

100 Days 711

Chapter 711 Capturing Veronica

[At Country R...]

Axel and Tatsumi had been working together for the past few days in order to track Veronica's location. They used their influence and connection in Country R to find her and at the same time, they maintained a low profile, avoiding the King Stallion Mafia's Radar. Country R was King Stallion Mafia's main turf so they had to be cautious with their actions.

"Hey Buddy, what did your Boss tell you? What is your plan if you catch Veronica first?" Tatsumi asked Axel as they continued their surveillance in the town center where Veronica was last seen by their informants. They were drinking coffee in a cafe.

Axel rubbed his chin, recalling Nathan's command. "Hmm. Nothing in particular. He just told me to bring her back to Country M. How about you? What are you going to do? What did Phantomflake ask you to do?"

"My lady told me to deal with her properly. But an easy death is not an option. I have an idea. Do you want to join hands with me and implement my great plan?" Tatsumi nudged Axel's shoulders, grinning from ear to ear.

Axel looked at him in amusement. "Let me hear it first so that I can decide."

Tatsumi leaned closer to Axel and whispered what his great plan was. Axel could only bob his head in agreement before giving him a high five.

The two men patiently waited for Veronica to show up. According to their sources, the Cafe Onse was her favorite hang-out place in the afternoon. She might be living in this area, near the Cafe Onse.

Ring! Ring!

"Oh Damn! My old man is calling me!" Tatsumi gasped in surprise upon seeing his father's name. He was about to ignore the phone call when he received a message from his messenger. It turned out his father already anticipated that he would try to ignore the call.

[Answer your phone or else you will regret it in your entire life!] - Fr. Terror Dad

Tatsumi's eyes widened, sensing the urgency of his father's threat. Without further ado, he excused himself for a moment to answer the call.

"Keep your eyes open, Axel. I'm just going to talk to my terror old man!"

Axel just let out a soft chuckle as he watched Tatsumi stepping out of the Cafe. He looked for a quiet place for a phone call conversation.

"Dad! What's wrong? Is there an emergency again? I told you I'm here in Country R because of my lady's order." Tatsumi spoke spontaneously without waiting for his father to speak up from the other line.

"You naughty child! Don't blame me if our Master changes his mind about marrying you off to Lady Jane. Go back here now! He is going to announce your engagement to the whole clan!"

"Eh? Dad? What did you just say? I'm marrying Lady Jane? For real?!" Tatsumi was shocked beyond belief.

"Dad, don't prank me! Is it true? Godfather wants me to marry my lady?" he asked Kazuki once more for affirmation. "Dad. I promise. I'll beat you up if you dare lie to me, giving me false hope!" He added, afraid that his father was using this as an alibi to make him return to Country M.

Meanwhile, Kazuki rolled his eyes skyward. His son was overreacting and filled with distrust. He wouldn't dare make a joke like this. "I'm serious, Tatsumi! If you can't return to Country R by tomorrow, then I will arrange your flight directly to Country J. Just go straight there and wait for us!" Kazuki instructed his son about what he should do. "Take note. This is urgent. Make a move before Çlan Leader changes his mind." He warned him over and over again.

"Understood, Boss! I'm going to finish my mission today and fly back to Country J! This is a matter of life and death for me!" For the first time, Tatsumi obediently listened and followed his father's instructions.

"Alright. Take care, son."lights

The father and son ended their conversation briefly. Tatsumi hurriedly returned to their position. He approached Axel and said dramatically, "Axel! We must catch Veronica today. My future depends on this mission! I can't face my future wife without accomplishing this!"

Axel raised his eyebrow when he heard that. "Future wife?"

"Yes! My one and only Lady Jane!" Tatsumi proudly said.

Axel didn't know how he would react when Jane's name was mentioned. 'Eh, he doesn't know about Jane and Nathan? There is no way Miss Jane will marry him.'

"Hey, stop looking at me like that. We should scan the area and search for Veronica!" Tatsumi grabbed his hand and pulled Axel up from his seat.

They were about to leave their table when Veronica finally showed up. She stepped inside the Cafe, not noticing Axel and Tatsumi's presence. The two were both wearing a cap and a mask.

"Bingo! The bitch shows up!" Tatsumi almost jumped in joy.

"Shhhh. Keep your cool! She might notice us." Axel immediately pressed his hand against Tatsumi's mouth.

Tatsumi gave him an apologetic look and a peace sign. "Okay. I'll behave now." Tatsumi mumbled when Axel removed his hand.

"Great! Let's stick to the shadows and follow her movement without raising any suspicion. Let's separate. I'll walk out first." Axel suggested, putting his earpiece.

Tatsumi just bobbed his head, his eyes still fixed on Veronica's figure. She was done buying her coffee. Fortunately, she didn't stay in the Cafe for so long. When she left, Tatsumi and Axel tailed her cautiously.

A few minutes later, Veronica stopped in a two-story building. It served as her apartment and at the same time, her private laboratory. She was doing her experiment there as she worked on Vincent's Bio-weapon Project. She only visited the main facility during weekends. She preferred to work at home.

"This is our chance! It seems that no one is guarding her. After surveying the area, I can only see CCTV cameras in the vicinity." Tatsumi informed Axel through their communication device.

"Alright, I'll go first. You stay on lookout," Axel volunteered to lead the way in sneaking. Plus, Tatsumi was still in the process of recovering from his gunshot injury.

"Okay, Buddy! Be careful. She might inject you with some poisons." Tatsumi reminded him.

Axel nodded as he cautiously approached the backyard gate of Veronica's apartment in this broad daylight of bustling afternoon.

As he reached the gate, Axel's gaze flickered to the security cameras positioned overhead. With a swift motion, he pulled a small device from his pocket and expertly manipulated it, causing a momentary disruption in the cameras' feeds, rendering them temporarily ineffective.

'Thanks to SYP Twilight Corp Technology,' Axel thought to himself as he disabled the CCTV camera temporarily using the device made by Nathan's company.

He moved and expertly climbed the gate, infiltrating Veronica's apartment while evading the watchful eyes of the people passing by on the street.

Tatsumi gave him a thumbs-up when he successfully entered Veronica's backyard. Soon, Axel reached for the doorknob, unlocking it carefully. He swiftly slipped through the door. Once in, he moved stealthily along the corridor, his senses on high alert.

Axel moved with calculated speed, his movements silent and purposeful. It did not take long before he located Veronica in her kitchen, completely unaware of his presence. Taking advantage of the situation, he swiftly apprehended her by grabbing her from behind and covering her mouth and nose with a cloth soaked in a sleeping agent.

"Tatsumi. Mission Accomplished!" He informed Tatsumi when Veronica fell unconscious in his arms.

Chapter 712 Veronica's Demise

Axel lifted the unconscious Veronica and headed to the living area. He laid her on a chair and proceeded to bind her hands and feet, making sure she wouldn't run away once she suddenly woke up.

When he finished, he called Tatsumi again to let him into the apartment. A few seconds later, Tatsumi joined him inside the house.

"Shall we go now?" Tatsumi excitedly asked Axel as he couldn't wait to leave Country R. He was still over the moon because of the good news shared with him by his father, Kazuki.

"Wait. Let's not leave yet. Let's thoroughly search her apartment. We might find valuable information," Axel suggested to Tatsumi. "Remember? She made a poisonous weapon that they would use to hurt Abigail. We must find a formula for its antidote."

"Oh! Great idea! Let's do that!" Tatsumi followed Axel's suggestion.

As they roamed around the apartment, they discovered that Veronica was involved in a bio-weapon project. In one private room in her apartment, they found her mini laboratory filled with substances.

"Damn! This woman is very dangerous! She is making a bio-weapon!" Tatsumi blurted out exasperatedly, his eyes scanning the mini-laboratory.

"Don't touch anything!" Axel warned him. "We don't know which ones are dangerous and lethal. It's better to take her laptop and journal. Surely, the formulas for the bio-weapon and poisonous substances, along with antidotes, are in there." Axel was being cautious.

Tatsumi just nodded his head. He felt like he was being lectured and ordered by an elder brother. No wonder Axel served as Nathan's right-hand man and his personal assistant—very dependable. He was very efficient and careful when it came to his work. He had a presence of mind. He started to admire and commend Axel's personality.

"I'm going to delete the CCTV recordings for today. Veronica is precious to the organization she is working with. They will surely retaliate when they find out we stole her works and captured her." After saying that, Tatsumi proceeded to the CCTV Control Room.

While Axel was searching through her belongings, he verified that Veronica was indeed working for the King Stallion Mafia. "She is connected to that organization. Our men are trying to dig for information about this mafia group."

With that thought in mind, Axel decided to call Nathan, updating him about the progress of his mission. It did not take long before the call got connected.

"Sir! We captured Veronica. We will transport her back to Country M. But Tatsumi suggested something... a way to deal with her. Will you agree?" Axel consulted Nathan first.

"Tatsumi is Jane's comrade. Go and cooperate with him." Nathan gave his permission.

"Got it, Sir. And one more thing... I just confirmed that Veronica is working under the King Stallion Mafia. They are making bio-weapons. We plan on bringing her laptop and journals, hoping she keeps and stores the formula and data here."

"Nice initiative, Axel. Bring everything that you think will benefit us and something that can be valuable to us." Nathan commended him.

Axel noticed that Nathan was surprisingly in a good mood today. "Thanks, Sir. I know what to do."

Before Nathan ended the call, Axel asked him a very personal question out of the blue. "Sir, how is Miss Jane? Is everything alright with you and her?" Axel was still skeptical of Tatsumi's statement that Jane would become his future wife.

"Everything is fine. Why did you ask?" Nathan asked him back, his voice filled with curiosity and confusion. It was so unusual for Axel to ask him a personal question like this.

"Oh. It's nothing, Sir. It's just that... Tatsumi is having a fantasy, calling Miss Jane his future wife." Axel reported to Nathan.

"In his dream." Nathan retorted in an annoyed tone.

Axel offered a sheepish smile, absently scratching his face in regret. He realized his mistake in bringing it up. It appeared that Nathan's mood had shifted after Tatsumi mentioned Jane as his future wife, and Axel could sense a subtle change in the atmosphere.

"I'll go ahead, Sir!" Axel said, fleeing away from his moody boss.

When the call ended, Axel went back to work. Soon, Tatsumi joined him. After packing some stuff and putting it inside a backpack, the two men got ready to leave the apartment, bringing the unconscious Veronica with them. They discreetly transferred Veronica to their rented vehicle and they headed to the airport.

[At Country M...]

Five hours later...

Veronica woke up with handcuffs on her hands, feeling puzzled about her current location. The last thing she remembered was someone grabbing her from behind and covering her mouth and nose before she lost consciousness.

"Where am I?" she asked herself, still feeling a bit dizzy. Before long, the door to her room opened, and two police officers entered. Her surprise was evident when she recognized one of the police officers. It was Dave, Abigail's boyfriend. "Why are you here?" she asked, thinking she was still in Country R.

"Miss Veronica, you have been arrested for the charge of trafficking illegal drugs," Dave explained to her before reciting the Miranda rights.

Veronica's face turned pale, aghast and utterly disbelieving of the accusations thrust upon her.

The gravity of being wrongfully accused sent shockwaves through her mind. Her thoughts raced as she retraced recent events, trying to make sense of how she found herself in this scenario.

The realization dawned on her—someone had meticulously plotted to frame her, manipulating circumstances to point the finger of blame in her direction.

"You are wrong! I'm innocent! Someone framed me. I was kidnapped from my apartment in Country R!" Her frustration surged, knowing that her innocence was being used against her.

Veronica's mind raced with questions about who could orchestrate such a sinister plan and why she had become the target. She knew the gravity of her situation. She could lose her license as a doctor and at the same time, the harshest punishment for trafficking illegal drugs in Country M was death.

"You can charge her with an additional case. She's implicated in developing a dangerous bio-weapon, a clear violation of the law," Axel revealed abruptly as he appeared. He handed over some pieces of evidence to Dave.

'Damn it! So Nathan is responsible for my arrest!' She was seething with anger when she found out the person involved in her case.

"Axel! How could you do this to me?!" She had gone berserk, trying to break free from her handcuffs. She couldn't believe that Nathan would hand her over to the police.

Veronica turned to the police and started to reveal what she knew about the Syphiruz Mafia. "You should be arresting this guy, instead of me! He is a member of the Syphriuz Mafia. Nathan Sparks is their leader!"

Unfortunately, her revelation seemed futile as it failed to sway Dave's belief. He remained unconvinced. Axel had just presented evidence confirming Veronica's affiliation with the King Stallion Mafia.

As Veronica continued convincing the police officers, Axel stepped out of the room together with Dave.

"Don't let her get away. She planned on harming Abigail using a poisonous weapon she created." Axel gave Dave the recordings of the phone conversation between Veronica and Monica.

Dave became resolute in punishing Veronica using the law. "I understand, Axel. Thanks for your help. This time I will do my best to protect my woman."

Chapter 713 For Her Sake

[At Hiroshi's Villa...]

Jane finally went home and joined her father and sister during lunch. The family of three including Hanabi enjoyed the food as Mr. Hiroshi pretended he didn't know anything about Jane's identity.

He acted normal while waiting for the opportunity to talk to his daughter in private. As he observed Hanabi's action, he could tell that she didn't defy his order. Jane was still clueless about his intention to break Nathan and her apart.

"Where did you sleep last night?" Mr. Hiroshi started a conversation.

"In the Sparks Mansion," Jane responded truthfully, making Mr. Hiroshi speechless.

Mr. Hiroshi reflexively darted his gaze to Hanabi who was sitting next to Jane. A deep crease appeared on Mr. Hiroshi's forehead as his eyes accused Hanabi of not doing her job. He told her to prevent Jane from seeing Nathan.

Hanabi bit her lips before speaking up for herself. "Sis Jane had been staying with the Sparks for two consecutive nights. I only saw her today."

Abigail just let out a soft giggle and said, "Sis, I admire your patience. You keep courting the handsome CEO! Keep it up!"

"Cough! Cough!" Hanabi choked on her food because Abigail even encouraged Jane to continue winning Nathan's heart in front of their father. The two sisters were still oblivious to Mr. Hiroshi's hatred toward Nathan.

Hanabi simply glanced at Mr. Hiroshi, checking his facial expression. She immediately looked away when she met Mr. Hiroshi's deathly glare, giving her some warning. In the end, Hanabi continued to focus her attention on the food, determined not to speak any words that might trigger the old man.

And later on, they were able to smoothly get through their lunch. Jane didn't suspect anything. They conversed further about Abigail's engagement party and the preparations for the wedding.

"Jane, may I borrow a few minutes of your time? There is something I wanna tell you," Mr. Hiroshi softly requested Jane's presence.

"Of course, Pa! I always have time for you. Where do you want to talk?" Jane immediately agreed. She could sense that her father had a serious matter to discuss with her.

"In my study," he replied.

The father and daughter made their way to the second floor, heading toward the study room. Hanabi caught sight of them. She felt uneasy because she knew that Cherry hadn't disclosed the information to Jane yet. The two friends hadn't met each other because Jane spent the night with the Sparks.

'Sigh. I hope everything will be fine. I don't know if Sis Jane will obey her father. I hope they won't argue because of Nathan Sparks,' Hanabi silently prayed in her mind.

When they entered the room, Mr. Hiroshi invited Jane to sit beside him on the long sofa. Jane nodded at him with a smile as she complied with his invitation. The two settled down inside. That's when Mr. Hiroshi began to speak.

"My daughter, there's something important I need to ask of you. Can you fulfill my request?" Mr. Hiroshi's tone was earnest and serious.

Jane regarded him with a mix of curiosity and concern. "Of course, Pa. You know you can always tell me anything. What is it?" She waited attentively for his request, eager to understand the matter at hand.

"I have to return to Country J tomorrow to attend to some clan- related affairs. Can you come with me?" Mr. Hiroshi disclosed his intention, careful to keep his true motive concealed. Hanabi's warning echoed in his thoughts, making him apprehensive that Jane might refuse if he revealed the arranged marriage with Tatsumi.

"Oh, sure, Pa. I'll accompany you tomorrow," Jane agreed readily, sensing there might be more to her father's request. "Is there something else bothering you?" she inquired, noting a hint of unease in his demeanor.

"Nothing at all, dear. But I'm grateful for your willingness. Thank you for agreeing to come along. It's a long-awaited opportunity for me to take you to my home country and introduce you to the entire clan. Unfortunately, I can't bring Abigail this time, as she's occupied with the wedding preparations," Mr. Hiroshi said, attempting to maintain a composed and natural demeanor despite his concealed intentions.

"Don't mention it, Pa. It's my responsibility as your daughter to support you. Never hesitate to ask for my help, alright?" Jane reassured her father, emphasizing her readiness to assist him whenever needed.

"Can you give me a hug?" Mr. Hiroshi made another solemn request. Deep inside, he harbored a lingering ache, aware of the hardships his daughter had endured in the past. He carried a burden of guilt, reproaching himself for not being present when she needed him the most.

Unaware of the emotional turmoil brewing within her father, Jane leaned in, enveloping him in a warm embrace. She gently patted his back, offering solace and comfort. The sensation of being hugged by her father in this manner felt surreal, evoking a mixture of emotions within her.

'I'm sorry, Jane. I have to do this for your sake. You might hate me for it, but I can't let you be with the man who nearly killed you in the past. He's even responsible for the deaths of your comrades. I can't fathom the trauma you've endured because of that: Mr. Hiroshi acknowledged his selfishness as her

father. But he only wanted the best for his daughter. He still thought of Nathan as unworthy of Jane's love.

"My dear... do you trust me?" Mr. Hiroshi inquired once more, seeking reassurance from his daughter.

"Of course, Pa. I trust you... because you are my father. And I know you are a good person. I can feel that. You care about my sister and me so much," Jane responded confidently.

"Will you try to understand me if I make a difficult request from you?" He continued to assess Jane's feelings.

"Pa, is there something else on your mind? I sense that something is bothering you," Jane questioned, her suspicion piqued by her father's unusual behavior and the probing questions he'd been asking today.FRIEEMN.COM

"I promise... I'll tell you tomorrow in Country J." Mr. Hiroshi made a promise.

"Hmm. Okay. I'll try to suppress my curiosity." Jane jokingly said as she let out a soft giggle.

"Will you be staying home all day?" Mr. Hiroshi asked, making sure that his daughter won't meet Nathan.

"No, Pa. later... I have to go somewhere," she responded to her father. She received a message from Nathan, informing her that Veronica had been captured. She intended to meet her again and teach her another lesson.

"Are you going to the Sparks again?" Mr. Hiroshi tried his best to hide the displeasure in his tone.

"No. I'm going to meet a 'friend' of mine," Jane replied, a sly smile forming in the corner of her lips. She couldn't wait to see Veronica. She had a score to settle with that woman.

Little did she know, her father was also planning to meet Nathan today for a confrontation.

[One hour later... at SYP Twilight Corporation...]

Nathan had just concluded a company meeting when his secretary approached him with an urgent message.

"Sir, Mr. Hiroshi is here to see you. He's been waiting inside your office," the secretary informed him promptly.

Nathan's expression turned into a frown upon hearing this news.

"Why didn't you inform me earlier? I should have wrapped up the meeting sooner," he responded with a tinge of frustration, realizing the importance of Mr. Hiroshi's unexpected visit and wishing he had been made aware of it earlier.

The secretary could only apologize for her negligence.

Chapter 714 Mr. Hiroshi's Threat

[At SYP Twilight Corp...]

When Nathan entered his office, Mr. Hiroshi was already sitting on the couch, enjoying the tea that was served to him by Nathan's secretary.

"Apology for keeping you waiting, Mr. Hiroshi," Nathan greeted him respectfully as he walked toward him. He sat down on the chair opposite Mr. Hiroshi.

"What can I do for you, Sir?" Nathan subconsciously called Mr. Hiroshi "Sir" since he didn't know how he should address him properly. Furthermore, he was dating his daughter, Jane.

Mr. Hiroshi put down his teacup and cast a ridiculing look at Nathan. "I won't beat around the bush. I came here to tell you that I can't accept your relationship with my daughter, Jane. I am warning you. Stay away from her. And never bother her again." Mr. Hiroshi commanded him in his stern cold voice.

Meanwhile, Nathan was stupefied at Mr. Hiroshi's reaction, confusion resurfacing in his eyes. 'What did I do to offend him? Why is he getting mad at me?'

As if Mr. Hiroshi had read his mind, he spoke again to enlighten Nathan. "Don't be shameless, Nathan Sparks. After what you've done to my daughter, you don't deserve her love."

"What do you mean?" Nathan asked him again, trying to figure out where Mr. Hiroshi's hatred was coming from.

"I learned the truth! My daughter is Phantomflake whom you almost killed two years ago! You annihilated her assassin guild."

Nathan was at a loss for words when he heard this. No wonder, Mr. Hiroshi was seething in rage. He could feel his hatred and resentment by the look of his eyes.

"You can't say a word because you know that I'm right." Mr. Hiroshi stood up, sneering at Nathan. He continued ridiculing him with his gaze.

Mr. Hiroshi was right, he couldn't refute him. He understood the old man's feelings. But for Jane's sake, Nathan was willing to swallow his pride.

"Mr. Hiroshi, I won't justify my action because I know I was at fault. But I have changed. Jane and I decided to start over. I can't do what you are asking me. I can't stay away from her." Nathan wanted to fight for his relationship with Jane in front of her father, Mr. Hiroshi.

Unable to control his rage, Mr. Hiroshi grabbed Nathan by his collar and threw a punch, hitting his jaw.

Thud!

Nathan didn't fight back. He just remained in his spot, staring at Mr. Hiroshi.

"I can't allow you to be with my daughter. If you still have a conscience, then you should not bother my daughter. She deserves someone better. A guy who will protect her... not hurting her." Mr. Hiroshi placed emphasis on his words.

"I won't be able to forgive you. I don't understand what my daughter sees in you. She shouldn't have forgiven you!" Mr. Hiroshi continued his ranting.

"I won't accept you. My daughter can love any man, except you. If you truly love and respect her, then you have to distance yourself from her and reflect on your mistakes. Don't be thick-skinned, Nathan. I will only hate you further." Mr. Hiroshi expressed his disdain against Nathan.

Nathan grasped the gravity of the situation. He knew they couldn't hide this truth from Mr. Hiroshi for too long. But he wondered how Mr. Hiroshi found out. Jane tried her best to conceal their past from her father.

Mr. Hiroshi was getting ready to leave when Nathan did something that surprised the old man.

"I... apologized for everything. I... I want to ask for a second chance. Please... allow me to be with Jane." Nathan mumbled as he dropped to his knees, begging Mr. Hiroshi's forgiveness.

Mr. Hiroshi was stunned for a moment when the mighty leader of the Syphiruz Mafia kneeled before him. Was he really serious about his daughter? Was he sincere? Nathan's sudden action began to stir his emotion and waver his resolve.

"Mr. Hiroshi... I will do anything you ask for, except stay away from her. Give me a chance to prove to you that I deserve her. I will never hurt her again." Nathan swore to Mr. Hiroshi, trying to convince him. However, Mr. Hiroshi made his heart a stone for Nathan. He refused to forgive him at this moment. He needed to prove himself first. He wanted to see his sincerity.

"Fine. I'll let you do that. If you are truly sincere then you must do this." Mr. Hiroshi took a pause as he turned to face Nathan again. He remained kneeling on the floor. Nathan had never imagined he would do this in his entire life. Jane was the reason he lowered his pride.

"You took away the lives of her comrades... if you really want to prove yourself to me and to my daughter... Can you destroy your own organization and kill every member of the Syphiruz Mafia? An eye for an eye. A tooth for a tooth." Mr. Hiroshi stated his condition for allowing Nathan to continue seeing his daughter. This was also his way of testing his sincerity. 5

Nathan's expression changed when he heard that ridiculous condition. He clenched his fists, trying to control his emotions. There was no way he could do that. It seemed that Mr. Hiroshi didn't have a plan to give him an easy way out. freewm.com

Mr. Hiroshi let out a mocking laugh when he saw Nathan's expression. He could already see Nathan's hesitation.

"I guess you love your men more than you love my daughter. Just let her go, Nathan. Allow her to be happy with another guy. I don't want her to waste her life loving you." Mr. Hiroshi said earnestly with finality in his voice.

Still frozen in his spot, Nathan could only look down on the floor, gritting his teeth.

"Begging me is of no use." Mr. Hiroshi added before he turned around.

"Nathan... I'm warning you. Don't ever show your face in front of my daughter. Stay away from my family... or else, I will take action against your own family. This is my way of protecting my loved ones. I hope you understand. I am no Saint. I am known as the cruel leader of the Sawada Clan. Avoid seeing Jane starting today." Mr. Hiroshi threatened Nathan one last time before he left.

On the other hand, Nathan punched the floor several times, venting out his frustrations.

Chapter 715 Jane's Plan to Strike Back

At this moment, Jane was left in the dark. She didn't know what was going on between Mr. Hiroshi and Nathan. Meanwhile, Hanabi could no longer bear to keep the secret from Jane. She learned that Mr. Hiroshi and Jane would fly to Country J tomorrow.

Grabbing the chance that Mr. Hiroshi was not around, Hanabi told Jane to drop by her hideout since Cherry had something to discuss with her. Jane started to become suspicious. Both Hanabi and her father were acting strange and secretive today. 2

Before visiting Veronica, Jane proceeded to her hideout where Cherry was waiting.

"Sis! You are finally here. I've been looking for you since yesterday!" Cherry welcomed Jane with a warm hug.

"What's wrong? Are we in trouble?" Jane inquired, her expression becoming serious.

Cherry pulled her toward the sofa. "Sit down first. You have to listen to me carefully. But sis, you have to promise me that you will keep your cool?"

"Please, just tell me. I can't stand this suspense. I sense that everyone is keeping something from me," Jane sighed heavily. Mr. Hiroshi's unusual behavior and Hanabi's meaningful glances had fueled her suspicion.

Cherry grabbed her shoulders and locked her eyes with hers. "Brace yourself, Sis."

Jane just nodded her head.

"Your father had already found out your other identity as Phantomflake. He also discovered the past conflict between you and Nathan. It seems that Nathan has been put on Mr. Hiroshi's bad side. He is against your relationship with Nathan. Your father hates him so much that he wants to separate the two of you." Cherry dropped the bomb.

Jane was stunned for a moment, digesting her words. After a while, the crease on her forehead deepened. "Who told my father?"

"The Dragon Lord. He met your father yesterday and revealed those things. They are trying to stir a conflict between your father and Nathan to destroy the alliance." Cherry was saddened about this.

Jane's expression turned grim, her eyes set ablaze. "How dare they use my father against Nathan?! I won't let them win. I'll talk to my father myself. I'll fix this." Jane's voice was filled with conviction.

Cherry bit her lower lip. She hadn't told her the other big issue here. "Sis... there's another concern. Your father has arranged for you to marry Tatsumi," she revealed, the words hanging heavily in the air. 3

Upon hearing this unexpected revelation, Jane's eyes widened in disbelief and shock. Her jaw dropped slightly, and her brows furrowed as she processed the startling information. A mix of emotions flooded her - surprise, confusion, and a hint of indignation at the prospect of an arranged marriage, especially with someone she hadn't chosen herself.

'Damn! My father's decision will be the death of me! Jane thought to herself, rubbing her temples. She suddenly felt a headache.

"Furthermore, Sis... Mr. Hiroshi ordered Hanabi not to tell you about this, that's why I am speaking on her behalf. Please protect her from the wrath of your father."

Jane looked at Cherry helplessly. Now, she understood why Hanabi behaved like that in the house. She appeared to be troubled by something. She wanted to talk to her but she couldn't reveal the truth because she was bound by her father's command.

"What are you going to do now, Sis? Your father will forbid you from seeing Nathan. Can you endure that?" Cherry asked her worriedly. She already accepted the fact that Jane chose Nathan among the other men.

Jane couldn't hide her frustration when confronted by that

question. It looked like she would be having a hard time because of this issue.

"Hmm. They want to ruin my relationship with Nathan using my father. I won't let them. No one can stop me from seeing Nathan, not even my father," Jane stubbornly stated.

Cherry just let out a soft giggle. Hanabi and she had already expected this kind of reaction from her. No one could tell Jane what to do. She would choose to do what was best for her.

"No matter what, I'll support you, Sis." Cherry expressed her desire to assist Jane whenever she needed her.

"I'll focus first on the people responsible for creating this conflict. Let's give them the taste of their own medicine. Now, we should strike back. Destroy the alliance between the Red Dragon Mafia and the King Stallion Mafia. I'll give this task to you and Hanabi." Jane laid out her initial plan and strategy.

"Oh, right. Hanabi and I will be meeting the Dragon Lord today," Cherry said excitedly, snapping her fingers.

"Good. Give him a good show. I wonder how he will react once he learns that Monica is alive. She played him as well." Jane sneered at that thought.

"Got it, Sis. How about you? What will you do next? I heard you are leaving tomorrow together with your father."

"Yes. I am going to Country J to meet the members of the Sawada Clan. But today, I'll have to deal with Monica's sister, Veronica. Axel and Tatsumi succeeded in their mission. I'm going to teach her one last lesson." Jane said menacingly.

"Aw. I want to tag along and watch how you will punish her. However, I have to accompany Hanabi in meeting the Dragon Lord. Can you record it, Sis? So that I can watch it." Cherry mischievously requested.

3

"Sure. I'll keep you updated," Jane agreed.

"Oh, By the way, sis... Have you heard about what happened to the hideout of the King Stallion Mafia here in our country? The bombing incident? They have so many casualties." Cherry came across the news from the underground world related to the King Stallion Mafia's hideout bombing incident.

Jane didn't hear about it. "When did it happen?"

"I think... it's yesterday morning," Cherry replied.

Jane was taken aback for a moment. She suspected that it was Nathan's doing. 'Don't tell me... Nathan did it for me? I told him about the King Stallion Mafia: Jane appreciated his gesture. She felt like Nathan was showing her how much he cared about her. 4

'Gosh. I have to reward him for this! Jane's lips curled up into a gentle smile. Her heart fluttered because of Nathan's considerate actions.

Chapter 716 Veronica's Punishment from Jane

[At Towerville City Police Precinct...]

Jane met Axel in the police station. She was expecting to see Nathan but he didn't come.

"Where is your Boss?" Jane asked Axel, her eyes roaming around and searching for Nathan.

"Apology, Miss Jane. He can't come today. But he told me to assist you," Axel responded with a sheepish smile.

He didn't have any idea why Nathan suddenly changed his mind. He was supposed to come to the precinct, accompanying Jane. However, he suddenly informed Axel that he couldn't make it today.

"Is he busy with work?" Jane was a little bit disappointed. She wanted to see Nathan and thank him for what he did for her. He punished the King Stallion Mafia for her sake.

"Probably, Miss Jane. He had an important company meeting today." Axel replied, clueless of Nathan's true intention.

Little did they know, Nathan didn't show up because of Jane's father. Mr. Hiroshi threatened Nathan to avoid Jane. Mr. Hiroshi made him feel guilty for what he did to Jane. Jane's father was so determined to keep them apart.

Mr. Hiroshi's words had a great effect on Nathan. For now, he needed to fix his relationship with Jane's father before he could see her. He would like to respect Mr. Hiroshi's decision. But at the same time, he would do his best to win Mr. Hiroshi's acknowledgment and get his forgiveness. This was the least he could do for Jane.

"Let's go, Miss Jane. I already arranged this with the Chief of Police. You can meet Veronica privately. No one will interfere," Axel informed her.

Jane just nodded her head with a smile before following Axel. He led her the way to the private room where Veronica was being detained.

The double doors flung open and Jane emerged from it. Veronica was shocked beyond belief the moment she saw her.

'What the hell is she doing here? The assassin can come and go in a police precinct?' Veronica's eyes widened as she gritted her teeth. She even became furious when she saw Axel with Jane. freewrn.com

"Both of you are working together. What a hypocrite! Your boss hated this woman to the core! How could you bring an assassin here?" Veronica snarled at them.

Axel and Jane just ignored her words. "Leave us alone, Axel. I'll deal with her myself."

Axel bobbed his head before turning around to leave. "I'll wait for you outside."

Jane shifted her gaze back to Veronica. She was sneering at her tauntingly. "We've given you one last chance. But you chose to join forces with Nathan's enemy. Where did your loyalty go, Veronica?"

"Shut up! Phantomflake! Loyalty? I made a lot of sacrifices for Nathan, but in the end, I was taken for granted! He chose to protect that bitch! And he even forgave you!" Veronica was referring to Abigail.

Jane raised her eyebrow and said, "Oh, that's why you created that lethal poison to kill my sister." She just revealed her connection with Abigail, adding more emotional stress to Veronica.

"What do you mean? Sister?" She asked her in confusion. 'What is she talking about? And how did she learn about the lethal poison?' she thought to herself.

"Abigail is my sister." Jane declared, her eyes staring at her sharply.

Veronica: "..."

Veronica was flabbergasted when she heard that. Both Monica and Veronica weren't aware that Jane and Abigail were siblings. In fact, Vincent chose to hide this information from Monica.

"How could that be possible?" She asked in disbelief. Soon, a realization had dawned on her. "Is that the reason why Nathan has forgiven you? He is madly in love with Abigail and because you are sisters, Nathan set aside his revenge!"

Jane let out a sarcastic laugh. "What revenge? There is no reason for him to continue his revenge. Monica is alive. And Monica stole my identity as Shining Star. Your sister is smarter than you, Veronica. She even played you. And you let her use you again for her own benefits." Jane was trying to stir a conflict between Monica and Veronica.

"You were wrong! I'm the one who is using her!" Veronica spat back at her, refusing to admit defeat.

Jane shook her head and clicked her tongue. "Is that so? Then why is it you are the one being imprisoned here, instead of her? She is enjoying her freedom while you are locked here." Jane kept provoking her. She even moved closer to Veronica, grabbing her jaws using her fingers.

Veronica could only glare at Jane, unable to refute her words. Jane was right. She was the one suffering, not Monica. She felt very unfortunate, having an unlucky fate.

"What do you want from me?" Veronica pulled her face out of Jane's grip.

"Hmm. Just simple. I came here to collect your debts. Are you willing to pay for them with your life?" Jane said to her meaningfully, gripping her shoulders tightly. Her nails dug into Veronica's flesh.

"Let go of me! This is the police station. You can't touch me here. You can't kill me!" Veronica tried to mask her fear by yelling at Jane. Deep inside, she was scared to death. Phantomflake could kill her there.

"Veronica... I'm Phantomflake, remember? I'm an assassin. I know many ways to kill my target. I'm using poison as well. And I brought one for you." Jane picked something inside her pocket. It was a serum with a green color.

Veronica could no longer hide the fear in her eyes. "You will be imprisoned if you kill me here! The police will know."

Jane let out another chuckle. "Trust me. They won't suspect me. Besides, this poison will not kill you immediately. Once I inject this into you, you have one week before you eventually die."

"Fuck you, Bitch!" Veronica wanted to struggle but she was handcuffed. She stood up, stepping away from Jane.

"Why getting mad? I'm just giving you the taste of your own medicine. You also want to poison me and my sister."

Veronica ran in the direction of the door. She began banging the door using her fists. She started screaming for help. "Someone! Help me!!! Is anyone there? Phantomflake is trying to kill me! Please let me out!"

Jane just watched Veronica leisurely as she prepared the syringe. "If you want to prolong your life, then you must do something for me. Drag your sister here. Ruin her. Then I'll give you the antidote. You only need to choose. Your life or Monica's life? It's an easy choice."

"You have to do it yourself. Destroy your sister with your own hands." Jane added.

After saying those words, Jane traced her steps toward Veronica. "No! Don't come closer! Stay away from me!" Veronica started to panic.

But Jane didn't waste any more time. She pushed her on the door and held her in place. Veronica couldn't fight back. Jane was more powerful than her. She managed to immobilize Veronica, administering the poison to the back of her neck.

"Aaahhh!" Veronica screamed, her eyes filled with fear and anxiety. "I don't want to die! Please I don't want to die."

The moment Jane released her Veronica dropped on her knees, begging her.

Jane was satisfied to see Veronica cower in fear. "Just do it. You will live after you destroy your evil sister."

Chapter 717 Avoiding Jane

[At SYP Twilight Corp...]

Nathan lost his motivation to work as his mind was preoccupied with the thoughts of Jane and what Mr. Hiroshi had said. He absentmindedly stared at his laptop when Axel suddenly arrived.

"Sir, I'm back." Axel's voice snapped Nathan back to the present. He shifted his gaze from his laptop to Axel.

"How did it go?" Nathan asked Axel. He was referring to Jane's visit to the police station. "Where's Jane?" There was a hint of longing in his eyes when he mentioned Jane's name.

"Everything went well. Miss Jane was satisfied with her confrontation with Veronica. However, she was a little bit disappointed when she didn't see you." Axel reported.

"She just dropped by somewhere and is heading here to see you," he added.

Nathan's eyes gleamed when he heard that. But the sparks disappeared almost immediately when he remembered Mr. Hiroshi's threat. The old man made him feel that he didn't deserve to see Jane at all.

He turned his chair around, avoiding eye contact with Axel. His back was now facing Axel. "Just tell her I'm not here. I can't see her today," Nathan said in his stern voice. He was suppressing his emotions. He clenched his fists tightly. His heart was against his decision. But his mind was telling him this was the right choice for the moment. He didn't want Mr. Hiroshi to hate him further. He would like to gain his trust. Meeting Jane against Mr. Hiroshi's will would only put him on his bad side further.

Furthermore, disobeying Mr. Hiroshi could cost his men's lives. He couldn't selfishly sacrifice them for his desire to be with Jane.

Meanwhile, Axel was surprised by Nathan's odd behavior today. Something was off with him. "Sir, are you deliberately avoiding Miss Jane?"

Nathan didn't respond. He just sighed deeply. "Don't ask questions. Just do as I say." "Okay, sir. I understand." Axel had no choice but to follow his Big Boss's command.

Unknown to Nathan, Jane was already on her way to his office. She was about to enter the building when Kazuki showed up, stopping her at the entrance door of SYP Twilight Corp.

"Lady Jane, you have to come with me. Your father is looking for you," Kazuki said.

Jane frowned as she finally realized that someone was following her. If not, then how come Kazuki suddenly appeared from out of nowhere?

'My father is serious about separating me from Nathan. What a stubborn old man.' Jane complained inwardly.

"Uncle, go ahead first," Jane mumbled, smiling at him. She feigned innocence, pretending that she didn't know anything about her father's true motive. "I'll just meet Nathan shortly. Then I'll go home." She reassured him.

However, Mr. Kazuki received a strict and direct order from her father. They should prevent her from meeting Nathan.

"This is urgent, Lady Jane. Your father needs to see you. Can't you see him next time?" Kazuki tried to convince her. freewm.com

Jane just raised her eyebrow. But her expression remained neutral. "Uncle. I just want to say goodbye to Nathan. I'm leaving tomorrow. Can't I just see him today before I fly to Country J tomorrow?"

Jane had a point. Kazuki heaved a sigh of defeat. 'Fine. Just only today. Besides, her engagement with my son will be announced tomorrow.' He decided to let her go today, allowing Jane to see Nathan for one last time.

Kazuki stepped to the side, making a path for Jane. "Just make it quick. I'll wait for you here. Let's go back home together."

"Sure, Uncle! See you later." Jane walked past him, not looking back. She already missed Nathan. She couldn't wait to see her man. Furthermore, she owed him a reward.

When she reached Nathan's office, Axel immediately approached her.

"Miss Jane, my CEO is not here. He went out for a business meeting," Axel lied to her.

Jane narrowed her eyes at him. Just a while ago, Axel confirmed that Nathan was in his office. But now that she finally came, Axel was telling her Nathan was not around.

"What business meeting? And where? Why didn't you inform me earlier?" Jane sounded upset.

Axel could only smile apologetically as he scratched his face. "I'm sorry, Miss Jane. I was preoccupied. My work piled up. I don't know the location of their meeting. I just heard that it was urgent."

"Why didn't you accompany him?" Jane probed.

"Hmm..." Axel didn't know if he could continue his lies. He hoped Jane wouldn't notice. "My Boss asked me to stay behind to deal with the paperwork."

'I'm sorry, Miss Jane for lying. I hope you won't kill me if you find out. I'm just following my Boss's order.'

"Alright. I'll just drop by the Sparks Mansion later." Jane was feeling down without seeing Nathan's face today. She had to see him no matter what. She didn't know what would happen in Country J. But she needed to give him a heads-up.

Jane was about to leave when Nathan's temporary secretary approached Axel, handing over some documents. "Sir, can you give this to our CEO? We need his—" The secretary didn't finish her words since she was warned by Axel's sharp gaze, signaling her to stay quiet.

But it was too late. Jane had already heard her. She turned around to face Axel, her eyes staring at him intently.

"You said Nathan went out. Did you just lie to me, Axel?" Jane questioned him, trying to suppress her rage.

Axel couldn't utter a word. He could feel immense pressure from Jane's gaze. He regretted telling her a lie. He felt like Jane was going to punish him at any moment.

"I'm gonna ask you again, Axel," Jane said in her authoritative voice.

Axel and the secretary were intimidated by her presence. Both of them got chills upon hearing her serious tone.

"I'm sorry, Miss Jane! I just followed my superior's order." Axel immediately motioned for Jane to enter the office. He could no longer stop her from meeting Nathan. It was so hard to offend Phantomflake. She might beat him up.

Without saying a word, Jane stormed inside Nathan's office. The double doors were flung open with force.

"This is your fault. Just pray that our CEO will not fire you after this," Axel said to the secretary as he watched Jane's back.

The secretary pursed her lips and bowed her head. She was about to cry. She didn't want to lose her job.

Chapter 718 The Couple's Game Plan

Nathan was surprised when Jane suddenly barged into his office. "Jane?" He uttered her name. He stopped what he was doing, focusing his gaze on the woman who was staring at him sharply.

"Are you deliberately avoiding me, Nate?" Jane confronted him. She walked toward him with a deep frown on her charming face. She looked upset, pouting her lips.

Nathan was at a loss for words. He didn't know how he would justify himself. He was guilty and Jane caught him lying.

"The cat got your tongue, Mr. Sparks?" Jane mocked him, raising her eyebrow.

'Busted. I'm doomed. Nathan thought to himself as he observed Jane's dark expression. At that certain moment, Nathan knew he had to pacify his woman.

He didn't wait for Jane. He stood up, swiftly closing their gaps. Upon reaching her, he immediately pulled her into a hug. "I miss you." he softly mumbled, planting a soft kiss on her forehead.

He thought he could avoid her. But now that she was standing in front of him, Nathan couldn't possibly ignore her presence. His yearning for her intensified further. He tightened his grip on her body, not wanting to let her go.

Meanwhile, Jane just sighed helplessly before hugging him back. How could she remain upset if Nathan knew how to pacify her like this? But she wouldn't stop asking him.

"Why did you order Axel to lie?" Jane gently pushed him as she gazed up, looking at his eyes.

"What? Axel lied to you? Maybe he just misinterpreted my words," Nathan said, feigning innocence.

"Just don't mind him," he added, planting another soft kiss on the tip of her nose. "Come, sit down first." Nathan pulled her toward the couch. He sat down first before he made her sit on his lap.

Jane continued observing him suspiciously. She didn't buy his words. She could sense that Nathan was hiding something from her.

She changed her position on top of Nathan's lap so that she could face him. "Nate, tell me honestly. What is wrong with you? Don't you want to see me today?"

"Of course not. I always want to see you," Nathan promptly responded.

"Then why did you try to avoid meeting me today?" Jane asked him again. She wouldn't stop without getting his answer.

Nathan stayed quiet, contemplating whether he would be honest with her or he would keep it a secret. He didn't want to create a conflict between Mr. Hiroshi and Jane. He thought he had to fix this by himself.

"Sigh!" Jane took a deep breath. She didn't like Nathan's silence. "Nate, I'm going to Country J tomorrow, together with my father. If you don't talk to me now, I'm afraid we will have another misunderstanding."

Nathan's expression changed the moment he heard that. "You are leaving?" He suddenly got worried. What if Mr. Hiroshi forbade Jane from returning to Country M just to separate them?

"Why? What are you going to do there? How long are you going to stay there?" Nathan bombarded her with so many questions.

"You haven't answered my question yet," Jane spat back at him, pouting her lips.

Nathan could no longer hide this from Jane. "Your father hates me. I think... I should win him first before I can meet you. He doesn't want me seeing you. I'm afraid he will hate me more if I go against his will. So for the time being, I choose to obey what he wants." He finally explained his sides.

Jane narrowed her eyes upon hearing that. She knew it! It had something to do with her father. She leaned closer to Nathan and bit his shoulder as part of his punishment!

Nathan just smirked when he felt her teeth on his flesh. He just wrapped his arms around her waist, supporting her back.

"You should have talked to me about this before making a decision. Aren't you afraid that I might misunderstand you?" Jane hit his chest.

"You know! We can always meet behind my father's back." Jane suggested mischievously.

Nathan could only let out a husky laugh.

"Just don't mind him. No one can stop me from seeing you. We can play along for now since our enemies are trying to break us apart by using my father. But I promise... I'll talk to my father." Jane reassured him.

"So you also know?" Nathan asked her in disbelief.

"Of course. Cherry and Hanabi are my loyal friends. The Red Dragon is still trying to sway my father. The Dragon Lord is the one who revealed our past conflict with my father."

Nathan's eyes darkened at her remarks. He somehow suspected that a third party was involved, destroying his relationship with Mr.

Hiroshi. His assumption was right!

"By the way, let's go back to the topic. What will you do in Country J?" Nathan couldn't hide his worry.

"My father wants to introduce me to the members of the Sawada Clan... and according to Cherry... he is planning to announce my engagement with Tatsumi," Jane revealed Mr. Hiroshi's plan to Nathan.

His heart clenched and his expression darkened further at the mention of engagement. He couldn't utter a word because of too much jealousy.

Just imagining Tatsumi and Jane being together was like torture for Nathan. He couldn't accept that.

"Don't go..." Nathan pleaded, his intense gaze directed at Jane.

Jane just smiled at him as she cupped his face once more. "You have nothing to worry about. I'm not marrying Tatsumi. Besides, it's my father's choice, not mine. No one can force me to marry a person I don't like. Tatsumi is just a friend. Do you trust me?"

Nathan heaved a sigh of relief. Jane's words were enough to reassure him. "Yes. I trust you."

"So this is our game plan. We are going to obey my father for the time being. But once you manage to gain his trust back, we will announce our relationship in public. And we can continue seeing each other without his knowledge. Do you agree?" Jane consulted him.

Nathan bobbed his head in response. "But don't get closer to Tatsumi... or any other men."

Jane just chuckled and gave him a peck on his lips before nodding her head.

"Let's focus on dealing with our enemies first," Jane added.

"By the way, Nate... Thank you for avenging me against the King Stallion Mafia. The bombing incident... it was your doing, am I right?" She grabbed this opportunity to express her gratitude to Nathan.

Nathan's expression finally softened. "No need to thank me. They deserve that punishment. I won't forgive them. This is just the start of collecting Vincent and Monica's debts."

"So... you are not upset with me anymore?" Nathan asked her expectantly.

"Hmm. If I'm still upset, do you think I will hug and kiss you like this?" Jane licked her lower lip as her gaze fell on Nathan's lips. "Before I forgot... I came here to give you a reward."

Before Nathan could say a word, Jane already captured his lips, kissing him passionately.

She nibbled on his lower and upper lips alternately. Then she inserted her tongue inside his mouth to explore, licking and tasting him.

Nathan just smirked in between their kisses as he loved her boldness. He just allowed her to take the lead, going with the flow. He wrapped his arms around her body as they deepened the kiss

Chapter 719 Axel's Fear

Jane and Nathan were so immersed in kissing each other when her phone rang, interrupting their passionate moment. Jane wanted to ignore it. But her phone kept on ringing. She drew back from Nathan as she picked up her phone from her pocket.

Jane sighed deeply upon seeing Kazuki's caller ID on her phone screen. "Give me a second, Nate. I'll just answer this call."

Nathan just nodded his head as he kept quiet. Jane remained on his lap, straddling him as she answered Kazuki's call. She put it on a loudspeaker mode so that Nathan could also hear their conversation.

"Hello, Uncle? Do you need something?" Jane politely asked him, hiding her disappointment.

"Time's up, now, Lady Jane. We should go home. Your father might be looking for you already!"

Nathan put on a pitiful look when he gazed at Jane. He didn't want to part ways with Jane yet. He shook his head, signifying his objection with Mr. Kazuki. "Don't leave." he mouthed the words silently.

Nathan snatched the phone from her hand and pressed the "mute" button to silence Jane's microphone. Kazuki couldn't hear them.

"I thought you intend to give me my reward. The reward that I want is for you to stay with me the whole day. You are leaving tomorrow... so... this is the least you can do for me today." Nathan drew her closer to his body, locking her in his arms.

Jane couldn't possibly leave Nathan especially if he was begging her like this.

"I thought you didn't want to disobey my father? Did you change your mind now?" she teased him, anchoring her arms around his neck.

Nathan wasn't able to respond. He was torn in between his desire to be with her and his resolve to win Mr. Hiroshi's trust.

"Lady Jane? Are you still there? Can you hear me? I'm going to come up if you don't say a word." Kazuki warned her. He was puzzled why the other line suddenly became silent.

Jane smiled at him, planting another soft kiss on his lips before taking her phone back. "Fine. I'll sneak out and come back here. Are you okay with that?"

Nathan's lips curled up into a satisfied smile the moment he heard that. "Okay. I'll wait for you. I'll wrap up everything here. Do you mind going on a date with me... today?" Nathan was willing to cancel all his schedules today just to be with Jane.

"Of course, I would love that." Jane winked at him. They had to be a lowkey couple in the meantime.

After agreeing with their plans, Jane finally informed Kazuki that she was on her way to meet him in the lobby.

Though Nathan was reluctant to let her go, he had no choice but to part ways with her. But before that, he kissed her hungrily for one last time.

"See you later, handsome," Jane softly mumbled when they broke the long passionate kiss.

Nathan could only watch her back until she vanished from his sight. He sighed deeply, feeling helpless. Soon, he summoned Axel through the intercom. A few seconds later, Axel entered his office, unable to look at him in the eyes.

"Sir... I apologize for my failure to stop Miss Jane. I guess she has telepathic skills." He paused, scratching his face while smiling sheepishly. "She knew that you were here," Axel tried to cover up for the secretary's mistake. "Is she mad?"

Nathan lifted his eyebrow and replied, "I guess you are not a good liar. She is very sharp."

Axel just bit his lower lip, and continued staring at the floor. He couldn't tell if Nathan was mad or not. However, he was using his normal tone.

"Anyway, I called you here for something else."

Axel felt relieved when he heard that. He thought Nathan would reprimand him. Luckily, Nathan seemed like he was in a good mood. "What is it, Sir?" Axel finally lifted his head, gazing back at Nathan. "Cancel all my meetings and appointments today... including my appointments for the next three days." Nathan gave his order. "And also... book me a ticket going to Country J tomorrow." Nathan's eyes gleamed when he said those words.

At first, Axel was taken aback for a moment. He didn't know why Nathan wanted to go to Country J.

"OK, Sir. Don't you want to use the private plane?" he asked him for confirmation. He didn't know if he just misheard it or if Nathan had just forgotten about his private plane.

"No. I won't use the private plane. You should book me a ticket for a normal flight... not the VIP one. Do it discreetly." Nathan had to be more careful when following Jane. He could tell that Mr. Hiroshi was keeping an eye on him.

"Oh, one more thing, I think... we can also utilize the private plane tomorrow. But the destination is different. Go to country F using my private plane. You can bring Chantha with you." Nathan added. This was his diversion strategy, making Mr. Hiroshi believe that he was going to Country F, not Country J.

Axel: "... " feeling a bit insecure. Well, he couldn't blame him. Chantha always flirted with handsome men in front of them.

"You'll never find out if you don't give it a shot. There's nothing to lose, Axel. I'm telling you this not just as your Boss but as your friend. Have confidence in yourself. You're handsome too," Nathan encouraged Axel, well aware of Axel's concealed affection for Chantha. Axel often engaged in banter with Chantha, not out of disdain, but because he found it difficult to express his genuine feelings, harboring a fear of potential rejection.

Chapter 720 The Second Encounter

[At Towerville Central Mall...]

As part of his prior deal with 'Sizzling August, Spade was meeting Black Rose today together with Alexander and Hanabi. Alexander had no idea about this meet-up. Spade just brought him to the mall, pretending to be strolling there for no particular reason. He was afraid that Alexander would decline this meet-up if he mentioned it directly.

"Alex, why don't we buy some food first? I got tired from walking around. I still can't find the items I need for my laptop repair." Spade made up some alibi so that he could bring Alexander to the Mall's restaurant where they were supposed to meet Black Rose (Cherry) and Hanabi.

"Sure," Alexander agreed instantly, clueless of Spade's real motive. As they entered the restaurant, Spade immediately sent a message to Black Rose, informing her that they'd arrived at the meeting place. Meanwhile, Hanabi and Cherry had just entered the mall when she received Spade's message.

"They are here," Cherry excitedly blurted out, catching Hanabi's attention.

"Have you seen his face? Will you recognize him?" Hanabi inquired. "Of course. I've met him once. Furthermore, I researched his profile and background." She answered confidently.

"How about the Dragon Lord? How are we going to confirm his identity? What if Spade tricks us, bringing an impostor?" Hanabi had some doubts. She thought it would be hard to invite the mighty leader of a mafia organization just for this simple meet-up. Was

Spade truly able to convince the Dragon Lord to come?

"Hmm," Cherry paused, tapping her forefinger on the surface of her lips as she analyzed the situation. "Spade is a bit gullible. I don't think he will trick us by bringing a different person. Besides, he is very loyal to Sizzling August. He won't do something that might disappoint his idol."

"Alright. I'll trust your judgment on this." Hanabi set aside her doubts.

"Thank you, Hana. Now, let's proceed to meet the two gentlemen." Cherry wrapped her arms around her shoulders and she leaned closer to whisper, "Who knows the Dragon Lord is also good-looking. He might be your ideal man." She teased her.

Hanabi just pursed her lips and shook her head in objection. "I don't need a man. I love myself... and my freedom."

Cherry burst out laughing. "You are truly my friend. We are on the same page."

It did not take long before they reached the restaurant. The place was very spacious and crowded. 'I should have chosen a different place. Today is a peak season, many customers visiting this resto! Cherry thought to herself as her eyes scanned the surroundings, searching for Spade.

"Let me see his picture so that I can help you in looking for him," Hanabi asked for Spade's photo.

Cherry pressed something on her phone before handing it over to Hanabi. Spade's photo was displayed on her phone screen. Hanabi joined her, her eyes scanning the crowd. A few seconds later, her sharp eyes caught a glimpse of a familiar figure, sitting on the corner table, away from the crowd.

'Eh, what a coincidence! This guy is also here?' Hanabi raised her eyebrow, her gaze directed at Alexander who was sitting alone (since Spade was lining up at the counter to order some drinks for them). allIn0veInext.c0m

"Have you seen him?" Hanabi asked Cherry, her gaze not leaving Alexander's direction. She was curious about what he was doing there.

"Not yet." Cherry simply replied.

"Cherry, do you want to meet Abigail's friend? I'll introduce you to him." Hanabi tugged Cherry's hand, a mischievous smile playing across her lips.

"Sure. We can say hi to Abi's friend."

The two ladies started to trace their steps toward Alexander, oblivious to the fact he was the Dragon Lord they were supposed to meet today.

Hanabi didn't know why but she just felt like annoying and provoking the guy who was very quiet in his seat. She knew that Alexander wouldn't be happy to see her because of what she did to him at the hospital. 2

In her mind, it was Alexander's fault for trying to disrupt Dave's proposal to Abigail. Hanabi was the one who separated Abigail from Alexander in the hospital so that Dave could have private time alone with his girlfriend.

Soon, the two ladies reached Alexander's table.

"Excuse me, are you alone?" Hanabi spoke up to catch Alexander's attention.

He was looking at his phone when he heard her. Alexander lifted his head, meeting Hanabi's gaze. He was stunned for a moment when he recognized her. 'Damn! She's the woman who humiliated me in the hospital, treating me like a prisoner as she handcuffed my hands!' The shock on his face was immediately replaced by annoyance when he recalled their first encounter. "You, Again? Why are you here?" Alexander sounded displeased and unwelcoming.

Hanabi, on the other hand, was sneering at him, provoking him further. "Why not? This is a public place. Not your private property." She spat back.

Cherry could only smile awkwardly as she watched the exchanges between the two. She could tell that the two were not on good terms.

"Hey, I think we should go. He looks like he is going to eat you alive. Did you offend him or something?" Cherry whispered to Hanabi. Alexander's sharp glare was somewhat intimidating.

"Don't worry. I can deal with him. He is not strong enough to fight me," Hanabi whispered back confidently, grinning from ear to ear. Alexander was obedient and very helpless against her during their first encounter. But little did she know, Alexander was just holding himself back as he concealed his real identity, not raising any suspicion during their first meeting.

"Did you just show your face to me to ruin my mood?" Alexander broke his silence once more, not holding back. He couldn't care less if he would appear rude in front of these two women. He just wanted a peaceful environment without Hanabi's presence. This was his way of telling them he wasn't happy to see her at all.

"Oh, No worries. I just came here to show my friend how rude you are. I can't believe that you are friends with Abigail. I should warn her about your rude behavior." Hanabi didn't back down as she threatened him.

Alexander's expression contorted in dismay upon hearing her words. It was evident that this woman had a knack for getting under his skin, adeptly pressing his emotional triggers and stirring his frustration.

"I reserve my kindness for a chosen few," Alexander replied casually, his tone carrying an air of indifference. "You are not one of them," he added. He didn't seem inclined to extend warmth or generosity to just anyone.

Hanabi chuckled sarcastically. "Face it. You're simply embarrassed to be around me. You can't even defeat a woman. How feeble," she taunted, her tone tinged with mockery and humor.

"Hey, stop that. Don't pick a fight here." Cherry tugged her hand, stopping Hanabi from further provoking Alexander. Alexander's face could no longer be painted due to his fury. Hanabi's last words hit his ego.

Since she was satisfied with Alexander's reaction, Hanabi agreed to leave him alone. "Okay. Let's go before the volcano erupts."

They were just about to walk away when Spade suddenly showed up from behind, calling Cherry.

"Oh! Black Rose! You are here! Both of you... come and sit! This is our table." Spade greeted them with a friendly smile.

Cherry: "..."

Hanabi: "???"

Alexander: "???"