

100 Days 731

Chapter 731 Two Esteemed Guests

[At Sawada Clan Branch Headquarters...]

Tatsumi heard the news that Jane and Mr. Hiroshi were currently at the main headquarters. He was helping the third branch leader in the preparation of the venue. A large hall would serve as the banquet hall for tonight's gathering.

The tables were now set. Only invited guests were able to join them. But the banquet would be recorded live so that other members who were staying in the other branches would be able to watch and join the gathering.

The majority of those in attendance comprised high-ranking officials from the Sawada Clan. A reserved private room awaited the distinguished VIP guests—representatives of both the Red Dragon Mafia and King Stallion Mafia.

These guests, however, would not be partaking in the main banquet. Instead, the members of the Red Dragon and King Stallion Mafia would be stationed in the private room, where they could watch the banquet unfold on a wide-screen monitor. Following the formal announcement, Jane would make her way to the private room to meet the leaders of the two mafias.

Alexander and Vincent assumed they would be greeted by Mr. Hiroshi in that room. Unbeknownst to them, Jane would accompany her father, taking charge of the negotiations with the two mafia leaders. The unexpected twist added an element of surprise to the upcoming encounter, revealing that Jane would be the key figure in the discussions. Besides, she had something to settle with those two.

It did not take long when Vincent and Alexander together with their two trusted subordinates arrived at the Sawada Clan Branch Headquarters.

"Welcome, our esteemed guests," Mr. Aoki, the third branch leader, greeted them with courtesy. Tatsumi joined him, only to be taken aback by the presence of the two masked men – both adorned with porcelain masks concealing their identities.

Curiosity getting the better of him, Tatsumi whispered to Mr. Aoki, "Who are they?" He had no inkling that such influential figures had been invited to their branch headquarters.

"The Dragon Lord and the King," Mr. Aoki declared, introducing the two mysterious men.

Tatsumi's jaws dropped at the revelation. "What?! Why are they invited to my engagement party?" he exclaimed, his frustration evident.

"Engagement party?" Vincent muttered in confusion. He turned to Alexander, shooting him a questioning gaze. However, Alexander could only shrug his shoulders, equally clueless about the unexpected turn of events.

"I'll guide you to your room. The party will start in an hour. You can wait there. The godfather is not yet around. But I'll inform him that both of you have arrived." Mr. Aoki was attentive to their two important visitors.

"We would appreciate that," Alexander responded.

Mr. Aoki guided them to the private room. Alexander, Vincent, Jack, and Speed followed him. Since Phoenix was still recuperating at the hospital, Vincent brought Speed with him while Alexander brought Jack. Their elite bodyguards were waiting outside since they were not allowed to enter the banquet hall and the private room.

"Everything is ready. You should go and change. Our godfather and Lady Jane are en route, accompanied by other branch leaders," urged Han Yi, the fifth branch leader, prompting Tatsumi to switch into his suit. Han Yi was the youngest branch leader among the eight leaders. Tatsumi pursed his lips as he placed his right arm on his chest. He looked nervous and tensed.

"What's wrong?" Han Yi tapped Tatsumi's shoulder.

"My heart races every time you mention my lady's name. I still find it hard to believe that our godfather wants me to marry her. It's like a dream come true," Tatsumi confessed with a dreamy expression in his eyes, the excitement evident in his voice.

Han Yi chuckled softly. "I haven't had the pleasure of seeing her yet. Is she really that stunning?"

"The word 'stunning' is an understatement. Her beauty is ethereal!" Tatsumi replied with pride, a sparkle in his eyes as he spoke about the enchanting qualities of Lady Jane. His admiration for her transcended the boundaries of conventional compliments, emphasizing the almost otherworldly nature of her beauty.

"Now, I'm intrigued. Hmm. You're one lucky guy. I suppose you've outshone us all, emerging as the next Clan Leader," Han Yi's voice carried a tinge of envy, but beneath it, there was genuine happiness for Tatsumi. After all, Tatsumi was like a brother to him, and Han Yi couldn't help but feel a sense of pride for his friend's achievements.

"By the way, have you seen my sister?" Han Yi was referring to Hanabi. Though they were not blood-related, Hanabi was raised by Han Yi's parents. "She's with Lady Jane. Sigh. That woman... I hope she can be as supportive as you. But your troublesome sister doesn't approve of me being our Lady Jane's husband. I still hate her! Hmmp."

Han Yi could only laugh at his last remarks. He wasn't surprised because he was used to seeing the Hanabi and Tatsumi banter a lot. "If you two could just get along, I might have considered asking you to marry my sister. But knowing you two, your house would probably turn into a daily battleground. Hahaha!" Han Yi playfully teased Tatsumi.

Tatsumi couldn't help but react to Han Yi's teasing words. Playfully, he punched Han Yi's shoulder upon hearing the suggestion. "No! No! Hanabi and I could never be together. We are sworn enemies!" he exclaimed, his tone carrying a mix of amusement and mock seriousness.

Han Yi laughed in response to Tatsumi's vehement denial. "Oh, come on, Tatsumi! Enemies or not, sometimes love blossoms in the most unexpected places. Imagine the dramatic romance between the two of you. It would be like a tale for the ages!"

Tatsumi rolled his eyes at Han Yi's theatrical description. "In your dreams, Han Yi. The only battles we'll be having are in the training grounds, not in the confines of matrimony!" The banter between the two friends continued, a lighthearted exchange that added a touch of humor to the anticipation of the impending engagement party.

"I only like Lady Jane. She's the woman for me! Don't match me with your sister. Don't jinx my engagement. Okay!" Tatsumi punched Han Yi once again.

"Alright. I'll stop teasing you. At least, you are no longer nervous. Now... you have to change your clothes now. You are the star of tonight's gathering." Han Yi pushed him to leave the venue.

Meanwhile, inside the private room, Alexander and Vincent already settled down together with Speed and Jack. Jack was very silent because he was not in a good mood. His mind was still bothered by Kathleen.

"King, is it really okay that we didn't bring weapons? This is our enemy's territory. They can shoot us anytime." Speed expressed her concern, doubting Sawada Clan's motive. "You should have stayed behind. You seldom attend this kind of meeting to avoid the potential enemy's trap. Why are you being careless today?" Speed began to question Vincent's action.

"If Phoenix is here, he won't allow you to be here," she added. She was just showing her concern for their leader's safety.

Even Alexander was puzzled because Vincent came in person.

"I must meet the Godfather. My presence will be the proof of my sincerity. I will not waste this potential alliance with him," Vincent replied, hiding his true motive. The truth was he just wanted to build rapport with Jane's father.

"Do you think Godfather will join forces with us to destroy the Syphiruz Mafia?" Alexander also joined the conversation. He tried his best to conceal his resentment toward Vincent.

"I'm not sure either. That's precisely why I'm here. I want to understand why he summoned us," Vincent admitted, a sense of uncertainty clouding his thoughts regarding Mr. Hiroshi's intentions for bringing them together.

"Oh, the man we encountered earlier. He's the one I was chasing after—the one responsible for the attacks on our bases in Country R, searching for you," Speed recalled, referring to Tatsumi. "But it seems like he doesn't recognize me."

"Maybe it's on Godfather's orders. He might want to uncover my identity," Vincent speculated.

"Oh my. I've got a bad feeling about this, my King. We should leave now while we still can," Speed expressed, her anxiety palpable as she considered the implications of the gathering.

"You don't have to worry. I've already taken some precautionary measures. Nothing bad will happen to us here," Alexander reassured her, attempting to alleviate Speed's concerns.

Chapter 732 The Engagement Announcement

[At Sawada Clan Branch Headquarters...]

The high-ranking members of the Sawada Clan together with the eight branch leaders were finally gathered at the banquet hall. Hanabi and Kazuki joined Tatsumi who had been waiting for them.

"Where are our Godfather and my Lady Jane?" Tatsumi immediately asked his father, Kazuki.

"Godfather is currently giving her a tour of the headquarters. They'll join us later once the program starts," Kazuki informed his son.

As Tatsumi turned to his side, his eyes met Hanabi's gaze. He couldn't help but scan her from top to bottom. She was adorned in a long, elegant black maxi dress.

"You've really dressed up tonight, and even put on some makeup," Tatsumi teased her playfully.

In response, she shot him a glare and raised her fist, a silent threat for him to stop. Tatsumi, however, just let out a soft chuckle.

"I can't wait to see my Lady. Haven't they finished their stroll around yet?" Tatsumi mumbled, turning his head from left to right, eagerly anticipating Jane's arrival.

"Patience, son... Patience." Kazuki tapped his son's back.

"Alright. I'm nervous, Dad. What if my Lady will reject me? I'm afraid she will be against this engagement." Tatsumi expressed his concern with his father.

Kazuki just heaved a deep sigh while looking at his son helplessly. Even he, himself, didn't know how Jane would react to this engagement. Mr. Hiroshi hadn't informed her yet. But little did they know, Jane already had an idea about tonight's gathering because of Hanabi and Cherry.

"Just trust our Godfather. He has your back." Kazuki tried to comfort his son.

Tatsumi just bobbed his head. After talking to his father, he grabbed Hanabi, dragging her to the corner.

"What do you want from me?" Hanabi snarled at him as she yanked her arm away from Tatsumi's grasp.

"Easy. Don't get mad. I'm just here to share some info. Do you know that the leaders of the King Stallion Mafia and the Red Dragon Mafia are also here?"

Hanabi: "..."

She was rendered speechless for a moment. She didn't expect that those two powerful figures would be present tonight. 'So... Alexander didn't break his alliance with the King Stallion Mafia? What is he thinking?'

"Hey. You are spacing out!" Tatsumi snapped his fingers in front of Hanabi's face.

"Where are they?" Hanabi asked him curiously.

"Special Room," Tatsumi whispered to her.

She was well acquainted with the location of that room, situated near the banquet hall. "Why are they here?" She pondered, a sense of puzzlement clouding her thoughts.

"I don't know. It seems Godfather invited them," Tatsumi replied, scratching his face in equal confusion.

"Are you sure the King showed up in person? Not just his representative?" Hanabi harbored a doubt, her curiosity urging her to seek clarity.

"Maybe. They're both wearing porcelain masks. I didn't see their faces," Tatsumi admitted, rubbing his chin as he contemplated.

"Never mind. We'll find out later," Hanabi conceded, her thoughts lingering on how Alexander managed to interact with Vincent after learning the truth about Monica and the deception the couple had orchestrated against him.

As they continued their conversation, the host for the evening spoke up, capturing the attention of everyone present.

"Dear members of our clan! Tonight holds immense significance. It has been quite some time since we last gathered in one place like this."

This gathering was being shown to all branches of the Sawada Clan. All members were watching in their respective stations, including Alexander and Vincent together with their subordinates.

"Our Godfather has an important announcement to make, and we've all assembled here to finally meet the Lady of our Clan! Without further ado, let's welcome our Godfather and our Lady to the center stage."

The room erupted into boisterous cheers as the host announced Jane's presence. From the backdoor, Mr. Hiroshi guided his daughter, Jane toward the center stage. She was wearing a cowl neck slip black dress. She looked so stunning, captivating everyone present in the banquet hall.

"OMG, our Lady is here. She's like a goddess! So gorgeous!"

"She's beautiful! But I can feel her fierce aura."

Meanwhile, Vincent almost dropped his wine glass when he saw Jane's figure on the screen monitor, his eyes filled with admiration. He didn't expect that Jane would attend the banquet.

'So she's also here.' A satisfied smile could be seen on his face.

Back to the banquet hall, the transition was seamless as the host gracefully handed the microphone over to Mr. Hiroshi. The room hushed in anticipation, acknowledging it was time for their Clan Leader to deliver his speech.

"First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. I am fully aware of the tremendous efforts you all put into the relentless search for my missing daughter. Now, our collective hard work has borne fruit. We've found her — my princess, my beloved daughter, Jane."

Mr. Hiroshi's voice resonated with a blend of gratitude, relief, and an unmistakable paternal affection. The crowd listened intently, a shared sense of accomplishment rippling through the room. "From this day forward, she will be an integral part of our operations. Jane will be working alongside me, taking on a significant role in managing the affairs of the Sawada Clan. Therefore, I implore each and every one of you to extend your full assistance, support, and loyalty to her," Mr. Hiroshi declared with a solemn tone, emphasizing the gravity of the announcement.

The proclamation hung in the air, marking a pivotal moment for the Sawada Clan. The attendees absorbed the weight of the words, understanding the shift in dynamics within the organization. A murmur of approval and acknowledgment rippled through the crowd as Mr. Hiroshi's directive settled in.

"Jane, my dear, your journey begins today. May you find strength and wisdom in leading our clan," he added, casting a fatherly gaze toward his daughter.

The banquet hall erupted into another round of spirited cheers, resonating with both enthusiasm and a sense of acceptance. The Sawada Clan was about to embark on a new chapter under the joint leadership of Mr. Hiroshi and his daughter, Jane.

Yet, the announcement didn't conclude with Jane's introduction. Mr. Hiroshi continued, "In connection with this, I am requesting Tatsumi to join us here on the stage. I am entrusting him with a highly significant task, integral to the future endeavors of the Sawada Clan."

The room buzzed with curiosity and speculation as Tatsumi made his way to the stage. Whispers of anticipation filled the air, leaving an air of intrigue and excitement lingering throughout the banquet hall. The unexpected turn of events only fueled the attendees' interest in the unfolding developments within the clan. The majority of them hadn't heard anything about the engagement between Tatsumi and Jane.

"Tonight, I am thrilled to announce the engagement of my daughter, Jane, and our first commander, Tatsumi." Mr. Hiroshi declared.

The room erupted into celebratory chaos, with congratulatory toasts and well-wishes echoing through the air.

On the other hand, Jane cast a blank look at her father and Tatsumi. She didn't say a word. She just kept her neutral expression. Meanwhile, Tatsumi held his breath upon meeting Jane's gaze. The atmosphere charged with anticipation as Tatsumi awaited Jane's words and her reaction.

'Is my Lady fine with this?'

Chapter 733 She Won't Marry Him

Aside from Tatsumi, Mr. Hiroshi was also anticipating Jane's reaction. He wondered if she would reject this engagement in front of their clan members. 'Is she going to humiliate Tatsumi in front of everyone? I hope not.'

Jane maintained her composure and she didn't show any sign of resistance or rejection regarding the engagement. Seeing her reaction, Mr. Hiroshi was satisfied. He motioned for Tatsumi to hold Jane's hand and move closer to her.

Tatsumi obediently moved, guided by Mr. Hiroshi's command. He stood next to Jane and extended his right hand. Jane just smiled at him as she accepted his hand. Another loud cheer erupted in the venue. Some clinked their wine glasses, congratulating the couple.

But little did they know, Tatsumi broke into cold sweats when he sensed Jane's grasp. She was gripping his palm tightly as if she was controlling her rage.

'Is she mad? Though she's smiling, I can feel a chilly aura surrounding her.' Tatsumi thought to himself, biting his lips.

Meanwhile, a resounding crash echoed from a distance, drawing the attention of the banquet attendees. A waiter, seemingly bothered by the scene unfolding at the center stage, inadvertently dropped the tray he was carrying. The clatter of shattering glass resonated through the air as his gaze fixated on the entangled hands of Jane and Tatsumi.

An icy glint flashed in the waiter's eyes, unnoticed by those around him. Witnessing the intimate moment between Jane and Tatsumi seemed to stir a hidden emotion within him. The atmosphere tensed as one member of the Sawada Clan scolded the waiter, cautioning him about ruining the celebratory mood.

"Hey, be careful! You're ruining the mood!" the clan member reprimanded, his hand poised to grab the waiter's collar. However, he hesitated, taken aback by the intense and intimidating gaze that met his.

'Who is this guy? How can he glare at me like that? He's just a waiter,' the clan member thought, a trace of confusion clouding his face. Before he could utter another word, the mysterious waiter turned on his heel and began to walk away.

"Hey! Where are you going?! Clean up this mess!" the clan member shouted after him, but the waiter paid no heed to the command.

"What's his problem? We should fire that waiter. After this event, I'll give him a lesson!" the clan member grumbled to himself, unaware that the waiter who had disrupted the atmosphere was none other than Nathan Sparks. Disguised as a waiter, he had infiltrated the banquet, concealing his true identity and purpose.

Nathan made his way directly to the kitchen, his emotions in turmoil. Jealousy coursed through him, threatening to overpower his senses. Earlier, he had felt an overwhelming urge to stride towards the center stage and claim Jane's hand for himself. However, his disguise would crumble if he succumbed to that impulse. This was not the surprise he had intended to present to Jane.

In the kitchen, Nathan took a moment to collect himself. Leaning against a countertop, Nathan let out a frustrated sigh. He wrestled with the conflicting emotions of jealousy and the necessity to maintain the secrecy of his disguised identity. He was not welcome in this place. Mr. Hiroshi would not be happy to see him.

"Hey, buddy! Why were you so rude back there? Do you want to get fired?" Another waiter approached Nathan, voicing his concern. Nathan was a recent hire for the night, and it appeared that he had unwittingly angered one of the high-ranking officials of the Sawada Clan.

Nathan maintained his silence as the approachable waiter persisted in offering advice. "You've got to be humble and not offend our bosses here if you want to last. Take extra care when serving those drinks. It might be safer for you to stay here. I'll cover for you," the friendly waiter suggested, extending a helping hand in light of Nathan's encounter with the high-ranking official.

"If you want... you can take my job later. You can serve food and drink to the private room near the banquet hall. We have esteemed guests there. And they will have a meeting with Godfather later." The waiter patted Nathan's back before he returned to the banquet hall.

With little option, Nathan reluctantly accepted the offer. Returning to the banquet hall was not an option because he feared losing control over his emotions. He needed to avoid seeing Jane and Tatsumi together; otherwise, he would find himself submerged in a sea of jealousy.

[At the Private Room...]

Meanwhile, Nathan wasn't the only guy unsettled by the revelation of Jane and Tatsumi's engagement. Vincent, too, harbored discontent over this unexpected development. The news of Godfather selecting someone from his own clan as Jane's spouse caught him off guard.

Vincent's appetite waned, and he abstained from touching his food. A somber expression etched across his face, he shifted his focus to consuming more wine.

Speed, Jack, and Alexander observed the shifts in Vincent's demeanor. The atmosphere within the room grew increasingly awkward and tense.

"My King... is there something wrong?" Speed tried to ask Vincent.

However, Vincent responded with nothing but a cold, piercing stare, disregarding her inquiry. Speed found herself compelled to remain silent, shutting her mouth in response. She redirected her attention toward Jack, attempting to initiate a conversation. However, it became apparent that the three men in the room had no intention of engaging in dialogue with her.

'Sigh! This place is very suffocating. Can I just go out for a moment?' Speed lamented inwardly.

"Feeling disappointed?" Alexander finally broke his silence, engaging in a conversation with Vincent.

Vincent cast a perplexed glance at him. "Disappointed about what?"

"I can't inherit the leadership of the Sawada Clan. Tatsumi will assume the role after marrying Godfather's daughter, Jane," Alexander explained, gauging Vincent's reaction.

A deeper shadow crossed Vincent's face upon hearing this. "She won't marry him," he asserted with conviction.

Alexander raised an eyebrow in response to Vincent's statement. "Why? Is it because of Nathan?"

Vincent smirked and replied, "Not him. Because of me."

Alexander got confused by Vincent's remarks. 'What is he up to?'

Chapter 734 He Will Not Be A Hindrance

The banquet continued after Jane gave a short message to everyone. She didn't reject or deny the engagement announcement but she never mentioned anything about it. Both Mr. Hiroshi and Kazuki felt relieved because of Jane's acceptance.

A few minutes later, Jane and Tatsumi roamed around the banquet hall, greeting everyone and engaging in small talk. Everyone was happy to interact with the heiress. They assumed that Jane and Tatsumi were the future leaders of the Sawada Clan. They had high respect for the two.

Hanabi could only watch them on the sideline. "I don't know how she will deal with Tatsumi later. That guy will surely get rejected though, not in front of everyone." She shook her head helplessly, already feeling sorry for Tatsumi.

"I think Sis just played along with them so that Tatsumi could retain his reputation, not humiliate him." Hanabi softly mumbled as she moved to the corner. She was against this engagement announcement, however, this was Mr. Hiroshi's decision.

"Hey, Sis, you're finally here. How was your trip to Country M?" Han Yi greeted Hanabi.

"It's fine. I got to meet new friends. So, how's everything here? Anything unusual, Brother?" Hanabi inquired.

As one of the Branch Leaders, Han Yi had the responsibility of overseeing their clan's operations. "Everything is running smoothly. No major problems, just some small factions attempting to invade our territory and sabotage our operations," Han Yi provided her with updates.

"But I think... The Dragon Lord's presence tonight might change our status. Who knows if the two powerhouse organizations here in Country J will join forces?" he added, alluding to Alexander's presence.

Hanabi's expression shifted at the mention of the Dragon Lord. "Oh right. I should go, Bro. I'll check on our esteemed guests in the Special Room."

"Okay, Sis. Keep them entertained. Unfortunately, they're not allowed to join us here in the main hall," Han Yi informed her.

Hanabi simply nodded before leaving the banquet hall. She contemplated taking a glimpse of what the two mafia leaders were doing in the Special Room. 'What if they're up to something? I must keep my eyes on them.'

Meanwhile, Jane had just finished greeting everyone. She immediately talked to her father about their prior plan.

"Pa, I can't stay here for long. Did the Dragon Lord and the King show up? Where are they?" "Yes. They are here, being accommodated in one private room near the banquet hall. Do you want to see them already?" Mr. Hiroshi responded.

Jane bobbed her head. "I must meet them in private. Is it okay for me to leave the Banquet Hall for a moment?"

"Sure, dear. Do you want me to accompany you?" Mr. Hiroshi consulted her.

"No, Pa. You can stay here and be with our guests and fellow members. But I can bring Tatsumi with me." Jane wanted to face those two men without her father's involvement. She had a different plan. But she hoped that her father would support her.

"Okay, Dear. I trust your judgment. I will let you deal with them yourself. If you need my assistance, just call me." After saying that, Mr. Hiroshi turned to Tatsumi. "Please accompany and guide my daughter to our special room. The two leaders are waiting for her."

"Copy, Sir. I'll escort her," Tatsumi obediently said, looking at Jane.

Jane and Tatsumi shared meaningful glances as they made their way to the Special Room. While navigating the corridors, Tatsumi's curiosity got the better of him, prompting him to inquire about Jane's feelings.

"My Lady, regarding this engagement... I understand it must be quite shocking news for you. Were you upset or offended by your father's decision? Has he consulted you, and how do you feel about all this?" Tatsumi's questions halted Jane in her tracks. When she met his gaze, she sensed Tatsumi's unease, his nervousness palpable.

Acknowledging Tatsumi's genuine concern, Jane sighed helplessly. She wished to have an honest conversation with him, but she hadn't anticipated Tatsumi confronting her so directly.

"Alright, let's find a quiet space to talk in private. I'll answer everything," Jane replied with a serious expression, prompting Tatsumi's uneasiness to intensify further, his heart racing.

"O-Okay," he stammered. Then he led the way, bringing Jane to an isolated place.

Jane must settle this with Tatsumi so that she would no longer worry about anything else before facing her two biggest enemies tonight.

Face to face with Jane, Tatsumi stood there in silence, waiting for her to speak up. His hands betrayed his nervousness, beads of sweat forming in his anxious anticipation.

"Tatsumi," Jane uttered his name in a solemn tone, intensifying the tension in the atmosphere.

Tatsumi could only bite his lower lip as he raised his head to meet her gaze. He almost held his breath.

"You're a great guy, and you are worthy to lead our clan," she acknowledged Tatsumi's capability first. "I can rely on you, and I trust you. But..."

Tatsumi's heartbeat quickened even further at the sound of the "but."

'Oh no. This is it. I have a bad feeling about this. Why do I feel like I will be rejected?' He had an ominous premonition.

"I like you," Jane mumbled, causing Tatsumi's world to momentarily slow down.

Tatsumi: "..."

'What did she just say? She likes me? For real?' Tatsumi froze as if his heart also stopped beating for a moment because of utter shock, her mind trying to process and absorb her words.

"As a brother..." Jane continued her words.

Tatsumi: "???"

"I'm sorry, Tatsumi. But I love another guy, and I want to be with him. However, my father is against our relationship for now due to some misunderstanding. My father didn't consult me about this engagement. But I can't object in front of everyone because of you," Jane candidly expressed her true thoughts and feelings.

Jane moved closer to Tatsumi, holding his shoulders. She could see that Tatsumi was having a hard time processing her every word but he must face the truth.

"I hope you will understand me. I don't want to hurt your feelings. But I must tell you the truth. Nathan Sparks... he is the man I love. My feelings for him will never change... even if I die."

Tatsumi blinked several times. As Jane's words sank in, he felt a heavy weight settle in the pit of his stomach. The air around him seemed to thicken, and the once vibrant atmosphere dimmed. A mixture of disbelief and disappointment clouded his features as he grappled with the reality of the rejection.

'My hope has just been shattered... not only my hope... but also my heart. Who would have thought that rejection from the woman I like could be this fatal?' The revelation that Jane loved another and desired to be with someone else echoed in his mind, causing a sharp pang in his chest. The world, once filled with possibilities, now appeared to crumble around him. Tatsumi's heart, which had raced with anticipation, now echoed the somber rhythm of rejection.

"I know..." were the initial words he managed to utter. "When I heard about the announcement of our engagement, I thought it would be too good to be true. And I was right," Tatsumi said, wearing a bitter-sweet smile.

"I thought I was dreaming, and yet, you just woke me up from that beautiful dream, my Lady. However... just like what I said to you before. I will always be on your side. My loyalty is now with you... So I understand and I respect your decision."

"I will not be a hindrance to your great love story..." he swore solemnly as he conceded.

Chapter 735 Unmasking

"I will not be a hindrance to your great love story..." he swore solemnly as he conceded.

Jane was taken aback as Tatsumi wholeheartedly embraced this truth. His sincerity was evident in the way he looked at her while speaking those words. He even smiled at her faintly.

"I'll play the part of your fake boyfriend for a while as you mend the misunderstanding between your father and Nathan," Tatsumi volunteered, scratching his face. He even blushed at the notion of being Jane's boyfriend, even if it was just for show.

Jane: "..."

'Is he a masochist?' She thought to herself.

"I don't mind it at all," Tatsumi added, his cheerfulness returning as if he hadn't faced rejection earlier.

Jane let out a soft giggle and said, "Thank you. I appreciate that. It will be a great help to prevent my father from doing something to separate me from Nathan. At least, he will think that I'm an obedient daughter."

Tatsumi burst into a peal of laughter. "My Lady, I know how stubborn you are. You are very clever."

"So are we good now? No hurt feelings?" Jane sought affirmation, assessing Tatsumi's feelings.

Tatsumi bobbed his head frantically. "Of course, my Lady! I'm good as long as we stay friends. I will also serve you. I'm always at your disposal."

Hearing Tatsumi's willingness to be of service and support whenever called upon made Jane feel grateful toward him. "At least, let me give you a hug." Jane embraced Tatsumi to express her gratitude.

Tatsumi swooned when Jane's arms wrapped around his body. It was just a friendly hug but his heart kept beating so fast. "Thank you, my Lady. It's my honor." Tatsumi savored the moment because this opportunity won't last.

"Now, we should make a move. Our targets are waiting for us. Let's confront them," Jane said, breaking the hug.

"Okay, my Lady. Let's go and meet them."

Tatsumi and Jane made their way to the special room. Meanwhile, in the private room set aside for the two mafia leaders, Alexander experienced surprise when a familiar face appeared – none other than Hanabi. Alexander and Hanabi locked eyes for a prolonged moment.

"Gentlemen, are you enjoying your meal?" She asked them, greeting them.

"I'm a lady!" Speed butted in. Hanabi raised her eyebrow when she recognized Speed. She was the one who disguised as a nurse in the hospital, chasing after Tatsumi. 'I know her. She's a member of the King Stallion Mafia. So the man sitting next to her might be the King, their leader.'

Speed and Hanabi exchanged intense glares, casting a palpable tension into the atmosphere.

"You nearly killed Tatsumi back in Country R," Hanabi blurted out bluntly, not holding back as she confronted Speed. "You even followed him to Country M."

Speed sneered in response and retorted, "Of course. It's my duty to do so. Your comrade attacked our headquarters, searching for our King. But don't worry, we didn't come here to fight. We are here to negotiate with your clan leader."

Before Hanabi could say a word, two figures entered the room, catching everyone's attention.

"My father is busy. I am representing him," Jane's voice reverberated from the entrance door.

Jane's sudden arrival caught both Alexander and Vincent off guard. They never anticipated that she would be the one engaging in conversation with them tonight. Standing behind Jane was Tatsumi.

"Hola!" Tatsumi greeted them informally as he raised his hand. He even acknowledged Hanabi's presence, motioning for her to join them.

Hanabi gracefully stepped back, positioning herself closer to Jane and Tatsumi. The trio now confronted the four representatives from the King Stallion Mafia and the Red Dragon Mafia.

"My lady, this way," Tatsumi said, extending a courteous gesture as he guided Jane to the opposite side. With a smooth motion, he pulled out a chair for her, ensuring her comfort. The atmosphere buzzed with a mix of formality and tension as the two parties prepared to engage in negotiations.

Vincent and Alexander shared meaningful glances, silently communicating with each other. Vincent then redirected his gaze toward Jane, fixing a steady and intent stare on her, a subtle curve forming on the corner of his lips.

"It's my pleasure to meet you, Miss Jane. I'm King, the leader of King Stallion Mafia," Vincent spoke up, offering a courteous handshake by extending his right hand toward Jane.

However, Jane found herself staring at his palm, her mind flooded with memories of their past encounters. A wave of discomfort churned in her stomach as she recalled the unsettling moments with Vincent. Unable to shake off the feeling of disgust, she hesitated and chose not to accept his outstretched hand.

Jane's reaction didn't escape Vincent's keen observation. Disappointment flickered in his eyes as Jane deliberately chose to ignore his extended hand. Realizing the subtle rejection, Vincent promptly retracted his hand, concealing any embarrassment with a subtle, tight-lipped smile. The moment, though brief, added a layer of tension to the atmosphere, making it clear that the dynamics between Jane and the guests were far from amicable.

Meanwhile, Hanabi and Tatsumi exchanged knowing smiles, recognizing that Jane wouldn't be particularly approachable toward their guests.

"So since you are here, could you enlighten us, Miss Jane? What prompted Godfather to extend this invitation, and what is our agenda for tonight?" Alexander joined the conversation, his eyes brimming with curiosity.

"Hmm. Allow me to pose a question to both of you. Is forming an alliance with our clan a genuine desire of yours?" Jane inquired, a subtle smile gracing her face.

"Absolutely. That's precisely what I desire. With the combined strength of our forces, we can assert dominance in the underground world," Alexander replied promptly, expressing his enthusiasm for the proposed alliance.

"How about you, King?" Jane redirected the question to Vincent.

"I also love the idea of working with you," Vincent responded confidently, his eyes never left Jane's face.

Jane's lips curled up, staring at both men meaningfully. "Then show me your sincerity. Remove your masks and reveal your identity to me," she ordered them with her authoritative voice.

Both men fell into a contemplative silence, unaware that Jane had already discerned their identities. Jane saw this as an opportunity to test Vincent.

'Is he willing to reveal his true face, or is he concealing it behind another mask?' Jane pondered to herself.

Alexander, sensing no need for secrecy as Hanabi already knew his identity, was the first to unmask, revealing his face. In contrast, Vincent maintained his composed demeanor, seated without any intention of unveiling his features.

"Are you hesitant to reveal yourself, King?" Jane challenged him once again, wearing a taunting smile as she sought to provoke a response.

Meeting her gaze, Vincent slowly raised his hand. He reached for the edges of his mask, pulling it away from his face. As the mask separated from his features, his countenance was revealed—confident and enigmatic.

Jane was rendered speechless when Vincent revealed his true face. He went there as Vincent, not using another identity.

'He... reveals himself.' Jane murmured in disbelief.

Jane and Vincent locked eyes for a few lingering moments, an undercurrent of tension swirling between them.

"Miss Jane, I'm demonstrating my sincerity," Vincent mumbled with meaningful intent, a subtle gleam reflecting in his eyes.

Chapter 736 Your Child Is Alive

As Vincent finally revealed himself, a surge of intense emotions overwhelmed Jane. The deep-seated resentment she harbored against this man, the source of her past suffering, ignited within her. Almost instinctively, Jane's hand reached for the knife on the table.

The room fell into an alarmed hush as Jane rose from her seat, approaching Vincent with determination. She gripped his collar tightly and held the knife against his neck.

"Stay away from my King!" Speed moved to intervene, but Hanabi swiftly stepped in, capturing Speed from behind. Meanwhile, Jack, sensing the rising tension, pulled Alexander to a corner, shielding him with his body. Tatsumi positioned himself beside Jane, keeping a watchful eye on Jack. The room crackled with an escalating sense of danger.

"Should I protect and save him? Just give me the word," Jack whispered to Alexander.

"No, stay put," Alexander firmly instructed as they observed the unfolding scene.

Vincent, however, remained surprisingly composed under the threat of the knife pointed at his neck. Unfazed, he looked into Jane's eyes.

"Have you recovered your memories?" Vincent inquired, sensing Jane's palpable anger and disgust.

Jane's body tensed at Vincent's question, a confirmation that her forgotten memories were resurfacing.

"I want to kill you," she muttered through gritted teeth.

"You can't kill me. If you do, you won't see your child again. Your child is alive," Vincent declared, dropping a bombshell revelation that left Jane in disbelief.

"W-What did you just say?" Jane asked, stunned.

"I'm the father of your child. And I saved our child," Vincent revealed, shattering the silence that had settled in the room.

Alexander: "..."

Tatsumi: "..."

Hanabi: "..."

Speed and Jack: "..."

The revelation that Vincent and Jane had a child sent shockwaves through the room. Each person present grappled with the same question: 'They have a child?'

Jane found herself caught in a whirlwind of conflicting emotions. The gravity of Vincent's words left her uncertain about how to respond.

"You're lying," Jane uttered in denial, her grip on Vincent's collar loosening.

Vincent gently touched the hand that held the knife. "I'm telling the truth. I can prove it to you when you see her."

Before they could fully absorb Vincent's shocking revelation, another unexpected figure entered the room. A man in a waiter's uniform, holding a tray of food, witnessed the intense scene. Recognition flashed in his eyes as he first spotted Jane and then the man standing in front of her—Vincent.

'What are they doing here?' Nathan wondered as he noticed Alexander's presence. His protective instincts kicked in, and without a second thought, Nathan rushed forward. The tray crashed to the floor as he threw a punch, connecting with Vincent's jaw.

Thud!

Jane's focus returned when she saw the man she never expected to show up in that place.

"Nate? What are you doing here?" Jane inquired, her eyes widening in both shock and disbelief.

Instead of responding, Nathan seized her hand, pulling her to his side. "Just say the word and I'll kill this guy for you."

Vincent and Nathan exchanged intense glares, both displeased to find themselves in the same place.

"No. Stop, Nate. You are not supposed to be here." Jane suddenly grew worried about her father encountering Nathan. He might do something impulsive.

Without a second thought, Jane hurriedly led Nathan out of the room. Vincent watched their retreating figures with clenched fists. Once the two disappeared from view, Hanabi and Tatsumi also left the room.

"I told you! This is a waste of time!" Speed complained. "They disrespected you, my King! We should leave now."

Vincent rubbed his jaw, still feeling the impact of Nathan's fist. He showed no intention of leaving.

"Is it true? You and Jane have a child?" Alexander raised the question, curious about the history between the two.

"Do you think I would lie about that?" Vincent responded nonchalantly, and Speed and Jack silently observed their bosses, both surprised by Vincent's revelation.

"So what are we going to do now? It seems that the Godfather's daughter has no interest in negotiating with us. She just left together with the waiter." Speed sighed deeply. She was the only one who didn't recognize Nathan Sparks.

"Let's wait for the Godfather to come," Alexander suggested. "For now, we should inform someone to clean the mess." He turned around to leave.

"My Lord, where are you going?" Jack asked, trying to stop him.

"Just stay with them and keep him safe," Alexander ordered Jack as he pointed his finger at Vincent. "I'll just talk to someone."

He didn't wait for Jack to respond. He just stepped out of the room with a goal in mind. He wanted to follow Hanabi and talk to her.

Meanwhile, Jane brought Nathan to the Branch Leader's office. She locked the door, ensuring that no one would disrupt them.

"Nate, why are you here?" Jane asked him, holding his shoulders.

"I should be the one asking you. Why did you meet Vincent and the Dragon Lord? You never mentioned this to me." Nathan's voice carried a trace of jealousy.

"Does your father want to join hands with them? I don't know how long I will be able to endure this. Your engagement announcement is already bothering me so much." Nathan vented out his frustration. The tension in the room was palpable as unspoken emotions hung in the air.

Aside from jealousy, Jane could see Nathan's distress and anxiety. To comfort him, Jane immediately engulfed him in her warm embrace.

"I'm sorry, Nate. You have to hear and witness those scenes." Jane hugged him tightly, expressing her feelings.

"No matter what happens... I'll always choose you, Nate. I won't marry anyone. Trust me. Okay?" Jane's words brought a sense of relief to Nathan's troubled heart.

"Don't be upset. I have to confront Vincent and Alexander. I didn't mention this because I knew you would react this way," she apologized once again.

"There's something I need to check with Vincent. He told me—" Jane abruptly paused, a hint of worry crossing her face as she recalled Vincent's last remarks. She glanced at Nathan, unsure of how to tell him about Vincent's revelation regarding her child.

"What did he say?" Nathan urged her to continue. He saw the changes in Jane's expression when Vincent's name was mentioned.

'I can't tell him unless I'm certain about it. I don't want to add more troubles in his mind,' Jane thought to herself.

"Let's talk somewhere. First... we need to get out of here. You don't want my father to see you here, right?"

Nathan hesitated for a moment. After careful consideration, he bobbed his head. "Is it okay for you to leave without saying goodbye to your father?"

"Don't worry. I'll let Hanabi and Tatsumi handle this." Jane reassured him.

Without wasting any more time, Jane guided him to the exit. Tatsumi was already waiting for them. Tatsumi and Nathan locked eyes for a few seconds.

"I'll accompany you so that our Godfather won't suspect anything," Tatsumi explained to the couple. He already anticipated that Jane would need his help.

Jane smiled at him gratefully. "Thanks. I truly appreciate this."

Tatsumi ignored Nathan's cold glare as he smiled back at Jane. "I'll bring you to my place."

Chapter 737 Love At First Sight

[At the Banquet Hall...]

Hanabi secretly approached Mr. Hiroshi. Jane had already texted her about the situation. She needed to leave the headquarters together with Nathan behind Mr. Hiroshi's back.

"Godfather, I want to inform you that Jane and Tatsumi left together." When in front of the whole clan, Hanabi was obliged to call Mr. Hiroshi 'Godfather', instead of 'Uncle'.

"Huh? What happened to her meeting with the Dragon Lord and the King?" Mr. Hiroshi was skeptical, considering that it hadn't been long since Jane left to meet them.

"She's feeling sick so Tatsumi decided to bring her to his place. I think I should send off our visitors." Hanabi's goal was to prevent Mr. Hiroshi from finding out that Nathan showed up and what happened inside the private room. Who knows Alexander and Vincent might tell him regarding Nathan's presence.

"It's fine. I will meet them." Mr. Hiroshi stood up as he excused himself from his branch leaders.

Hanabi cursed inwardly, biting her lips. 'Damn. How can I stop him from seeing those two? I shouldn't have approached him in the first place.' She started to regret it.

"Godfather. No worries. You can just stay here. I'll talk to them on Jane's behalf." Hanabi tried her best to stop him.

"I can't ignore their presence. They might be expecting me. I'll go and meet them." Mr. Hiroshi was firm with his decision. If she continued to resist then Mr. Hiroshi might suspect something. She had no choice but to follow him.

They just got out of the banquet hall when they ran into Alexander. He immediately greeted Mr. Hiroshi, expressing his respect and politeness toward the leader of the Sawada Clan.

"Good evening, Godfather. I am pleased to see you here."

Mr. Hiroshi raised his eyebrow. "Why are you wandering around? You are not allowed here. You are supposed to stay in the private room."

"I apologize. I'm here to see your subordinate." Alexander shifted his gaze from Mr. Hiroshi to Hanabi.

Hanabi scowled at him, giving him a questioning look. 'What is he up to?'

"Why?" Mr. Hiroshi inquired curiously.

"It's something personal," Alexander responded promptly.

Mr. Hiroshi rubbed his chin. "Oh. I thought you came here to see me. Did I misunderstand your motive?"

"No. You didn't misunderstand me. I am still hoping for our alliance. But it seems that I have to get your daughter's approval first before we can form an alliance. This is the reason why I have to talk to your subordinate here." Alexander was referring to Hanabi.

"Okay. I'll allow you to discuss some things with Hanabi. How about the leader of the King Stallion Mafia? Where is he?"

"He stays behind, also wishing to meet you."

"Fine. I'm going to meet him. You and Hanabi can talk somewhere." Mr. Hiroshi motioned for Hanabi to bring Alexander to a place where they could talk privately.

Hanabi hesitated for a moment. 'If I go with Alexander, I can't hear nor witness the conversation between the King and our Godfather. How will I make sure that Nathan's presence will not be brought up?'

Hanabi was still contemplating when suddenly, Alexander pulled her hand. "Let's go!" He dragged her, not allowing her to say no.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hiroshi proceeded to the room where Vincent was waiting.

"Finally, I've met you, Godfather. I feel honored. I'm the leader of King Stallion Mafia, also known as the King," Vincent extended his right hand in front of Mr. Hiroshi. The old man accepted the handshake.

"Likewise. You're quite mysterious. I didn't anticipate that you would unveil your identity to us tonight," Mr. Hiroshi remarked, engaging in conversation with Vincent, who had removed his mask.

Vincent just let out a soft chuckle. His smile mirrored his confidence. He wasn't intimidated by Mr. Hiroshi's presence at all.

"Can you both excuse us? I need to talk to Godfather alone," Vincent ordered Speed and Jack to leave the room. The two could only obey his command so they both left the room instantly.

The two men settled down as they sat on their respective seats, facing each other.

"What do you want to discuss with me?" Mr. Hiroshi asked Vincent directly.

"I'll be straightforward and not beat around the bush. I want to marry your daughter, Jane," Vincent boldly declared to Mr. Hiroshi.

Mr. Hiroshi: "..."

Mr. Hiroshi was rendered speechless by Vincent's unexpected proposal.

"Once I marry her, King Stallion Mafia will be yours. I will also help you in bringing down Syphiruz Mafia." Vincent added, still trying to convince Mr. Hiroshi.

Mr. Hiroshi burst into a sarcastic laugh. "You are too ambitious. Do you think I will just let my daughter marry a stranger? I can destroy the Syphiruz using my own power. Don't make me laugh, kid."

But Vincent didn't feel disheartened by Mr. Hiroshi's words. He remained composed and confident.

"If that's the case... then I must give you a more valid reason for me to marry your daughter."

The crease on Mr. Hiroshi's forehead deepened further. He wondered where this guy's confidence was coming from. He was as arrogant as Nathan Sparks. "Tell me."

"I met her six years ago. I'm the father of your daughter's child. Jane and I have a child." Vincent declared matter-of-factly. His gaze never left Mr. Hiroshi's eyes as he said that shocking revelation.

Mr. Hiroshi's jaw dropped, completely at a loss for words. How could that be possible?

"I have proof. I can bring to you your grandchild. You can confirm her identity. But on one condition, I should marry your daughter. I like her. I'll protect her with my life." Vincent was so determined to convince Mr. Hiroshi.

"A-Are you telling the truth?" Mr. Hiroshi found it so hard to believe.

Vincent nodded his head. "Just like what I said... you can confirm it once you see your grandchild. There are lots of ways to prove that she is mine and Jane's daughter."

"Have you told Jane about this? It's quite surprising that she never mentioned having a child. Did you keep them apart?" Mr. Hiroshi couldn't fully trust Vincent and had numerous doubts lingering in his mind.

"I apologize but it's a long story. I only revealed it to her a short while ago. She was taken aback."

'Is this the reason why Jane abruptly left with Tatsumi?' Mr. Hiroshi mused to himself.

"Fine! Bring that child to me! I'll find out if you are telling the truth." Mr. Hiroshi commanded him in his authoritative voice.

"Absolutely. I'll bring her to you. I'll dispatch someone to fetch her. She's currently in Country M." Vincent didn't hesitate, deeming this the opportune moment to play his trump card – Mia.

'I can't let Jane marry someone. And I don't want Nathan to win.' Vincent was hell-bent on stealing Jane away from Nathan.

"I am willing to listen to your story. I wanna know how you met my daughter." Mr. Hiroshi suddenly showed interest in Vincent. He wanted to know their story.

Chapter 738 Drinking Competition

"What do you want from me?" Hanabi snarled at Alexander. The two went out instead of staying in the headquarters. Alexander preferred to talk to her in a place far away from the members of the Sawada Clan and Vincent.

"Do you know anything about the relationship between Phantomflake and the leader of the King Stallion Mafia? Do they really have a child?" Alexander couldn't hide his lingering doubts. "If he is in love with Monica, how did he get involved with Phantomflake?"

Hanabi shrugged her shoulders. "How am I supposed to know? You should ask Vincent yourself."

"So are you worried that Vincent was cheating on Monica? Do you still want to protect her despite everything she has done wrong against you? Are you doubting us?" Hanabi asked him exasperatedly. Just the thought of Alexander worrying about Monica made her enraged.

Realizing Hanabi's annoyance, Alexander immediately shook his head. "No. I am just curious. I'm not doubting you. I learned the truth thanks to you."

"Good! You should wake up and stop being a fool." Hanabi felt glad since Alexander believed her words.

"I already pulled out my men. We won't interfere. This is no longer our fight. I will not help the King Stallion Mafia but I can't break our alliance that easily." Alexander informed Hanabi. He felt the obligation to tell her this information.

"Hmm. I'm happy to hear that. So, why did you bring me here?" Hanabi's eyes scanned her surroundings. They were currently inside a bar. He chose a private booth wherein they could both settle in and drink.

"I just want to unwind and enjoy drinks. But I didn't bring my wallet so... I guess you have to pay for my bills. I promise I'll pay you back once I return to my place," Alexander replied in his casual tone.

"SERIOUSLY?" Hanabi exclaimed in disbelief. She wanted to punch this guy. "What do you think of me? Your treasurer and financial officer?!"

Alexander's brow twitched when he heard her complaint. "I told you. I'm going to pay you. Just cooperate with me, okay? I'm not in the mood to argue with you."

After saying that, Alexander pressed the buzz button indicating he was ready to order. It did not take long before a waiter entered the booth. Alexander ordered beers.

"How about you? Order your drinks. It's on me."

"It's on me your ass! I'm the one going to pay the bills," she retorted.

"Are you deaf? I said I'm going to pay you once I return to my place." With a deep furrow on her forehead, Hanabi contemplated a suitable way to teach this guy a lesson. "Fine. You'll owe me for this!" She proceeded to order an abundance of snacks and drinks, sparing no expense. Her selections included the most lavish wine and whiskey available.

Alexander just watched her in amusement. 'This woman is always seeking a fight with me. Is she going to taste all the expensive drinks in this bar?' He was amazed to see that Hanabi ordered several types of wine and whiskey— the most expensive ones.

A few minutes later, their table was filled with assorted types of beers, whiskey, and wine.

"Are you seriously intending to consume all of this?" Alexander questioned her incredulously.

"Nope. We can take some home," Hanabi casually replied as she uncorked a bottle of red wine.

The two started their drinking session peacefully. Surprisingly, Hanabi was quite cooperative with Alexander tonight. "Do you want to do some experiment?" Hanabi broke her silence as she engaged in a conversation with Alexander.

"What kind of experiment?" Alexander asked, knitting his eyebrows.

Hanabi grinned mischievously and said, "Let's try and mix some drinks. Taste them. We should compete. The first one to get drunk and vomit will be the loser!" She felt bored drinking silently so she challenged him.

Alexander fell silent for a moment, contemplating whether to accept her challenge or not. A short while later, Alexander offered her his empty glass. "Sure. Let's do this. A loser will have to serve the winner for three days. In short, you will be my servant and you have to obey all my commands. That's my deal." He smirked at the thought of Hanabi serving him as a servant.

"Sure. That's also my condition." Hanabi didn't back down. Besides, she was confident that she would win this. She grabbed one bottle of beer and one bottle of whiskey. She started to mix those two, pouring the exact amount of liquid into their respective glasses.

They started to drink the mixed beer and whiskey. Though the taste was awful, Hanabi maintained her neutral expression, the same with Alexander. He pretended to be enjoying the drinks. The two were in a competitive mood, not wanting to lose.

[At Tatsumi's Place...]

Jane, Nathan, and Tatsumi reached his residence. Since he lived alone, there was no issue bringing the couple there. Nathan's presence could remain discreet, and Tatsumi, despite harboring a sense of envy, opted to fulfill his promise to assist Jane.

"I'll just go out and buy some stuff. Feel free to make yourselves at home." Tatsumi wanted to avoid seeing the couple together because he couldn't easily get over his feelings towards Jane. It seemed wiser to keep a distance while the couple spent time together.

"Okay. Be careful." Jane felt so grateful to Tatsumi. He was very helpful tonight.

When Tatsumi left, Jane focused her attention on Nathan. She approached him, wrapping her arms around his waist. She gazed up, watching Nathan's charming face. "I'm surprised. But I'm so happy because you are here. I've missed you so much." Jane conveyed her feelings.

Nathan, on the other hand, extended his hand, gently cupping her face. "This is my surprise. I also granted your wish. You wished for me to be here, didn't you?" Nathan had finally composed himself. His jealousy dissipated the moment Jane embraced him tightly.

Jane couldn't help but release a soft giggle, rising on her tiptoes as she planted a tender kiss on his lips. The warmth of the moment enveloped them, a sweet exchange that spoke volumes.

"I miss you too," Nathan declared, lifting her chin as he sealed her lips in a long passionate kiss. He was no longer upset. He just felt so happy being with her.

The two were panting when they got separated. "Shall we go upstairs?" Jane didn't want Tatsumi to see their intimate moments for his own sake. She didn't want to cause more pain to his broken heart.

"You should also change your clothes. I'm getting used to seeing you in a waiter's uniform." Jane teased him.

Nathan just blinked several times in amusement. "Don't laugh at me. I did this so that I could see you."

"I know." Jane caressed Nathan's face. "That's why... I'm going to treat you well tonight." She even winked at him.

Nathan put on a cheeky smile when he heard that. He grabbed her by her waist, pulling her closer to him. "I'll look forward to that 'treatment'." He captured her lips once again before he drew back.

"Go! Take a quick shower first." Jane pushed his back as they ascended the stairs.

Though she was smiling in front of Nathan, she was still bothered by Vincent's revelation. His words continued to linger in her mind. ["Your child is alive."]

["I'm the father of your child. And I saved our child.]

Chapter 739 Let's Make A Baby

Nathan stood beneath the steady stream of warm water, letting it cascade over his shoulders and down his back, easing the tension from his muscles. He looked at his right fist as a small curve formed on the

corner of his lips. The sound of the shower filled the bathroom, a comforting white noise that enveloped him in tranquility.

'It feels satisfying, punching him...' Nathan thought to himself.

Just as he closed his eyes to enjoy the moment, he heard the bathroom door swing open, and before he could react, Jane stepped inside. Her silhouette was blurred through the frosted glass, but he recognized her instantly.

"Nate, mind if I join you?" Her voice held a mischievous tone, and Nathan couldn't help but chuckle at her sudden intrusion.

"Sure, come on in," he replied, trying to mask his surprise. The idea of Jane joining him in the shower was unexpected but undeniably appealing.

With a wide grin, Jane stepped closer, her figure slowly coming into focus through the steam-filled air. Nathan felt a rush of anticipation as she stepped beneath the spray of water, her gaze locking with his.

The sensation of her warm skin against his sent a shiver down Nathan's spine as they stood together beneath the cascading water. Both of them were naked.

"Are you seducing me again?" Nathan asked her teasingly, his eyes gleaming with desire. He couldn't help it. Jane's nakedness was exposed to him and all he wanted to do was touch and explore every part of her body.

"It was you who tempted me to come here. You took your clothes off in front of me. I can't resist you," Jane said seductively, her palms caressing his sturdy chest.

Nathan enjoyed her warm touch. He moved closer to her, trapping her in between the cold wall and his body.

He leaned over and whispered in her ear sensually, "What are we going to do now? Something is awakened down there. Do you feel it?"

Nathan deliberately pressed his arousal against her belly. Jane felt his hardness, its tip resting on her navel.

"Yeah. I know. I have to tame it," Jane responded with a wink. Nathan let out another chuckle.

Reflexively, Jane's hands moved down to capture his cock. She started rubbing it, her palms moving upward and downward.

Nathan placed his hands on the sides of her head, his palm resting on the walls. His breath hitched as Jane's touch sent waves of pleasure coursing through his body. The sensation was electrifying, igniting a fire within him that burned hotter with each passing moment.

With a playful smile, Jane continued to stroke him, her movements slow and deliberate, teasing him with every caress. Nathan's grip tightened on the walls, his knuckles turning white as he struggled to maintain control.

Unable to resist any longer, Nathan leaned in, capturing Jane's lips in a passionate kiss. Their tongues danced together in a fervent tango, their bodies pressed flush against each other in a desperate embrace.

As their kiss deepened, Nathan's hands roamed freely over Jane's soft curves, exploring every inch of her with a hunger that bordered on desperation. Jane responded in kind, her palms continued rubbing and massaging his shaft, leaving a trail of tingling sensation in their wake.

In response to her, Nathan brought his hand southward, his fingers touching her nether region. She gasped in between their kisses when she felt his fingers sliding up and down her slit.

As Nathan's fingers traced the outline of Jane's most intimate place, a shiver ran down her spine, eliciting a soft gasp from her lips. The sensation of his touch sent sparks of pleasure coursing through her body.

With each gentle stroke, his fingers danced across her folds, exploring every contour and curve with tender precision. Jane's breath quickened as she felt him tease her entrance, teasingly circling her clit with his thumb while slowly inching his middle finger inside her.

A low moan escaped her lips as Nathan's finger delved deeper, filling her with a delicious fullness that left her craving more. Her body arched instinctively against his touch, a silent plea for him to continue, to take her to the heights of pleasure she so desperately craved.

Nathan's movements were steady and deliberate, his touch sending waves of ecstasy crashing over her in relentless waves. With each thrust of his finger, Jane felt herself spiraling closer and closer to the edge, her senses ablaze with the heady rush of arousal that threatened to consume her entirely.

Jane stopped playing with his cock as she anchored her hands around Nathan's neck for support. "Nate, I... can no longer take this. I want you. Fill me now with your cock... come inside me."

"Let's make a baby," Jane added in a whisper.

Her seductive words lingered in the air, further stoking the flames of Nathan's desire. With a hunger in his eyes, he seized his throbbing length, the anticipation of plunging into her depths evident in the intensity of his gaze. The room was filled with an electric charge, the air thick with the promise of passion.

In a bold move, Nathan took charge, his hands working in tandem. Guiding the velvet-soft tip of his arousal to the entrance of her pussy, he couldn't help but marvel at the slickness that signaled her readiness. The mere thought of making a baby with her sent a shiver down his spine, and he relished the anticipation of what was to come.

His other hand moved with purpose, lifting one of her legs and wrapping it around his waist. The connection between them deepened as he felt her skin against his, the heat and urgency fueling their shared desire. The room seemed to fade away as Nathan, overcome by the magnetic pull between them, thrust forward, entering her with a powerful and deliberate motion.

A symphony of moans filled the space as their bodies synchronized in a dance of passion. Nathan's movements were primal, each thrust a testament to the unspoken connection that bound them

together. Jane matched the intensity of his thrust as she also moved her hips to meet his, going deeper and harder.

Lost in their shared passion, Nathan and Jane moved as one, their bodies moving in perfect harmony as they sought to quench the burning desire that consumed them both.

Chapter 740 Unexpected Kiss

After an hour, Hanabi started to feel tipsy. Alexander, on the other hand, could still hold his liquor. Both of them continued drinking.

Hanabi became talkative as time went by while Alexander listened to her rant. "I can't understand why someone can still continue to love the person who hurt her... just like my sis Jane. I can't understand why people become stupid because of love... just like you." "I'm a bit insulted. I'm not stupid," Alexander retorted, trying to defend himself.

But Hanabi giggled as she mocked him. "You allowed yourself to be deceived by that bitch. Such a weakling."

Alexander pursed his lips, getting annoyed. "Why? Haven't you ever fallen in love?"

Hanabi burst out laughing again. "I don't have to. I don't need a man!"

"That's the reason you will never understand us. You will just know once you experience love," Alexander said meaningfully.

"Let's stop drinking. You are already drunk." Alexander snatched her glass, stopping her from drinking further.

"It's clear that you lose to me this time," he added.

But Hanabi shook her head vehemently. "I'm not drunk yet. We have to finish this!" she insisted.

Alexander could only watch her helplessly. "Don't regret it. I've warned you already."

Alexander handed her glass back. He just silently watched her, checking how long she could go on before passing out. Hanabi spoke again. This time she began talking about Tatsumi.

"I wonder what he is feeling right now. Is he suffering from a broken heart? He has been looking forward to this engagement. He likes my sis very much. However, she likes someone else. He might also be shocked when he heard Vincent's revelation."

"Who are you talking about?" Alexander asked with a deep frown on his face. "Are you worried about this guy? Do you like him?"

Hanabi let out another chuckle. "Don't get me wrong. I don't like him. He is my worst rival. But being his comrade, I'm worried about him a little. He is the dumbest guy I know. And the most stubborn one. I'm referring to Tatsumi..."

Alexander fell silent for a moment. He knew Tatsumi... Jane's fiancé. He understood now since he was aware that Jane liked Nathan Sparks. "Stop talking about other people. Why don't you talk about yourself? Tell me more." Alexander had enough. He didn't want to hear anything more related to Jane, Nathan, Tatsumi, and Vincent.

Part of him wanted to get to know more about this annoying woman in front of him. Alexander believed that he couldn't talk to her like this once she sobered up. He wanted to seize this opportunity. This fierce woman piqued his interest. He couldn't explain why.

"Nothing is interesting about me. What do you want to know? I'm just a simple person who dedicates my life to serving the Sawada Clan and protecting Jane. She's like a sister to me." Her eyes gleamed whenever she spoke about Jane.

"Is it true? Haven't you fallen in love yet?" Alexander asked her again out of curiosity. "No. I don't believe in that. I am an independent woman. I'll never rely on a man," she replied with conviction.

"Hmm. I guess you like women more. Maybe you want Jane for yourself. Are you bi or gay?" he presumed. "Or perhaps... you are a man-hater."

Thud!

Hanabi smacked Alexander's forehead.

"Argh!" Alexander groaned, rubbing his forehead. No one had ever tried smacking his forehead before. This woman was truly violent toward him.

"Hmm. I didn't realize that. Should I try dating a woman?" Hanabi didn't argue with him. She just played along with his assumption.

She giggled once again and emptied her wine glass. She kept on drinking.

Meanwhile, Alexander stared at her intently. "Do you want me to find out your real preference?"
"How?"

"Let a guy kiss you. Check out if you won't like a man kissing you. Then women might be your preference," Alexander suggested.

When she heard that, Hanabi stopped drinking. She placed her glass on the table as she gazed at him.

She didn't know what had gotten into her. But in her drunken state, she rose from her seat and sat down next to Alexander.

Alexander, on the other hand, watched her in confusion. "What? Do you feel offended again?"

Hanabi shook her head, flashing a wide grin.

"Why are you smiling like a fool?" Alexander asked, lifting his eyebrow.

However, instead of answering him, Hanabi leaned closer to him, cupping his face using both hands.

Caught off guard by the unexpected turn of events, Alexander found himself in a moment he hadn't anticipated. Hanabi, with a sudden burst of boldness, closed the distance between them, sealing their connection with a surprising kiss. The warmth of her lips against his was both startling and intriguing.

In that surprising instant, Alexander sat there with wide-eyed surprise, the initial shock giving way to a subtle curiosity. Hanabi's lips moved against his, and as he reciprocated, he couldn't help but wonder if this bold move was, in fact, her first kiss. The way her lips danced, revealing a certain innocence in their rhythm, hinted at a lack of experience.

As Alexander closed his eyes, surrendering to the unexpected intimacy, he pondered the significance of this unexpected kiss. The unspoken tension between them added an air of mystery to the moment, leaving Alexander to navigate the uncharted territory of emotions and newfound connection.

In the haze of the moment, Alexander couldn't discern whether the sensation enveloping him was a result of the alcohol coursing through his veins or the unexpected fervor of Hanabi's kiss. The mingling flavors of wine and beer lingered on their lips as their kiss intensified.

As the seconds ticked by, Alexander found himself taking charge of the kiss. His initial surprise had given way to a newfound boldness, and he guided the rhythm of their passionate kiss. The taste of her lips, the subtle sweetness mixed with the lingering essence of alcohol, created a unique blend that seemed to intensify the connection between them.

Caught up in the intensity of their kiss, Alexander found himself fully engaged in the moment when, unexpectedly, Hanabi abruptly pushed him away with an urgency, breaking the kiss. Before he could utter a single word, Hanabi threw up in a sudden fit of nausea. Her vomit splattered across his chest and lap, leaving an awkward and unfortunate aftermath.

"What the fuck?" Alexander massaged his temples as Hanabi continued vomiting, soaking his clothes and pants.