heard the loud noise from Quintin on the other end of the line.

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 145

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 145 They Were In Apliaria

Hearing the news made Rachel pause for a moment. Then, she smiled.

As she was ready to

explain, Quintin continued, "But don"t worry. I"ve locked that person"s account! They dared

to steal your money? I will definitely find who"s behind this and make them pay!" As he

spoke, Rachel could hear the tapping sound of the keyboard on his line. "The money..." "I

found it!" Rachel tried to speak again, but Quintin interrupted, "In Apliaria? Strange... how

could it also be in Apliaria? What a coincidence. This is very odd." Rachel raised her hand

and massaged her forehead, eyes closed. She wanted to explain what happened, otherwise,

Quintin might come to Apliaria and kill the person who stole her money. Suddenly,

something had occurred to her. She slightly frowned and asked. "What did you just say?

What coincidence?" "Well, boss, I meant to notify you two days ago, but I was delayed due

to a last-minute mission. Wallace and Tara traveled to Apliaria two days ago," Quintin

quietly said. "I don"t know what they were trying to do there." Wallace and Tara were in

Apliaria? Rachel bit her lip and tightened her grip on the phone. A flash of their faces

appeared in her

mind.

"Boss. Are you okay?" Quintin asked in concern after not hearing her voice for some time.

"Yeah? I"m good." "Boss, I believe the money was stolen by that shameless couple, but

don"t worry. Since their tracks are traceable, I"ll be able to recover it." "I won"t let them off

easily!" Quintin clenched his teeth. Rachel let out a heavy sigh. "Quintin, they didn"t steal the

money," Rachel murmured, her eyes narrowing. After a short pause, Quintin said, "What?

Then..." "I have the money. I need it for something urgent..." "Urgent...? Are you in some kind

of trouble? Do you need me to come and help you with anything?" Quintin had rising

concerns when he heard this. Rachel"s eyes darkened. "No, I can handle it myself," she

answered slowly as she turned to face the half-open balcony. "Alright, boss. Although, it"s

been a while since I"ve last seen you..." Quintin sighed, "When do you plan on coming

back?" Rachel sat on the bed and leaned against the headboard. She couldn"t help but

smile. "Soon."

"By the way, boss, there is one more thing." "What is it?" Rachel asked. "It seems they "re

planning on selecting a new chairman." "A few days ago, I noticed the shameless couple

talking to the directors secretly several times, and soon they announced that they intended

to appoint a new chairman." Quintin frowned as he played with the lego model in his palm.

The Red Hackers had recruited over a thousand of the world"s best hackers. The majority of

them were working at union branches all throughout the globe, and only the most talented

hackers were able to pass the test and gain access to the headquarters. All of the hackers

who entered the headquarters truly had top-notch skills and were considered to be the best

in the world. In the headquarters, there was a committee of elites. There were a total of

seven people in the group. They were the top leaders of the entire alliance and the most

feared hackers on the planet. Rachel was one of the Red Hackers" youngest members, and

she was also one of the seven. But Rachel was not as ambitious as the others, and she was

uninterested in the alliance"s affairs. So, she hadn"t done much work as a proper leader. As a

result, she didn"t get along with the other six. But it was undeniable that she had the skill.

Even if the other six members didn"t like her, they could not get rid of her. The committee

could only include seven members. If a new member wanted to join, they"d have to beat

one of the seven current members out. This rule had been in place since the Red Hackers

was established. Every year, new members would take on this challenge. But ten years had

passed, and only one person had succeeded. That was her. Now that she was considered

dead, her position was open. Wallace and Tara had been eager to be in the committee for a long time. Now that she was out of the picture, it was time for them to take action. Rachel

sneered, "Ha. I admire their courage." "Courage? I"d say it"s a lack of self-awareness.

Everybody knows how "skilled" they are in hacking." Quintin almost laughed, "What makes

them think they can take your place?" "Quintin, can you help me check where they are

currently staying?" Rachel"s eyes grew dim. Despite the fact that she couldn"t rejoin the

alliance now, she could still do something. "You want to take my place? You wish. Andy

called her the next day. He was just as efficient as he had always been. He had successfully

set up a dinner reservation at the Crown Club for Rachel and the board of directors on

Wednesday. Rachel smiled as she hung up the phone and looked at the document on her

computer. She then proceeded to open her e-mail and sent it out Wednesday evening in a

quiet corner of the restaurant in Crown Club, a group of old men sat with a serious look on

their faces, waiting for Rachel to arrive. Rachel had not shown up yet despite the fact that it

was only a few minutes before the appointed time of seven o"clock.

Andy, who had been

standing not far away, caught the grimace of an old man who was visibly upset. "When will

Miss Bennet come? We, we been waiting for her for half an hour!" Everyone in the room

agreed. "Exactly! Since she called us out here, she should be waiting for us, not the other

way around!" "What is she trying to do, Andy?" "Is this some kind of joke?" Andy just stood

in silence. He raised his eyes and gazed at everyone"s faces. He felt disgusted by them.

Rachel was the daughter of the Bennet family, but they had no respect for her. As her

mother"s business partners and friends, they had watched her grow up. She thought of them

as uncles when she was a child. However, now that the Bennet family had grown weak and

with the fact that Victor disliked Rachel, they show a completely different attitude towards

her.

It was ridiculous.

"Please be patient. Miss Bennet will arrive at seven o"clock." He answered in a cold and

indifferent tone, his face expressionless. Andy was implying that it was their own fault for

coming so early. These old men became furious as soon as Andy finished his words, but

they couldn"t argue. Andy simply didn"t care. He then called the waiter over and instructed,

"Bring the dishes." The waiter nodded and was about to go out, but the door was pushed

open from the outside. A woman was standing there. Everyone"s eyes immediately turned

towards her direction. Even Andy had a surprised expression on his face. His eyes settled, as

if he were in a trance. Dressed in a simple and neat suit, Rachel stood gracefully at the door,

her long hair neatly flowing behind. It was rare that she wore make-up today. She looked

delicate and elegant. Her style was very much like Elisa, who used to be the most famous

rich-born lady. "Sorry to keep you waiting."

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 146

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 146 Meeting The Directors

As she walked inside the room, it suddenly became quiet. Everyone"s eves fell on Rachel,

and they were all stunned that their mouths hung open. They couldn"t even recognize her.

Some even rubbed their eyes to see if it was really her. They were in disbelief that the

girl from years ago already looked like this. Everyone said that she couldn"t do anything well

because she was just a spoiled little brat. She was often compared to her mother, and they

said that she wouldn"t be anything like her. Back then, she was lazy, submissive, and didn"t

have any ambition. Hence, although she possessed great genes, they assumed that she

could never achieve her mother"s level. a However, all their assumptions came back

haunting them the moment they saw the woman with an imposing aura in front of them.

The directors looked calm on the surface, but in their hearts, they were so shocked that they

were rendered speechless. In fact, their eyes followed her every action unknowingly. 1 Andy

was actually the first one to regain his senses from the astonishment of Rachel"s

appearance. He then called, "Miss Bennet." Finally, his words brought everyone back from

being in a daze. Then, the old man, who had complained earlier, suddenly coughed. There

was displeasure in his eyes as he spoke with his deep voice. "Miss Bennet, you are the one

who invited us to dinner today, but you only appeared now? Did you deliberately make us

wait this long? Don"t you think you owe us an explanation?" As soon as he finished

speaking, the other directors also nodded and looked at Rachel, full of criticism in their eyes.

On the other hand, Rachel just smiled and looked in the direction where she heard the

voice. Eventually, her eyes fell on an old man, sitting on the host seat of the round table,

which was full of the other directors.

He had a square face, his eyebrows were slightly knitted, he wore a short magenta purple

coat, and he was holding two walnuts in his hand. Obviously, his demeanor was shouting

the he was the most powerful person among these directors. Seeing that she didn"t answer

for a while, the old man"s face darkened even more. "Miss Bennet, are you not planning to

say a word? You don"t take us seriously at all, do you? Just because you are the heiress, you

don"t think it"s necessary to be polite" "Sorry to interrupt you, sir." Rachel suddenly butted in

while the old man ranted. At the same time, he immediately glared at her for interrupting

him. He was so dissatisfied that it was as if he was about to pound the table at any time.

However, Rachel pretended not to see his angry face and even looked at him with a smile.

"May I ask who you are?" She searched in her mind, but she was sure that she hadn"t seen

these people since the death of her mother, Elisa. Therefore, she really couldn"t recall most

of them. While the old man kept criticizing her, she felt rather strange because she didn"t

even know who he was. Hearing her words, the atmosphere instantly became awkward. In

fact, the livid face of the old man froze for a moment. "I think... The last I"ve seen you all was

when my mother passed away. So, please forgive me if I can"t properly remember your

names and faces." Rachel"s words sounded like an apology on the surface, but for these

directors, they had a deeper and different meaning. 1 She hadn"t seen them for such a long

time that she didn"t even remember them anymore. It sounded like when Elisa was gone,

they suddenly disappeared as well. Of course, the directors would take offense, thinking that

she was actually accusing them.

Rachel was the heiress and the ruler of the Bennet Group by right.

However, none of the

directors had shown up after she lost her mother. Their promise that they would take good

care of her seemed like it never existed in the first place. The expression on the faces of the

directors was saying that they got angry because of her disrespect towards them. But they

couldn"t freely show it because they also knew that everything she said was true. After a

brief moment, another middle-aged man broke the silence and said, "Miss Bennet, I know

you haven"t seen us since you were thirteen years old. Therefore, it"s only normal that

you forgot us. It"s okay. It"s not your fault. Anyway, this is Mr. Aldo Davidson, the pioneer

among all the directors. He had worked with your grandfather for many years." Hearing this,

Aldo Davidson coughed again and slightly snorted as a response. "Davidson?"

Upon hearing the name of the old man, Rachel"s eyes narrowed as if she had suddenly

remembered something important. In her memory, she did not know many people with this

name. She now remembered this one was indeed one of the directors.

The other director

said that Aldo had worked with her grandfather for many years.

However, right now, it

seemed that he thought of himself as a big shot. Based on what she remembered, he

shouldn"t be acting this way, Therefore, Rachel smiled and said, "Oh, Mr. Davidson. I think I

remember you. I used to see you talking with grandpa in his study. In fact, I remember

hearing from grandpa that you had handled a project worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

Even though I was so young, 13 was very impressed." Hearing this, the middle-aged man

slightly raised his brows. "Really? I haven"t heard of it | before. A project worth hundreds of

millions of dollars? What kind of project are you talking!

about?" "Well, I don"t know much about it. I could just remember grandpa saying that it

almost made the Bennet Group go bankrupt." Her words seemed both sincere and sarcastic

at the same time. At this time, the smile on the face of the middle-aged man became stiff.

He didn"t expect what Rachel said next. of course, Aldo"s face turned livid again. "What

nonsense are you talking about?!" Rachel blinked, put a finger on her chin, and said

innocently, "But I"m not talking nonsense. I even saw you kneel in front of grandpa and beg

him for," "Enough!" As Rachel exposed his secret, Aldo slapped the table with both his

hands, breathing heavily.

Rachel stopped talking, but there was a cold and sly smile on her lips.

The middle-aged

man, who was asking, was frightened and didn"t pursue the topic anymore. Then, he let out

an awkward smile and said intentionally, "Miss Bennet, you must be remembering it wrong.

Mr. Davidson has made so many great contributions to the Bennet Group. There"s no way

that he would let the Bennet Group go bankrupt..." "Well, maybe I was wrong. Besides, I was

just a young girl back then." As soon as she finished speaking, the door opened and a waiter

came in with the dishes. The middle-aged man immediately breathed a sigh of relief as the

commotion came to an end. "Miss Bennet, since the dishes are ready, come sit with us."

However, as Rachel glanced around the table, she found that there wasn"t a vacant seat.

Seeing the look in Rachel"s eyes, the middle-aged man also realized that they didn"t prepare

a seat for her

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 147

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 147 It Was Just A Seat

Rachel was supposed to sit at the head of the table as the host of today"s meeting.

However, Aldo had been sitting there the entire time. When he noticed that Rachel stood by

the table without saying a word, Aldo snorted in contempt. He had no intention of asking

the waiter to add a chair. Since he didn"t say anything, no one else dared to say something

as well. After all, he had already made up his mind that he would teach Rachel a lesson

today. Deeming she was simply naive and inexperienced, Aldo reckoned she wasn"t going to

get back at them. He believed she wasn"t capable of doing anything. Andy clenched his fists.

Obviously, that old geezer was trying to give Rachel a hard time. These men were only

proving how pompous and snobbish they actually were. At this point, he could only worry

about her. "Miss Bennet..." Rachel heard the concern in Andy"s voice. To ease his trepidation,

she gave him a reassuring look and asked him to come over, then whispered something in

his ear. As he attentively listened to her, Andy widened his eyes. For a moment, he was

stunned, but then he smiled and nodded at Rachel. "I"ll get right on it." Andy left and didn"t

look back as soon as he understood his task. With a subtle smile on her face, Rachel

leisurely walked to the nearby sofa and slowly sat down. Needless to say, the directors were

dumbfounded. None of them expected this behavior from her.

They kept exchanging glances, clearly clueless about what was happening. Aldo peeked at

the mysterious look that Rachel had on her face. He turned up his nose in disdain, thinking

that she sat there alone because she was afraid. Right then, he called the waiter who was

standing by the door and murmured, "Go and get another chair-"
To everyone surprise, the swing door suddenly opened. Aldo didn"t
even get to finish what

he was saying. When he turned to look, his jaws dropped. Five waiters came in carrying a

table of the same style and size as the one they were sitting at. The manager then instructed

them to put it down on the other side of the room. Some more waitstaff followed them to

set the table before several other waiters served the same dishes.

"What are—" The middle-aged man couldn"t believe his eyes. He swallowed his saliva and

remembered to breathe, then he added, "What"s happening?" As he tried to make sense of

it, the waiters who had just brought in the new table came to them and lifted the table in

front of them, then left the room without saying a word. Every single one of the directors

looked utterly flabbergasted when they found themselves

sitting beside one another and across each other with an empty space before them. They

couldn"t help but ask the same question and mumble among themselves, "What the heck

was that?!" Andy walked back in, scanned the room, and discovered a completely different

layout than before he had it changed. With an almost imperceptible smile at the corners of

his mouth, he reported, "Miss Bennet, everything"s settled. You can take a seat now."

Pleased with the outcome, Rachel nodded at him and got up from the sofa. She walked

towards the table and perceived astonished gazes from the corner of her eye as she passed

by the directors, then she casually yet intently sat at the head of the table. Meanwhile, Aldo

suddenly looked grim. He had stopped playing with the walnut in his hand and crushed it.

"Miss Bennet, What"s the meaning of this?" Now that Rachel was seated, she grabbed a

spoon on her right and stirred the soup placed in front of her twice. She then took a sip as

though she didn"t hear Aldo question her. Realizing that she seemed to have ignored him

deliberately, Aldo"s face turned blue. He was so furious that veins started bulging on his

temples. Rachel noticed that he was about to lose his temper, so she finally smiled and

opened her mouth. "Oh, think nothing of it. I just thought it was too small for all of us here,

so I asked Andy to have the manager change it to a bigger one." The directors immediately

shifted their gazes to the table where Rachel was and ended up at a loss. After a few

seconds, their confused faces turned into a scowl. They recognized that the table in front of

her was the exact same size as the one the waiters took away from them just now. "You must

be kidding!" "You found that table small? Do you think we"re blind? It"s the same size!

Rachel, do you take us for fools? This is incredibly insulting. Don"t you have any respect for

us? Tell me, is this how you play host?" Anger filled his eyes as Aldo finally snapped. After a

series of questions thrown at her, Rachel put down the spoon and responded with a faint

smile. "Oh, was I mistaken? I found it too small since you couldn"t sit all of us there. You

were even forced to seat yourself at the head of the table where the host sits." Aldo was left

speechless. Before long, his face turned livid. The sight of him seething amused her, so

Rachel leaned against the table, placed her left elbow on the table, and rested her chin on

her palm. "Or did you really take that chair because you were meant to? Sorry I missed that.

If that"s the case, I wouldn"t mind. When my mother was still alive, she often told me to

respect the old and cherish the young. If you had told me earlier, then I would"ve let you

have this seat. I"m not petty." Andy was standing behind Rachel all this time. He couldn"t

help but sneer at these old, arrogant men who were now at their wit"s end.

They came here all prepared to criticize her, yet Rachel appeared to have turned the tables

on them. Apparently, taking her seat wasn"t enough to embarrass her. If they wanted the

seat, then she only needed a new table. Now that they were left with no other tricks to play,

Aldo and the others would have to put up with it. After all, she was still the daughter and

heiress of the Bennet family. "It was just a seat." Aldo managed to suppress his anger, but he

still snorted coldly and added, "I"m not that old. I just randomly picked a seat and sat down.

I wasn"t aware it was reserved for the host, that"s all."

"I see. Then I must have misunderstood you, Mr. Davidson," Rachel softly replied with a

smile. When he looked into her eyes, Aldo felt inexplicably guilty. For some reason, he

always felt that this little girl could see through people—something that faintly made

people feel quite oppressed Rachel narrowed her eyes and continued, "Now that we got

that out of the way, please take your seats." Silence filled the room. No one moved. Instead,

the directors all turned to Aldo and didn"t move until he said anything. Rachel quietly

watched them move so tacit and regulated. It had already taken a full minute, but not one

of them dared to move. Her eyes began to dim as she tapped her fingertips on the table

from time to time. These directors really advocated for him. However, she was eager to see

if they would still remain unified after what would happen next. When Aldo realized that all

the other directors were waiting for his order, he immediately felt a sense of pride. It no

longer mattered to him that Rachel was the heiress of the Bennet family as long as they

looked up to him this way. Besides, to his knowledge, she was merely a nominal heir who

had no sponsor. "Why are you all looking at me? Didn"t you hear what Miss Bennet just

said?" Although he was already decidedly complacent, Aldo still had to put on a facade. "Go

on, sit!" Aldo made his way towards Rachel"s right-hand side and sat down next to her, then

the other directors followed him and took their seats. With a gleam in his eye, Aldo leaned

closer to the table and made eye contact with Rachel. "So, Miss Bennet. What"s this about?

When we received the phone call from Andy, he said that you have something to tell us

today. What "s the matter?" Suddenly, everyone turned to Rachel and focused their attention

on her yet again. "Hmm." Rachel poured herself a glass of water before she spoke so calmly.

"It"s not a big deal. We don"t have to rush. Let"s all have dinner first, and then we can talk."

Obviously, Aldo didn"t like her answer. He pursed his lips then replied in a firm tone, "Well

then, Miss Bennet, I"m sorry, but I can"t just sit here and enjoy this meal if you don"t tell me

why we"re here today first."

Although what he said didn"t sound so serious, it did enlighten the other directors who were

already about to eat. . "That"s right!" They were reminded that Rachel had been reckless and

got herself into trouble over and over again the past few years. Now, she showed up and

wanted to have dinner with them all of a sudden. Something must be up. Maybe she was in

trouble again, and now she was trying to get their help to clean up a mess. As soon as they

caught on to what Aldo was trying to say, all the directors placed their chopsticks back at

the chopstick rest on the table and then looked at Rachel, willing her to answer. "In that

case, all right." Rachel had to put down her chopsticks as well. "Andy." It wasn"t part of her

plan to make it difficult for them to have a good meal. She did, however, find it a waste for

such delicious food to be eaten by these old, pompous men. It all turned out to be a

regrettably unnecessary indulgence.

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 148

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 148 Misunderstanding

Andy nodded. Taking out a stack of documents from his briefcase, he handed out the

papers to the directors. Ten copies for the ten people present. "What do we have here?" A

director looked at the document placed in front of him and furrowed his brows at Rachel.

Rachel settled her elbows onto the table and knitted her fingers around her jawline. While

smiling, she said, "Open the document and take a look for yourself."

After a long silence, no

one reached out to open the document. Somehow, they were feeling uneasy about what

was inside the document when they saw Rachel"s mysterious smile.

Aldo"s face darkened

visibly. He slapped the desk and said, "Stop playing tricks!" Andy scowled. He noticed that it

had been several times already that Aldo had ended up scolding Rachel. He thought that

the way Aldo treated Rachel was very disrespectful. He could hardly stand it anymore.

Before he could say something, Rachel spoke up. "See for yourself what is inside first." She

understood that Andy didn"t want her to feel wronged, but all the scolding and sarcastic

comments in the world wouldn"t be able to deter her. She gave him a comforting look to

help soothe his worry. Andy nodded slightly without saying another word. With a loud snort,

Aldo picked up the document sitting in front of him on the table and checked it.

The other directors also checked their documents seeing that Aldo was willing to give what

Rachel was proposing a chance. Rachel lowered her gaze and took her time to drink her

soup. From time to time, the ceramic spoon made crisp noises when it touched the edge of

the bowl, joining in with the sound of the directors turning the pages of the documents.

After sipping half of her soup, Rachel was nearly full. She set down the spoon and lifted her

eyes. At the finality of the sound, the directors all stopped flipped through the pages. They

all had different expressions on their faces, but similarly, all their eyes held panic in them.

"So I see that you"ve finished looking through it?" Rachel moved her lips very slightly

to say those words. Her tone was flat and devoid of emotion. When the directors heard it,

they right away felt the oppression of those words pressing down on them. No one said

anything. The directors avoided her eyes and gave each other looks. No one dared to say

anything first. "Bennet Group has been in decline ever since my mother passed away. I

wasn"t proactive in keeping up with the company"s businesses and didn"t bother meddling

in its affairs. I know you all helped develop the group with my grandfather and mother. And

that none of you will ever do anything to harm the group." Rachel leaned back against her

chair and ignored their silence. She spoke slowly to ensure that everyone heard her words

loud and clear. "But I divorced my husband just a few days ago, and now Bennet Group is

almost bankrupt. It was only until then that I realized just how foolish I"ve been all along. I

put a lot of trust in your abilities running the group, of course, but I know I shouldn"t have

burdened you with so many responsibilities. If my grandpa and mom saw me not lift a

finger to help and just let you manage on your own, they will probably blame me for my

thoughtlessness. So as of now, I"ve decided I"ll take things into my own hands and become

head of Bennet Group. The first thing I will do is to analyze how much each of you has

contributed to Bennet Group in the past few years. And the documents you have before you

state the capital flow and personnel transfer of the projects you all have managed over the

years." "Contributions?" Andy sneered inwardly. After looking through the documents, he

assumed that not one of them dared admit that they were contributors. Rachel had sent him

these documents two days ago. When he saw what was written in them, his hand that had

been holding the papers at that time trembled. In the past seven or eight years, Bennet

Group saw a net loss of about five billion dollars. Every investment the company made was

almost all in vain. After there had been an investigation done on these investment projects,

all fingers pointed to the directors. So in essence, the funding for these projects all ended

up in the pockets of these people. How dare they?! They actually stole about five billion

dollars! And these people were really good at covering their tracks.

Thinking back to how

hard Rachel"s grandfather and mother worked to build and grow Bennet Group and how

difficult Rachel"s life had been over the years, he clenched his fists out of anger. If they were

still alive to see what was being done to their beloved company, it would hardly put a dent

in their outrage by throwing these directors out of Bennet Group! The board members all

kept silent, with sweat collecting on their foreheads. They even started to breathe even

more quietly. Rachel was in no apparent hurry and just waited for them patiently. Finally,

someone couldn"t keep quiet any longer. His face was very pale as he stuttered, "Miss

Bennet, you must"ve misunderstood us." @ "Yes, yes, this must be some sort of

misunderstanding!" "Yeah, Miss Bennet. You"ve been absent all this time so it"s perfectly

normal for you to not know what is going on with Bennet Group all these years. This is a

pure misunderstanding." "The information you have here is not credible." The silence had

long since dissipated and now everyone clamored to be heard. They all wiped the sweat off

their forehead and collected behind the first person to voice their opinions. The room, which

had originally been so silent that even the sound of a pin drop could be heard, suddenly

became noisy and chaotic. Rachel sipped from her glass of water and glanced over at the

silent Aldo. A feeling of respect for the man rose in her heart. He really was a formidable

foe. If she hadn"t done her research, she would have believed that he was the most innocent

out of all the directors. She placed her cup onto the table. It was a light and dull sound. The

board members immediately stopped talking and turned to look over at Rachel with

nervous looks. "What"s the matter? Why did you stop your discussion? Keep going. You

know I"m listening." Rachel cocked her eyebrow. After a while, she pretended to be

illuminated by their words and said, "Ah, so you were saying these documents were faked,

right? That there must"ve been some sort of misunderstanding here, right?"

The board members all swallowed nervously. "Then tell me, which matter listed on the

documents is a misunderstanding?" Though her voice was gentle, it also came across as

oppressive and suffocating. No one dared to speak up. Rachel looked at the directors and

went on to say, "Is it really a misunderstanding? The project that funded five hundred

million dollars to a technology company three years ago and lost eight hundred million

dollars. Is that a misunderstanding? Or the project that purchased raw materials using fifty

million dollars five years ago and eventually the items were tested to be not good enough

to use and that the actual cost of the materials was only three million dollars? Or is it some

sort of misunderstanding that you spent tens of millions of dollars to set up a research

institution in the name of some well-known experts from abroad, but in fact, what you really

did was hire some men who weren"t even real experts to do the research?" The directors all

focused their gaze on the floor, and there was even more sweat gathering on their

foreheads. They could say nothing to refute her accusations. Everything she said was all true.

These absurd projects really did exist. There was no misunderstanding at all. Rachel"s eyes

turned cold. "What? Didn"t you just say there was some sort of misunderstanding?" "Are you

here to settle accounts with us?" After some time had passed, a deep and dignified voice

sounded out.

Rachel turned to look at the person who spoke. At long last, Aldo couldn"t hold his peace

anymore and decided he would contribute to the discussion

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 149

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 149 Return Every Penny

Aldo squinted his sharp eyes and stared Rachel down. Everyone was holding their breath as

they focused on the two of them. After a while, Rachel narrowed her eyes and smiled

mischievously. "You are indeed a smart man, Mr. Davidson." No one intended to make a

sound. It was too quiet. Rachel"s words broke the silence that surrounded the whole room.

Aldo held the walnuts again, the veins on his hand visibly bulging. "Miss Bennet, since

you"ve treated me as your elder, I"m here to advise you that you haven"t been in control of

the Bennet Group in the last few years and technically you are not aware of the company"s

situation. Some things, I"m afraid, are beyond your ability to deal with." He was obviously

downplaying her. Rachel tapped the edge of the glass with her fingertips and just listened

quietly. Aldo sneered and pretty much thought that Rachel was intimidated by his words

because she remained silent. After all, she was only a woman in her early twenties. Even

though she and her mother, Elisa, looked a lot similar, she was no way near her mother"s

capabilities. Aldo"s tone softened as he thought of this. As he was about to continue, Rachel

cut him off. "What if I can deal with them today?"

"You..." Aldo"s smile suddenly vanished, unsure what he had heard just now. Rachel crossed

her legs and leaned back slightly. "As you said, I"m young and lacking experience, so I don"t

know what to do or what to avoid doing. In fact, I don"t care. I simply want to settle things

all at once. As for the consequences, I"ll just have to find out, right?" Aldo"s nostrils flared up.

"This little toublemaker! "Well, I understand that your time is precious, so I"ll cut the crap and

get straight to the point." Rachel put on a fake smile before turning to face Andy. Knowing

what she meant, Andy took out a pile of documents from his briefcase and distributed them

one by one to the directors who had been apprehensively impatient the whole time. Each

one got different documents and almost all of them received one, except for Aldo. He

frowned as he looked through the files of the guy next to him. It was confusing to him.

"Now, you must realize what those files are. You"re all reading about the failed projects and

detailed capital flows you"ve dealt with over the last seven years," Andy explained. Detailed

capital flows of the failed projects? The directors" faces turned ghastly pale. They lowered

their heads and opened the rest of the documents in their hands. They saw the papers

densely packed with words and numbers that showed the progress of projects and the

accounts of the capital transfer. The names of the receiving end were either the directors"

names or the names of their families. Their hands continued to tremble as they scanned

through the documents, and they couldn"t even hold the papers properly. How was this

possible? They had carefully hidden all the traces and had the money transferred multiple

times before it ended up in their or their family"s pockets. How did they manage to track it

down? Before the directors could make any excuses, Andy spoke again, "The amount in

these sheets indicate what you owe to the company. If you have no questions, please

deposit the full amount written in your sheets to the Bennet Group account within three

days." The room fell in complete silence. These greedy directors were no longer able to

maintain their composure. "Transfer every penny back to Bennet Group?" That was

impossible! The amount of money they stole ranged from a hundred million to over a

billion. And it had been so long that they had already used up most of them. How could

they return it now? They couldn"t even gather that much if they sell everything they had.

"Miss Bennet, you..." The middle-aged man forced a tight smile, and asked, "Is this a joke?

Because it "s not funny." "That "s right, we are not amused." Another director echoed,

nervously chuckling. "You still like to pull tricks on us the way you did when you were

young." The directors were relieved to see that she didn"t retort them. They continued, "Miss

Bennet must be upset because we didn"t save a seat for her just now. She must be joking

right now." "Right, right. It was an honest mistake." "Rachel, we apologize. Don"t be angry."

"Yeah, Rachel..." Just now, they were calling her "Miss Bennet" in a voice dripping with

sarcasm, but now they all looked like dripping wet chicks and addressed her by her name

intimately. These fickle-minded geezers. As the board members continued to talk, Rachel

noticed Aldo"s calm expression from the corner of her eye. However, he was rubbing the

walnuts in his hand faster and faster, and the panic in his eyes reflected what he felt at that

moment. He was the only one who never got the notice. Was she scaring him on purpose?

He knew damn well that those files were true. But why didn"t he get one? Did Rachel fail to

investigate him? No, it wasn"t possible.

Aldo quickly dropped this idea. He had a part in signing the documents for the money

transfers. It was impossible that she didn"t find anything about what he had done. He was

wracking his brains for the possibilities. "Why do you think that..." Rachel continued,

catching everyone"s attention. "I"ll joke with you about five billion dollars?" Her steely eyes

froze the men, the chatter finally dying out. The smile plastered on their faces disappeared

in a second. Rachel grabbed the phone from her pocket and said in an unbothered tone,

"It"s half-past seven now. I"ll give you three days. Before half-past seven on Saturday night, I

want to see all of you give back the money you have stolen from Bennet Group all these

years." The board members all panicked. "That can"t be right!"

"No! These were all fabricated. What money? Miss Bennet, what are you trying to do?" "Miss

Bennet, stop messing around with us! We never did any of these things!" "Right! Miss

Bennet, I understand you want to take over the Bennet Group and are trying to persuade

everyone, but you can"t blame us for these failed projects!" For a moment, the board

members wore off their fake smiles, showing their true colors. They stood up angrily and

headed to the door, as if leaving would save their skins. It appeared to be true that a

person"s intelligence would plummet if they were flustered. Rachel amusingly smiled as she

looked at their backs and then raised her head at Andy. "If any of you step out of the door,

these records will surface in the emails of the economic investigation officials in less than

ten minutes," Andy announced. All the directors cowered, stopping in their tracks.

Grumbling in anxiety and anger, they returned to their seats hesitantly. As he observed the

situation, Aldo"s expression became darker and darker. He couldn"t take it anymore and

shouted, "Miss Bennet, what the hell are you trying to do?!"

Captivation: Want Nothing But You Chapter 150

/ Captivation: Want Nothing But You by Rouwantang

Chapter 150 Pay With Your Shares

Rachel tilted her head, her eyes slightly lowered. She kept on tapping the table with her fingertips.

Her every movement looked languid and casual. "Wasn't I clear enough? Debts are debts. They

should be paid in full. You are a businessman, aren't you? It's strange that you don't understand

something this simple." In a cold tone, she added, "Which part of my statement don't you get, Mr.

Davidson?" Aldo gritted his teeth, obviously not amused. "Miss Bennet, I suggest that you don't go

too far. Otherwise, I believe you won't be able to bear the consequences of your actions! Do you

really think you can manage the Bennet Group on your own? Without our support, it will crumble

down in an instant!" "Oh, you think so? Unfortunately, I really like going too far. It makes me

excited." Looking into Aldo's menacing eyes, Rachel chuckled and said, "Andy." Andy immediately

took a few steps forward and put a folder in front of Aldo. "Mr. Davidson, that contains the capital

details of you misappropriating Bennet Group's money in the last seven years. Moreover, there are

pieces of evidence of you leaking the company's classified documents to others." 1 The moment they

heard Andy talk about leaked classified documents, the eyes of the directors widened in disbelief.

They looked at each other, wondering if they heard the same thing. At the same time, Aldo's

expression changed drastically. He was trembling profusely, not able to think straight. "I?Impossible!" Rachel leaned back to her seat comfortably and let out a sly smile. "Impossible? Are

you saying that it's impossible for you to leak such documents? Or you think that it's impossible for

me to find out about it?" 2 Aldo wanted to answer but no words came out of his mouth. All he could

do was clench his fists in fury. At the back of his mind he knew very well that it was the latter. But of

course, no criminal would admit to his sins that easily. Earlier, he was so calm because he didn't

foresee that Rachel actually had the capability to go against him. After all, he was the head of these

directors. The moment he said that he would quit, these people would also follow him without

hesitation. When that happened, the Bennet Group would be in a complete mess. Moreover, even if

Rachel was the heiress, everyone would just treat her as a joke. However, now that Aldo's dirty

secret was exposed, the table was suddenly turned against him.

Before today, except for him and the companies he leaked the information to, no one knew about his

dark secret. Not even one of these directors was aware. However, Rachel made sure that everyone

would know this time. Originally, the directors' interests were, of course, bounded with the group.

Therefore, no one dared to be involved in any kind of corruption. Instead, they devoted themselves to

the Bennet Group and invested several projects. But to their deepest disappointment, even though

they poured all their efforts and dedication, other companies had always cut in front them and stole

the projects. In the past years, the group eventually suffered heavy losses. Over and over again, the

aspirations and ambitions of these directors were destroyed. Gradually, they also lost confidence in

the Bennet Group. Thinking of no other easy way, they were enticed to start misappropriating Bennet

Group's money as well. 1 But now, Rachel revealed that the failure of those projects was not actually

just an unfortunate coincidence. They kept on happening because there was a traitor among them. To

top it all, it turned out that Aldo, their head, was the traitor himself. of course, they were all shocked.

The directors pounded the table hard. They started pointed their fingers at Aldo, questioning him

harshly. "Aldo! Is Miss Bennet stating the truth? Don't lie to us!" "You are a cunning bastard! We

trusted you so much. But in the end, you were behind all this? How could you do this to us?!" "Don't

think that you can leave this place without giving us an explanation!" Faced with the wrath of the

other directors, Aldo couldn't say a single word. He was still calm a few moments ago, but now, he

was sweating, unable to refute the accusations being thrown at him. His face turned pale and he

suddenly felt dizzy. He couldn't fathom how things turned out like this. Aldo turned his head to

glance at Rachel, and he saw that there was just a calm and indifferent look on her face. A chill ran

down his spine and spread in his heart. Not even an hour ago, he thought that she was just a little girl

who posed no threat to him. After all, everyone assumed that she would be nothing like her mother.

But now, the woman in front of him seemed to be a different person with unfathomable wits. 2 In the

chaos, just as Andy was thinking to say something, a man suddenly rushed over to Rachel.

With a stern look on his face, Andy thought that the man was going to hurt Rachel. Hence, he

instantly strode forward and stood in front of her to protect her.

Unexpectedly, when the man got

close to Andy and Rachel, he suddenly knelt down. "Miss Bennet, please forgive me! I shouldn't

have done it. I'm so sorry! We only did it because... We were all incited by Aldo! We were stupid.

We didn't know he was a traitor all along! I know I've done bad things. But for the sake of the things

that I have contributed to the Bennet Group, please give me another chance! Miss Bennet, I beg you!

I won't be able to get enough money to pay back in three days, but I will do my best effort to return

them!" After saying that, he kowtowed three times on the ground to show his utmost sincerity.

Seeing this, the other directors quickly put aside the matter about Aldo and also knelt down to beg for

mercy. "Forgive us, Miss Bennet! Please let this go!" "Miss Bennet, we have already learned our

lesson. We promise to never do that again!" "Miss Bennet, please" "Okay." While the directors

begged nonstop, Rachel's voice suddenly came from behind Andy. "Okay? Really?" The director

who knelt first was so stunned that he didn't know what to say. "Miss Bennet, does that mean that

you have forgiven us?" Rachel then took a sip of water and said with a smile, "Well, you have all

knelt before me. If I don't do something, I will look so heartless, won't I? I also know that you can't

get enough money in such a short time. Of course, I understand that. I'm not an unreasonable

person." "Thank you, Miss Bennet! I knew that you are a—". The directors were overjoyed, and there

was a gleam of hope in their eyes. However, they didn't expect that this newly ignited hope would

also be extinguished the very next second. "Instead, you can pay with your shares." Rachel put down

the glass and squinted at the directors who were still kneeling on the ground, wearing a faint smile. "I

have calculated the stock of the Bennet Group for you. With your combined shares, you can pay a

couple million back. For the rest of your debt, I think you grown men all know how to borrow,

right?" 2 "You... This is madness! Are you trying to rob us?" Rachel raised her eyebrows frivolously

and retorted coldly, "If you call this robbing, then what about the thing you did with the money of the

company? Well, I'm not forcing you to sell your shares. However, if you can't pay the money back

on time, I may have to send these files to the economic investigation office. By then, I guess you will

have to live in prison for the rest of your lives." Hearing this straightforward threat, the directors'

faces turned pale and resentful. As Rachel checked the time, she saw that it was almost eight o'clock.

She then stood up, not wanting to prolong this game any longer. "Andy, I'll leave the rest to you. I

have to go now." Rachel waved her hand and gave the order.

Andy nodded and replied, "Okay, Miss Bennet. I'll take care of it." "I know you will." Rachel smiled

and then looked across the faces of the miserable directors. "You can stay longer to think it over. I'm

giving you the chance to pay your debts. Although you can't pay in full at once, you can at least start

reducing them. Don't you agree? Now, once you make up your minds, tell Andy and he will help you

sign a share transfer contract." After this, Rachel walked towards the door and was about to leave.

But when she was about to step out, she stopped and looked back at Aldo, who was still seated with a

pale face. "By the way, Mr. Davidson, I forgot to tell you that I have another big gift for you tonight.

It should be ready by now." Hearing this, Aldo's eyes trembled and felt very uneasy. At this point, he

was sure that this gift couldn't be a good thing. Suddenly, his phone rang. Looking at the name of the

caller on the screen, he shivered. He hesitated for a moment, but he eventually picked it up. Before

he could even speak, his grandson's anxious voice already echoed from the other line, "Grandpa, we

are in trouble! The economic investigation team came to our house and said that they wanted to

search our place! They also took dad away!" Hearing this all at once, Aldo couldn't take it anymore.

His mind went blank and he lost his balance, making him fall from the chair to the ground. His phone

also fell to the floor, causing a crack on its screen. "Hello? Grandpa! Grandpa, are you still

listening?!" There was a faint anxious voice that could be heard from the phone. The other directors

were completely dumbfounded when they saw this scene. Fearing that they would suffer the same

thing, someone immediately came to his senses and declared without thinking, "I will sell my shares!

Damn it all! Give me the contract!"