

The Ace at the Apex

## Chapter 240 A Beautiful Night

Thanks to that event, everyone that night was smiling with glee.

Each one of them could guarantee that that was the most memorable night in their lives.

Just the 80,000 dollars worth of missiles were enough for them to witness a spectacular, beautiful view, yet a terrifying one at the same time. 1

'How much money could Javier possibly have to be able to spend 80,000 dollars on a whim?!

Luca then recalled how he had scorned Javier when they had first met. He was now being haunted by the way he had called Javier's G63 a piece of trash.

At the time, he had thought that he was awesome enough because he could drive a Ferrari. However, on that very night, more than 10 Ferraris had been launched into the sky.

'Javier and I really are in completely different leagues...

'I use my money to buy luxurious cars to show off, while Javier...spends his money to launch missiles as fireworks.

"The difference between us is... Sigh... There's just no contest.'

After a joyous night, the crowd dispersed and returned to Javier's extremely huge mansion.

There were so many people living there that one would feel panicked rather than being worried about the place being overcrowded. Carmen and Luca were in their bedroom when the former asked, "How big is this room? Over 2,000 square feet?" 1

The room they were in was about 1,000 feet in length and 2 feet in breadth. 1

Although the bedroom was not designed to be narrow, Lloyd was able to estimate that the room was more than 2,000 square feet, possibly even 3,000.

However, he was in no mood to admire the room he was in. Instead, he was more concerned about whether Carmen had been severely bruised by the rifle's recoil just now.

When he asked about this, Carmen said in embarrassment, "My skin is bruised already."

Lloyd felt so heartbroken for her that he immediately pushed her onto the bed and helped her soothe the bruise.

Meanwhile, there was no such romance taking place in Javier's bedroom.

Ciara had followed Javier into the bedroom, leaving Jade feeling so helpless that she decided to stay in the guestroom.

However, Javier pulled her back. "Stay here with me tonight, Jade."

Ciara pouted her lips. 'Since he wants Jade to stay, then that's my cue to leave.'

"Goodnight, Jade. Goodnight, Sh\*tty Brother..."

That term was more than enough to tell how unhappy Ciara was with Javier at that moment.

After spending the day with Ciara, Jade did not think that the girl was bad by nature. Not only had Ciara not shown how unworthy Jade was of Javier, but she'd even kept praising Jade for being very beautiful and capable of many things. In fact, Jade was left feeling embarrassed because of how much Ciara praised her.

Thus, Jade did feel some pity for Ciara when she saw the latter leaving with her lips pouted.

On a whim, Jade rushed forward and grabbed Ciara's hand.

"Ciara, I've heard from Javier that the two of you aren't biological siblings. I also know about your... relationship. So, you don't have to leave tonight. Stay here and join us, okay?"

Jade's face turned bright red the moment she said this.

It was only after she said it that she realized what she meant. 'How could I possibly say such an embarrassing thing?! I'm such a shameless woman!'

'Two women sleeping together with a man...Something's definitely going to happen tonight'

Just imagining the situation was enough to leave Jade feeling embarrassed.

In fact, the exact same embarrassing thought ran through Ciara's mind.

- She had not even expected Jade to know what had happened between her and Javier.

She had been very worried that this situation was going to be very difficult should Jade find out in the future and she didn't know whether she would be able to accept her presence after that. This was exactly why she had tried to be on her best behavior in front of Jade, hoping to gain her favor.

However, now that Jade had said that out loud, Ciara knew that she had obviously overthought things.

The fact of the matter was that Jade had already known about her and Javier long ago and she was willing to accept Ciara's presence.

She then grabbed Jade's hand, not knowing what she could say at that moment. "Sis..."

Rather than addressing Jade as her sister-in-law, Ciara was filled with emotions and gratitude for Jade, and she was now addressing her as though they were best friends.

Jade could sense that it was inappropriate for Ciara to call her Sis, which was why she said, "You should just call me Jade from now on. Let's be best friends forever."

Ciara, who was especially elated, hugged Jade. "Thank you. You're such a nice person!" –

1

Meanwhile, Javier completely ignored everything that was happening before him except for the fact that there were two beautiful women in front of him.

Thus, he charged over at them in a frenzy, not letting either of them go...

## **Chapter 241 Sometimes, Receiving Money Might Not Be a Joyous Thing**

When everything was over, Javier, who felt very refreshed, brought Jade and Ciara with him as they gathered with the others in the living room

After having breakfast, the group went to visit Zephiel.

After all, Zephiel was the eldest person on the island, so it was only certain that they should do so.

However, what they had not expected was that Zephiel would have envelopes with him.

"Here's a little something for each of you. Here's hoping that you all lead lucky and prosperous lives."

Zephiel was smiling away as he spoke to everyone. Meanwhile, his butler distributed the envelopes.

Luca took Zephiel's "a little something" literally when he felt that the envelope was very thin.

He then rubbed the envelope and could tell that it was just a single piece of paper. On top of that, he was very sure that it was not a cheque because cheques had specific dimensions. This envelope was so small that a cheque would have to be folded once in order to fit inside.

Fortunately, Luca did not seem to mind this and thought that he should be counting his lucky stars that he had been able to meet the eldest person of the Kersey Family. Thus, he did not mind whether or not he received an envelope.

Fortunately, there were many foreigners and famous people visiting Zephiel that day, so the crowd did not stay long. They all took their leave a moment later.

However, when they left, Luca just so happened to nudge Lloyd while they were walking next to one another.

Lloyd then turned around subconsciously and whispered to Luca, "Look over there. Don't you think that blonde man looks familiar?"

Following Lloyd's gaze, Luca looked over and cursed under his breath. 'D\*mn, what do you mean he looks familiar?! He's usually on the news! That's the president of Tolk! I didn't expect to see him come here to visit the old man!'

Luca was filled with disbelief when he saw a man so powerful that he could attack or sanction anyone he wanted.

While Luca was still in a daze, the blonde president turned around and met his gaze.

The president then smiled and bowed slightly before saying, "Hello there."

Luca was so embarrassed that he did not know what he should do. Hence, he decided to copy the president's movements and tone." Hello there."

The president then left with a smile and went back to visiting the old fox.

After leaving the house, Luca told Lloyd, "Hey, do you think I should send you all some money? The president literally just greeted

me!"

Lloyd nodded his head in all seriousness. "Sure! How about this? You go ahead and post on your social media when we head back, and I'm sure a whole lot of people will like your post."

Luca was overjoyed. "Great idea! But... I think I should just leave it be. After all, I'm not shameless enough to post something like this. I should leave that to Javier."

While the two of them were chatting away, Chad, who was next to them, suddenly shouted, "All hail the old man!"

Everyone cast their gazes over and noticed that Chad was holding onto a piece of paper with a QR code printed on it. Also, Chad had his cell phone in his right hand as he yelled out in surprise.

It was only then that Luca realized that the envelope contained a QR code.

He quickly opened his own envelope and scanned the code.

A moment later, he yelled in shock, "Holy sh\*t!"

Everyone looked at their own cell phones, which showed the exact same amount: 3 million dollars!

Filled with disbelief, none of them could believe their eyes. They couldn't believe that they had just received 3 million dollars as goodwill for the entire year.

"If one can buy a single Ferrari for about 450,000 dollars, the old man has literally just given us seven Ferraris worth of money!" 1 Luca was shocked as he calculated the amount of people on the scene.

"There's Chad and his two family members, Lloyd and his girlfriend, Edelgard and I, Sam, Herschel, and two others... Not factoring in Javier, his group, and Mary Jane. There is a total of 11

people altogether, which means that the old man just gave away 33 million dollars!

'What the...Just how rich is this family?!

Luca did not dare imagine. On top of that, the money that he had scanned was immediately sent to his bank account.

Luca gulped in fear as he told Javier, "J-Javier...I can't accept this money! I'll give it back to you!"

Chad had said the same thing. After all, he had more family members, so he had just received 9 million dollars out of nowhere and felt guilty about it

Although Sam had received 3 million dollars, he was also filled with fright. He could have accepted it if it was 30,000 dollars, but 3 million dollars was just too much for him to accept with ease. Although Sam's wealth was more than 30,000 dollars, he had never once seen someone who could spend money so easily.

'3 million dollars per envelope. Is the old man trying to drown us all in money?'

Javier merely smiled and waved his hand. "It's a gift from the old man, so just take it. Why would you all want to return it to me when Jade, Ciara, and I received an envelope as well?"

As he spoke, Ciara held up her own envelope, filled with glee.

Jade, on the other hand, was a more conservative person, so she kept hers in her bag and did not dare scan it.

Judging by how happy Ciara seemed, Jade knew that the three of them had definitely received different amounts. She could not bear to handle the shock if she scanned it and found out that she had received a huge amount of money.

Thus, under Javier's instructions, everyone accepted the money they had just been given

At that point, everyone was convinced that the Kerseys were genuinely rich, but none of them dared to even try and guess how much they had in total.

While they were walking, Mary Jane suddenly appeared out of nowhere and approached them.

Everyone began greeting her, while she smiled and gave each of them an envelope as well.

"I'm not as rich as the old fox, so this really is just a little something from me."

Everyone held their envelopes, knowing that Mary Jane had also given them QR codes with 300,000 dollars in each red packet.

'Wow! She's given us a total of 3.3 million dollars!'

When all of that was over, Mary Jane told the group, "The old fox's money has never been that easy to receive. The more you get, the more effort you will need to put in for him. Right, I have to leave now to go visit my biggest boss!"

After saying that, Mary Jane left with a smile.

At that moment, the group realized that the old woman who seemed to always be watching television was not as simple as she seemed

Although she had not said that much, her meaning had been very clear...

Depending on the money they had received, they had to put in the equivalent effort when working for Javier. If they failed to do so, they were going to be in for a round of hell...

However, none of the people present dared to slack off, as they had already been shocked to death by the amount of money they had received

In the past, they used to always feel happy whenever they received money. But now, they were all shocked and scared.

This was the first time everyone experienced how money received might not necessarily be a good thing.

After having fun on the island for a while longer, Javier headed to the island's cliff and found a large yacht. Then, he transported the entire group off the island.

At that moment, they all had money and were still overseas, so how could they possibly not go out shopping?

Everyone seemed to be very happy as they gathered around the deck, while Jade and Ciara hid inside the cabin and scanned their QR codes.

Ciara scanned hers first. She was filled with anticipation at first, but that very quickly turned sour. ‘Why would Grandpa do this to me?’

Jade took a look at Ciara’s cell phone screen and saw that she had only received 10 dollars! Hence, Jade was even more curious to check hers. She wondered how much she would receive from her QR code.

### **Chapter 242 Let’s See What Happens When We Arrive Home Tonight**

When Jade scanned her QR code, Ciara hurriedly leaned over to have a look.

When they saw the same amount received, Ciara exclaimed in surprise, “Grandpa has every reason to give me 10 dollars, but why would you receive the same amount?”

This caused Jade to feel slightly surprised as well. Initially, she had been worried that it would be inappropriate for the others to see the amount she had received.

However, now that she realized that it was only 10 dollars, she felt very confused.

‘Both Ciara and I received 10 dollars each...Is it because we’re close to him?’

Immediately, Jade and Ciara targeted Javier’s envelope and snatched it from his pocket.

After they scanned it...

What the f\*ck?!

He also received 10 dollars! So it really is true. It’s because we’re close to him!

Ciara felt depressed “Grandpa has always been very generous every year, so why would he only give me 10 dollars this year? Seriously?!”

Javier chuckled and said, “There’s a deeper meaning behind this. He wants us to be perfect 10s, just like people give ratings.”

Jade instantly understood. ‘I see! It’s rather nice of him to give us such an auspicious amount.’

Jade started chuckling at that point, obviously because she could understand what Zephiel was trying to say. Thus, Jade did not seem to mind how much money she had been given at all.

After all, her husband was as rich as a rich man could get, and she was not in dire need of money. Going to work was merely a hobby to her.

Therefore, if she really was concerned about money, it would be because she didn’t know how to spend Javier’s money.

The handbag she was carrying was worth less than 100 dollars, the perfume she was using was jasmine-scented, and she was driving an R8 bought by Javier previously. Otherwise, she would have bought an A4L for herself. As Javier had said once, Jade was not a woman who knew how to splurge.

However, she was content with her lifestyle. All she wanted was to look beautiful, so there was no need for her to purchase only branded goods, which was why she could not understand other women's mentality.

But it was only natural for Jade to think so, as others needed branded goods to elevate their beauty. Jade, on the other hand, did not need anything of the sort.

Meanwhile, Ciara was objecting to the money received. "I can't accept this! Your reasoning doesn't make sense at all. I'm going to call Grandpa!"

Right after Ciara was done rebelling, Javier told her, "The perfect 10 was for Jade. As for you...Grandpa wants you to work hard to become a good girl with perfect 10s!"

Ciara was stunned for a moment before she stopped baring her fangs and rebelling.

She then thought about it deeper and felt that Javier was right, Jade was indeed a perfect woman.

As for her, she was close to perfect, but she was not a good and obedient girl yet.

Thus, in order to become as perfect as Jade, Ciara immediately pretended to be an obedient girl. "I'll do whatever you tell me to from now on, Javier...Anything at all!"

However, Javier was not about to believe her. He would have been tricked countless times over if he had done so.

Sure enough, before Javier was even done smoking his cigarette, Ciara began pouting her lips again. "Javier, what should I do? I've got no money now!"

Javier turned to look at her. "Why do you need money? I've never seen you spend your own money. I have, however, seen you egging me into buying stuff for you many times."

Ciara subconsciously said, "That's because I was saving my money up. I've got..."

Realizing that she had almost given away her secret, Ciara hurriedly covered her mouth and said in a muffled voice, "I'm not going to tell you how much I have! That's my own private piggy bank!"

Javier and Jade were both laughing by then, thinking about Ciara being able to save up her money in a piggy bank.

After that, Ciara just would not confess how much money she had regardless of how many times Javier asked her to, firmly standing her ground and refusing to say how much she had saved up.

Ciara would not even tell them why she had a piggy bank in the first place...until Javier took out 3 million dollars to entice her...

"I'm not a member of the Kersey Family biologically, so what am I going to do if you, Dad, and Grandpa someday decide you don't want me anymore?"

Ciara was pouting her lips the entire time, seeming especially pitiful.

In fact, the others felt heartbroken for her when they heard the grief in Ciara's voice.

Before Javier could even say anything, Jade immediately pulled Ciara into her arms.

"Silly girl, you've still got me. If Javier ever abandons you, I'm going to turn him into a single man and come be with you, okay? I've got some shares in the company, and they will be enough for us to live happy lives. We could even travel around the world if we wanted to."

Ciara was very touched and felt that Jade was genuinely treating her kindly and showing concern for her every moment like an elder sister.

However, Javier, on the other hand, felt slightly depressed. 'Why should I stay single if Jade takes her away?

Then again, on second thought...I suppose it's a good thing that the two of them get along well and don't have any arguments. That's good enough for me...

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After playing around for three days, each and every one of them was very happy, as they had a holiday they were never going to forget

However, this was not their home at the end of the day, so they needed to return to their daily lives.

Thus, three days later, Chad met up with Javier.

"I'm going to have to head back now, Mr. Kersey. I've still got to head back to my wife's family and visit her parents."

This was something that had to be done, so Javier arranged for Chad to bring along some local delicacies.

Before the arrangements were complete, Lloyd suddenly showed up as well.

"I'm going to have to head back as well, Mr. Kersey. You didn't see Carmen's mother last year, but I guarantee she's going to smack me silly if I don't head out soon."

Then, Carmen coquettishly gave Lloyd a punch. "What are you on about? My mom doesn't even know you."

At that point, Carmen very politely bade them farewell and thanked Javier for his extreme hospitality.

Then, Luca approached Javier as well.

He had already decided that he was going to go visit Edelgard's family as well. Since Edelgard had already agreed to be in a relationship with him, he did not think that it was right for him not to visit her family. In Luca's opinion, regardless of whether he and Edelgard could have a happily-ever-after, he should still show the politeness required.

However, before Luca could even say anything, Javier said, "It's alright, you don't have to say anything. I know you're going to meet your future mother-in-law as well."

After stopping Luca from saying anything, Javier added, "How about this? Since all of us are ready to leave, let's forget about staying here for three more days altogether. I'll have someone arrange a flight so we can leave this afternoon."

Javier's suggestion left everyone feeling joyous. After all, they had never been on a private jet before. On top of that, they were going to be on a private jet with its own convoy!

All of them wondered if they were going to get another chance to travel in such a plane after this time.

From a certain perspective, they had reached the peak of their lives already...

However, Ciara felt unpleasant as Javier made these departure plans.

"Javier, I want to go as well! I'm so bored living on the island!"

Javier chuckled and asked, "Didn't you say you were going to be an obedient girl just now?"

Ciara seemed to be upstanding as she replied, "I didn't say anything like that. I don't remember anything about that. I'm a little girl

with a short-term memory."

Javier was rendered speechless by Ciara's upstanding reply, and even Jade was in stitches.

She then approached Ciara and held her hand. "Javier, why don't you bring Ciara along? How long are you going to leave a grown woman on the island? Plus, even convicts are allowed to leave prison for a few days, so are you really not going to allow her some freedom?"

"Exactly! I'm bored stiff living on the island!" After saying that, Ciara intimately hugged Jade. "You're still the best to me, Jade! Better than Sh\*tty Brother here by a mile!" Javier was completely speechless. 'Fine, call me sh\*tty all you like. We'll see what will happen when we arrive home tonight!

### **Chapter 243 Stop Making Such a Fuss**

Javier and the others were getting ready to head back after bidding Zephil farewell.

Before leaving, Javier asked Zephil again, "I don't suppose you're going to tell me about the message left sitting under the little gold figure?"

Zephil chuckled and shook his head. "Not a chance. Don't even think about it!"

Javier was about to leave when Zephil added, "You might have had a chance if you hadn't tricked me the last time around, but since you did...oh well...Hehe!"

Javier turned around and said, "Save it, old fox. Do you seriously want me to feel remorse? Not a chance! Don't even think about it!"

He was well aware of the old fox's tricks, as he had been hoodwinked by the latter when he was still a child.

There would not have been so many smart people in the world otherwise, and he had only become smart because he had been duped so much.

Javier saw Mary coming over as soon as he left Zephil.

'I couldn't find you anywhere, Mary, and you wouldn't even answer the phone. We were about to leave you here. You-'

Mary waved her hand while Javier was talking. "Alright, you guys can go ahead. I'll be leaving in a couple of days."

Javier had a sudden realization when he heard Mary's words. "I must say, Granny, your face is just glowing! You look like you're getting younger."

Mary could immediately hear what Javier was implying upon hearing his tone.

She could not help but blush. He was an even bigger tease than Zephiel. "I'm about to resign, Mr. Kersey."

Javier got anxious. "Oh no, please don't, Aunt Mary. It was my mistake! I admit my mistake, alright?!"

Mary said smugly after hearing his apology, "Fine, but it'll depend on my mood. I'll come back once I'm in a good mood."

After saying that, she turned around and left triumphantly.

Javier was speechless. There was something different about that old lady after she was doted on. She was...feisty.se

Javier went looking for Arthur after lunch.

At the end of the day, Arthur was still his third uncle. Since there was no complete falling-out per se, there must not be any disruption in the family hierarchy.

"I'm heading back, Uncle Arthur, so I thought I'd stop by to say goodbye."

"Have a safe journey."

Javier did not know if it was intentional or not, but it was surprising that Arthur wished those people to have a smooth journey. Where was Arthur wishing them a smooth journey to? The sea?

He even had an old man's chair that resembled Zephiel's. It lacked only the fading elements that would accumulate over the years.

Arthur rocked on the chair and lay there in the sun as if he was preparing to go into early retirement.

Since Arthur did not seem to be talking any further, Javier bid him farewell and prepared to leave.

Javier had only taken a couple of steps when Arthur's voice came from behind. "Keep your guard up against William."

Javier halted in his tracks and looked back in surprise. "What did you say, Uncle Arthur?"

Arthur continued to rock in the chair. "Did I say something? I didn't say a word. You must've misheard!"

"Oh, I guess so. I'm leaving then!"

Javier bid him a warm goodbye but frowned after continuing to look ahead.

He did not quite understand what Arthur had meant by asking him to keep his guard up against William.

Did Arthur intend to drive a wedge in his relationship with William and make a move against William? Or could Arthur have something else in mind?

Javier could not figure out what exactly, but he had the niggling feeling that it was not something pleasant.

He just had to be careful regardless of whether William was prepared to set something in motion or Arthur was about to frame

William,

Arthur would not give him that warning for no good reason.

A viper roused from its slumber was bound to rear its head and strike...

After walking away from Arthur, Javier went to look for William.

William was just about to leave when Javier stood before him at the door.

"I'm going to leave, Javier. Being home is so boring. I'm going to continue exploring outside." William had a serious expression and he put on his big brother persona. "Can't you do something for the family instead of just being idle all the time? I heard some time ago that you set up a company and I was really happy at the time because I thought you wanted to share some of the family's burdens."

Javier waved his hand quickly. "Let it go. I have no intention of handling that. As for that company, there was this idiot who said that he spent more money than I'd ever see in my entire life! Am I supposed to just accept that? I smothered him with money!"

"I bought that company and kicked that idiot so much that he started to address me as his master. It was gratifying!"

William was cheering in his heart but acted as though he was frustrated with Javier. "Seriously?"

Javier smiled and said, "By the way, William, the old fox nipped my funds, and things have been a little tight recently. You have no idea how much effort it took when I brought back some men just for the sake of tricking him into giving me a few hundred thousand worth of pocket money."

"We're bros, right, William? Could you get me some money to spend?"

'All you do is spend money like nobody's business. When will you take the pressure off my shoulders?"

After another brief round of reprimanding, William then said, "I'm not that big on funds recently and I just invested in an influential family's project. Give it some time. Wait for me to call you. I'll transfer you some money then."

That's it for now! I have to discuss the project!"

William patted Javier on the shoulder and left. He was reluctant to even give Javier a single dime.

Walking away without giving him anything was bad enough in itself, but he even turned around and said, "You should stop messing around if you can't even share some of the responsibility with me. You're in your twenties now. Rather than frolicking

around, you should be spending your time getting business pointers from me!"

William was such a pretentious pr\*ck that he would have been sentenced to death a hundred times over if being pretentious was a crime!

Javier pursed his lips over a cigarette and placed his hands in his pockets as he walked away.

He was not going to leave it at that either, so he deliberately muttered, "What a pr\*ck. As if that money doesn't belong to grandpa, you f\*cker!"

William acted as though he had not heard this and smiled smugly with his back turned to Javier.

Javier's low spirits only served to lift William's. He had been hoping that Javier would disappear suddenly, like his second uncle!

After leaving the island, Javier and his party boarded their private plane and flew back.

The number of people on the plane was still the same, the only difference being that Mary had stayed behind. Ciara, however, had boarded, so the number of people had stayed the same.

"How lucky of me to sit in the family's private plane even though all I did was benefit from your association with Grandpa. I don't usually have the right to even come out. By the way. I also took the private plane back last time, and your car too, but it's mine now!"

Ciara had a smug look on her face, like someone who had stolen another person's beloved plaything.

She was even more full of herself after getting the chance to head out and get some air.

During the journey, she was discussing what kind of fun things she could do with Jade and she insisted on travelling.

That was fine, as Jade spent her days at the company, while Ciara was on the island all the time.

It would be good for them to relax and visit their country's natural wonders for some sightseeing.

As far as their safety was concerned, Javier felt that it would be better to let Ingrid join them. Safety was practically guaranteed with her around

As soon as they returned, Ingrid led Javier to the underground garage.

Inside the garage was a man with a very familiar face. He was someone who should not be there in the first place after being sent to prison

"Terry?!"

### **Chapter 244 Sharp Tongue**

Javier could not wrap his head around it. How could Terry be there if he was supposed to be in prison? Had he escaped?

Ingrid answered Javier when he turned to look at her.

'I told you a few days ago that someone was peeping downstairs. That person was him. He broke in on New Year's Eve and had a knife with him, so I tied him up and threw him here.'

"I already got all the necessary information from him in the past few days. Any suggestions on how to deal with this?"

Javier did not suggest anything. He had to know Terry's purpose for coming there and why Terry would bring a knife with him to break in

Ingrid said, "He claims that William helped him get out of prison. Compassionate release. He was ordered to cut Jade's face, and the payout for that would be one million."

Terry might have claimed that, but what he knew was not necessarily accurate, was it?

When Ingrid asked Javier for suggestions on how to deal with Terry, Javier waved his hand and said, "Do whatever you want!"

If Javier had given his blessing for Ingrid to 'do whatever she wanted to a living human, Ingrid would not stop at merely giving them a mere slap.

Terry disappeared from existence that night... 1

Javier waited downstairs for Ingrid to deal with Terry and said once she was done, "I went to see Uncle Arthur before I left, and he explicitly told me to be wary of William. I don't really understand what he meant by that. Could he have used Terry to rile me up into moving against William, or did he find out what William was going to do and deliberately use me to go against William?"

Ingrid asked. "Isn't that the same thing?"

"Of course it's not," Javier replied. "The result might be the same, but the motive is different. The punishment that entails will therefore be different too."

Ingrid nodded and took a piece of paper out of her pocket.

Drawn on the paper was the portrait of a fierce-looking man with thick eyebrows and big eyes.

Javier was certain that he had never seen that man before.

Ingrid said, "This is the person who brought Terry back. There's no other news about him."

Javier responded by telling Ingrid, "Send a photo of the drawing to Kenzo. He'll find a way to get to this person."

"Already did."

Ingrid did her job very efficiently without needing any orders from Javier.

After chatting for some time, Javier brought up his proposal for her to tag along on Jade and Ciara's trip.

Ingrid was fine with it and could take care of their safety both at home and elsewhere.

Javier was very grateful for that and never once thought of Ingrid as a subordinate despite their master-servant relationship.

Because of that, Ingrid took care of his family as if he was her younger brother.

After returning home, Javier had fun with Ciara and Jade for an entire night and only stopped when the two of them started begging for mercy.

When Javier woke up the next morning, the three women had already left the house.

Javier did not pay much attention to the details of their itinerary. After all, he could rest assured since Ingrid was with them.

He went out after freshening up, intending to hire a professional who knew how to install home security cameras.

Despite never needing such a thing before, he could not continue living without them, as it would be best to avoid accidents.

Unfortunately, he was mocked as soon as he arrived at the security system store.

"You need security cameras installed when it's only the fifth day of the new year? How rich are you? Are you worried about your belongings being stolen or your girl having an affair?"

A fat woman next to Javier laughed as soon as he told the owner of the surveillance store about it.

Javier looked at her in surprise. "The hell is wrong with you? Is my decision to install security cameras any of your business?"

Javier was incensed after being needlessly mocked as soon as he entered the store.

The shop owner persuaded him immediately. "Please don't take offense. This lady is my ex-wife. She's a little aggressive right now because she just got into a quarrel with me. Please ignore her."

The shop owner was trying to mediate, but the fat woman did not seem to care.

"There's no point installing security cameras at your home like other rich people when you have no money there. You reek of poverty with those thrift shop clothes you're wearing. You might as well get some good clothes if you have the money to install some security cameras. It's a new year! At least make some effort to pretend that you're rich!"

Javier understood that the woman was only there to cause trouble, as she did not want the store owner to accept his business.

There were plenty of ways she could cause trouble, but verbally attacking him was utterly inappropriate.

Javier could not be bothered to entertain the fat woman's nonsense, as it would be embarrassing for him even if he won the argument

He remembered seeing a Mercedes-Benz A180 outside and turned to ask the shop owner, "Is that her car?"

The shop owner didn't understand why he had asked that but nodded in response. "Yes."

The fat woman beamed with pride. "Do you have a Benz? Look at yourself and how dirt poor you are!"

Javier ignored her and went straight out the door,

He had parked his car some distance away because there had been no parking spot earlier.

The situation made it much more convenient for him, though. He got in the car, ignited the engine, and rushed forward by stepping on his accelerator.

A loud bang was heard as Javier's G63 crashed into the tiny Mercedes-Benz and caused the latter to roll on its side.

The car looked just like a toad lying on its side.

The fat woman's smug expression froze instantly, for she had never thought that Javier would be brave enough to ram into her car.

She ran out angrily and shrieked like a pig going to the slaughterhouse, but as soon as she saw Javier's G63, she was a little dumbfounded.

Her Mercedes-Benz was evidently not as valuable as Javier's G63.

Those harsh remarks she had made about Javier's poorness had bitten her back just as harshly!

Even so, she continued to shout angrily. "I'm calling the cops on you! How dare you hit my car on purpose! I'm calling the cops right now!"

The fat woman had already realized that Javier was a rich kid.

As soon as she made a fuss about calling the police, Javier would probably shove money in her face.

She would prefer it if he shoved a Mercedes-Benz S600 in her face!

However, what Javier did next came completely out of left field.

After getting out of the car, he immediately called the accident hotline and gave a rough explanation of the situation.

The fat woman did not know what Javier was planning on doing, but it was completely contrary to what she had expected. The fact that he called the police surprised her.

Before long, the traffic police came over in a police car and asked questions about the cause of the accident.

"Officer, he rammed into my car on purpose! There are surveillance cameras at the entrance that can prove this!"

The fat woman complained to the police with conviction

Javier refused to admit it and said, "I didn't do it on purpose. My head was a little dizzy while I was driving and I hit her car because I blacked out. I was the one who called you guys and made the report. I'm happy to undergo a breathalyzer test so you can check if I was driving under the influence."

The traffic policeman was delighted. "You seem well-versed with the due process for handling accidents."

Javier obviously knew the process well, or else he would not have used that method to deal with that sharp-tongued fat woman!

### **Chapter 245 You Can't Refuse**

The breathalyzer did not pick up any traces of alcohol.

The traffic police asked about other relevant information and told Javier, 'It's pretty clear from the details of this accident that you're entirely responsible for it. This lady is not at fault. You should head over to the insurance company and settle this privately!'

The fat woman put her hands on her waist and said proudly. "Serves you right for going all mental and hitting my car!"

The traffic policeman glanced at the fat woman and shook his head helplessly. A person's poor character was none of their concern. They were responsible only for handling the accident.

Javier sniggered. He neither looked at the fat woman nor bothered to argue with her.

All he did was say to the traffic police, "I object to the way you enforce the law and I refuse to settle this in private."

The traffic policeman was stunned. He felt that he had done his job so well that there could not possibly be grounds for an objection.

He even tried to persuade Javier. "You ought to think long and hard about this. There's no way you could change the truth regardless of how many strings you try to pull!"

The traffic policeman thought that Javier was trying to use his connections to shift responsibility for the accident to the chubby woman.

The situation could not be any clearer. The fat woman had parked her car inside the parking space, and Javier had rammed into it. It was impossible to shift the blame. Not even friends in high places could blur the lines of what was already a very clear-cut incident.

The chubby woman beside them started to yell proudly and even took out her cell phone to record everything.

"Look closely at what happened, guys! This man hit my car and wants to use his connections to try and twist the truth. Do you think you're so great just because you have connections? Or because you're rich? Modern society is governed by law..."

She had earlier scolded Javier for being dirt poor but now changed her tune and said that Javier was being arrogant just because he was rich. She did not even notice the contradiction in her words and seemed to be doing whatever was in her favor.

Fortunately, Javier had never thought about using connections.

He turned to the traffic police and requested, "Could you please call a tow truck over, Officer? We'll tow both cars to the traffic police's yard for vehicles implicated in accidents and then we'll follow the necessary procedure."

The traffic police suddenly realized that Javier had nothing against him and was targeting the fat woman.

What Javier had meant by objecting to wrongful enforcement of the law was that he would not settle in private.

Javier had never wanted that in the first place!

The fat woman was still making a fuss!

"You can delay all you want, but I can say with confidence that the responsibility will not fall on me as long as justice prevails!"

They signed the paperwork and called a tow truck to tow away the two vehicles. The traffic policeman left too.

The fat woman did not manage to take any further photos before she put her cell phone away.

At that point, Javier walked up to her and said with a sneer, "You fat idiot. I don't want my car anymore, so don't dream of getting your car back either. I'm leaving it all in the hands of the traffic police. Sue me, file a lawsuit, do whatever you want! But I won't deal with this anymore. I won't pay a single fine even if I'm forced to deal with this.

"Weren't you acting tough earlier? Leave the car with them if you are that rich. You don't need to drive that car and stick your pig head out of the window ever again, nor do you have to scrimp and save just to get money to repair it!

"Idiot!"

Javier went back to the security store after blessing the fat woman with such an 'honorable' form of address.

The fat woman was left in shambles all alone outside, shell-shocked by what Javier had done.

Were rich people willing to do anything to take their enemy down with them, even to the point that they'd suffer a much greater loss than their enemy in the end?

The fat woman was prepared to extort Javier but was stunned when he pulled off something like that.

To think that Javier no longer wanted his car...

The fat woman finally called it quits and went back in to look for Javier, but he ignored her outright despite all her pleas.

Since she had been acting like she was all that, she should just continue acting that way and suffer the consequences of her uncalled-for remarks.

The shop owner regarded his ex-wife as an eyesore, so he took the security cameras and left immediately with Javier.

The fat woman slumped on the ground and wept tearlessly.

"God... I wouldn't have lashed out at him if I had known earlier. Why do I have to cause myself trouble..."

The surveillance cameras were finally installed after almost half a day's work. They were all hidden and they worked with wireless reception

Javier checked the video and saw that it was very clear.

He could finally rest assured that anyone who broke in when he was not at home would be discovered.

As for that G63, Javier did not want it at all.

The crash had been pretty crazy, so the front bumper was broken, the hood was completely dented, and the airbag was deflated. It was almost certain that there were problems inside the engine compartment too.

Having it repaired would take too much time, and he did not want to make so much effort during the new year. He could just buy himself a new car and be done with it.

If the G63 was released someday, he would get it repaired and leave it at the company as a company vehicle.

Javier gave Ciel a ring, as looking at cars alone after leaving home was pointless.

Ciel could not be more surprised to receive Javier's call. "I thought you forgot about me!"

Javier asked, "What's the matter? You got a boyfriend now?"

Ciel answered hurriedly, "No, I just thought you didn't want to keep in touch with me anymore because it's been ages since you last called me. I was afraid to call you..."

He knew she was telling the truth because he had heard about it from Chad.

Chad frequently arranged public relations exercises for Ciel while she sent her people to deal with clients.

As a result, Chad was relatively in the know when it came to Ciel and occasionally spoke to Javier about her.

Javier had simply been too busy earlier, so he had not had time to call her.

"Well, come over then. We'll talk when we meet."

Javier hung up after giving her his location.

It took only about ten minutes for Ciel to arrive in a taxi.

Javier had initially expected her to drive over and take him to view new cars, so it came as a bit of a shock that Ciel had taken a taxi there.

He asked in surprise, "Where's your car?"

Ciel replied, "I don't have a car. I've never had one."

Javier was somewhat surprised, but after giving it some careful thought, he realized that Ciel never seemed to have driven a car before.

"Do you know how to drive, though?"

"I do, but it's been too long since I last drove. I don't know if I'd be used to it."

Driving was like riding a bicycle. The muscle memory would last an entire lifetime after one learned, and it was not something that could be forgotten simply because of lack of practice. Javier nodded. "That's great. I'm going to buy a car, so tag along and I'll get you one too."

Ciel would have been over the moon if he had offered her that in the past.

However, she was no longer the Ciel she used to be, so she waved her hand as she said, "No, you don't have to. I have my own money and I don't need to drive to work."

"You can't refuse my gift."

After making this domineering remark, Javier pulled her petite body into his arms.

He leaned close to her and whispered a sentence. Ciel's face turned red, and she wanted to smack him.

What Javier had said to her was, "It's a reward for sleeping with me."

"I should just smack you to death, you jerk!"

### **Chapter 246 Can Only Think About It**

Javier wanted to buy a car, but it was probably one of the worst days to do so.

It was only the fifth day of the new year and many places were still closed.

After realizing the place did not have cars, he brought Ciel to the state capital as a sort of road trip while going there to buy a car.

They enjoyed themselves in the state capital for three days, until all the stores finally opened on the eighth day of the new year.

Ciel was glowing after recharging for three days, and Javier visited almost all the sales outlets that were open.

Since he convinced Ciel to accept his gift, she eventually settled on a Mercedes-Benz GLK300.

The car was not big. It was 4.5 meters long, so it was almost classified as a compact SUV. It was smaller than the domestic SUV, which was 4.67 meters long, but that size was perfect for Ciel.

Javier thought that it was the perfect car for her in light of her petite stature.

Her temperament matched that car perfectly.

Javier managed to buy a car for Ciel but unfortunately did not buy one for himself.

He thought it would be better to just get something as long as it was a means of transportation, but he then remembered what Chad had said about him needing to pay attention to his image because he embodied the company's name and reputation.

That was the reason finding a car was so difficult. He would be viewed as a show-off if he bought something overly expensive, while the cars that appealed to him were just too flamboyant. In short, none of them was ideal.

It was not until he was in the Bentley showroom that Javier finally found a car that suited him. The Bentley L5 looked like a Rolls Royce at first glance yet had the classic, almost medieval Chinean look of olden cars.

That was the perfect vehicle to display his identity without appearing too ostentatious. More importantly, he would be supporting the domestic market.

Purchasing that vehicle was no easy feat, though. The 300,000 to 500,000 price tag was not a problem, but there were many additional conditions.

The saleswoman told him about the vehicle. "Sir, this L5 combines high-end luxury with exceptional character. If you wish to purchase it, you are required to pay a 150,000 dollar advance. There's also a half-year wait before you get your custom-made vehicle."

A half-year wait was normal. This car was custom-made, after all. Many luxury cars followed the same procedure: payment first, then a period of waiting, and finally delivery of the car.

However, there were far too many rules to purchasing that car that the saleswoman continued elaborating on.

"The first step is going to the official website to register your information, phone number, and email address. I can help you with that right now if you prefer. Within two days, one of our professionals will contact you to review your personal information and the model that you purchased.

"This part of the review is rather strict and includes your basic personal information, social status, financial strength, political stance, and anything else of note in your background."

What she meant by 'anything else of note' was any negative information, such as a criminal record or defaulting on debt.

Even the slightest mistake would render it impossible to buy the car regardless of how much money a person had.

Money might not be enough to buy that car, but on the flip side, it was more than sufficient to eliminate any unappealing records...

"If you pass the review, you'll be able to proceed to the next step in about ten days or so, which is the 150,000 deposit that I mentioned earlier.

"Then, you'll be invited to participate in part of the car's customization. If you have any special requirements, any functions and configurations of the vehicle will be tailored according to your requests. It might be somewhat complicated, but your car will be considered one-of-a-kind.

"The next step is the half-year wait. The company will organize a car handover ceremony for you, which will be almost like going on stage to accept an award. I've never participated in one of those, though, so I can't explain the specifics to you."

Once the saleswoman finished speaking, Ciel whispered beside him, "Why go to so much trouble just to buy a car?"

The saleswoman smiled politely. "It is one-of-a-kind, after all. And it's a car that has a history too, so. I hope you understand."

The phrase 'I hope you understand' was practically the foundation on which Bentley had been built.

Those who did not understand were better off not buying their vehicles. There were plenty of other models one could buy if one was rich.

Anyone who wanted to buy the L5 had to understand even if they did not want to!

It was extraordinary, and Javier enjoyed the sheer intimidating force it possessed. He would not have fancied it if it had been mass produced!

"Sign me up then!"

Javier's remark stunned the saleswoman.

She had initially thought that he was not that serious, but she had nevertheless explained everything out of professional courtesy, as well as because it was the new year.

It had hardly occurred to her that Javier would decide to buy the car and make a decision so quickly.

After her initial surprise, her excitement died down, as the first part was merely the registration.

If she wanted to get a sales commission, she would have to wait at least until the other party paid the 150,000-dollar deposit.

She continued politely, not hoping for much as she led Javier to the side and assisted him with entering the information for the registration

After all that was done, Javier looked at the H5 and H7 in the showroom again. He had heard that the HSS was also going to be launched and that Bentley had been doing well recently, as their cars had been selling like hotcakes. That was due, in large, to the considerable investment in research and development.

After all, the engines were made in-house, and so were the car models. Although its development was not as quick as that of other domestic car companies, it was still a national car whose progress was something to be proud of.

The Chinese also hoped that Bentley's flag would one day fly high in every corner of the world. Javier was happy to purchase it, as he had the means to contribute a bit of support.

After registering, Javier and Ciel were about to leave when the saleswoman escorted them out of the store out of professional courtesy.

As soon as he left the store, Javier received a call from an unfamiliar number that turned out to be Bentley's headquarters.

He surmised that the call had come so quickly because he was the first customer of the new year.

During the phone call, the other party inquired about Javier's position, social status, and other relevant information.

Javier replied, "I'm chairman of Reivaj Group, Reivaj Media, Medb-X Media... Total assets of the company under my name? I'm not sure, but at least 1.5 million dollars, I suppose..." 1

The saleswoman was stunned to hear Javier's words.

She wondered if Javier was simply bragging.

### **Chapter 247 Touching**

The saleswoman performed an internet search and found out that it was true. He was an internet celebrity who was rich, handsome, and very young.

He was referred to as the nation's boyfriend by many female netizens.

"Is he really that rich?!"

The saleswoman was startled and secretly thankful that she had maintained a good attitude earlier.

If such a powerful character complained about her, she might have to spend her future in agony.

After ending the call, Javier bid the saleswoman goodbye and left with Ciel.

The saleswoman looked at Javier from afar and had an indescribable feeling in her heart.

She started to envy Ciel even more, for she would have loved for Javier to be her boyfriend!

Even so, she knew that fantasizing was the most she could do. Her best chance of realizing that fantasy was by hoping she dreamt of it when she slept!

After returning from the state capital, Javier enjoyed a couple of days with Ciel and continued to get down to business.

Things had started moving with the Osbom Awards, and they did not seem to care that the country was still celebrating the new year.

As the CEO of Reivaj Media, Saoirse was fully responsible for this film's candidacy and any related issues.

She gave Javier a call and said, "I have some good news for you. 'Old Man Ackerman' has been chosen as the opening film."

'Old Man Ackerman' was the name of the film that they had decided on showing at the event. The name was based on Daniel's surname. It was rather plain and it hardly sounded entertaining, so it ought to be good news that 'Old Man Ackerman' had been picked as the opening film.

Javier believed that it was because the film had received recognition and acclaim from the Osborns.

When he asked about it, Saoirse explained, "It can't be denied that it's good, but by convention, the opening film generally plays a supporting role to the actual award-winning production. You may liken it to a right-hand man.

\*Is a right-hand man capable? Of course! Is he good? Definitely! But he will never be kind when a new era is ushered in."

Saoirse's explanation was so concise and easy to understand that Javier could not help but frown after hearing it.

"Isn't there even the tiniest bit of hope?"

Saoirse replied, "That's the normal convention, but we cannot say whether or not it's a coincidence. The bottom line is that it's very awkward...It's both good and bad at the same time."

Javier was not prepared to wait any longer to see whether the outcome was good or bad.

He could not let things take their course, so he insisted on having a look himself in hopes that he could save the movie's future.

Jade had already returned, while Chad and Mary came back to the company too. With them there, Javier would not need to worry that much if he left.

He took a flight and left the same afternoon that he received Saoirse's call.

Ciara, however, who had originally promised to go home with him on the same flight, made a hasty escape before boarding on the pretext of using the toilet.

Chessie soon called Javier, telling him not to worry because Ciara was already with her.

Javier had no words when he heard that. Whenever Ciara left the house, she turned into a kite with a broken string that flew around in all directions.

At least Javier did not have to worry that much with Chessie protecting her.

After boarding the plane, Javier sat in his seat and fastened his seat belt before closing his eyes to rest.

At that moment, someone patted him on the shoulder. "What a coincidence!"

A very familiar female voice prompted Javier to open his eyes. He turned around to see who it was, and it turned out to be Saoirse.

Javier asked in surprise, "Didn't you say you weren't going to go when I asked you earlier?"

Saoirse said with a smile, "Well, yeah, but that was what I thought at the time. I had my hands full with some other stuff, but I couldn't stop worrying about it deep down. After all, this is all the hard work of Old Man Ackerman and Old Man Nolan. I'd be very uneasy if I didn't go over to have a look at things."

"I didn't contact you because I thought you had already booked a ticket, so I tried checking online for empty seats. I was surprised that there were still some up for grabs, so I decided to go."

Javier was stunned. "I see. That's quite a coincidence then."

It was indeed a coincidence, as Javier had bought a ticket at random. He did not mind whether his seat was first-class or economy so long as he could board the plane.

He was understandably surprised to meet Saoirse in the spacious, ordinary cabin and even be seated next to her.

A coincidence like that was rather far-fetched.

After they shared their thoughts on whether the movie would win any awards, Javier closed his eyes again to rest.

He showed no interest in Saoirse at that moment.

When it came to certain individuals, there was no need for one to give them a second chance if they did not take the first one.

Embarrassing himself was not his main concern. It was his status-brought upon him by virtue of his identity-that did not allow him to do that.

Saoirse felt very uneasy when she saw Javier resting with his eyes closed, seemingly having no other intentions.

She had turned into a workaholic to desensitize herself and try her best to forget about Javier.

The truth was that she had not forgotten about him in the slightest and yearned even more deeply for him.

She had fantasized out of regret more than once and wondered if the two of them would have been happy together if Javier had not been forced to leave that night.

She knew that she no longer had a chance when she looked at Javier's handsome face and peaceful expression.

She was dejected and dismayed, and her thoughts were a mess as she looked out of the airplane throughout the entire journey...

When they arrived at their destination that night, the Osborn Awards opening ceremony had already begun.

The film had just started playing when Javier and Saoirse entered.

There was a lot of noise in the auditorium at first, and countless people chattered away.

It had nothing to do with quality, but rather with their distrust of Chinean films. That perception had a long history and had not appeared in just a day or two. After all, they were all generally more scared than surprised when it came to Chinean films.

However, the situation was different that day. Once the film was shown, the chatter throughout the venue dwindled gradually into silence.

Even Javier, who had been paying attention to everyone in the hall, was now devoting his attention entirely to the film.

Everything seemed to attract the audience's attention, be it Old Man Ackerman's experiences, Old Man Nolan's interpretation, or the passion expressed during the story's turning point. When Old Man Nolan played the role of Old Man Ackerman and danced like a lunatic in the mental hospital, the scene, which originally looked funny, managed to become a tear-jerker for many a person.

Everyone understood Old Man Ackerman's sadness, as interpreted through Old Man Nolan's acting. They understood why Old Man Ackerman had gone crazy in the movie and what was truly hidden behind that silly smile.

The whole film lasted two hours and four minutes, with more than three minutes of behind-the-scenes footage.

In the behind-the-scenes footage was the original Old Man Ackerman, his silly dance in the hospital, and the scene of Cillian being treated by a doctor after coughing up blood on set.

When the film ended, there was a short postscript written in both Chinean and Elizabethan.

[This film is based on real events. The film's eponymous character, Old Man Ackerman, is currently in a mental hospital. He has lost his sanity. However, the sight of pen and paper spurs his subconscious, making him mutter, 'I'm a screenwriter. I want to write the best screenplay.'

[Mr. Cillian Nolan, the actor who played Old Man Ackerman in the film, insisted on filming with zero pay due to a terminal illness during the last moments of his life. He left us forever at 11:24 on the night that filming ended.

[This film is a heartfelt tribute to Old Man Ackerman, both the real and fictional one, as well as all filmmakers in our homeland]

Many people were in tears at the end of the film.

They had never imagined that the actor who had performed so magnificently had done so at his final moments, braving through his illness until he'd eventually died on the night that filming had been completed.

Everyone gave a standing ovation, and the applause was thunderous.

Many foreign filmmakers even cheered and said 'All Hail Old Man Ackerman' and 'All Hail Chinean Filmmakers' in their respective languages.

They were touched, not just by the fictional Old Man Ackerman, but by the real Old Man Ackerman as well. More than anything, he was an inspiration for all filmmakers who had put in the extra effort for Chinean films to touch the hearts of everyone in the world!

The never-ending applause in the theater rumbled like thunder...

### **Chapter 248 Ackerman, a Global Phenomenon!**

The reason Javier had come here was to utilize his connections and intervene so that his movie could be pushed into becoming the best film and winning the Osborn Award. Then, he'd be able to achieve the objective he had set out to accomplish and fulfill Cillian's final wish,

However, when he watched “Ackerman”, Javier completely gave up on the idea.

Even though Saoirse had already found a few contacts for the judges, he still gave up meeting them completely.

The reason for this was none other than because Javier realized that he would be humiliating both Mr. Gander and Cillian. On top of that, he would be humiliating “Ackerman”, which was a movie that was very moving on its own.

If anything was more important than Javier winning this award, it would be letting this pure piece of film exude its charm on its own.

This was the very script that Cillian had spent the last moments of his life to complete, so Javier was not going to allow any of his personal interests to get mixed into it.

Thus, Javier decided to leave. After he was done watching the movie that night, he got onto the next flight and returned to his country.

Previously, he had thought that a movie without decent resources and promotion would be a waste no matter how much was invested in it.

However, he did not think so at that moment. ‘A good film will forever be a good film. So long as it exists, it will carry on radiating its brilliance, and no one will ever stop it!

Sure enough, this was exactly what happened. On the second day of the Osbom Award Ceremony’s opening, “Ackerman” was in major newspapers all over the world.

The movie had such powerful potential that it took the entire world by storm.

Countless media critics even gave their collaborative assessments, using the very same sentence to describe this movie...

This is the most glorious movie in human history. I’ve never seen anything like it in my life!”

The existence of “Ackerman” not only radiated its brilliance continuously, but it even allowed the entire world to gain a brand-new understanding of Javier’s country and its movies.

The political media from Sammius even reported... ‘In terms of entertainment, Chineans now have a truly patriotic temperament. Not only do they focus on their economy and military forces, but they’ve even elevated their cultural values to brand-new heights.’

The movie “Ackerman” has received extremely positive reviews that have taken the entire world by a storm, which is also a contribution by the Chineans. In other words, This is a form of mental invasion. As such, we must all be ready for an invasion of the Chinean culture...

The entire world was hailing “Ackerman” so much that even Lloyd’s company shares began to enjoy an explosive increase. After all, they were a company that had worked on the movie. On top of that, as new blood in the industry, Reivaj Media was able to become hugely famous overnight.

As a newbie in the media industry, it was an extremely grand “achievement” for them to reach such heights with just their debut work.

In comparison to their competitors, Reivaj Media's temperament became many times more elegant.

The award nominations were still approximately three months away. However, they had already stopped receiving any new films at that point and had entered the final stage of the nomination process. Since "Ackerman" had a spectacular reputation in the world, it had a high chance of being nominated.

After the movie was released in its own origin country, it was broadcast overseas. Thanks to the positive reviews left by the people overseas, the box office of the first day of the movie in theaters completely exceeded everyone's expectations... It was a flop. However, there was a silver lining... Everyone who watched the movie gave an extremely positive review after they were done.

Perhaps it was because of this that others could not help but question whether this movie was going to fall into the same pitfall as others of the same genre, which had a decent reputation but subpar content.

Fortunately, all of these concerns were completely wiped away by the second day's box office. There was a huge reversal of the situation, causing the film to jump from seventh place to third in comparison to other movies that had been released in the same period. On the third day, "Ackerman" even managed to overtake a movie directed by a famous comedian, putting "Ackerman" in very close competition with the movie at the top of the charts.

The movie that was at the top of the charts was a Harrywood-produced movie which had already reached its fourth installment. However, its ratings were still going very strong, including its box office.

On the fourth day, the movie's box office suddenly shot all the way through the roof, taking the lead by a mile in the box office.

The fact that a content-related movie was able to defeat a major entertainment film was something never seen before in the history of film.

However, this was indeed what had happened. After being broadcast for just seven days, "Ackerman's" box office within the country had broken through 300 million dollars, which put them at the same amount as a certain action movie two years ago. In fact, there was even a hint that "Ackerman" was going to overtake the action movie soon.

At that moment, even the elderly women in neighborhoods would be discussing "Ackerman" because of how relatable it was compared to their daily lives.

Many netizens who had watched the movie on pirated sites even began to head to the cinemas to watch it again in support of the movie.

In fact, a netizen even took photos and posted them online. 'I originally watched this movie on a pirated site due to certain reasons, which I would like to sincerely apologize for right now. I feel very ashamed of myself and I feel like I've wronged the main producers of this movie. Most importantly, I feel like I've wronged Mr. Gander and Mr. Nolan.'

However, I don't have the time to go watch this movie again in the cinema, which is why I bought a ticket online after I was done with lunch. Although I haven't got the time to go to the cinema to watch it, I've bought a ticket to put my conscience at peace and show my respect for the movie and both Mr. Gander and Mr. Nolan.'

This post instantly became popular, as other netizens shared it around. In fact, a whole lot of them began trying to make amends as well.

Those who had spare time would bring their friends and family along to watch the movie two or even three times. Meanwhile, those who did not have the time would purchase a movie ticket online as compensation.

Although each ticket cost less than 10 dollars, this was a token of these people's respect for Mr. Gander and Cillian, a true sign of respect to the Chinean-produced movie.

Half a month after "Ackerman" was broadcast, the movie was leading the box office so high that not even all the other movies combined would have a box office comparable to it.

It was going so strong that even the best movie within the country previously, the action movie that had made groundbreaking history, was completely wiped out!

The reporters who grabbed this opportunity rushed over to interview the director and main cast of the action movie. "Excuse me, what are your thoughts on "Ackerman" completely trumping the groundbreaking history your previous movie had made?"

"Thoughts? No, I couldn't possibly dare have any thoughts about this. I never expected such a decent movie to ever come into existence. This is the most touching and motivational movie I've ever seen as far as the storyline, the director's point of view, and even the cast's acting skills are concerned. In fact, as a whole, this movie is probably the best one out there."

"This is an extremely strong movie that even I, a competitor, am completely in awe of. As a Chinean myself, I feel very touched and proud of the movie. This means that our movies have now managed to become popular on a global scale. This movie bears the weight of allowing the entire world to see Chinean-produced movies in a brand-new light."

"If you insist on asking how I feel about losing to this movie, I can only tell you that I will very willingly accept this defeat. If it means I will have to be out of a job for movies of this caliber to keep being chumped out, I will gladly accept my fate!"

The director and main cast's interview video spread like wildfire on the internet. Netizens were praising him for how understanding he was, which brought "Ackerman" to even greater heights. In fact, almost the entire country's citizens knew about the movie now!

After the movie was broadcast overseas, the movie was now on its way to open the world's eyes.

Nobody thought that "Ackerman" would be able to outperform major Harrywood films, including Chineans themselves.

After all, too many movies failed to receive the recognition of foreigners because they could not understand the Chinean culture

However, reality soon revealed that a decent movie would not end up being rejected by audiences just because it was from a different country.

Thanks to a huge wave of positive reviews for "Ackerman", the movie carried on taking over the charts on a global scale over the next few days.

In fact, even the movies produced by Harrywood were swept off their high horses. As a result, the screening time of “Ackerman” in

cinemas was extended.

The audiences loved this movie too much. What they once thought of as a movie that would never be able to reach the top of the rankings was now a movie they just wanted to watch over and over again.

Because of this, even the major Harrywood-produced movie had zero chance of making a comeback and seemed as pitiful as a mere servant of the emperor.

Of course, it was clear who the emperor in that situation was. Three months later, the Osborn Award Ceremony finally began..

### **Chapter 249 A Wide Array of Nominations**

During the past three months, “Ackerman” had won almost all the nominations possible, including Best Director, Best Actor/ Actress, Best Scriptwriter, etc... The movie had won so many nominations that everyone involved almost felt their breath get taken away.

Finally, when it was time to announce the winners, Mr. Gander led the group of producers on the stage. Saoirse, the investor of the movie, had also attended the award ceremony.

Of course, Javier, who was the most notable person behind this film, was not left behind.

“The 9Xth Annual Osbom Award Ceremony Best Filmography Award goes to... “Ackerman” from Chinea...”

“The 9Xth Annual Osbom Award Ceremony Best Scriptwriting Award goes to... “Ackerman” from Chinea...”

The 9th Annual Osbom Award Ceremony Best Directing Award goes to... “Ackerman” from Chinea...”

The 9Xth Annual Osbom Award Ceremony Best Actor Award goes to... “Ackerman” from Chinea...”

The 9th Annual Osbom Award Ceremony Best Movie Award goes to... “Ackerman” from Chinea...”

Aside from the Best Production Design and the Best Actress awards, “Ackerman” had seven major awards in the bag.

The thunderous applause was now, without a doubt, a representation of how much love and respect the movie had garnered from the crowd

In fact, even the presenter of the award, a well-known director from Harrywood, could not stop applauding as well, complimenting this movie for being a godlike piece of work.

“Art originates from our life and even surpasses it, which is the best interpretation of this film. I myself have watched this movie three times, and I’ve been touched all three times for various reasons. I was touched by the Old Man Ackerman in the movie, the Old Man Ackerman outside the movie, and the fact that it was a Chinean-produced movie.

"I once stated at a public event that Chinean-produced movies were not even worth being mentioned in our industry. However, today, I would like to formally apologize to all the people involved in Chineas movie industry. Please forgive me for the insulting words I said about all of you in the past. I feel extremely ashamed of my own actions..." 1

Saoirse received the Best Actor award as a representative and had prepared a speech to give on stage.

However, when she stood on stage and held the award in her hands, she was doing so on behalf of Cillian and she was so excited that no words could come out.

In the end, Saoirse did not even say a single word of gratitude. Instead, she just silently shed tears.

Meanwhile, the audience below the stage gave her a thunderous applause, which was completely unprecedented, as this was the

greatest speech anyone had ever given. Even though Saoirse had clearly said nothing at all, she received five minutes worth of applause before the clapping gradually died out...

Everyone went on to celebrate their victory after the award ceremony was over.

It was a very joyous occasion with cheers and sobs in memory of Cillian.

Everyone had now let their hair down and was enjoying themselves thoroughly, thus causing the celebration to become rather chaotic.

On the contrary, Javier was slightly better. He kept on remembering the fact that he would look for an opportunity to tell Cillian about their victory "face to face", which was why he did not drink that much that night.

As a result, it was exactly because of this reason that Javier ended up becoming everyone's designated driver, taking them home one by one.

After sending off one more person, the only two people left in the car were Javier and Saoirse, who had already regurgitated literally everything she could muster,

At that moment, Saoirse was already unconscious and was lying limp on the back seat with vomit all over her clothes.

Despite how filthy Javier's car was, that was obviously not the time for him to expect the woman who was lying lifelessly in his car to clean that up.

Hence, after sending everyone back, Javier finally took Saoirse to her own guestroom.

Seeing her filthy clothes and thinking that Saoirse was supposed to catch an early flight back to her country, Javier did not think much about the situation and took off her jacket and short skirt. However, that was the point where things spiraled out of control...

When Javier woke up the next morning, he looked at Saoirse, whose face was completely red from embarrassment, as she had woken up God knew how long ago. Then, he smiled at her and said, "Tell me, how does it feel to be a real woman now?"

Saoirse, who was embarrassed, raised her fist. She was about to land a punch on Javier, but she could not bring herself to do so.

It was true that she had vomited, but she had still been slightly awake at the time, so she knew very well what she had said to Javier last night.

Thus, both of them stayed together like that. Although Saoirse felt embarrassed, she felt very happy as well.

After sending Saoirse, Mr. Gander, and the others away, Javier was not in a hurry to leave yet.

Instead, he gave the old fox a call, as he had realized that the Osborn Award's underside did not have any information about his parents under it.