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Chapter 107 The Griffith Group Split-Up

On the day of Jack's press conference for his new song, Mikayla successfully dragged Elise over to the event. Jack's new song was to be released at 2.00PM, but the entire hall was already filled with people at 12.00. Most of the people were Jack's fans from all over the country. With the tickets in her hand, Mikayla led Elise to the entrance. Jack's tickets were front-row spots, and Mikayla was extremely excited when she found out that she was seated in the second row. "I'm so close to my husband. I'll get to see him in close proximity later!"

Elise wasn't interested in the entire event, so she simply pulled her phone out. At that moment, she saw a local news article that was recommended to her. She didn't pay much attention to it at first, but when she saw that the title of the article had the words 'Griffith Group', she looked at it for a second time before tapping on it.

The article's title read, 'The Griffith Group Split-Up—Have all of the core technical staff left the company?' A bad feeling emerged in Elise's chest when she saw the article, and the look on her face only turned grimmer as she continued to scroll down with one finger on her screen.

At the very same time, reporters were huddled right outside Griffith Group, and all of them had their eyes fixed on the main entrance. They were afraid that they'd miss out on the exclusive news and events. Soon enough, a bunch of people walked out with Matthew leading the pack. The reporters immediately charged toward them. "Young Master Matthew, is your announcement true? Are you really cutting all ties with Griffith Group? Are you going to go independent and leave the Griffith Family completely?" one asked.

"Young Master Matthew, you're taking away all of the core technical staff of Griffith Group, and you'll cause Griffith Group a major loss. Do you feel like this is rather immoral of you?" another asked.

"Griffith Group is a large family, and you're one of them. Yet, you seem to be attempting to destroy the harmony of the family—could you be facing your own struggles that you're hiding from the public? Please answer our questions, Young Master Matthew."

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The reporters bombarded him with questions, and Matthew simply turned to the camera before curling his lips into a sinister smirk. "I think everything that happened between the Griffith Family needs to come to an end today. Today, I am officially leaving the Griffith Group and its Board of Directors. I'll no longer play a role in this company. Aside from that, Global Trading Co. will also have its official opening today! From today onward, I hope to learn as much as I can from everyone."

After he finished speaking, Matthew led the rest of his men as they sauntered out of the company. His actions were extremely bold, and the staff members of Griffith Group were all nervous because of the incident. Alexander watched the entire live stream from his office on the top floor, but his expression didn't reveal any hint of emotion.

"Young Master Matthew has taken away all of the core members of our technical department and a few of the best workers in our sales department. Half of the core members of the other departments have left along with them. It looks like this was planned out all along," Cameron hissed angrily. They had been vigilant toward Matthew all along, but they hadn't expected Matthew to act so quickly.

"The staff members are panicking, Young Master Alex. I think you should make an announcement before things get out of hand," Cameron continued. However, there was no anxiousness to be heard in Alexander's voice. "There's no big deal. I'll just treat this as a purge for the company. I'd like to see how many secret traitors Matthew has planted in our company throughout these years. I want you to get a sum of all the people who have left each department. Once you're done with that, you can promote our own people to take over the positions that are empty."

"I got it, Young Master Alexander. I'll do it now." Cameron's actions were quick, but he couldn't do much to stop the news articles from trending. Furthermore, even the Griffith Group's shares were impacted as they remained on a low for extended periods of time. When Jonah saw the news from his couch in Griffith Residence, he threw a massive tantrum.

"Go and get all of them back home now!" he howled.

The housekeeper quickly nodded before she made phone calls to contact all of the young masters. "Please come back now, Young Master Alexander! Your grandfather is throwing a huge tantrum—what Young Master Matthew did was too much."

Alexander's gaze darkened as he picked his car keys up and headed out of his office. "Try to calm Grandpa down. I'll be there soon."

After ending the call, Alexander took large strides to leave the company. To his surprise, he was surrounded by tons of reporters the moment he stepped out. No matter how much the reporters tried to question him, he kept his mouth sealed.

Thirty minutes later, all of the Griffith siblings—everyone except Jack—had arrived in Griffith Residence. Danny was the youngest child, and he had never been involved in matters related to the business. However, he could no longer remain in the background after Matthew did such an atrocious thing that impacted the entire family.

"Matthew's too much, Grandpa. Who does he think we are? How could he do such a thing? Has he never considered the family's well-being? Well, I guess he's nothing more than an illegitimate child who'll never be recognized as one of us—perhaps that explains it," Danny uttered.

"Danny!" Brendan stopped his brother. "Your words are too harsh. We're all brothers, after all."

"But are we brothers to Matthew? If he genuinely sees us as his brothers, he wouldn't do such a thing, would he?" Danny retorted. Brendan knitted his brows. "Regardless... Let's wait for Alexander to come home."

Danny's blood was boiling, but he had no choice but to keep his mouth shut and bite his tongue for the time being. Pin-drop silence filled the living hall as no one else volunteered to speak after that. Soon enough, they heard the sound of a car pulling up in front of the house. Alexander had reached home, and everyone felt a surge of relief the moment he walked into the hall. He rushed directly to Jonah. "Grandpa!"

Jonah looked up to stare at him. "Were you aware of what Matthew was scheming?"

"It was too sudden. I hadn't expected it," Alexander replied.

"This incident has a really huge impact on the Griffith Family. What are you planning to do about this, Alexander?" Jonah asked.

"Don't worry, Grandpa. Everything is under control. Furthermore, there are a few other things that I'd like to report to you personally, Grandpa."

Once Alexander finished speaking, Brendan—the more mature sibling—dragged Danny out of the hall before Jonah said anything. Once the younger ones left, Alexander and Jonah were the only ones in the hall. Alexander didn't say anything and simply pulled out two documents before handing them to Jonah. "I got someone to check on this, Grandpa."

Jonah's expression grew stern after he stared at the files for a short while. His heart was still pounding long after he skimmed through the papers. "Are you sure that he did all of this?"

Alexander pressed his lips together. "I had gotten someone to investigate this matter ever since I found an issue with my car during the race on the windy roads in the mountains. I found out that someone had done something to my car's brake, and I continued tracking only to find out that it was Matthew who had done it. However, I had kept this a secret and never intended to release it to the public since I figured that he might have just made a small mistake. I thought I'd give him a second chance, but he's getting worse than before."

As he spoke, Alexander pulled out a different document. "I think you should prepare yourself mentally before reading this, Grandpa." When Jonah saw the serious look on Alexander's face, he knew that the documents were surely something of great importance. The old man took the file into his hands. This time, his face turned ghastly pale as he read the document.

His grip tightened on the papers and he looked like he was about to be sick. "D-Did he do all of this as well?"

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Chapter 108 His Heart Melted

Alexander knew that it was cruel, but it was the truth! "Grandpa, you've taught us the importance of unity ever since we were young. Unity is what makes the family grow and flourish—I've always kept those words in my heart. However, this incident taught me a huge lesson, and it nearly ended the entire Griffith Group."

Jonah's breaths grew even more shallow as he listened to what Alexander had to say. With the swing of his hand, he sent the teacups on the table smashing onto the ground. Clink! Clang! The glass shattered on the floor. "B*stards! All of those b*stards!" Jonah howled in anger.

Alexander hastily attempted to calm him down. "I only told you about this today to keep you updated on the situation, Grandpa. Right now, I already have plans to deal with this, and I hope you can trust me to follow through with my plan."

Jonah understood what Alexander meant immediately. "I have no objections. He did such a terrible thing that even I wouldn't allow him to get away with it. However, I have to remind you that he's still your biological brother. Although you guys don't share the same mother, you guys have the same blood coursing in your veins. You should know your limits—that's the final piece of decency that we can extend to him."

"I understand, Grandpa."

Jonah sighed. "I've never had to worry about you ever since you were a child, Alexander. I trust you a lot, and I feel safe handing a company as large as Griffith Group to you. You can go ahead with your plan, and you can always let me know if there's anything that you can't handle."

"Alright, Grandpa," Alexander replied. Jonah seemed extremely drained at that point. "Okay, go on then! You should handle this matter now."

Alexander excused himself, and Jonah was left alone in the large hall. He gazed up at the ceiling above his head as he sighed. "Karma is real!"

When Elise got back to Griffith Residence, she instantly sensed the distinct heaviness in the household. She bumped into Alexander, who was walking out as she entered the house. "How are things in the company now?" She was the first to initiate conversation.

Alexander gave her a look that calmed her down. "Don't worry. Everything will be fine."

"Do you need any help?" she asked.

He was about to reject her, but he surprised himself by nodding after he saw the anticipation in her eyes. Elise quickly followed him after seeing his response. Once they got in the car, Alexander handed her a stack of documents. "I need you to organize these documents. I'll need it for a meeting today."

Elise flipped the files open and began to go through them without asking much. She put her full focus on reading the documents, and she held a pen in her hand to highlight the parts that were important. Alexander felt rather glad to see her so focused.

"How are things at the company, Cameron?"

Cameron hesitated for a moment before speaking. "A few of our larger clients went off with Young Master Matthew, and they requested to terminate their contracts with us. Some of the workers in the company are still on the fence about leaving or staying, but I didn't meddle with their business since you told me not to do anything."

Alexander nodded. "Let's prepare for the worst. I think our shares will crash tomorrow." Cameron was shocked to hear this. Many of our business partners have terminated their

contracts with Griffith Group. We are about to face one of the largest challenges ever. If the company fails to pull through, it might be destroyed by this incident.

"I want you to tell all the staff that they don't need to work overtime tonight. Tell them to get off work on time!" Alexander ordered.

"I'm afraid that might be tough, President Griffith. If all of them end work on time, how is the company going to continue operating? Things will get really messy," Cameron replied hastily.

However, Alexander seemed unfazed by his words. "We can think about that when the mess comes to us." Cameron couldn't tell what Alexander was trying to achieve, so he had no choice but to follow Alexander's orders. "I got it, President Griffith. I'll make the announcement now."

As Elise organized the files, she went through all of the clients who were related to Griffith Group. Many of these companies of various sizes once had long-term contracts with Griffith Group, yet all of them were requesting to end the contract after the incident. Elise would never have believed such a thing to be true if she hadn't seen the papers on her own.

A specific company caught her eye all of a sudden. The Keller Group? Isn't that Jamie's family business? Are they ending their contract with Griffith Group as well? Does Jamie know something about this?

Elise didn't hesitate, not even for a second, to give Jamie a call. "Jamie!"

Jamie was in the midst of playing a video game, but he didn't mind abandoning his teammates when he saw that the call was from Elise. "It's so late, Boss. Are you calling me for something?"

She got straight to her point. "I have some questions for you."

Jamie immediately understood her intentions after hearing her words. "You're calling to ask about Griffith Group, right, Boss?"

When Elise confirmed his suspicions, Jamie looked around before getting up and walking to the balcony. "If you're asking about this, I'd like to tell you that I wasn't aware of it before

this, Boss. However, my old man told us that the news cannot be leaked to the public. I'm only telling you about this because you're my boss. Things aren't as simple as they appear to be on the surface—Alexander isn't just dealing with Matthew alone. I think it's possible that Matthew's act was just a distraction. I think the Griffith Family needs to be really alert. They shouldn't ruin their sibling relations over such matters."

Elise's gaze darkened as a possibility surfaced in her mind. When she noticed that Jamie didn't seem willing to share anything else, she no longer probed for more information. "Thank you, Jamie." After ending the call, Elise organized the thoughts in her mind before coming to a conclusion. No matter what happens, I refuse to just stand around and watch when Griffith Group is in trouble. I can't bear to watch the company falling apart.

The next day, Griffith Group's stocks continued to stay low, and they crashed all the way down when the stock markets opened. Many of the shareholders had dumped their Griffith Group shares. Earlier that morning, many different companies had approached Griffith Group to end their contracts. When Elise arrived at the company, she could tell that the whole atmosphere was different from before. There were empty seats all around the area.

Her expression turned grim as she walked to Alexander's room and knocked on his door.

"Come in," the voice said from inside. Elise let herself in after hearing Alex's voice.

"You're here," he commented after looking up and staring at her.

Elise watched the man before her eyes. He's still as powerful and high-spirited as ever. Even during such a time, he isn't panicking or losing his mind. His calmness makes me feel safe. "I've arranged all of the documents needed for the meeting. There are a few new client appointments and I've put them into your schedule too."

"Thanks a lot," he replied with a smile. She didn't ask or say anything else, but merely gave him a smile before leaving the room.

Throughout the day, Elise was extremely busy as she took many matters into her hands. She was someone who had to ensure the quality of her work, and she quickly lost track of time as she was too immersed in her work. She didn't stop to rest even after the sun went down.

It was nearly 11.00PM, and most of the other people in the company had left. The only room still well-lit was the office on the highest floor. When Alexander walked out of his office, he saw Elise with her head resting against the table as she took a nap. He instinctively slowed his footsteps to tiptoe around the office, just so that he wouldn't wake her up.

He slowly made his way toward her, and he glanced down at her sleeping face from above. At that moment, he felt his heart melting for her.